

# Ferndown Middle School

## Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 22 April 2024



### Meet the new Headteacher – Mrs A Barter

Following the new Headteacher letter sent earlier this week, Mrs Barter would like the opportunity to meet with you in person and invite you into school to attend a workshop. This will be a chance to hear more about her vision for the school, as well as seeking feedback from you as parents. We would love for as many of you to attend as possible.

There are four different dates and times to hopefully cater for different times that you are available as the same content will be covered in each workshop.

Thursday 25th April at 10.00am - 11.00am

Wednesday 1st May at 6.00pm - 7.00pm

Friday 3rd May at 2.00pm - 3.00pm

Thursday 9th May at 7.00pm - 8.00pm



Please sign up using the link below to let us know which session you are able to attend so that we can cater for the correct numbers.

[Meet the new Headteacher](#)

**We will be seeking feedback in school from the children, so the workshops are for parents and carers only.**

We look forward to seeing you then.

Mrs A Barter

Headteacher

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### School News

#### Parent Workshops

In partnership with the Mental Health Support Teams (MHST), we will be hosting two workshops in the summer term with a focus on challenging behaviour at home. Each session will have a specific focus and will be held in the school hall between 9.00am and 10.00am. Refreshments will be provided.

- 'Understanding the teenage brain KS3 workshop', on Monday 22 April 2024 between 9.00 - 10.00am.
- 'Challenging behaviour at home KS2 workshop', on Thursday 13th June 2024 between 9.00 - 10.00am.

If you would like to attend the workshops, please complete this form: [FMS Workshops \(April, June 2024\)](#)

#### Safer Schools

On Thursday KS3 were fortunate to have an assembly delivered by the Safer Schools Police Officer. The focus of the assembly was on Hate crime and Equality. Pupils learnt about the consequences to committing a hate crime via social media. They were reminded of their responsibility to support and protect Human rights and the British values.

Please continue to discuss with your children what is ok share via social media and what is not. If you have any questions about the topic, please contact the Head of Year or Mr Hassanali.

#### Photographs

Fraser Portraits will be in school on Friday 26th April 2024 to take tutor group photographs. They will also be taking a photograph of the whole of year 8.

Please contact the school office if you would like to update your preference/consent for photographs. Any pupils without consent will not be included.

#### School Meals

Please note there has been a slight change to the lunch menu on Wednesdays, the pizza slice will be served with vegetables and not wedges or diced potatoes. A copy of the updated menu can be found on the website. [School Meals | \(fernmid.dorset.sch.uk\)](http://fernmid.dorset.sch.uk)

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### Pick up time

We would like to remind parents/carers that children should be not left unaccompanied whilst waiting to pick up your child(ren) in the school grounds. Children should always be supervised. For their own safety we kindly ask that they do not play on the green areas in front of the school office and to not play with the trees and plants.

### Head Lice

Recently, cases of head lice have been identified in the school and we wanted to make sure you were kept informed. Head lice are very common in children and their families and are picked up by head-to-head contact. Whilst lice are nothing more than a nuisance, it is important that children are checked on a weekly basis so that any head lice can be dealt with quickly and before they are allowed to spread. We suggest that you check your child's head as soon as possible. Here is some simple advice you may wish to follow to keep head lice outbreaks to a minimum.

Check your child's hair once a week. Use a proper detection comb – with teeth no more than 0.3mm apart to trap head lice. The comb is usually white in colour so that lice can be easily identified. If you find live lice, consult a pharmacist to check the whole family. Further advice on the treatment of head lice can be found on NHS website. [Head lice and nits - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

There is no need for pupils to stay off school if they have a case of headlice.

Thank you for your co-operation.

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### School Job Vacancies



#### Cleaners

We are looking for reliable, hardworking and committed people to join our busy cleaning team at Ferndown Middle School who are responsible for the cleaning of the school premises each day. The successful candidates will carry out the cleaning of the interior of the school to an agreed standard under the direction of the Caretaker and to ensure the highest standards of cleanliness and general hygiene of the school premises.

