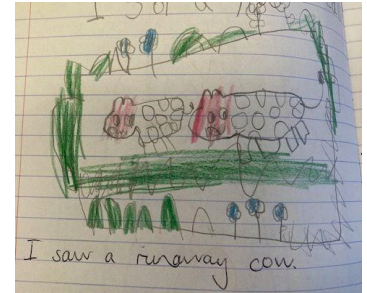




Monday morning

It was an unexpected start to the week, when the Monday morning school run was disrupted by two cows that had escaped from the fields nearby. Thankfully, with a little herding nothing untoward happened, but it certainly presented some of our staff with a different challenge than usual! Ava has drawn the scene ----->



Governing Body

Following our first Local Governing Body meeting of the year, we would like to thank Laura Tyrrell - Esme's mum - for her time on the committee, having been a Governor for many years as well as taking on the role of Chair for the last two years. She has worked closely with the senior leadership team to keep the school moving forward and has given up a lot of her time to this role. The Governors have elected Oliver Lynn - Charlie and Albie's dad - as the new Chair.

Assessments

Autumn term assessments have started this week and will continue over the next couple of weeks. As always, we are really pleased with the positive and resilient attitude that the children have shown towards their learning so far this year. Assessments are there to help us find out what the children know, and what they need to work on next and we try to ensure that these are delivered in such a way as to minimise any anxiety for children.

Parent Consultations

Parents' afternoon/evening is booked for the 23rd October, and the sign up sheet for this will be available on the playground at the end of the school day every day next week from Monday afternoon. If you do not collect your child, please feel free to email us from Monday and we will find a 10-minute slot for you. This is a really good opportunity to catch up with your child's teacher about how the new school year has started. If you are unable to attend on that date, please email the class email address (e.g. dolphin@farringtongurneyschool.co.uk) and we can find a different day/time.

Harvest Service

A reminder that next week is our Harvest Service in church at 9:15am on Friday morning. All the classes have prepared something Harvest-themed to share with friends and family and we look forward to seeing you all there! The Somer Valley Food Bank currently has sufficient goods, but Rev Pitt is taking any donations to the Loaves and Fishes project in St Paul's, Bristol. If children would like to bring in an item for donation, we will take them with us to the Church for Rev Pitt to take along with his donations from parishioners.

Cath Carver

Finally, we would like to say a fond farewell to Cath who has been working in the kitchen at school for the last 25 years. During this time, she has served dinners to hundreds of children and has always been a friendly face around the school. We all wish her the very best.

Mrs Geeson and Mr Turull



Dolphin Class Rainforest Experience



On Thursday, Dolphins Class visited Writhlington School's Orchid Project as part of their Rainforest topic. Here are the thoughts of Toby and Tabitha:

We were very lucky to go to Writhlington School to learn about orchids. We got to repot orchids and look inside their massive greenhouse. There was an orchid almost as tall as us, that was 35 years old. There were also some incredibly rare ones; some of the roots were a metre long and some had gone wild! We were lucky enough to get to draw lots of them.

Notices

- **Clubs** - all clubs will be running as usual next week however Welly Walking will finish at 4pm.
- **Child's Annual Flu Vaccination (4th December)** - please consent via email sent last week.
- **Christmas Cards** - the proofs were sent home this week for you to purchase your Christmas decorated cards, cups, tags, etc. Please support Friends and school by placing an order.
- **Data Collection Forms (Pink)** - these have been sent home to every child and a thank you to all those who have returned them. For those who have not, please check (update if necessary) and sign/date then return to your class teacher/office by Monday 7th October. Contact the office if you have any queries.
- **Dinners** - please bear with us with some issues which ParentPay are still working on a fix for. There will be some minor changes to the menu in Term 2 which will be made in the holiday. Please do not book your meals for Term 2 before Thursday 31st October.
- **Dolphin Class Bikeability** - dates for sessions are in last week's newsletter should you need them. Please remember your bikes, helmets and appropriate clothing (eg. school uniform is not necessary and waterproof clothing available if it's raining).
- **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 opened for Entries on Tuesday 24th September. You can find out more about this competition from the link [here](#).
- **School Photos** - Proofs for the school photos taken this week will be with us within 10 days.
- **Seal Class** - Please see ParentPay for details about the workshop about the Ancient Egyptians Monday 14th October.
- **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.
- **Year 6 Secondary School applications** - deadline is 31st October.



