



### School Improvement

We are spending the first few weeks of term looking at our plans for school improvement during this academic year. We have placed a great emphasis on writing over the last couple of years and as a result, our outcomes at the end of Year 6 in writing have been the highest in our Trust for two years running. Reading has always been a strength of our school and so this year, we will be looking more at the teaching of mathematics across the whole school. We are joining a working group with some of our local schools and will let you know of developments as they happen. While the core subjects are important, we are also looking into all our foundation subjects, such as history and geography, to make improvements there as well. Another area for us to focus on is providing you as parents and carers with more information about what your child will be learning during the year as highlighted in our parent questionnaire. Following training in a few weeks' time, we will be setting up class pages which can be accessed through our school website with knowledge organisers, curriculum overviews and further information about your child's learning.

### School Uniform

It has been great to see the children return to school this term looking very smart in their school uniforms. Please can we remind you that stud earrings are the only jewellery that should be worn, although children can wear a watch if they would like, as long as it is not a smart watch. On another note, the wearing of makeup in school is not permitted.

### House Plants

If any parents/carers have spare houseplants that need a new home, Mrs Harvey is looking for some to go in The Hub between Dolphin and Seal classes, where she is creating a calm space. Please let the school office know if you have any that you are able to donate.

Mrs Geeson and Mr Turull

### Welly Walking Club Fun

At Welly Walking Club this week we discovered amazing pumpkins in the fields near school! So much excitement and fun as we spotted more and more, bigger and even bigger pumpkins. Autumn and Harvest is coming!





## Notices

- **Breakfast Club** - There is plenty of availability at Breakfast Club should you need wraparound care for your children. The start time is now 7.30am at no extra cost to you. Please book via ParentPay.
- **Clubs** - all clubs will be running as usual next week.
- **Dinners** - please remember that all school dinners for the following week need to be booked by the end of the Thursday before. Whilst ParentPay are currently ironing out some glitches in the software, please do not book any meals for Term 2 at this time. Please note the booking for next week has been extended to midnight tonight following the issues this week.
- **Knife Crime Awareness Event** - for Parents and Carers. The venue is St. Mark's School on 21st October, starting at 6pm. For queries, please email [VRP\\_Events@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:VRP_Events@bathnes.gov.uk). Or book your ticket now on Eventbrite [here](#).
- **Library Events** - see [here](#) the link for exciting events happening in our libraries. There is also a brilliant Children's writing competition from the BBC called 500 words that opens for Entries on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September. You can find out more about this competition from the link [here](#).
- **School Photos** - Nigel Coles will be in school on Thursday 26th to take the children's individual and sibling photos. We are able to offer parents who also have pre-school siblings a joint photo (if you would like to do this, arrive at 8.10am at the school gate and make your way to the rear entrance to Shark Class). If your class has PE that day, the children should arrive in uniform and bring PE Kit to change into after the photos.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Year 4 & 6 Residential Trips** - the next payment is due on 4th October via ParentPay.

## Friends of Farrington Gurney School

A reminder that we will be holding our first meeting at 8pm on Wednesday 25th September at the Farrington Inn. All very welcome, no pressure to dedicate any particular amount of time but new / fresh ideas would be fantastic to hear. We also have at least one main role on the PTA that needs to be filled by the October AGM so please come along if you feel you could take this on.

If you have any unwanted, clean clothing items then please pop them into the clothing bin in the corner of the car park opposite school. We receive a healthy regular income from these donations.

In the meantime, if you have any questions please email [fofgs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fofgs@hotmail.co.uk)

## Diary Dates

### September

Thu 26th	Individual School Photos (all year groups) SEND Coffee Morning (9:00am in the Memorial Hall)
Fri 27th	Celebration Assembly (9:00am in the Memorial Hall)
Mon 30th	Governing Body meeting

### October

Fri 11th	Harvest Festival at St John's Church (9:15am)
Thur 17th	Open Morning 9:15-11:30am
Thu 24th	Last day of Term 1
Fri 25th	INSET Day



# Farrington Gurney

## C of E Primary School



Open Morning – Thursday 17th October 2024

9:15am – 11:45am

We are holding an Open Morning for all prospective parents who may be interested in sending their children to our school. Our Year 6 pupils would love to show you around the classrooms where you will get a chance to see all our pupils at work.