**Contract type:** Permanent, part-time

**Hours:** 10 hours per week, Monday to Friday: 3.30pm to 5.30pm (we can accommodate a 4.00 pm start)

**Pay range:** Grade B, £11.59 per hour

**Weeks:** 42.8 weeks per year (Term time plus 5 staff training days and 38 hours during school holidays)

**Start date:** We have some start dates for May/June/ September

#### Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We are seeking to appoint two Midday Supervisors to join our friendly team to support the children for the lunchtime period during term time only. Duties include setting up the school hall with tables and equipment, supervising the children during their lunch break, in the hall, the classrooms and on the playground, and clearing the hall after lunch. There is some manual handling involved in setting up and clearing away the hall. We strongly advise that you visit the school during a lunchtime service to help you understand the role.

**Contract type:** Permanent, part-time

**Hours:** 8 hours and 25 mins per week, to be worked across Monday to Friday 11.50 – 1.31

**Pay range:** Grade B, £11.59 per hour

**Weeks:** 38 weeks per year, term time only

**Start date:** As soon as possible

A copy of the application form and job descriptions for both roles can be found on the school's [website](#) or alternatively you can call into the school office for a paper copy.

# Ferndown Middle School

## Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 22 April 2024



### Key Dates

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

Mon 22 April 2024	The teenage brain at home – KS3 workshop
Wed 24 April 2024	Year 8 HPV Immunisations
Fri 26 April 2024	Tutor group and year 8 photos
Mon 6 May 2024	Bank Holiday
Mon 13 May – Thurs 16 May 2024	KS2 SATs Week
Wed 12 June 2024	Year 8 Alcohol Awareness
Fri 28 June 2024	Transfer Day
Wed 3 July 2024	Sports Day
<b>Residential and Visits</b>	
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





Do you know about...



free school meals



If your child qualifies for free school meals, they will have a **healthy meal every school day**, and can get:

- access to **free holiday clubs**
- **extra money for their school** towards more teachers and activities

You could save over **£450** a year!

It's easy to find out if you qualify - complete our confidential checker at [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals) or phone **01305 221090**

Pupil Premium

If your child is in reception to year 2 and you receive qualifying benefits, **you could get extra £££'s for your school!**

Apply for the Pupil Premium at [dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/pupil-premium](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/pupil-premium)

### 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 [website](#).

The Dorset Parent Guide to support your child's Special Educational Needs  
0 to 25 years



### 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](#)

# Ferndown Middle School

## Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 22 April 2024



Extra-Curricular Clubs Summer Term 1, from 15 April to 24 May 2024

Day	Club	Duration	Times	Room/area	Leader
Monday Lunchtime	<b>Cricket – All Years</b>	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Field	SH/SG
	<b>Library - All Years</b> Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB
	<b>Music Theatre Group - All years</b>	30 mins	12:40–1:10	Music Room	SW
Monday After School	<b>Rippa Rugby - Years 5, 6 and 7 (External club paid) 15 Apr to 20 May</b> <a href="#">Welcome to Rippa Rugby</a>	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Field	External
	<b>Orchestra – Invite only</b>	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Music Room	SW
	<b>Tennis (External club paid) 15 Apr to 20 May</b> <a href="#">Live4tennisbookingform</a> Collection outside the school reception office	1 hour	15.30–16.30	Ferndown Tennis Courts	External
Tuesday Lunchtime	<b>Spanish – All years</b>	30 mins	12.15–12.45	LA15	FS
	<b>Athletics, Year 5 &amp; 6</b>	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Field	SH
	<b>Library - All Years</b> Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB
	<b>Singing – All Years</b>	30 mins	12.40–1.10	Music Room	SW
	<b>Youth Club (Year 7 invite only)</b>	45 mins	12.15–1.00	Youth Club	LB
	<b>STEM Club – Years 7 &amp; 8</b> First 10 to sign up with Miss Dale	30 mins	12.35–13.05	PA02	KD/NBA
Tuesday After School	<b>Dodgeball (External club paid) 16 Apr to 16 Jul</b> <a href="#">TeamThemebooking</a>	1 hour	15.25–16.25	Gym	External
	<b>Homework Club – All years</b>	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Library	GB
Wednesday Lunchtime	<b>Rounders – All Years</b>	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Field	SH/SG
	<b>Gardening Club – All years</b> Max 12 pupils, sign up with Mrs Cooper	30 mins	12.30 – 1.00	Tranquillity	LC/TW
	<b>Library - All Years</b> Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB

