Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024



Football News

Saturday 16th March 2024 - English Schools South West Regional Finals at Somerdale Pavilion, Keynsham



Our Year 6 team represented Dorset Schools as County Champions in this prestigious event.

The day started with a presentation where our boys received their English Schools Medals which are a lovely memento of their achievement and then matches kicked off. We were in a group of 5 county winners.

We were 2-0 down in our first game at half time and managed to salvage a 2-1 defeat. Next game we came out and were 1-0 up after 15 seconds. We then eased to a 3-0 win. We then won our next match 3-0 and again were ahead after 15 seconds. We needed to avoid defeat in our final match to progress to the semi-finals. We won 1-0 in a cagey encounter.

Into the semi-finals. If we win this, we progress to Derby County's ground Pride Park for the national final. We're down after 15 seconds and are in the ropes. We hold on to avoid a second and then we grow into the match and just can't score. In the second half it's end to end but we're creating chances. Suddenly we equalise in the last minute which brought magnificent celebrations.

The match goes to Extra Time. Gloucester score a rocket. We rally and create a few chances and even have a shot cleared off the line in the last second. Sadly, we fall short and lose 2-1. The boys are extremely sad but pick themselves up to play the 3rd 4th play off which we also lost 2-1 in extra time.

The boys were a credit. We were just 3 mins away from a penalty shootout to decide the national finalists. We scored in every match and our only defeats were that of one goal. We definitely competed and represented Dorset Schools with pride.

I'd like to thank all of our parents that made the trip and gave tremendous support throughout the whole day in their weekend. I'd like to thank Mr Wyeth for his support throughout the day. Also, we thank the organisers for hosting such a fabulous event.



We congratulate the winners and wish them luck in the finals in Derby. Finally, I just want to say how proud I am of our school team, look back at your medals with immense pride. 4th in the South West of England. That's an awesome achievement.

Yours in sport

Mr Higgins

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024



School News

Update on Staffing

Dear Parent/ Carer,

As the term concludes, we bid farewell to esteemed members of the Ferndown Middle staff.

- o Mrs. Sykes, after a remarkable 39-year tenure in education, is retiring. Her dedication has shaped the lives of numerous young people, guiding them towards bright futures. Her multifaceted roles, from Year 5 leader to Assistant Head and Year 6 teacher, have left an indelible mark on our community. Miss Grant will be teaching 6SB for the remainder of the academic year.
- o Madame Baker Smith embarks on a new chapter at Bournemouth University, working as a liaison office promoting higher education's values. Her passion for French has ignited a similar excitement in our pupils, setting them on paths to academic success. While her departure is a loss for Ferndown Middle, Mrs. Shew has an expanded role and will continue the legacy of excellence in language education.
- Miss Robbins' transition to Bryanston as the subject lead for English. We congratulate her on her promotion. Mr. Worsdale will continue to enrich our English department and Year 8 students as a form tutor.
- o Miss Proctor's new role in teaching maths reflect the dynamic growth and opportunities within the educational field. We thank her for her dedication to the school and wish her every success for the future.
- o Mrs. Bailey's promotion at Ferndown Upper School aligns with her passion for guiding students through GCSE and A-level examinations, ensuring that as our Year 8 students move on, they remain under her skilled tutelage.

Mrs Barker will return from her maternity leave next week in her role as a Teacher and Head of Year 8.

Miss Mayow will return on 25th April to continue teaching art. In her absence Mr Rosa has been covering and we thank him for the excellent work with our pupils and wish him well for the future.

We are hopeful for a successful outcome for the upcoming interviews for positions in science, maths, and part-time French. The outcomes of these interviews will be shared in the forthcoming newsletter, keeping parents informed with the changes at Ferndown Middle.

Last day of the Spring term – Thursday 28 March 2024

Please be aware that pupils will be finishing earlier at 1.30 pm.

