



Ferndown Middle Newsletter September 2017 - 2

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Key Dates



Term Dates are available on the school website

Tuesday 3rd October – Open Evening for prospective parents 5.30pm
Tuesday 3rd October – Harvest Festival
Tuesday 10th October – Open Morning for prospective parents 9.15am
Wednesday 11th October – Year 5 Parents' Welcome Morning 9.15am
Monday 16th October – Parents' evening 4-6pm
Thursday 19th October – Year 5 Corfe trip
Wednesday 18th October - Parents' evening 4-6pm
Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October – Half term break

Parents' Evening



Parents and carers are invited to make an appointment to see their child's tutor between 4pm – 6pm on Monday 16th October or Wednesday 18th October.

To book your child's appointment for Parents' Evening please follow the link: <https://ferndownmiddle.parenteveningsystem.co.uk/>

You will be able to book an appointment from 10am on Monday 2nd October.

Thank you.

Gardening Club



Gardening Club has begun and has been well attended; our enthusiastic team of helpers got straight down to work pulling up the weeds in the raised beds and preparing the earth. Our order for 72 lavender plugs has arrived and we are going to make a start on planting up two big lavender hedges this week. These are important for bees and if our native bees die out we will lose a third of our diet. Bees are essential in pollinating the crops that form our food, and also the wild plants that grow across the country and provide food for much of our wildlife. As always, plants and seeds are gratefully received if you have any spare! Mrs Monro

Art Club



Art club is now up and running and it has been fantastic to see so many talented artists in attendance.

Students are currently creating their very own calendar, using their drawing skills and imaginations to produce something they are truly proud of.

Art club is on every Thursday lunch time from 12.20 – 1.00 and is open to all year groups.

School Council



We are pleased to announce that our school council, including the executive committee, has been set up and we are all ready to go. Each tutor group has selected their council representative and a deputy. The executive committee have also been chosen after a tough interview process. The successful pupils are: Dayna Heron (chairperson), Will Boote (vice-chair), Sophie Doswell (secretary) and Jasper Dalby (communications) - congratulations!

On Tuesday the 3rd of October, our school councillors will be representing Ferndown Middle School during our Open Evening. The executive committee will make a welcome speech followed by the class reps who will be taking tours for prospective parents and pupils. Lastly, we would be extremely grateful if any children's games or DVDs which are no longer wanted at home, could be donated to the school for use during wet play time. Please leave them with the office if you can. Thank you in advance.

Written by Jasper Dalby 8KWY, Communications.

COOKING

Let's Get Cooking

Let's get cooking club is on a Monday lunchtime in PA12 with Mrs Hartley. It starts at 12.20, when you eat your lunch. Students get to cook a variety of healthy foods and snacks from the let's get cooking website. All sessions are free and encourage students to eat healthily; 10 students cook at one time. We run whole school events such as the "Make Away" competition, where students are encouraged to make their favourite takeaways instead of buying them. Improving skills, knowledge and awareness of healthy eating in cookery.

The Great FMS Bake Off!

At the end of every half term we run "The Great FMS Bake off". Students are given a design brief and asked to design a baked product with a specification. The 5 best designs go through to the "FMS Bake off"; in the last week of term, when the school buys the ingredients for the student's bake. Students have an hour to create their products; the final bakes are then judged by our team of experienced staff tasters. Winners are announced in the end of term assembly and prizes given out.

Farm to Fork with Tesco

We work with Tesco and the Eat Happy Project to raise awareness of childhood obesity and healthy eating.

Students get the opportunity to visit Tesco in Ferndown on a Wednesday morning to take part in Farm to Fork mornings. Students are given tasks around the shop floor, goodie bags and have the chance to make products in the bakery and make their own muesli, amongst other activities.

SATS and Cooking

We focus on developing mathematical skills with students in Year 6. Putting mathematical knowledge into real life cookery situations. In the lead up to SATs, students are given revision activities in the food classroom, where they learn about weights and measurements. Scaling up and down, and how much volume is held.

Students focus on SAT's style questions and get used to the lay out and format of the exams, so that they feel confident reading questions upon completing their exams. They understand what the question is asking of them!

Chartwells – On Your Marks Get Set Cook

We work with Chartwells to give the students the opportunity to get involved in "On your marks get set cook", a day of speed cooking run by our catering company Chartwells. Students are able to cook on stage with professionally trained chefs to create healthy dishes, in a race against each other and the clock. Reminiscent of "Can't Cook, Won't Cook", Chartwells set up cooking pods for the green and red team, which give students a professional experience of the catering environment. Students are cheered on by their peers and tested on their knowledge of healthy eating.

All our schemes of work aim to reduce the risk of childhood obesity, as per the government's initiative. We aim to raise awareness of the importance of reducing sugar, salt and fat in our diets. We use healthy and achievable recipes from a variety of sources, to encourage students to cook with fresh produce which are high in nutrients and minerals. The aim is to encourage students to consider what they put into their bodies and how this affects their physical and mental wellbeing. We hope to raise awareness of diet being linked to healthy, happy and successful lives. Students are encouraged to make positive choices.