



We welcomed the children into school this morning through a cloud of bubbles to celebrate the end of another school year. A school year in which we have certainly been busy and lived up to our promise of 'living life in all its fullness'

We have all said our goodbyes to our Year 6 leavers as they move up; they have been a really special group of children who have brought so much to the school and we wish them every success at their new schools in September. We also say goodbye to Bertie and Lyla as they move on to their new school.

As well as this, we wished Mr Marvin a temporary 'goodbye for now', as he takes on an exciting new challenge having been seconded to the Bath and Wells Diocese next year.

And of course it was with a heavy heart that we also said farewell to Mr Dix, our inimitable Head of School. Mr Dix has been with us for four years and over that time has inspired so many children and staff with his energy, his commitment and with the time he spent getting to know every single child in the school. We wish him all the best with his new ventures and want him to know he will always be welcome to come back and visit us all.

We wish you all a well-deserved summer break and look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 3rd September.

Thank yous

We would both like to thank the staff in school for all their hard work and dedication this year.

We are lucky to have such a positive group of people working in the school and we hope they have a relaxing summer break and time to recharge their batteries ahead of the return to school in September.

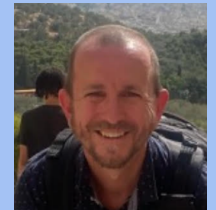
Mr Dix and Mr Turull

Just a quick note from me to thank you for the kind words and generous gifts I have received this week. They are very much appreciated.

I leave Farrington with a huge smile on my face and so many happy memories to take with me.

Good luck to you all. I hope the future brings you all great joy!

Mr Dix



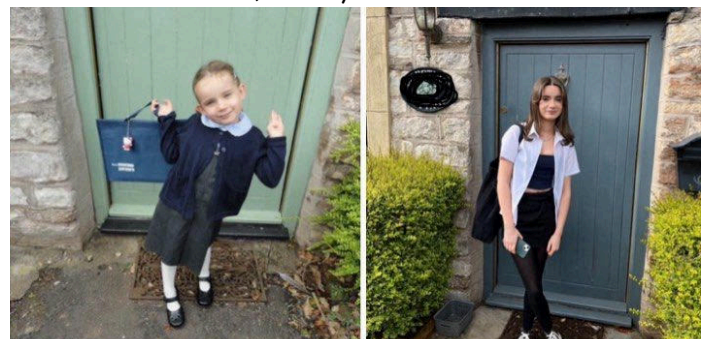
Hattie Roughan

The school community were very saddened to hear of the passing of a much-loved former student Hattie Roughan.

Hattie was at Farrington Gurney from Reception through to Year 6. Her passing was very sudden and completely unexpected. She passed at home in her mum's arms and didn't suffer at all. She had a happy time at primary school; one of her fondest memories was in Key Stage 1 when her friend buried her socks on the allotment and they had to dig it back up to find them!

Long standing staff in school remember her with great fondness, and joined in with the wider community by lighting candles in church as an act of respect and condolence for the family.

During this testing time, we hope that the love shown by the whole community and Hattie's wider friendship group give some comfort to Joh, Andy and Seb.





Diary Dates

New / Changed dates in Blue

September 2024

Mon 2nd	INSET Day
Tue 3rd	Children return to school Dolphin Class Swimming Lesson

Friends of Farrington Gurney

Another school year has flown by again!!! We just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported our events this year and an even bigger thank you to those who have helped run them, you all know who you are!!!! Please see the poster below detailing the main ways in which we've raised an incredible £5,800 and what that has provided for our children.

Hope everyone has an amazing break over the summer. Happy Holidays!!

Farrington Gurney PTA 2023 / 2024

This year we have raised an incredible **£5,800*** largely from the following:

- Carols by Candlelight
- School Disco's
- OHS Donations
- Colour Run
- Curry Night
- Lloyds banking group matched funding.
- Quiz Night

* We are also expecting a donation from Glastonbury Festival thanks to our amazing Stewards.

This has allowed us to provide the following for our Children!

- Book bags for new starters
- Subsidise many school trips
- Leavers Hoodies
- Easter Eggs
- Re-usable glue sticks
- New School Bench
- Fund the Super Pirates Day
- Panto at X-Mas

A Huge Thank You to all those on the PTA and the helpers that make all our events possible. Also a big thank you to all of those who come along to our events making them a big success.