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024



Peer on Peer Relationships

As a school we create a positive and supportive school environment, by fostering healthy relationships and promoting responsible behaviour. We achieve this through a variety of ways.

PSHCE Program

Our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education plays a crucial role in equipping pupils with essential life skills. It covers topics like relationships, mental health, and personal safety. Our programme also includes structured lesson and activities to foster positive behaviours, empathy, and resilience.

Tutor Time

Tutor Time is a valuable part of the school day. It allows our pupils to connect with their form tutors, build relationships, and receive important information. We have expanded Tutor Time to look at health and wellbeing.

Confidential Drop Boxes

These drop boxes are essential for creating a safe space where pupils can report incidents without fear of reprisal. Confidentiality encourages pupils to share their concerns, whether related to bullying, harassment, or other issues.

Involving the Police through Safer Schools

In cases where incidents require external intervention, involving the police through Safer Schools ensures a co-ordinated response. It emphasises the seriousness of addressing safety concerns and reinforces the message that everyone has a role in maintaining a secure environment.

Assemblies

Assemblies serve as a collective platform for the school community. They provide an opportunity to reinforce values, discuss important issues, and promote a sense of unity.

This week year 7 and 8 assemblies focus on Peer Relationships. These assemblies will address respectful communication, empathy, and digital interactions. Discussing language appropriateness- both in person and on social media, helping pupils to understand the impact of their words.

For more information, you can explore the resources provided on our website for our PSHCE program.

New Chair of Governors

I am delighted to announce that Mr Paul Clarke has been elected by the School Standards Board, to the role of Chair of Governors at Ferndown Middle School. Paul has been the Chair and is currently the Vice Chair at Ferndown First School therefore, he has a wealth of experience and knowledge to share at Ferndown Middle.



Traffic outside of school

Please remind your child/children to look and check before crossing roads, children are putting themselves at risk. To help keep our pupils safe, do not park on the pavements, drive very slowly and where possible arrange alternative pick-ups to avoid congestion. Thank you for keeping our children safe.

School Equipment

We have noticed an increase in pupils' belongings being delivered during school hours, along with requests to pass messages to pupils. We encourage parents to remind their children to remember their PE kit, cooking ingredients, musical instruments, and uniform, etc., and ensure they are aware of their after-school travel arrangements. While we understand there may be exceptional circumstances, our office staff are often occupied with other tasks, and we cannot guarantee immediate delivery of items or messages.

Please be aware that we do not make calls home for forgotten items such as pencil cases, uniforms and water bottles. However, we will contact home for essential items like cooking ingredients, packed lunches, eyeglasses, musical instruments, and PE kits needed for school matches.

Please send in any messages for your child at the latest by 1.00 pm on the day, so that these can be relayed to them during afternoon registration.

We would appreciate your support with this as it will ensure that the office staff are not disrupting classes to pass on messages and equipment.

Appointments during the school day

If your child is leaving school for an agreed appointment, please ensure they are aware and that it is their responsibility to let the teacher know when they are leaving and to wear a watch or to look at the clock in the classroom to ensure they leave on time.

Book Looks

We would like to invite you and your children to visit the school and see their books on the following two dates.

- Tuesday 19 March, 15.30 16.20 KS3 (Years 7 & 8) English, Maths, Science and French
- Wednesday 20 March, 15.30 16.20 KS2 (Years 5 & 6) English and Maths

You can meet your child's teacher in their classroom and ask them any general questions about your child's work. Please be aware that some part-time teachers may not be present on the day, but another teacher will be there to assist you.

We kindly ask you to fill out the <u>Book Look Booking Form March 2024</u> if you want to see the books that your children have been working on. This will help us prepare the books for you in advance and avoid any delays.

We look forward to welcoming you into school.





Breakfast Club

Bookings for the Summer 1 Term of breakfast club are now open. A copy of the booking form can be found on the school <u>website</u>. Please complete both the booking form and the agreement form or give to your child to bring to the school office.

