

# Farmor's School

## Parent Bulletin



22nd June 2026 Week B

**All years: we are expecting the weather to be extremely hot on Monday and Tuesday next week (Met Office Amber weather warning). Students can therefore come to school in PE kit, and we recommend that they bring a water bottle with them, preferably a refillable one.**

**All years: Multi Academy Trust update** - We wrote to parents and carers in November 2025 with information about the possibility of Farmor's School joining The Athelstan Trust - a well-established Multi Academy Trust (MAT) with schools in Wiltshire and Gloucestershire. There was a parent consultation meeting in December 2025, which was positive and productive, though only a small number of parents attended. A further letter about this is linked [here](#), with an opportunity for you to submit comments before the next Full Governing Board meeting in July. **Mark Surowiec, Headteacher and Sam Bartholomew, Chair of Governors.**

**All years: Heads of School interviews** - On Tuesday, Mr Bew and I had the pleasure of interviewing the Year 12 candidates who have applied to be Heads of School next year. This is a prestigious leadership position, and I know that the appointed students will need to make a real impact in their role next academic year. It was lovely to meet with all eleven candidates, each of whom were highly articulate, and so invested in our school. We have some difficult decisions to make! Whatever the outcome, it is an absolute joy to work with these young people, who I am sure will develop into leadership roles in the future whether they are selected as Heads of School or not. **Mark Surowiec, Headteacher**

### **All Years - Year 9 Battlefields trip**

Last week many of our Year 9 students went on the History trip to visit and learn about the WW1 Battlefields. Despite a delay crossing the channel, our students found the trip hugely interesting and rewarding. The trip guide went to the effort of emailing me after the visit, and their email included the following words: "*Please can you pass on my thanks to all the staff who*

*were amazing. Now onto the students, given their age they were amazing, demonstrating a level of discipline that other schools could only aspire too. They were attentive during presentations, answering lots of questions posed to them by the guides. The two groups that laid the wreaths at the Menin gate were exceptional. The staff and students very much represented the school in the best possible light, and they should be very proud of themselves."*

Thank you to our students and staff for their input which helped to make this trip so successful.

**Mark Surowiec, Headteacher.**

**All years: Sports Day 2026** - This will be held in school on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July**. Details of the events will be shared with students next week. Please note that spectators are **NOT** permitted at this event.

**All years: Sports Awards 2026** - Our annual sports awards evening takes place in the evening of Sports day **Tues 14<sup>th</sup> July**. This will be in the LRC (6th form) from 6-7:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**All years: Water Safety** - Over the last 2 weeks, Years 7-10 have all watched this video about Water Safety from the Royal Life Saving Society. Please find the link [here](#). It is a hard watch, with stories from friends and family who have lost people to drowning. As we approach another spell of hot weather, we want all our children to enjoy water safely. As the video says, 'why take the risk?'

**All years: Youth Conservation Day at Westonbirt Arboretum** -This is being held on Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of August. The opportunity to venture outdoors, learn practical skills, and make a real difference to the arboretum. Whether you're curious about conservation or thinking about a future in environmental careers, this free one-day event is designed just for you. Limited spaces, please find the link to book your space [here](#).

**All years: Let's Talk Well** - Parent Support and workshops are all available during the summer holidays. <https://www.letstalkwell.org.uk/>  
Let's Talk Well Chat is a free and anonymous service offering support to children and young people aged 9-25 in Gloucestershire either through a secure instant messaging platform or on the phone - 5 nights a week, Sunday to Thursday, no appointment needed. More info [here](#).

We talk to young people who are facing a range of challenges including friendship issues, exam stress, bereavement, low mood, worries, feeling different, and anger.

- *Free counselling*
- *Free online webinars on how to manage difficult thoughts and feelings (InTER-ACT)*

- *Free parent & carer advice and support*
- *Free parent & carer workshops (including webinars for parents)*

**Year 7 and Year 8:** - We have been so impressed by all Y7 and Y8 students in the calm and mature way they have completed their assessments in the sports hall this week. It can seem daunting to sit in the school exam hall, but by introducing this for short assessments in Year 7 and Year 8, it makes the GCSE exams much less stressful. Well done to them!

**Year 8: Sports Leadership opportunity** - We have been approached by a company called Sportily who can offer an accredited Sports Leadership course from Jan-May next year that follows the Sports Leadership content taught in lessons this Autumn. It is likely to be after school on a Monday 3:30-4:30pm at Farmor's for about 15 weeks with a likely cost of between £40-50. Alongside this, we can usually offer volunteering opportunities at Fairford Primary School with their after-school sports clubs. This can be used as volunteering hours for those doing Bronze DofE as well. If either are of interest to your child, please could you fill in this short expression of interest form to help us plan: [Sports Leaders Opportunity in Y9 – Fill out form.](#)

**Years 7-11:** Please find the link [here](#) to this week's Year 7-11 Careers Newsletter. This week mostly focuses on the older year groups, but the Job of the Week slot might appeal to any budding young Astrophysicists out there.

**Year 10: Core Assessments** - on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, Y10 have their core assessments in the sports hall. The timetable is below. Students will need a calculator as well as a black pen, ruler and pencil. They can also take a water bottle in as well. Please note that from Monday lunch returns to its normal time after period 4.

Normal registration with tutors

**P1 & P2** - English (1 hour 45 min)

BREAK

**P3 & P4** - Maths (1 hour 30 min) followed by return to P4 lessons

LUNCH

**P5** - Biology (1 hour)

## Supporting your child to learn at home:

**Tip of the Week:** This week Mrs Wells, assistant head for teaching and learning, has made a video about how you can support your child with reading. Please find the video link [here](#).

## Safeguarding:

Featured in this month's newsletter is some really helpful advice about online scams and digital footprints. Take a look at this video to learn more: [here](#).

An offer from our partners in Early Help:

Is this you? A teenager who is rude and refuses to follow family rules. One who screams and cries at the drop of a hat. A teenager who is arguing with everyone in the family. Or one who is drinking, skipping school, or hanging out with a bad crowd.

If any of these descriptions fit your teenager, Teen Triple P Discussion Groups can help.

Teen Discussion Groups Over 10 years;

- Building Teenagers Survival Skills – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 1.30-3.30pm

If you would like to sign up for any of these dates, please email:

[studentservices@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:studentservices@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk) and we will request a place for you

## Letters to parents: [here](#).

- Safeguarding Newsletter June - [here](#).
- Library Newsletter - [here](#).
- MAT Consultation Letter - [here](#).
- Water Safety - [here](#).
- Youth Conservation Day at Westonbirt Arboretum - [here](#).
- Let's Talk Well - [here](#).
- Year 7-11: Careers Newsletter - [here](#).