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

Newsletter 26 - March 28th 2025



Dance Umbrella

It was a wonderful evening at Bath Forum on Tuesday as our Reception and Key Stage 1 dance club, and a large group of dancers from Dolphin Class took to the stage in front of a huge (and very enthusiastic!) audience. In their sea-themed performance, the dance club moved in formation around the stage with their own dance moves and glittery pom-poms keeping the energy high for us to enjoy. The children from Dolphin Class had choreographed their dance with Michelle Rochester and put in a wonderfully creative performance which produced a lot of praise from fellow teachers. A big thank you to Michelle, Mrs Frampton, Mrs Huckman, Miss Morris and Mrs Harvey for their hard work and support with this event. Photos can be ordered using the code on the following page.





Seal Class - Special Visitor

This week, Seal Class got to interview a former pupil who currently has great grandchildren in the school. They showed her her entry in the old school student record log and some extracts from the school's log book which included the wedding of Queen Elizabeth II to Prince Philip when the school was closed for the day. The children asked lots of questions and found out that there were many similarities between when she was at school and now. They asked some really insightful questions and enjoyed seeing a photo from when she was at school. Seal Class have really enjoyed learning about the history of the school and have already started thinking of ways to celebrate the school's 175th anniversary in 2027. A big thank you to Mrs Curtis and her daughter for giving up some of their afternoon to share their experiences with the class.

lpads and photos

Thank you to Friends of Farrington, and all our parents and carers for organising and supporting all the fundraising endeavours. We are very grateful for the recent purchase of ipads for all our classes in order to make the taking and sharing of photos safer and faster. We will be adding more photos to our website over the coming weeks, starting with the Year 6 residential next week. We really hope that this will give more of an insight into your child's day to day experiences in and out of class and a chance to talk more about their learning.

Year 6 Residential

We are very excited about the visit to Barton Hall next week. In a minor change to previous arrangements, Mrs Davis will now be driving the children down on Monday morning. All other staffing will remain the same. We look forward to a fantastic and fun-filled week. Remember to check the website here for photo updates.

Lost property update

We do still have a vast array of lost property from the past few terms. This will be out in the playground next week, after which we will be disposing of it or donating it appropriately. Please do take the chance next week to claim any items that you think may belong to your child.

Mrs Geeson and Mr Turull

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Notices

- Clubs Martin Phillips Football club is running next week. All others have now finished.
 Next term's club options were emailed to parents on Monday. We have received 30 responses so far. If you have not completed the Google form yet please do so by Monday.
- Seal Class Bath Abbey Trip (3rd April) See details (late back) and consent/pay on ParentPay.
- St. John's Church Please see here the link to the weekly church events.
- Year 5 Wake the Tiger Trip (2nd April) See details and consent/pay on ParentPay.

Diary Dates

<u>March</u>

Mon 31st Year 6 Residential Trip to Barton Hall

<u>April</u>

Wed 2nd Year 5 to Wake the Tiger, Bristol (please consent/pay on ParentPay)

Thur 3rd Seal Class Trip to Easter Experience at Bath Abbey (Late back - see ParentPay)

Fri 4th School Easter Service at St John's Church, 9.15

Whole school Wellbeing Day

End of term 4

Tue 22nd Beginning of term 5

First Swimming session for Years 1 & 2 (please consent on ParentPay)

Wed 23rd Years 3 and 5 trip to Field to Food at the Royal Bath and West Showground

Wed 23rd-Fri 25th Year 4 Residential Trip to Mendip Outdoor Centre

Nigel Coles

nigel@nigelcolesphotography.com - 01761 410168





To order your Dance Umbrella photo's online, follow the instructions below:

- 1. Go to www.nigelcolesphotography.com
- 2. Ordering on a PC: Click on Dance Login Top right hand corner, then enter Password

 Ordering on a Phone or Tablet: Click on Shopping Cart then Dance Login & enter Password
- 3. Choose your photograph, Add to Basket, Select size & go to Checkout
- 4. Add your childs name & school in the Message for Vendor box when confirming your order
- 5. Payment options: By Card: Select **PayPal** and either **Log In** or select **Pay by Debit/Credit Card** to enter your card details. Alternative Methods: We will Text you for payment by Card

For FREE delivery to school make your order online by **26th April**Photos will be delivered after this date.