Youth Club

Tuesday lunchtime 7MM and half of 7EBS will be going to youth club. Pupils will leave the school at 12.15 and return at 1.00pm. Each pupil will need to bring a packed lunch. Pupils who receive free school meals will be given the opportunity to order a packed lunch at morning registration.

Eco News

We are pleased to welcome back Sustrans to Ferndown next week to deliver assemblies about sustainable travel and local cycling routes in preparation for our Dr Bike days the following week. On Thursday 21st March, we invite key stage 2 pupils to bring their bikes to school where they will be checked, and if possible repaired, by Sustrans. Each bike will have a note explaining what has been done. On Friday 22nd March, key stage 3 pupils can bring in their bikes for checking. We hope pupils make the most of this great opportunity to ensure their bikes are safe and in roadworthy condition to get cycling over the Easter holidays.



Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024



Art and Design News

A busy and fruitful spring term in Art!

Art Club

Students attending Wednesdays Art club have been busy working on their next collaborative artwork; choosing to share the important message of kindness in school. They learnt origami skills to create a variety of colourful flowers to form a stunning canopy across a blooming Kindness Tree. Linking with the emergence of a new season the display reads "Plant kindness and see what grows".

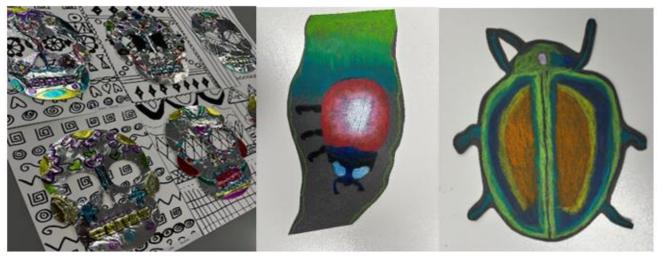


We are excited to share a fantastic selection of new artworks created by our imaginative and creative students......

Year 5

Projects include...

- 'The Nightlife of the Trees' watercolour paintings inspired by The Gond Tribe of India.
- 'Dia de los Muertos' Relief Sculptures inspired by the Mexican Day of the Dead festival.
- Oil pastel artwork based upon 'Insects' inspired by Rosalind Monks and Kelly Standford.





Year 6

Projects include...

- · Ink Landscape Paintings inspired by Van Gogh mark-making.
- · Decorative clay tile Cityscapes inspired by Paul Klee paintings.

Technical 'Maths in Art' drawings based upon the style of M.C. Escher.



Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024



Year 7

Projects include...

- · Clay Monster sculptures inspired by the work of Chris Ryniak.
- · One point perspective room design using Pop Art pattern.

Textile skills in the creation of 'Sock Monsters' based upon the work of John Murphy.







Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024



Year 8

Projects include...

- Deconstructed mixed media portraits inspired by Louis Jover.
- Modroc Relief sculptures using symbolism and Mexican pattern.
- Cereal Box designing and additional promotional materials created for a specific target audience.



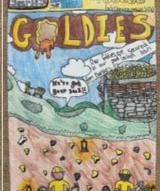














Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024



Design & Technology

Key stage 2



Block Bots

Year 5 and 6 have been continuing to build their designing, making and evaluation skills using the specialist DT Workshop. The children have developed a range of design ideas based on a user and generated their own design criteria. They have produced these fantastic Block Bots using a range of hand tools, processes and equipment. All enjoyed being introduced to the Pillar Drill with supervision.





Mechanisms: Linkages Can early learning be fun?

Year 5 have also been learning about linkages and how to incorporate them in a real life situation. They evaluated different types of linkage, described how they worked and looked at early learning books for design inspiration. Pupils were given the task of creating a moving page of an alphabet book using a chosen linkage.

Electronics: Mini Light-Up Torch

These are a few of the very creative mini torches designed and made by Year 5. Pupils used foam and translucent plastic sheet to build the casing for the LED and battery.



