



Ferndown Middle Newsletter

October 2017

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Key Dates



Term Dates are available on the school website

Wednesday 18th October - Parents' evening 4-6pm
Thursday 19th October – Year 5 Corfe trip
Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October – Half term break

Harvest Festival



Thank you to parents and carers for contributing to our Harvest Festival last week.

The total amount raised was £325 and you donated 178Kg of food to the Ringwood food bank which will feed 18 people, 3 meals a day for at least 3 days!

School Development Plan



Every year the school produces a development plan for actions to be worked on for the academic year. This is not an exhaustive list but priorities based on data and findings from the previous year's monitoring.
The plan can be found on our website www.fernmid.dorset.sch.uk - Information, School Development

Part of the plan is to continue to develop reading skills, a very important life skill. Mrs Moloney, head of English, sent a letter home this week outlining how you can support your child at home.

Parent Consultation Evenings

A letter was sent home and bookings have been made via our electronic system. If you have not yet made an appointment and need help to do so, please contact the main school office.

Car Park



Polite reminder - parents should not park in the school car park unless using the disabled bays. Cars in the car park will be moved on; pupils are not allowed to cross the car park, pupils must leave by the side gate.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter, helping our children to stay safe.

School Council



On Tuesday 10th October, the executive committee and school council representatives in Years 7 and 8 had the opportunity to visit Kingston Maurward for the day.

This was an enjoyable day and very educational. We learnt about how we can make our voices heard, what issues we might face along the way and how we can raise the profile of youths in Dorset. We look forward to another visit again soon.

Open evening was a success, with many prospective pupils and their parents visiting and enjoying the games and tasks which the staff had set out. Well done to Dayna and Will, our Chair and Vice Chair, who did a great speech, despite being nervous of speaking in front of so many parents.

Jasper Dalby, School Council – Communications

Year 7 News



Welcome to Year 7

Year 7 pupils have settled well into the new demands of KS3. They have shown themselves to be good citizens of the school and many have volunteered to take on the roles of office monitors and stationery shop helpers. These are responsible roles and the contribution each pupil is making is gratefully received.

I have also asked for pupils to help sell cakes for charity on parents evening. I have had many offers of help. Well done Year 7.

Mental Health

Y7 attended an assembly taken by Jane Kilpatrick, a Trustee of Dorset Mind on mental health and the importance of keeping and training a healthy mind. As the term progresses Jane will be visiting again to expand on the

importance of mental health and will be offering strategies that can help the pupils prevent mental illness. This service has kindly been donated by the charity. Jane will also be present at the parents evening on Monday 16th October, between 4pm and 6pm. She will be available for you to talk to about any concerns or worries you may have. She is very informative and can offer you support and advice. Please take the chance to speak to her. Jane will be in the school hall.

MIND Fund Raising – Cake Sale
 To say thank you to the Dorset MIND charity for providing free lessons, the pupils in Year 7 are going to sell **cakes** on each **parent’s evening**. The cakes will be sold for **50p each**. Tea/coffee and squash will also be available from the school hall.
 Please support this valuable charity. Any spare cakes will be sold at break time.

Tesco – Farm to Fork Project



Year 8 have been participating in Farm to Fork days at Tesco. Beth Rose from the Tesco ‘Happy Eat’ project, ran a fantastic session about healthy eating. This reinforced students’ classwork, encouraging them to understand how much sugar is in 100g of cereal. They also looked at the difference between fresh, frozen and tinned produce. Students were able to taste test a variety of healthy snacks. Students’ learning was developed even further using deeper questioning, getting them to think about the importance of healthy eating, nutrition, the impact on their bodies and health. Students have been looking into the health risks linked to eating too much sugar, fat and salt. Students have cooked meals to feed their whole family. They understand the importance of cooking from scratch to avoid added sugar, salt and fat. They also understand the nutritional importance of brightly coloured fruit and vegetables to our bodies. All students were extremely well behaved. They received a goodie bag from the morning and enjoyed the experience of searching the shop floor.

Languages



We came together as a school on the European Day of Languages on 26 September 2017 for a special assembly which celebrated the many languages spoken in our FMS community – over 15 different languages! Students and staff showcased their language skills with role play and by teaching the rest of the school how to say “hello” in their language. A big thank you to everyone who participated so enthusiastically!
 Madame Baker-Smith (Coordinator of French)

Following on from the whole school assembly, we had a Year 7 assembly the next day focussing on Article 30 of the UNCRC (“*You have the right to practise your own language, culture and religion. Minority and indigenous groups need special protection of this right.*”) I was extremely impressed by how many of the languages used in the whole school assembly were recalled by the Year 7 pupils – they clearly listened carefully and enjoyed the interactive nature of the assembly. The Year 7 assembly looked at the diversity of languages spoken and sung at a wedding I had been to the previous weekend – 18 different languages ranging from Arabic to Yiddish!
 Madame Vincent (French teacher)

Sports’ News

We have been busy this week with most of our sports clubs at lunch break and after school. It is very impressive witnessing the pupils give up their own time to participate in a sport of their choice. We urge them to continue to do so throughout the academic year. We would like to say how smart the new PE Kit looks and hope the pupils wear it with pride in all of their sporting activities. We hope that you enjoy PE this year!

Poole and East Dorset Cross County League at Sandbanks

On what turned out to be a sunny afternoon, we visited the delightful Sandbanks to take on the arduous course at the beach. Our Year 7 & 8 runners did very well, with every one of them finishing in the top 35 in their respective races. We also had some excellent top 10 finishes from Todd, Xavier, Connor and Kate. It was also fantastic to see many ex-pupils racing, especially as they started their cross-country journey here at Ferndown Middle. A brilliant start to the season!

Poole and East Dorset Cross County League at Baiter

The second PEDSSA cross-country event met at Baiter Park for more stamina-testing running in the breeze from Poole Harbour. Todd again managed a top 10 finish but all runners produced some strong results against some talented runners. Congratulations to all that represented the school with such dedication.



Cross Country

Year 8 Football

We started our season with a 5-1 victory against St Michael's. It was pleasing to see so many boys take part in their first match and we certainly played some good football. Goals from Alfie, Connor, Tom, Harrison and Wes sealed our victory.

Year 7 Football

We have enjoyed two matches against St Michael's away and Allenbourn at home. I am delighted that we have integrated a combination of all boys into these fixtures with some fantastic performances. We lost against St Michaels but Kenzie scored his first ever goal for the school in his first ever game and the joy that was expressed was simply brilliant. Morgan also managed to score a delicate flick past the goalkeeper; Taylor, in goal played a blinder and made some extremely brave saves.

Against Allenbourn we played some fantastic football that was a treat for a Friday evening. Tyler scored two goals and played with confidence throughout; Jack scored a wonderful goal; George snuck one in on the line and Toby fired in a late unstoppable free kick to give us a 5-0 victory. Liam even managed to attempt an effort from the halfway line that nearly looped in the back of the net. All boys have contributed and represented the school in the correct manner.



Year 6 Football

In what was a typical Year 6 match where everyone wanted to score, we played St Ives in a 12 goal thriller that we won 8-4. It was superb to see all the boys playing with such a fantastic attitude and with smiles on their faces. Reece, Josh, Ryan Henri and Henry (with a flying header) were our scorers and it was an absolute pleasure to give up my evening for them. Well played lads, great start!

In our second match of the season we played Cranborne. The team all held their positions and tried to move the ball quickly forward that resulted in some super goals being scored from our team. Goals from Holsten, Isaac, Joseph, Josh and Reece enabled us to be victorious; excellent all round play and another superb win!