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Friends of Farrington Gurney School and Community News

Every year the PTA organise a school family camp. This is not a fundraiser, just an opportunity for the kids to enjoy a weekend of freedom and fun in the great outdoors.

It would be great if you could join us. **All welcome!** The kids have an amazing time and it's a highlight of the year. We have made a group booking at Petruth



Paddocks near Cheddar. It's a great campsite, very flat, and an easy stroll into Cheddar. The have fire pits available (who doesn't lone toasting a marshmallow?!) And there are food vans (eg:pizza) on site Friday night and Saturday night and also a coffee/bacon butty van for the morning. So you don't need all the gear. Just somewhere to sleep and a sleeping bag!

The dates are Friday 6th June to Sunday 8th June 2025. You can come for one or two nights, or even as a day visitor.

Their pitch availability and charges are all online - you simply need to go to https://www.petruthpaddocks.co.uk/, select the dates, and the rest is pretty straightforward. Please don't book via 3rd party sites such as Pitchup.

When making your booking:

- a) State our exact group name 'Farrington Gurney School' in the Group name field.
- b) Select Pre-named family group from the drop-down If you want to pitch with the main group, please select GRASS PITCH.

Powered grass pitches are in a line and will be a short distance away / Powered Hardstandings are in a line a 2-minute walk away

Bell tents will be pitched near the group, but other accommodation options are in a separate field, so fine to stay in but will be a 2-3 minute stroll from the rest of the group.

If you have a problem with the booking process, please either email: webbiz@petruthpaddocks.co.uk or call: 01934 257055

Day visitors are welcome on site from 10am. They will be asked to park in the visitor's car park, register at reception and pop a few shekels into the charity tin. They are welcome to stay till 10pm when gates are then closed.

We look forward to seeing you there. Any questions just ask!



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Thought for the Week



"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me...and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd." (John 10:14-16 NIV)

It's not often that we refer to shepherds nowadays. We often see them in paintings from the Renaissance and Baroque periods and there are still many shepherds in countries like Greece, Turkey, Spain, New Zealand and the USA. But they are less common in the UK, although there are still shepherds in rural and mountainous areas.

Back when Jesus was speaking though, shepherds were common. It wasn't a well paid job and often shepherds were rejected by the rest of society. But it was a difficult and often dangerous job, protecting the sheep from being attacked by wild animals.

In the first part of <u>John 10</u>, Jesus refers to himself as the good shepherd. Like real shepherds he was referring to how his job was to take care of his flock, those he was responsible for. Even though this job would be difficult and would mean laying down his life (v.11), he was explaining how he was going to protect and look after those people that were his.

Now at this time, his disciples would have just accepted that he meant the Jews. The idea that he would have been talking about people who weren't Jewish, the Gentiles, would not have even crossed their mind. As far as they were concerned, the Messiah that had been promised was a Jewish Messiah and was here to get rid of the Romans and look after them again. But Jesus makes it very explicit. In v.16, he talks about 'other sheep that are not of this sheep pen', sheep that he 'must bring...also'. And the most wonderful part is that they will all be 'one flock and one shepherd'.

This may not have gone down well with his followers and certainly wouldn't have gone down well with the religious leaders, but Jesus was making it clear that he was here to save everyone, Jews and Gentiles, if

they would only hear and listen to his voice.

Let's not forget that there is a response here from us. If we want to be one of Jesus' followers, we need to listen to his voice. 'Hearing' is passive, 'listening' is active. It requires us to hear what is being said and to act on it.

If we do this then we have this wonderful promise. We will know him and he will know us. For Christians around the world, recognising that Jesus knows them and yet still accepts them and loves them is likely to be the best news they will ever receive.

As Easter approaches, this might be the time to consider what it means to follow Jesus and to be known and accepted by him. That's the reason Christians believe he went to the cross - knowing that at least some people would accept the forgiveness they were being offered and would follow him and have an ongoing relationship with him. And being known, loved and accepted by God could also be the best news you will ever receive.