Introduction to CAD/CAM

Year 7 and 8 have been learning about Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM). To build confidence in using 2D design software, pupils developed a keyring design to manufacture using the laser cutter. They had to vectorise an image, add a contour and some text.







Year 7 Desk Tidy

Pupils have been developing more advanced design, making and evaluation skills to produce these fantastic desk tidy products. Before designing their own, they evaluated a range of existing products, exploring the construction and function. Pupils used a range of hand and machine tools to shape and form wood and plastic and learned how to make dowel joints using







Year 8 Mood Light

Year 8 having been using the sesthetic properties of transparent plastic to make mood lights inspired by Art Deco. Pupil used a range of geometric shapes, text and edit tools to create a topper design to be made using the laser cutter. Pupils learned about new electrical components and developed soldering skills to make a working circuit. It was great to see so many different outcomes.











Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024



Wellbeing

Safety Net

Produced in collaboration with Home Office PREVENT and the West Midlands Police Crime Commissioner, Safety Net is a unique educational resource and training programme designed to provide the tools and confidence to engage children and their parents, in a concerted effort to encourage safe online practice in the home.

As the Internet and social media act as the gateway to the adult world, children are increasingly accessing online platforms more and more from an early age. Though they are becoming smarter and growing up computer literate, they are innocent and do not possess the life skills needed to recognise potential dangers. Parents worry about what their children are doing online, yet very few know how to help.

Safety Net embeds the understanding and effective protective behaviour strategies needed to help young people across all year groups stay safe, both online and in the physical world. Adopted by parents, schools, local authorities and multi-agency partnerships across the UK, it is establishing itself as a vital tool in safeguarding children.

You can find out more about the Safety Net programme, along with free resources for parents and carers on our dedicated Skips Safety Net website.

Safety Net – Skips Educational

On the next page is a list of guides that are available from their website.



Keeping children safe online

A Parent's Guide to Cyberbullying







Many young people who are victims of cyberbullying suffer in silence.

They feel they can't turn to parents or a trusted adult for support as they fear they may get in trouble or have their devices taken away from them. It can carry on all day, all evening and all weekend for the world to see, causing a lot of emotional stress to the victim and their family.





It can very quickly lead to the victim feeling trapped, scared and vulnerable to grooming and blackmail.



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941



www.skipssafetynet.org







Parent Guides



A Parents Guide to Social Media



A Parents Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parents Guide to Gaming



A Parents Guide to Live Streaming



A Parents Guide to Online Grooming



A Parents Guide to Online Influencers



A Parents Guide to Fake News



A Parents Guide to Privacy Settings

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024



Key Dates

Below are some of the key dates for the next half term.

Tues 19 March 2024 Year 6 Living things and habitats day

Tues 19 March 2024 KS3 Book Look
Wed 20 March 2024 KS2 Book Look

Thurs 21 March 2024 Mexicolore visit Year 5

Thurs 21 March 2024 Years 5 & 6, Sustrans Bike Day
Fri 22 March 2024 Years 7 & 8, Sustrans Bike Day
Wed 27 March 2024 Year 8 Arson Awareness Day

Thurs 28 March 2024 Last day of term, pupils finishing at 1.30 pm

Wed 24 April 2024 Year 8 HPV Immunisations
Fri 29 March 2024 First day of Easter break

Fri 26 April 2024 Tutor group and year 8 photos

Mon 13 May – Thurs 16 May 2024 KS2 SATs

Residential and Visits

Wed 13 March 2024 Year 7 Trip to Lulworth Cove & Corfe Castle

20 - 24 May 2024 Year 6 Residential to Hooke Court

20 - 23 May 2024 Year 7 Residential to Butchers Coppice

17 - 21 June 2024 Year 8 Residential to Woodmill Outdoor Activity Centre



Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024





The Dorset Parent Guide to support your child's special education needs

A copy of the Dorset Parent Guide to support your child's special education needs can be found on our <u>website</u>.