Friends of Farrington Gurney School

A reminder that our AGM will be held on Wednesday 23rd October at 8pm in School. There will be drinks and nibbles! Please do come along. Whilst we continue to look for anyone interested in taking or sharing some main roles, we would also warmly welcome anyone who can join with no specific time commitment required. The more people who offer a small amount of time, the less onerous for everyone!

The school disco will be on Saturday 30th November in the village hall. Full details will follow soon but please save the date in your diaries. We are still looking at dates etc for the wreath making evening, we will share details as soon as we can.

Diary Dates

October

Fri 11th	Harvest Festival at St John's Church (9:15am)
Mon 14th	Seal Class Egyptology Day in school (see ParentPay to consent and pay)
Thur 17th	Open Morning 9:15-11:30am
Wed 23rd	Parents' Afternoon/Evening 1:30pm-7:00pm
	Friends of Farrington Gurney School AGM (8:00pm at the school)
Thu 24th	Last day of Term 1
Fri 25th	INSET Day

November

Mon 4th	Start of Term 2
Wed 27th	INSET Day

museums week

Celebrate local museums with nine days of events and activities in Bath & North East Somerset

Sat 26th Oct to Sun 3rd Nov

Free entry with Discovery Card

bathmuseumsweek.co.uk

Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives

MNSP Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Become a School Governor

Are you passionate about education? Do you want to help shape the future of young minds? Becoming a school governor is an incredible opportunity to use your skills, time, and passion to ensure students receive the best education and support. Whether you're a parent, professional, or community member, your voice can make a real impact in the direction and success of our schools.

Make a Lasting Impact in Five Key Ways:

- Attend termly Governing Body meetings, reviewing data and ensuring the best outcomes for students.
- Get tailored, ongoing training to build your skills and understand your role (induction, safeguarding, and more).
- Act as a link governor, focusing on an area of your interest or expertise, and reporting on school progress.
- Represent the school positively in the community – become a proud ambassador!
- Take part in important panels (interviews, exclusions, and more), shaping the school's future.

Who Can Be a School Governor?

No prior experience is needed! All that's required is a commitment to the role and a willingness to learn. We need governors from all walks of life:

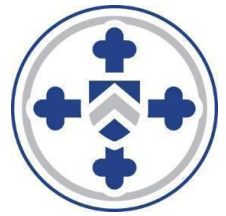
- Parent Governors: Provide insights from the parent community.
- Community Governors: Bring your skills and experience, even without a direct connection to the school.
- Foundation Governors: Preserve the school's religious character.
- Staff Governors: Offer the unique perspective of school staff.

What Do You Get Out of It?

Being a school governor is incredibly rewarding! You'll develop valuable skills, make a positive impact in your community, and help prepare students for success in further education and beyond. It's a role that's challenging but never dull, giving you the chance to contribute to something truly meaningful.

For more information, contact Emily Walker (Governance Professional): ewalker@msnpartnership.com

Find a list of local governing bodies on the MNSP website



Thought of the Week

'So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.'

(Romans 8:1 - NIV)



Last week we looked at the importance of forgiveness and how in today's society, it isn't necessarily given the value it deserves.

This week, I want to take things a step further and talk about condemnation, or no condemnation to be precise.

So what is 'condemnation'?

Well in the dictionary, condemnation is a noun and is 'the expression of very strong disapproval' or 'censure'. It can also be used as an adjective - you can condemn 'someone to a punishment'.

Many people have a view of God being this hard task master, a sort of heavenly headteacher who wants to tell us all the things we are doing wrong and pass judgement on us (of course not all headteachers are like this!).

The opposite couldn't be more true. In his letter to the church in Rome, Paul explains that for those who have accepted and belong to Jesus, there is no condemnation, no judging and no disapproval. In fact, the phrase is stronger than just saying we are not condemned. It is that there is no condemnation at all - there is no possibility of it. Not only are Christians not

condemned, they can never and will never be condemned.

It is not to do with their own obedience, because it is clear that even the best Christians get it wrong sometimes! It's all because of God's Son, Jesus.

Although sin needs to be punished, the blame no longer sits with us. Jesus was punished instead. All that guilt and condemnation was put on his shoulders when he died on the cross.

Today's verse is pictured with a gavel, a small hammer with which a judge hits a surface to call for attention or order. It is also used by the judge to pass judgement on and condemn someone. In the picture, the gavel is broken. Because of Jesus, no one can pass judgement anymore. There is no judgement, no guilt and no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

I hope today that you might take some time to consider what this verse is claiming. If you decide it isn't true, it's just some ancient letter from a man who claimed to have some insight or understanding about who Jesus was and what he came to do. But if it is true, it could be life changing.

