



Ferndown Middle Newsletter

July 2017

Telephone: 01202 876556
E-mail: office @fernmid.dorset.sch.uk

Key Dates



Term Dates are available on the school website

Friday 21st July – End of Term – 2pm finish (Years 5,6,7)
2.15pm finish (Year 8)
Wednesday 6th September – first day of Autumn Term

Jon Egging Trust Cake Sale



We will be selling cakes on Tuesday 18th July at break time to raise money for the Jon Egging Trust. Cakes will cost between 20p – 50p.

Summer Fair



The Summer Fair, held on Friday 30th June, was again a great success. In 2 hours we raised £1700. We were lucky to have the Ferndown Town Crier to help make announcements. He looked very regal in his outfit, even if many children thought he was a pirate!

It was lovely to hear the Parley First School choir sing. This was a great opportunity for the schools to support each other and strengthen bonds. Our own Ukulele band performed and many parents stopped to listen and enjoy the performance.

All the tutor groups designed their own games and stalls, providing lots of entertainment for old and young, altogether raising £365.60. The greatest single achievement was from 7PM who raised the grand total of £42.

We would like to thank the local community for their contributions to the fair. The donations for the Silent Auction this year were very varied and attracted a lot of attention and bids. Food and vouchers for the refreshments from the local stores was much appreciated. Thank you too for the donation of the coconuts for the coconut stall by GC Produce of Southbourne.

The school is grateful to all the parents, governors and staff who volunteered their time to help run the fair and for the parents who came and supported the fair, contributing to its success.

In order for future events to go ahead we will continue to need the support of parents. Please contact the school if you are able to occasionally give a few hours of your time.

Mrs Kiernan

Gardening Club



I will be starting a gardening club next term in order to transform the gazebo area at school into a thing of beauty. This club will complement the existing Eco-club. There are many proven benefits to gardening, including reducing stress, improving mood and providing exercise. Gardening gets you out in the fresh air and sunshine and it can become a lifelong hobby. A recent study in the Netherlands suggests that gardening can fight stress even better than other relaxing leisure activities. Studies of school gardening programs suggest that children who garden are more likely to eat fruits and vegetables and try new foods. As well as providing opportunities to budding gardeners, I want to provide an area where pupils can relax, unwind, enjoy flowers and wildlife and find shade. The Eco-club will focus on growing vegetables and fruit, amongst other things.

Although we will provide plants, we are always grateful for more, and if anyone has any spare plants or seeds which you could let us have next term (or indeed gardening advice!), it would be hugely appreciated. With thanks, Mrs Monro

SATS Results for Year 6



Well done to all the Year 6 pupils. They have worked exceptionally hard and we are proud of all of them. The staff and pupils approached the tests with determination and were rewarded for their efforts. The final results will not be published until the autumn term because there are appeals, due to some errors in the marking. The progress for the cohort is high and the attainment percentage has improved considerably from the previous year in maths, reading, writing and SPAG.

Well done Year 6!

<p>Summer Celebration</p>	<p>Congratulations to the all the pupils who performed last night at the concert. It was a showcase of singing, dancing, drama and music. The pupils exuded confidence, enthusiasm and of course talent. They were a joy to watch.</p>
<p>Library News</p> 	<p>This week we welcomed Miss Carol Freeman, the Library Manager from Ferndown Public Library to tell the children all about this year's SUMMER READING CHALLENGE – ANIMAL AGENTS. This is an annual event which is run by the Reading Agency, Arts Council England, and Dorset Libraries to promote reading for children during the summer holidays, and to encourage children to visit and belong to their local library so that they can access all the free activities and resources during the summer and throughout the year. Miss Freeman explained how the challenge worked, and how achievable it was.</p> <p>The library sounded like the place to be during the holidays with a whole schedule of free events including 'Creepy Crawly Capers' in collaboration with the Bournemouth Natural Science Society and Museum, and Zoolab Animal Detectives where the children will get to meet millipedes, snakes and frogs to get to the bottom of the ultimate whodunit! Phone the library on 01202 874542 to book your seat for this free event as places are limited!</p> <p>We hope our children enjoy the library and all its services during the holidays. Whatever the weather – keep reading!</p> <p>Please see our school website for further details.</p>
<p>New Staff for September</p>	<p>Following a rigorous selection and interview process, the governors and I are delighted to welcome the following staff from September: Mr Maguire teaching Computer Studies, Mrs Moloney teaching English and leading the English department, Miss Grant teaching Year 6. All are very experienced and come highly recommended.</p> <p>Mrs Rice will be returning from maternity leave to resume her music leader post.</p> <p>Mrs Sedgwick and Mr Keets will join the SEN team as Teaching Assistants.</p> <p>A full list of staff will be on our website for September.</p>
<p>Message from the Headteacher</p> 	<p>Retirements - we say goodbye to Mrs Nice. After 10 years she will be leaving us to spend more time with her family and pursue her hobbies and interests. Mrs Nice has been an integral part of the development of English at Ferndown Middle School, leading a successful English department. She has also given her time to extra-curricular activities and trips. Her dedication, commitment and expertise will be greatly missed.</p> <p>Mrs Parker has been providing support in the music department for 9 years and prior to that she was a general teaching assistant. Her hard work, dedication and support for the school has been invaluable. Mrs Parker supports in the classroom, organises the peripatetic lessons as well as helping with concerts and performances.</p> <p>On behalf of the staff, pupil and governors I would like to thank Mrs Nice and Mrs Parker and wish them a long and happy retirement.</p> <p>Saying goodbye - we are fortunate at Ferndown Middle School to have excellent, dedicated staff; however the down side is that staff move on to promotions. Mr Stow will be using his experience and maths expertise to lead the maths department for a school in Hampshire. Mr Keegan will be working with older pupils in a secondary school heading up the business department. After coming back from maternity leave this term, Mrs Nicolet has decided to return to teaching Year 2, part time, at a primary school in Bournemouth. Mrs Norton has been covering for music during maternity leave and we are grateful for her support. Mr Wyeth, one of our teaching assistants, has been accepted on a teacher training course; this has always been his aim and we are all delighted for him.</p> <p>Thank you to all these staff for their hard work and dedication to Ferndown Middle School including the many additional hours beyond the school day for trips, visits and extra-curricular events.</p> <p>Farewell and thank you - once again this has been a busy and successful year. The year has passed so quickly, it seems that it had</p>

	<p>barely begun and we are coming to an end. There have been many events, activities and opportunities, most of them are included on our website; take a moment to have a look. I have observed many lessons, scrutinised books and pieces of work, spoken with pupils and read reports, all of which have been a privilege and exciting to see. The progress that pupils have made in their learning, emotional development and attitude is rewarding for staff and I am very proud of them.</p> <p>I would like to express my gratitude to the talented and hardworking staff, the dedicated governors and supportive parents as we say goodbye to year 8 and I wish them every success in the future.</p>
--	--