



## Parent Bulletin Week Commencing 4th May

Congratulations to Fayth Ifil Y8 who smashed it on Britain's Got Talent on Saturday! We knew she would be brilliant, but not that she would get Simon Cowell's golden buzzer. We're very excited about the live shows which will probably take place in the Autumn. Well done, Fayth.

Here are some links and text... <https://www.swindonadvertiser.co.uk/news/18405704.swindons-fayth-ifil-wows-britains-got-talent-judges-amazing-version-tina-turners-proud-mary/>  
<https://www.heart.co.uk/showbiz/tv-movies/britains-got-talent/britains-got-talent-golden-buzzer-fayth/>

Our school has been closed to the vast majority of our students for some weeks now. We are acutely aware that this is a time of emotional, physical and financial stress in many homes. Our students would often see, chat and confide in their friends at school or seek support from the adults they trust. We know that, at the moment, that level of support is just not so easily available. However, there is a wealth of amazing support available online. We really like this website - it has been compiled by an NHS professional, working in CAMHS. <https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk/> Take a look. They have a brilliant section on some fantastic apps - and a dedicated page all about Coronavirus. Take care everyone and stay safe.

As always, if you have any safeguarding concerns - contact [nsturla@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:nsturla@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk)

### Notices:

As launched last week, the annual survey parents will still run this term; the link to the parents survey is here: <https://www.qdpsurvey.co.uk/OnlineQuestionnaire?code=7105-31446-24397260>.

- **All years:** We have produced some guidance notes for parents answering questions we have had recently about show my homework including: how to sign up; how to reset their child's password; how to see what work is outstanding. These can be accessed [here](http://www.farmors.gloucs.sch.uk/Letters-to-parents). <http://www.farmors.gloucs.sch.uk/Letters-to-parents>
- **All Years:** If you are looking for something a bit different to do at home at the moment, the Maths department are putting regular suggestions for things to do which are (vaguely!) mathematical on their Twitter page 'Farmors4maths'. Please do follow and let us know if you do any of the activities. They include TV programmes and films to watch, mathematical art and origami, as well as maths games, websites and puzzles. If your child is old enough (13 and over) you could suggest they follow us too. The suggestions are not extra work, just some ideas to help pass the time in a mathematical way!
- **All Years:** Your child is likely to be spending more time online or on social media at the moment. On the website is our new online safety newsletter with help and advice for parents on how to keep them safe in different forums, including the new Call of Duty - Warfare game and family friendly changes to TikTok. Please see letters to parents on our website.
- **Drama live Theatre productions:** Seeing good quality live productions or recordings of theatre performances is an important part of our Drama courses in all years. As well as being culturally enriching, students learn how to read meaning into performance as well as how to describe and evaluate elements of design. Many theatre makers have now made productions available online and we would like to take as much advantage of these as possible. The National Theatre put a production online every Thursday which is available for a week. BBC iPlayer also have productions available to watch in their Arts category. A virtual trip to the theatre might be something you would enjoy doing together as a family.
- **Years 7 & 8:** The students have seen recordings of *Romeo and Juliet* and *Peter Pan* from the National Theatre, that we will make available for students to re-watch online as revision. We will also use Show My Homework to inform students of other age-appropriate productions that they might enjoy.
- **Year 9 & 10:** Students taking the GCSE and A-Level courses are required by the exam board to see as much Live Theatre as possible. Until theatres are open again and we can take them to see something live, we would like them to access

productions online. The first production we will be setting work on via Show My Homework is *Wise Children* on iPlayer. The play is based on the novel by Angela Carter and although a riot of song, dance and comedy, it also explores some adult themes that are not appropriate for younger children. The GCSE and A-level students we took to Bristol Old Vic to see it live thoroughly enjoyed it and it provided lots of good material for study, so we are confident that although challenging, it is entirely age-appropriate for our students. We would recommend that students do not watch the play in the presence of younger siblings under the age of 14. As adults, you might enjoy watching the play with your child so you can support them with their analysis and evaluation of the features of the play.

**Letters to parents this week** <http://www.farmors.gloucs.sch.uk/Letters-to-parents>

- **All Years:** Show my homework guidance notes.
- **All Years:** Online safety newsletter.
- **DofE** Bronze and Silver letter.

Kind regards,

Pastoral team.