



## Website Class Pages

Our teachers have been busy working on class pages for our school website. These are now viewable and provide relevant and useful information, such as knowledge organisers for what the children will be learning each term, as well as PE days and homework. They will be updated each term so please keep checking in on them. You can view them under the Class Pages tab.

## Open Morning

We held the first of two open mornings on Thursday this week and welcomed families of 15 potential new starters to the school. They were able to walk through all the classrooms, watch the children at work and meet with pupils and staff. We received so many positive comments about how well the children were learning and interacting with each other in the classroom and playground. We want to say a special thank you to all our Year 6 pupils. Every single one of them conducted at least one tour and received considerable praise for how well they knew the school. We were very proud of all of them.

## European Majorette Championships

Molly and Noah travelled to Eindhoven in Holland last weekend as members of the England Majorette Team for the European Majorette Championships 2024. This is a write-up from the event:

*This is a huge achievement for Molly and Noah - gaining a space on the England team representing their country under their team - Fahrenheit Baton Twirlers. The competition was the biggest they have ever entered with 1146 competitors, 8 categories, 6 age groups, 15 countries. The performance was outstanding and they brought home a 4th place in the youth category, whilst the seniors brought home a Silver Medal.*

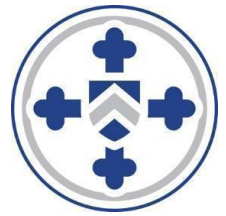


*Molly was the youngest competitor on the England team and Noah was chosen as the England Team Mascot and the team reserve. They both made amazing memories and they shone in the way they conducted themselves on and off the competition floor. They both displayed a high level of dedication, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the weekend - all whilst having a lot of fun!*

## Wellbeing Day

Next week is the last week of Term 1 and as well as only being a four-day week (with an INSET Day on Friday), we also have our termly wellbeing day on Thursday. The children will be spending the day focusing on activities relating to compassion. They are welcome to bring in some comfy slippers or fluffy socks to wear in the classroom during the day. We will share some photos with you next week of the activities the children have done.

*Mrs Geeson and Mr Turull*



## Notices

- **Child's Annual Flu Vaccination (4th December)** - please consent via email sent last week. If you prefer to take your child/ren for a Covid booster or nasal flu vaccination yourself please see the note from the school nurse below.

*"There is a half term Covid-19 and flu vaccination clinic for eligible children 6 months -18 years on **30 October at Kempthorne House, St Martin's Hospital, Bath 10.00-16.00**. Walk-ins are welcome, appointments also available via the national booking system (NBS) and 119. More information can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/covid-19-vaccine>"*

- **Christmas Cards** - the Christmas themed orders have been received and distributed to your classes today. Thank you for supporting this Friends initiative.
- **Clubs** - all clubs will be running as usual next week. However, Comic Book, Basketball, Welly Walking and Nature Clubs will not run in the last week of term due to staff training and commitments.
- **Clubs Term 2** -  
**Welly Walking & Nature Club** finished in term 1.  
**Singing Club** (Thursday) has been extended from KS1 children to any children who would like to join. It will be Christmas themed. If you would like your child to be added please email the office. Mrs Frampton hopes to venture out with the group to sing and will contact you for permission for this when details have been confirmed.
- **Dinners** - Any orders already placed for after half term will be deleted tonight (next weeks pre-orders will not be affected). This is to enable some menu changes to take place for term 2. I am told you will be able to place options for term 2 from the 21st but would leave it as close to the Thursday 31st October deadline as possible to avoid any other complication or inconvenience. Thank you for your patience. The up to date menu for term 2 can be found on the school website should you need it.
- **Dolphin Class Bikeability** - unfortunately due to the instructor being unwell, the sessions due last week have been rescheduled as below:

Tue 8th to Tue 22nd full day	Lotte, Bea, Charlotte
Wed 9th to Thur 24th full day	Thomas, Holly G, Georgia

Unchanged sessions are:

Mon 21st full day	Toby, Charlie, Tabby
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***Please remember your bikes, helmets and appropriate clothing (eg. school uniform is not necessary and waterproof clothing is available if it's raining).***

- **Library Events** - take a look on the next page for events taking place at our local libraries. There is also a brilliant Children's writing competition from the BBC called 500 words - submit your stories by Thursday 7th November. You can find out more about this competition from the link [here](#).
- **School Photos** - The order proofs for the school photos have been sent home and the deadline for orders is Monday.
- **St. John's Church** - Please see [here](#) the link to the weekly church events.
- **Year 6 Secondary School applications** - deadline is 31st October.
- **Year 6 National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) Screening 2024-25** - Please see letter emailed to you on Wednesday relating to this. It also gives details should you wish to opt out.



### Friends of Farrington Gurney School

Final reminder that our AGM will be held next Wednesday, 23rd, at 8pm at school.

Please do come along if you can make it.

**FOFGS DISCO**  
Saturday 30th Nov  
6:00 pm — 7:30 pm  
Farrington Gurney Hall  
£3 Per Child

Bar Will Be Open  
Hot Dogs\* Available £2  
Tuck Shop  
Glitter Face Art

Card Machine will be available at door for entry & Hot Dogs. Please bring change for Tuck Shop etc.  
\* Meat & Vegetarian Hot Dogs will be available, if you have any special dietary requirements please email [fofgs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fofgs@hotmail.co.uk)

**Rules**  
All children must be accompanied by an adult and supervised at all times. Children should remain in the hall, no re-entry.