Dorset Education Advice Line (DEAL)

Dorset Education Advice Line is a phone line for parents, carers and professionals who support children who may have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

This advice line is part of Dorset Councils Local Offer to children, young people and families and will work alongside existing services such as SENDIASS and the Education Psychology helpline.

Further details and a contact form can be found on the following link:

Dorset Education Advice Line (DEAL) - Dorset Council



Extra-Curricular Clubs Spring Term 2, from 19 February to 28 March 2024

Day	Club	Duration	Times	Room/area	Leader
	Boys Football – Years 6, 7 & 8	30 mins	12.15-12.45	Field	SH
Monday Lunchtime	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB
	Music Theatre Group - All years (Full)	30 mins	12:40-1:10	Music Room	SW
	Netball – Year 5 & 6	50 mins	15.30–16.20	Playground/Gym	SG & AC
Manday After Cohool	Rippa Rugby - Years 5, 6 and 7 (External club paid) 19 Feb to 25 Mar Welcome to Rippa Rugby	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Field	External
Monday After School	Orchestra – Invite only	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Music Room	SW
	Tennis (External club paid) <u>Live4tennisbookingform</u> 19 Feb to 25 Mar Collection outside the school reception office	1 hour	15.30–16.30	Ferndown Tennis Courts	External
	Girls Football – All years	30 mins	12.15-12.45	Field	SG
	Gymnastics – All years	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Gym	SH
	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB
Tuesday Lunchtime	Young Voices practice (Full)	30 mins	12.40-1.10	Music Room	SW
	Youth Club (Year 7 invite only)	30 mins	12.15-12.30	Youth Club	LB
	French for Holiday – All years	30 mins	12.15–12.45	LA15	FS
	STEM Club – Years 7 & 8 First 10 to sign up with Miss Dale	30 mins	12.35–13.05	PA02	KD/NBA
Tuesday After School	Dodgeball (External club paid) 9 Jan to 26 Mar <u>TeamTheme Booking Form</u>	1 hour	15.25–16.25	Gym	External
,	Homework Club – All years	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Library	GB
	Basketball – Year 5 & 6	30 mins	12.15-12.45	Field	SG
Wednesday Lunchtime	Running Club – All years	30 mins	12.15-12.45	Field	SH
	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45-1.10	Library	GB



Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024

	Samba - All years	25 mins	12:45-1:10	Music Room	SW
	Choir – All years	30 mins	12.15-12.45	Music Room	NP
	Spanish – All years	20 mins	12.50-1.10	LA6	EBS
	Computers – Years 6, 7 & 8 Max 15 places, sign-up sheet in ICT room	30 mins	12.30-1.00	PA03	MM
	Craft Club – All years First 15 children on the day, no need to sign up	25 mins	12.40–1.15	LA9	EW
	Art Club – All years 20 pupils, sign-up sheet on Art door	30 mins	12.15–12.45	PA10	NC
	Sports Leaders – Year 8	30 mins	12.15-12.45	Gym	SG
	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45-1.10	Library	GB
Thursday Lunchtime	The Ark – All years With Miriam Biggs local youth worker. A club where they explore the Christian faith through games, crafts, and fun	30 mins	12.40-1.10	LA13	MB, VG
	Science – Year 5 (Sign up with Mrs Johns)	35 mins	12.35-1.10	PA2	CJ
	School Council – Every other Thursday	1 hour	12.15–1.15	PA4	BR
-1 1 .6	Homework Club – All years	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Library	GB
Thursday After school	Roleplaying Club – Alternate KS2/3	1 hour	15.20–16.20	LA3	AM
3011001	Arts and Crafts – All years 10 places – Sign up with AM/LP	1 hour	15.20-16.20	PA12	AM/LP
	Football – Year 5	30 mins	12.15-12.45	Field	MW
	Young Voices practice (Full)	30 mins	12.40-1.10	Music Room	SW
Friday Lunchtime	DT Club – All years - opportunity to complete unfinished practical work First 12 pupils each week	30 mins	12.15-12.45	PA11	AM
	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45-1.10	Library	GB
	Eco Club – All years	30 mins	12.15 –12.45	LA11	ML
	Dance – Year 5 & 6	30 mins	12.15-12.45	Hall	KZ



