



Ferndown Middle Newsletter

March 2018

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Key Dates



Term Dates are available on the school website

Monday 12th March – Year 8 play 'Chelsea's Choice'

Friday 23rd March – Year 8 Arson Day and Non Uniform Day (sport clothes and £1 donation)

Tuesday 27th March – Year 5 'Play in a Day' drama production

Wednesday 28th March – Winter Sports' Day and Ferndown's Got Talent Show 4pm

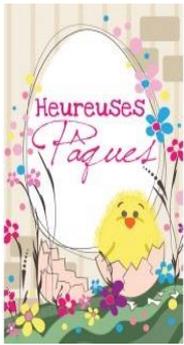
Thursday 29th March – end of term 2pm finish

Sensory Room



Ferndown Middle School would like to warmly thank Councillors Andrew Parry and Peter Oggelsby for securing funding totalling £1078.00 to help us set up a sensory room in school. Mrs Allen and the Pastoral Team have already come up with ideas as to how this funding can be used and we are confident that it will be a valuable extension to the support that we currently offer children in school. We look forward to welcoming Andrew Parry and Peter Oggelsby into school to see how the funding has been used.

French Homework



"Heureuses Pâques!"

As we approach Easter, Year 7 and 8 pupils' French homework will be to find out how to say "Happy Easter" in a different language; they will also research an interesting fact about how people celebrate Easter or the holidays in their chosen country. We will then share these in class and practise how to say this phrase in the many languages chosen!

Pupils will make Easter / Spring-related cards which include their phrase and interesting fact for somebody else in their year group or a member of staff. The Christmas activity was a huge success and so we hope students enjoy this one just as much! If any Years 5 or year 6 pupils wish to get involved they are very welcome to have a go at the research!

Ferndown's Got Talent



Preparations and rehearsals are well under way for our school talent competition, 'Ferndown's Got Talent' which is being held on Wednesday 28th March at 4pm in the school hall. It promises to be a fabulous show, jam packed with lots of entertainment showcasing our students' superb talents. Tickets are available from the school office at a cost of £1 each which is going to our chosen charity, The Jon Egging Trust. Hope to see you all there.

Science News



STEM

Congratulations to Jasmin, Francesca and Hannah. The Year 8 girls have completed the Soroptimist International Bournemouth STEM challenge to create a solution to help people in the poorest parts of the world. During the competition heats this week they successfully presented their project and prototype for a buoyancy aid. The judges at Bournemouth University were impressed with their ideas and awarded them a place in the finals next week. As part of the challenge the girls have also gained a CREST award.

British Science week 9th – 18th March 2018

This week during British Science week the science department have organised several activities. Some Year 7 pupils will work with an expert from the sea cadets on the MSSC STEM buoyancy challenge. Classes from all years will have an opportunity to ask questions to scientists within the 'I'm a scientist' live chat sessions. During lunch time each year group will have a science club day where they may watch demonstrations or get involved with hands-on experiences. There will also be a poster competition with an exploration and discovery theme.

In addition we thought some of you may be interested in a virtual race,

organised by The British Science Association. Run to the Deep is an immersive running app which chronicles a journey from the sea surface to the Marianas Trench – the deepest known part of the ocean – as you run over a 10k distance. Explorer Pierre-Yves Cousteau, son of the famous conservationist Jacques Cousteau, narrates the virtual race, detailing alien creatures, amazing seascapes, and human exploration stories as you “descend” to the ocean floor. More information is available at: <https://www.britishtscienceassociation.org/news/introducing-run-to-the-deep>

Sport Relief



19th – 23rd March 2018 at Ferndown Middle School

As part of this year’s ‘Step it Up’ for Sport Relief Campaign, students at Ferndown Middle School will be taking part in a whole school challenge that will see the school community attempt to collectively run a circular route from Ferndown to all of the locations that will be visited as part of Project Week. These include: Bristol, Mill on the Brue, London and Moors Valley. In order to achieve this, the daily mile will take place every day at break time from Monday – Friday. In addition to this, every PE lesson over the course of the week will start with 15 golden minutes of running the daily mile. All individual miles will be added to the overall ‘school total’. The event will be organised and run by our magnificent year 8 Sports Leaders and is undoubtedly a very exciting challenge!

Students are welcome to add to their mileage by running in their own time, outside of school. All we ask is that you sign their homework diaries or write a note confirming the distance that they have run.

As part of the Sport Relief week, **Friday 23rd March will be a non-uniform day.** Students will be required to **wear sports clothing** e.g. shorts, jogging bottoms, trainers, football shirts, leggings etc. (please ensure your child is dressed appropriately). In return, they must bring in £1 which will be donated to the Sport Relief Charity.

Thank you in advance for supporting this worthy cause and for encouraging your children to become more active and in turn healthier. Together, let’s ‘Step it Up’ for Sport Relief.