**Christmas Wreath Workshop**  
Saturday 23rd Nov  
7pm Start  
Paulton Scout Hut

£15 per person  
BYO Drinks  
Nibbles provided

Reserve your ticket by contacting the PTA:  
Email: [fofgs@hotmail.com](mailto:fofgs@hotmail.com) or comment on the Facebook Post.

Tickets are limited and will be issued on a first come first served basis.

### Diary Dates

#### October

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|----------|--|
| Wed 23rd | Parents' Afternoon/Evening 1:30pm-7:00pm (not Years 5 and 6)   |
| Thu 24th | Friends of Farrington Gurney School AGM (8:00pm at the school) |
| Fri 25th | Last day of Term 1   |
|          | INSET Day  |

#### November

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Mon 4th  | Start of Term 2  |
| Wed 20th | Open Morning 9:15-11:30am                                      |
| Tue 26th | Dolphin Class Trip to Downside (letter on ParentPay to follow) |
| Wed 27th | INSET Day  |





**Community News**

**BRLSI**

We would love to see you at BRLSI this Saturday for the Bath Taps into Science festival in Queen Square, Bath. This FREE one-day science festival offers 2 floors of fun, hands on activities for everyone to enjoy. Break codes, make potions, defy gravity and much, much more! 19th October 2024 10-4 Everyone welcome - come and play!

**Sustrans and The Active Way Team**

**Want to be more active and improve your mental health?** Come and visit Sustrans and The Active Way Team – **Tuesday 29th October in The Hollies, Midsomer Norton between 10.30am and 3pm** - to find out about free walking and cycling activity in the Somer Valley. Bring along your cycle to Dr Bike for a free safety check, tweaks and minor repairs. Please note: places are limited for Dr Bike.

The Active Way project provides a range of FREE activities to increase the health and wellbeing for the people in the Somer Valley, through walking and cycling. To find out more visit <https://theactivewaybathnes.co.uk> or email [active.steps@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:active.steps@sustrans.org.uk)

**Keynsham Library**

**Baby Bounce and Rhyme**

Tuesday 9.30 - 10.00am 22 October  
10.30 - 11.00am

Sensory Space, for families with children & young adults with sensory needs

Mon - Sat, Book a Session via Eventbrite

**Board Game Saturdays**

Saturday 12.30 - 4.00pm 26 October

**Storytime**

Thursday 10.30 - 11am 24 October

**Lace Making Group**

Thursday 2.00 - 4pm 24 October

**Keynsham Library Exhibition**

Monday 14 October Onwards

**Children's Yoga**

Wednesday 10.30 - 11.00am 23 October

**Dragon Craft Day**

Saturday During opening hours 26 October



**Midsomer Norton Library**

**Baby Bounce and Rhyme**

Monday 11.00 - 11.30am 21 October

Sensory Space, for families with children & young adults with sensory needs

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**Storytime**

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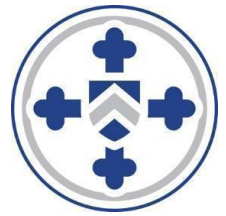
For any ticketed events, the link will be online via the blog. Visit [baneslibraries.co.uk/events](http://baneslibraries.co.uk/events)



The B&NES Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) are pleased to announce they have added three extra dates for our Parental Knife Crime Awareness events.

Please note these events are 2 hours long and will now take place on:

- o Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024 at [St Mark's School](#)
- o Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at [Bath College](#)
- o Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 at [Newbridge Primary](#)
- o Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at [Chew Valley School](#)



## **Thought of the Week**

***'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life'***

**(Matthew 6: 25-27 - NIV)**

It's a bit long today's set of verses, but it is worth including all of 25 to 27. This short passage (you can read from vv. 25-34 [here](#)) includes a teaching point, some reflection questions, an example to refer back to and some areas for discussion. You can see why Jesus was often referred to as a good teacher.

I recently shared this passage with a close family member and they responded by saying 'that's something good to live by, faith or no faith'. And I think that's what's special about a lot of what Jesus teaches, it is applicable whether you have a particular faith or worldview or if you're not sure what you believe. Even an atheist would agree that anxiety doesn't solve anything.

In the last few years, there have been many more of us that have struggled with our mental health. Many of us are finding ourselves struggling with anxiety, to the point that it is affecting our relationships, our livelihood and our day-to-day life. Where before we had stability and we were sure of what to expect from life, we are now less sure and not clear about what we might be facing next.

These verses aren't easy in isolation. They tell us not to worry. That's not easy if you are someone that struggles with anxiety. If you're told not to worry, you may worry more. You may end up worrying about worrying!

The key here is that Jesus tells us to focus on something else. In the passage he says to

'seek God's kingdom first' ([v.33](#)). For those of us without a Christian faith, this basically means to focus on what God wants you to do and think about how you can welcome others into a relationship with him.

Now, this may not apply to you, but the principle around focusing on something else does. To help us not to get anxious, we need to change our focus. Maybe we need to think about the other people in your life and how they are getting on. Maybe we need to think about what's good in our lives and count our blessings. Maybe you need to take some time out and do something you enjoy, to help yourself to refocus.

And although Jesus tells us not to worry, at another point in the Bible, we are told not to be anxious but to bring everything to God in prayer ([Philippians 4:6](#)). The point is that if we do worry about things, we shouldn't fester about it on our own. For Christians, we are told to pray about it and to focus instead on God and his kingdom. For others, this may mean talking to someone about our worries and to do something else. In both cases, this can make a world of difference.

Therefore, do not worry. Can you change anything by doing this? Instead talk it through with someone: a friend; a family member; with God. But be proactive before your worrying turns into anxiety.