Please note the following:

- Please read through the choices with your child and ensure they are clear on where the club is held and the joining instructions.
- Please be aware that it is the parent's responsibility to ensure the child knows that they are attending an after-school club.
- Parental permission is required for your child to attend an after-school club, please use this <u>link</u> to confirm your consent.
- Please make arrangements to collect children following an after-school club and make sure that the child is aware of these arrangements.
- We will endeavour not to cancel after-school clubs at short notice if however, this is necessary; either ParentMail, telephone call, or SMS will notify parents.
- External club arrangements are with the club and not the school.

Breakfast Club



The breakfast club runs each morning for pupils across all year groups. Cost: £3.25 per breakfast.

Start time 7.30 am (Pupils need to arrive no later than 7.40 am and must sign in at reception). Finish time 8.30 am.

It is a fun and sociable environment where pupils enjoy a varied breakfast in the company of other pupils.

A selection of cereals, toast and drinks are provided.

Booking forms can be found on the school website: Breakfast Club | (fernmid.dorset.sch.uk)



Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 18 March 2024

Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Winter Term Dates 2023

Inset Day	Friday 1 September 2023	Bank holidays in the autumn term
Autumn term starts	Monday 4 September 2023	Monday 25 December 2023
Half-term	Monday 23 to Friday 27 October 2023	Tuesday 26 December 2023
Autumn term ends	Friday 15 December 2023	
Christmas holidays	Monday 18 December to Monday 1 January 2024	

Spring Term Dates 2024

Spring term starts	Tuesday 2 January 2024	Bank holidays in the spring term
Inset Day	Friday 9 February 2024	New Year's Day: Monday 1 January 2024
Half-term	Monday 12 to Friday 16 February 2024	Good Friday: Friday 29 March 2024
Spring term ends	Thursday 28 March 2024	Easter Monday: Monday 1 April 2024
Easter holiday	Friday 29 March to Friday 12 April 2024	

Summer Term Dates 2024

Summer term starts	Monday 15 April 2024	Bank holidays in the summer term
Half-term	Monday 27 to 31 May 2024	Early May bank holiday: Monday 6 May 2024
Inset Day	Monday 3 June 2024	Spring bank holiday: Monday 27 May 2024
Summer term ends	Friday 19 July 2024	Summer bank holiday: Monday 26 August 2024
Inset Day	Monday 22 July 2024	
Inset Day	Tuesday 23 July 2024	





Term Dates 2024 - 2025

		Autumn Term Monday 2 September 2024 to Friday 20 December 2024	
	Autumn	Staff Training Day	Monday 2 September 2024
	/ tataiiii	Staff Training Day	Tuesday 3 September 2024
	Term	Welcome Back to School	Wednesday 4 September 2024
Half Term Monday 28 October	Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024		
	2024	Last Day of Term	Friday 20 December 2024
		Christmas Holidays	Monday 23 December 2024 to Friday 3 January 2025

Spring	Spring	Spring Term Monday 6 January 2025 to Friday 4 April 2025	
	Shring	Welcome Back to School	Monday 6 January 2025
	Term	Half Term	Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 2025
	2025	Last Day of Term	Friday 04 April 2025
	2025	Easter Holiday	Monday 7 April 2025 to Monday 21 April 2025

	Summer Term Tuesday 22 April 2025 to Tuesday 22 July 2025	
	Welcome Back to School	Tuesday 22 April 2025
Summer	Bank Holiday	Monday 5 May 2025
Term	Half Term	Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025
Term	Staff Training Day	Monday 30 June 2025
2025	Last Day of Term	Friday 18 July 2025
	Staff Training Day	Monday 21 July 2025
	Staff Training Day	Tuesday 22 July 2025