

Farway Church of England Primary School

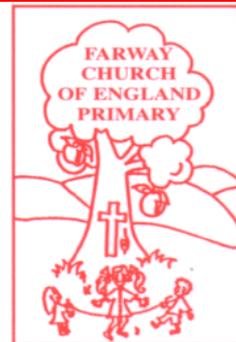
Church Green,
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Executive Headteacher:- Mrs Katie Gray

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24th February 2017

Dear Parents,

It's been a very busy week in school this week. On Tuesday we held the interviews for Mr Smith's replacement after Easter. We had some super candidates who demonstrated lovely lesson ideas and strong knowledge about teaching and learning. We are very pleased to have appointed Mrs Faye Hooper. She is delighted to be joining our school and will be visiting the children before we break up for the Easter holidays. The children had a tricky day during the interviews, as they had to have several different teachers during the day – they were a real credit to the school and adapted to each teaching style remarkably well.

This week we have held another Ready Steady Write day. It was super that the children could work with children from across the federation for the day. Our key stage 2 children spent the day at Branscombe School whilst their key stage 1 children visited us. Activities in both schools were based around the nursery rhyme 'The Grand Old Duke of York'.

Key Stage 1 marched and acted out the story as well as creating board games based on the journey up and down the hill and writing their versions of the story. Meanwhile the key stage 2 children had an exciting time visiting Branscombe. Having read (or sung) the rhyme, the children talked about the questions they had about it, such as "Who was the grand old Duke of York?", "Which hill did he climb?", "What was at the top of the hill?", "Why did they go back down again?" and "What might have happened half-way up. Then the children researched different theories about who the duke might have been and made a timeline of soldiers' weapons and uniforms and discussed the changes in different periods. Later the children re-enacted the Battle of Wakefield, with Richard Duke of York leading his men up the hill and then making a fast retreat when they were unable to defeat the Lancastrians at Sandal Castle. The children then learned about how coats of arms would have been important in medieval battles and designed their own coats of arms. Finally, the children went into role as soldiers from the battle or as reporters, and interviewed one another in role about what happened, collecting quotes to inform their writing of newspaper articles about the battle.





Next week will be busy with Pancake day on Tuesday and World Book Day on Thursday.

On Tuesday the children need to bring a frying pan and a racing pancake for racing with. We will also be cooking pancakes over the fire outside (for eating) during the afternoon so the children will need forest school clothes. Parents are very welcome to join us from 2:00pm for races (bring your own pan and pancake) and possibly an edible pancake or two as well.

On Thursday for World Book Day we would like the children to bring in an item to do with one of their favourite books (e.g. a suitcase for Paddington, a looking glass for Alice, a pot of honey for Winnie the Pooh etc). The children can also dress up as their character if they wish and team points will be given for original and clever ideas and costumes. During the day the children will be using their items to re-enact parts of their story and then create a display based around the story.

We are very sorry to inform you that Mrs Jenny Rowland, our clerical assistant, has chosen to resign due to personal health reasons. She has been a great asset to the school in the short time she has been with us and we wish her well. Her post has been advertised and we will interview shortly. In the meantime please bear with us in the school office.

Thank you for all your continued support.
God bless and have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Farway CE School

Question of the week

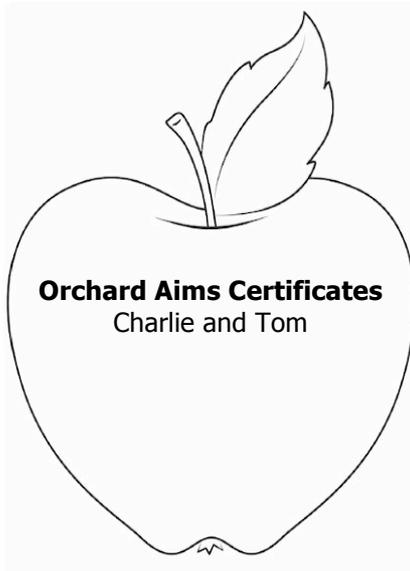
When did the internet start?

How big is the internet?

How do you switch it off?

School Funding

You may have seen in the news recently that there is a crisis relating to school funding. I believe there is to be an article on Spotlight this evening giving more information. The Devon Headteachers Association and the National Association of Headteachers urge parents, governors and friends of schools to have a look at www.schoolcuts.org.uk. Although our school seems to not be affected by the changes if you type in the school name of secondary schools your child may go on to attend you will see the potential funding cuts that schools may suffer by 2019 if the current plans for a national funding formula go ahead. From this website there is an easy button that generates a letter to your MP to express your concerns. We would encourage as many people as possible to send these letters. Thank you for your support with this.



Collective Worship Activity

This activity will be the final one thinking about Courage before we begin activities linking to our new Value of Creativity. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together. If the children bring back something that you have done at home linked to the Collective Worship activity, or can talk about a discussion they've had at home linked to it, then Mrs Gray will award them with a new special sticker.



FAMILY FOCUS & HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



Children of Courage

Each year awards are presented to children throughout the country who have shown outstanding bravery and **courage** in overcoming huge challenges in their lives. (Google 'UK children of **courage** awards' to see some examples.)

Design a nomination for a child that you know and believe should be recognised for their **courage**. Remember, there are different kinds of **courage** and different ways of showing bravery.

The nominations will be displayed in the Challenge Gallery at school.



Example Nomination sheet



Name of child who has shown **courage**

.....

Has shown **courage** by

.....

This bravery should be recognised because

.....

.....

Parent Governor Vacancy

One of our Parent Governors, Clara Rose, has taken the decision to resign from her position on the federation's governing body. We would like to thank her for her dedicated service and all that she has done for our schools during her time as governor. However, this means that there is now a vacancy for a dedicated parent on our governing body. The role can be demanding, but is also very rewarding. If you think that you may have the qualities, skills and time necessary to take on this role, please get in touch with Mrs Gray in the first instance. She can provide you with more information about what the role entails. We will start the formal process of selecting a new governor in the next couple of weeks – further details will be given soon.

Key Term Dates

28th February – Pancake Races
2nd March – World Book Day
23rd March – Parents’ Evening
31st March – Easter Service 11am – End of term
18th April – Summer Term begins
26th May – Break for half term
5th June – Back to school
21st July- End of term

Please order meals for _____

The menu is on the school website www.farway.devon.sch.uk - Please look at week 2.

	Menu Choices for Week Beginning 27th February 2017	Cost £2.50 per meal
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		
	Amount Enclosed	£
	Please make cheques payable to Devon County Council	

In accordance with our policy, if you pay for your child's meals then payments for school meals should be made on the Monday before the meals are taken.