Our school is proud to offer:

- enthusiastic children who are keen to learn
- extensive outside learning opportunities
- a highly skilled and dedicated staff team
- a friendly, purposeful learning environment
- excellent outcomes across the school
- high participation in sporting events
- specialised instrumental tuition
- close links with the village churches
- daily breakfast club from 7:30am
- after-school provision on site until 6:00pm

If you are unable to visit but would like to come at a different time, please contact us:

t: 01761 452419 e: [office@farringtongurneyschool.co.uk](mailto:office@farringtongurneyschool.co.uk) w: [www.farringtongurneyschool.co.uk](http://www.farringtongurneyschool.co.uk)

*Farrington Gurney Church of England Primary School, Church Lane, Farrington Gurney, BS39 6TY*

## Community News

***Bath & North East Somerset council needs more Foster Carers, Fostering Families carers and Supported Lodgings hosts for local children and young people.***

***With all these roles it is possible to continue to work and we would explore the feasibility of this with you.***

***We need foster carers for children of all ages, sibling groups, Unaccompanied young people, Short breaks for Children with Disabilities (known as Family Link) and carers who could provide a home for a Parent and child in need of support.***

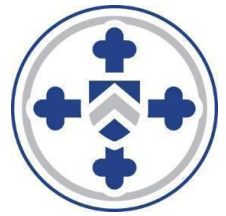
***We are also seeking people who feel able to offer a child a home so that they can move out of residential care.***

***We need carers to support parents to keep their children within the family home through our Fostering Families scheme as well as Supported Lodgings providers for older more independent young people.***

***There is further information on our website about these options, where people can also leave their contact details through an online form.***

***If you just have questions about any of these types of fostering, please get in touch which you can do by calling on 01225 394949 (select option 2),***

***email: [fostering@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@bathnes.gov.uk) or through our website: <https://fostering.bathnes.gov.uk/>***



## **Thought of the Week**

**'A thief has only one thing in mind—he wants to steal, slaughter, and destroy. But I have come to give you everything in abundance, more than you expect—life in its fullness until you overflow!'**

**(John 10:10 - TPB)**

There are so many different translations of this verse, with phrases and words like 'in all its fullness', 'to the full', 'abundantly' and 'rich and satisfying'. In today's version, it says 'life in its fullness until you overflow!' That's a bold statement.

Our school has adopted this verse as the basis for its vision 'A place where all can flourish, find fulfilment and experience life in all its fullness'. Our recent SIAMS inspection made it very clear that as a school we were living up to this vision. But what does 'life in all its fullness' actually mean?

Well one definition is this...

*'A life full of peace, joy and abundance in him (Jesus), both spiritually and of course physically. Jesus ultimately came to give us a life of salvation and assurance that he has us in his loving and faithful arms – come what may. This is a full life, both now and in the life to come.'*

Many of us may feel that we are living a good life, we may even feel that we're "winning at life", but is it life in all its fullness? And can we only receive this through knowing and experiencing Jesus?

I did find a definition for living life in all its fullness without mentioning Jesus or God. It was a five step process and these are

- Define happiness on your terms.
- Strive to be a better version of yourself everyday.
- Be kind to your body.
- Set goals - and plan how to achieve them.
- Prioritise the things (and people!) that matter.

They're pretty good as steps to fullness go. Although I'm confused over step three. Does

'being kind to my body' mean eating or not eating a fry up every week!

The issue I have with them is they are mainly focused on what I can do to make me a better person. They're not very community focused. And they're all reliant on how I'm doing on any particular day. One day my goals may be driven and focused and I could achieve lots on my to do list. On some days, I may only be able to manage the goals, 'get up, get dressed and eat something!'

When Jesus spoke about living life in all its fullness, he would have spoken to a group of people. One of the reasons Jesus wanted to establish a church was so we could work together within a community. We can't achieve fullness by ourselves - we need others. Very much like our school community works together to support each other. Only then can **everyone** experience fullness of life.

Secondly, living life in all its fullness isn't reliant on how we're feeling. It's reliant on God and also on what Jesus did for us almost 2000 years ago. If we have unforgiveness and guilt in our lives over all our past mistakes, how can we live in fullness? And these feelings don't just magically disappear. We need someone to take all that pain and guilt away. That's why Jesus died on the cross - so we could experience love, forgiveness and acceptance...and fullness.

