Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School

A place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness

Newsletter 9 - November 6th 2026

Welcome back!



It was a pleasure to welcome all the children back to school this week for an activity-packed term! We have many fun and festive opportunities coming up this term from sporting events and tasters to our whole school trip to the pantomime. As you will see from the class news below, the children have also jumped straight back into their topics and targets and we have been really impressed by the effort that all our learners have been putting into their work. We are continuing to explore our Christian Value, Trust, this term and have learnt together how we can achieve our goals when we put our trust in others to help and support us when we need it.

Lunchtime Play



This week we have relaunched our Lunchtime Play Zones. A big well done to all our Year 5s and 6s who have been helping things to run smoothly and provide fun opportunities and activities for the younger children in the school. On Thursday, our Ferentone House Captains also ran a lunchtime club for their younger house-fellows which was a huge success! Well done to Millie and Adalyn for their clear and considerate leadership.

Children in Need



Farrington Forum have planned some fundraising events for Children in Need on Friday 13th November. They would like children to wear **non-uniform** for a voluntary donation of £1 with yellow or spotty clothes where possible, bring in some cakes for a **bake sale,** participate in a **colouring competition** and take part in a **Run for Pudsey**. If your child would like to raise sponsor money for the run -2 full laps of the field for Turtle and Shark Classes, 4 laps for Seal and Dolphin Classes - click on this link to register your child. Our school code is **D0D8**. Children who don't register or raise sponsorship money will still join in for fun. Please do not buy any special clothes for this event, any non-uniform is fine - just make sure that your child is wearing footwear they can run in! Please send in any donations for the bake sale on Friday morning, clearly labelling if you are sending in any allergen-free contributions. No nuts in any of the goods please. Colouring sheets will be available for children to collect from Monday. Each entry will cost 50p. Cakes will also be 50p each and will be sold at lunchtime when Dolphin Class have returned from their school trip.

Parent Online Workshop Opportunity - Wednesday 18th November 1-2:30

We have registered for access to a free one hour online workshop focussing on supporting girls with anxiety. The workshop is designed to help parents understand what their daughters are going through and what support parents can give to nurture emotional security and resilience over time. Please click here for more information and the QR code for registration

Mrs Geeson and Mr Snell

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News from the Classes

TURTLE CLASS

This week, Turtle Class have been looking at autumn celebrations. They have created their own fireworks with playdough, paint, chalk and construction materials. They have talked about watching firework displays and how we can keep safe around them.



SHARK CLASS

Shark Class have settled back into the routine of school life really well. We have enjoyed learning about our new class book, Claude in the City, and have already managed to retell part one of the story! In Maths, Year 2 have been adding three numbers together and Year 1 have been using length and height to compare objects. We are also working on our fine motor skills, check out the amazing ramp we made using wooden blocks!



SEAL CLASS

Seal Class have enjoyed their lesson learning about magnets this week. Planned and started a seasonal poem. In maths they have continued to develop their addition skills using partitioning. We had a fun first Computing lesson exploring the programming website, 'Scratch'.



DOLPHIN CLASS

In Dolphin Class we have been learning about friction in science by using newton meters to test the amount of force needed to pull our shoes along the carpet. The children have also continued to work hard at developing their descriptive writing through reflection on WWI, and enjoyed a Circle Time activity where we thought about the little acts that build trust.



Diary Dates

November

Tue 10th	Girls' Football Tournament 3:45-6, Norton Hill School
Wed 11th	Remembrance gathering 11am (in the village hall if wet or playground if dry)
Fri 13th	Dolphin Class Trip to Bath Taps into Science - please sign up on Arbor
	No Celebration Assembly as Dolphin Class are on a trip
Fri 13th	Children in Need - non-uniform day and fun run
Tue 17th	Small Schools Football Tournament (Y5&6) 3:45-6 Norton Hill School
Thurs 19th	Open Morning for prospective parents, September 2027
Mon 23rd	MSN Cross Country Event (Y4&5) 2:30-3:45 Downside School
Tue 24th	Sports Hall Athletics 4-5:45 (Y5&6) Wellsway School
Wed 25th	INSET Day - School closed to pupils
Thur 26th	Benefice Christmas Sing 4:30-5:30 (Singing Club details to follow)
Sat 28th	Singing Club performing at Mad Swans Christmas Lights switch on (details to follow)
Mon 30th	WEMA Christmas Celebration at Bath Forum (Seal, Dolphin Class and Singing Club)