PE News



Badminton

Badminton Finals
 Congratulations to our four badminton superstars Ethan, Kristian, Liam and Samuel who made it to the Dorset County Badminton Final on Thursday 1st of February. Having already beaten Ferndown Upper School in the semi-finals, it was a huge achievement for the boys to make it to the finals at LEAF Academy. All of the boys played extremely well and showed incredible grit and determination. They competed in a range of doubles and singles matches and finished 5th overall in the KS3 boys’ category. A special thank you to their coach Mark Lever who has been training them every Friday at our school Badminton club.



Year 8 Football Team

Year 8 Football
 The Year 8 football team continued their impressive run of form with a 5-0 victory over Broadstone Middle School. Ferndown progress onto the next round.

The Year 8 football team progress onto the next round of the County Cup with a 3-2 victory over Poole High School. Ferndown started strong and found themselves 2-0 up at half time, before a third goal was scored shortly after the break. A lack of concentration saw Poole score twice in a short space of time; however Ferndown held on to win the game and face Budmouth School in the next round.

The team visited Budmouth College for the quarter-finals of the County Cup. The final score was 4-3 to Budmouth. A disappointing result for our tremendous year 8 team, however, the boys should be proud of their achievements and team spirit.

Yr 7 Football Triumph
 The Year 7 football team beat St Edwards 1-0 to progress onto the next round. Both teams played really well throughout in a really close match. St Edwards threw everything at Ferndown in the second half, but some resolute defending and a touch of good fortune saw Ferndown eventually win 1-0.

Year 6 Boys Football

The Year 6 boy's football team faced Bishop Aldhelm in the PEDSSA cup. It was an extremely hard fought game, with the two teams drawing 1-1 at full-time. Despite their best efforts, neither team was able to break the deadlock and take the victory. Ferndown eventually went on to win 3-2 on penalties. A massive congratulations to all the boys for their incredible team effort and a special thank you to Mr Kinsey for expertly managing the team at short notice!

Netball

Congratulations to the 11 girls who took part in the netball tournament. It was a difficult day with some unfortunate weather but the girls still showed a huge amount of effort and worked superbly as a team. They competed against 5 other schools and finished in 5th place. Well done girls!

Swimming Gala

Congratulations and my thanks to all the swimmers for representing their school with enthusiasm, cheerfulness and support for each other. There was tough competition from teams that included many children who train with Swim Bournemouth, so I am very proud of our less experienced swimmers for giving their best effort and showing good sportsmanship.

My thanks also go to Mrs Candy for being Team Manager at the event, allowing me to time keep and assist the children at the start of the races – Mrs Sherry.

Girls Indoor Cricket

Ferndown Middle played Swanage School in the first round of the U13 Indoor Cricket Competition this week. Ferndown batted well, but a strong field from Swanage limited them to a score of 63 from 12 overs. Although Ferndown took a few early wickets and bowled well throughout, Swanage surpassed the 63 Ferndown score with two overs to spare and eventually won by 12 runs.

AFC Bournemouth Workshops

On Monday a group of year 8 students were fortunate enough to be given an opportunity to attend a workshop by AFC Bournemouth. Two of their community coaches started by giving a presentation detailing the history of the club and the wide range of potential career pathways on offer at a premiership football club like AFC Bournemouth. The students were given time to ask questions before moving on to a practical football session. Here, the coaches gave them valuable ideas to use in their own leadership and challenged their skills and knowledge of football. Ferndown Middle School would like to say a huge thank you to AFC Bournemouth for giving our lucky students this unique opportunity.

Yoga

In January Ferndown Middle School launched a brand new weekly Yoga club. The club runs on a Monday morning before school, starting at 8.15. Yoga is a positive way to start the day and encourages a mindset that is ready and prepared for learning. Below are just some of the ways in which yoga can benefit young people:

- Develop body awareness.
- Learn how to use their bodies in a healthy way.
- Manage stress through breathing, awareness, meditation and healthy movement.
- Build concentration.
- Increase their confidence and positive self-image.
- Feel part of a healthy, non-competitive group.

On a weekly basis, Waitrose in Ringwood kindly donate fruit for our children. Ferndown Middle would like to say a huge thank you to Waitrose for helping out students to start the week in a healthy and positive way. If you are interested in joining Yoga club, please speak to Miss White Young or Miss Hurst.



Girls' Indoor Cricket



AFC Bournemouth



Yoga



Sports Leaders



Sports Leaders Host Year 4 Football Tournament

A massive thank you and well done to a number of our Year 8 students who helped Mrs Turner to run a football tournament for Year 4 children from our local feeder first schools. The tournament aimed to give pupils from Ferndown First School, Hampreston First School and Parley First School an opportunity to visit Ferndown Middle School for the qualifying rounds of the East Dorset Area Championships. Congratulations to Ferndown First School who were the overall winners.

Our year 8 students were a credit to our school, encouraging our visitors as well as helping to organise and referee the games. Well done to all of those that helped and a special thank you to Mrs Turner for the time and effort she puts in to arranging such a valuable event.

KS2 Rugby Festival

Congratulations to the 14 students that competed in the Years 5 and 6 rugby festival. The team played incredibly well, winning 4 out of their 5 games. The festival was set up to encourage team work, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship. All players finished with a medal and a range of gifts to reward them for their effort and amazing team work throughout the day. Well done to all of the girls and boys involved!