We are always looking for more people to join the PTA and are currently seeking a new Chairperson from September. If you are interested please contact the PTA on FOFGS@hotmail.co.uk

Notices

- **Breakfast Club** - Can now be booked for Terms 1 & 2 and will start earlier (7.30am) from September.
- **Clubs** - for those who have not returned their club preference for terms 1 & 2, please see [here](#) the link for the Google form.
- **Dinners Sept** - can be booked for next term after 22nd August and before the deadline of 29th August. *Any meals booked before may be lost due to system updates.* Those whose children are moving up from year 2 to year 3 must remember that you will now need to pay for your child's meal £2.60. The new menu can now be viewed on the school website.
- **FSM Voucher Scheme** - An email has been sent to parents of children in receipt of Free School Meals relating to the voucher scheme over the holiday. Please see your emails.
- **Library events** - see [here](#) the link for exciting events happening in our libraries.
- **Swimming** - Dolphin Class will be swimming in Terms 1 & 2 from the first day back.

POLLINATOR PARTY Sunday 21st July 10am-2pm

The children have produced some of the most beautiful bunting you can imagine! Come and see it—and make some more!

The pollinator party is this Sunday in the Village Hall and offers:

- DIY bird feeders, bug boxes and seed cakes for kids (and adults) to make
- Talk and a guided nature walk to Hollow March
- Plant and seed swaps
- Update on the community larder, SouthWest in Bloom and bulk bulb purchase
- Cream teas in the garden of the Manor House. Tickets for sale in the Hall through the party: £3 for 1, £5 for 2 and £10 for 4; all funds going to the Farrington Gurney Biodiversity fund.

A great way to kick off the holidays!



Thought of the Week

'But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.'
(Romans 5:8)

The children in Seal Class made me a beautiful leaving card this week, with some lovely pictures of themselves. One child decided to draw Jesus instead. His comment was 'Keep the dude on the cross with you'.

Now it might sound a bit disrespectful, but I was really pleased to see this in my card. This child had been really observant and recognised something about me. He noticed that I don't just talk about Jesus in collective worship and when looking at Christianity in RE. He noticed that Jesus means more to me than just that.

Now, when children ask me if I'm a Christian, I always say that I am, but that it is my choice. I remind them that they can decide for themselves whether they believe in God or not. If they do believe that God is real, then they can decide whether they want to do anything about it. But if I'm honest, it rarely comes up.

I hope that what this child's response means is that he has recognised that I have a faith in Jesus by the way that I behave and live my life.

I'll be honest, I don't always get it right - the other staff members can attest to that. But I hope that in the last 11 and a half years that I have been at Farrington Gurney, that I have shown just a bit of the love of God.

What still amazes me about the whole Christianity thing is the lengths that God went to, to make everything all right between us. You see the thing is, the Bible tells us that God put everything in place and it was good - he even said humans were 'very good'. Unfortunately, we didn't continue doing things 'very good'.

I often think of it like a funfair. If we use all the rides correctly and follow all the rules,

then everything is fine. But if we start doing our own thing and not looking after the funfair, then we will be asked to leave. It's a bit like that with how we live our lives and unfortunately, we often don't follow the rules correctly.

But instead of saying 'that's it then, you're on your own' and cutting himself off from us, Jesus stepped in and did the ultimate. While we were still walking away from God, he died for us, so that our relationship would be restored again. We needed to be punished for all the bad stuff we have done and Jesus was punished on our behalf. Maybe you could see it like a judge proclaiming us guilty of all the wrong things we've done and then that same judge steps down from his high place and pays the price for us.

It is this willingness to go to this length, to pay the ultimate price for people who were, and often still are, disinterested in him, that makes 'the dude on the cross' so appealing to me. His love far surpasses the love that anyone else can offer and as a Christian, I still believe he speaks to me through the Bible and has guided me throughout my life.

So that's my parting message for you. Maybe give it some thought and even take a look at what the Bible has to say about it all. The Gospel of John is a good place to start - [John 1](#).

I hope you have a restful summer and that the weather is good to us.

God Bless You!