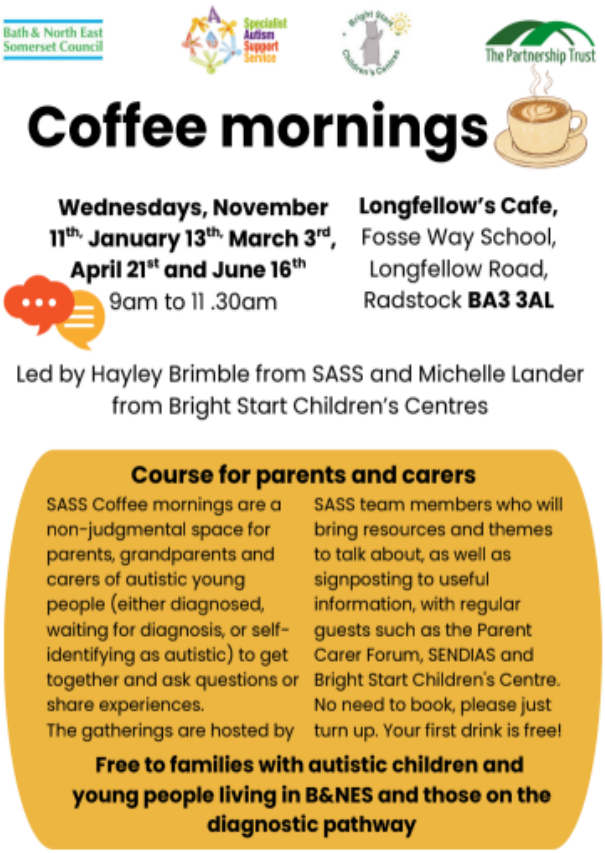
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Notices

- **B&NES Warm Space Directory** - is now live and suitable for all ages. Click here for information.
- **Clubs -** All will run as usual next week. Chess Club is continuing into Term 2 on a Monday lunchtime and there are spaces available - if you would like your child to join please sign up on Arbor or email the office. Belford Art Workshop starts on Monday.
- **Christmas Dinner menu** - please see the poster attached and book a meal as soon as possible. Our whole school Christmas Dinner will be held in the hall again**.**
- **Open Mornings** - the next open morning is 19th November (9:30am). Registration via email/telephone to the school office.
- **School Aged Health Service**: will be hosting a webinar on 10/11/26 10-11am for parents and carers of primary aged children on Healthy Bladder and Bowels , providing Information, support and practical strategies to implement. Please click here to sign up.
- **SENDIAS Information** - Please click here for the SENDIAS Bulletin.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see here the link to the weekly church events.
- **Whole School Trip to Panto in Bath -** details have been added to Arbor ready for you to consent/pay.





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Thought of the Week

'As soon as Jesus was baptised, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."' (Matthew 3:16-17)



Today's verse happened just as Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. I wonder what it might have felt like to be there, hearing God's voice from heaven? What might the voice of God sound like?

How might it have felt for Jesus? To hear these words of affirmation from God the Father as he was about to embark on his mission to tell the world the good news? God the Father was letting everyone know that this was his Son and that he loved him and that he was really pleased with him. He was really pleased with him and he hadn't even done anything yet!

Often we want to hear someone telling us how pleased they are with us when we have actually done something and done it well. If you do a good job, then yes there is a reason for someone to be pleased with us. But have we ever told our children or maybe our other family members that we're pleased with them just because of who they are?

For some of us it can be difficult enough to tell them that we love them, let alone going so far as telling them how pleased we are with them. But when we think about our children and really consider them for a moment, we can begin to see just how fantastic it is to have them in our lives. In the business of life we forget just how special they are and what an amazing thing it is to have them with us. What a privilege it is to be involved in bringing these unique individuals into the world. For some of us it may be that we have only been involved in their upbringing, but still what a joy it can be when we realise how special and important this is.



So, this week, a challenge. Can you stop for a moment and think about that child or those children that you care for? Can you go a step further and consider the difference they make in your life and to those around them? Can you tell them that you love them? Can you tell them how pleased you are with them? Not because of their achievements or their school work or even for helping out around the house. Tell them how pleased you are with them because of who they are, that you are proud of them for being who they are.

It might only take a moment, but what a moment!
After all, every single one of us is unique, created to be different, created to be in relationship with others and created to be loved. Every one of us needs to be told how great we are and how much we matter. I mean if Jesus needed to hear these words, how much more do we?