# Ferndown Middle School

## Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 22 April 2024



	<b>Singing – All years</b>	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Music Room	MB
	<b>Samba - All years</b>	25 mins	12:45–1:10	Music Room	SW
	<b>Computers – Years 6 &amp; 7</b> Max 15 places, sign-up sheet in ICT room	30 mins	12.30–1.00	PA03	MM
	<b>Art Club – All years</b> 20 pupils, sign-up sheet on Art door	30 mins	12.15–12.45	PA10	NC
<b>Thursday Lunchtime</b>	<b>Sports Leaders – Year 8</b>	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Gym	SG
	<b>Ukulele– All years</b>	30 mins	12.40-1.10	Music Room	SW
	<b>Library - All Years</b> Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB
	<b>The Ark – All years</b> 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
	<b>Science – Year 5 (Sign up with Mrs Johns)</b>	35 mins	12.35–1.10	PA2	CJ
	<b>School Council – Every other Thursday</b>	1 hour	12.15–1.15	PA4	
<b>Thursday After school</b>	<b>Homework Club – All years</b>	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Library	GB
	<b>Athletics – Years 7 &amp; 8</b>	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Field	SH/SG
	<b>Arts and Crafts – All years 10 places – Sign up with AM/LP</b>	1 hour	15.20-16.20	PA12	AM/LP
<b>Friday Lunchtime</b>	<b>Football – Year 5</b>	30 mins	12.40-13.10	Field	MW
	<b>Dance – Year 5 &amp; 6</b>	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Hall	KZ
	<b>DT Club – All years - opportunity to complete unfinished practical work</b> First 12 pupils each week	30 mins	12.15-12.45	PA11	AM
	<b>Eco Club – All years</b>	30 mins	12.15 –12.45	LA11	ML
	<b>Library - All Years</b> Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB



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## Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 22 April 2024



### **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 [link](#) 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 | \(fernmid.dorset.sch.uk\)](http://fernmid.dorset.sch.uk)

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## Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 22 April 2024



### Term Dates 2023 - 2024

#### Winter Term Dates 2023

<b>Inset Day</b>	<b>Friday 1 September 2023</b>	<b>Bank holidays in the autumn term</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 25 December 2023</li> <li>Tuesday 26 December 2023</li> </ul>
Autumn term starts	Monday 4 September 2023	
Half-term	Monday 23 to Friday 27 October 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	<b>Bank holidays in the spring term</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Year's Day: Monday 1 January 2024</li> <li>Good Friday: Friday 29 March 2024</li> <li>Easter Monday: Monday 1 April 2024</li> </ul>
<b>Inset Day</b>	<b>Friday 9 February 2024</b>	
Half-term	Monday 12 to Friday 16 February 2024	
Spring term ends	Thursday 28 March 2024	
Easter holiday	Friday 29 March to Friday 12 April 2024	

#### Summer Term Dates 2024

Summer term starts	Monday 15 April 2024	<b>Bank holidays in the summer term</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early May bank holiday: Monday 6 May 2024</li> <li>Spring bank holiday: Monday 27 May 2024</li> <li>Summer bank holiday: Monday 26 August 2024</li> </ul>
Half-term	Monday 27 to 31 May 2024	
<b>Inset Day</b>	<b>Monday 3 June 2024</b>	
Summer term ends	Friday 19 July 2024	
<b>Inset Day</b>	<b>Monday 22 July 2024</b>	
<b>Inset Day</b>	<b>Tuesday 23 July 2024</b>	

# Ferndown Middle School

## Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 22 April 2024



### Term Dates 2024 - 2025

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

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

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