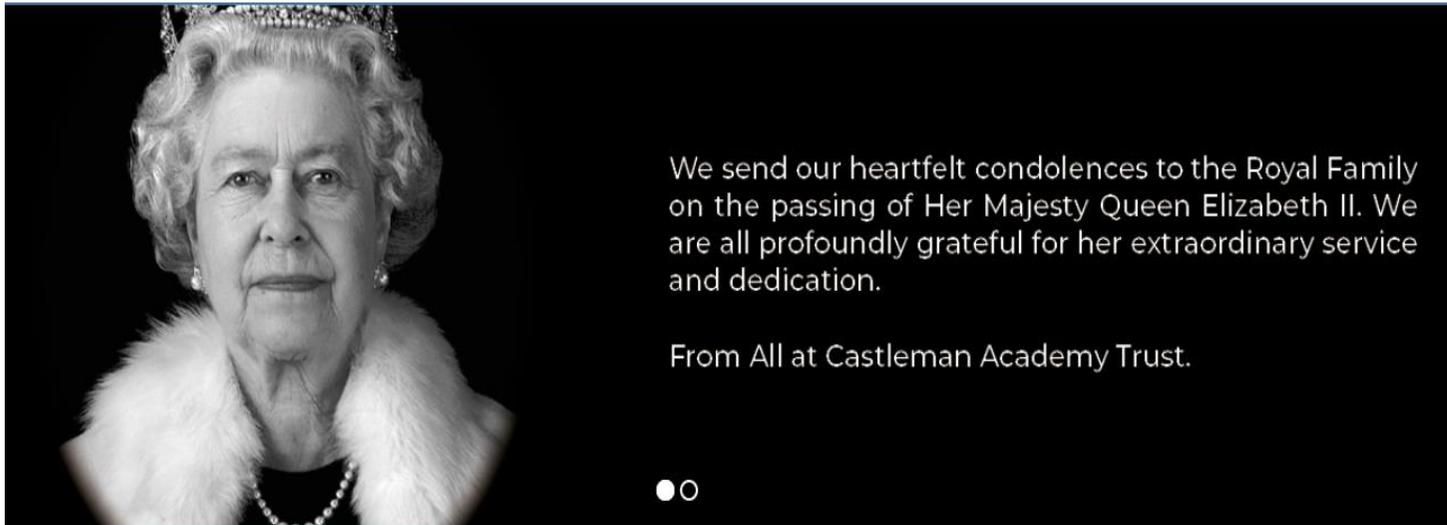


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Please find attached a beautiful poem written by Mollie Campbell titled 'Our Friend Elizabeth'.

We are hoping that the poem will inspire the children to compose a poem of their own.

The poems that are written will be entered into a 'competition' and then collated into an Anthology of Remembrance which will be available in the library for all to read.

Poems should be written out on A4 plain paper, and decorated if wished. The poems do not have to rhyme but should have recent events as the main theme.

The deadline for the entries will be 4 November 2022, and to Mrs Bolton, in the library please.

Many thanks

Gina Bolton

Library Manager

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School News

Open Evening for new year 4

We are pleased to announce the date of our Open Evening for Year 5 entry in September 2023.

On Wednesday 21st September 2022, prospective parents and current Year 4 pupils are invited to Ferndown Middle to view the school, our facilities, and to meet staff and pupils at work. The evening will consist of a presentation in the school hall from Mrs G Allen, Headteacher, followed by an opportunity to tour the school. Parents can choose to attend the presentation at either 5.00 pm or 6.00pm.

There are also opportunities to visit during the school day on the following dates.

- Thursday 6th October between 9.10 – 10.10
- Friday 7th October between 9.10 – 10.10

To help plan for the evening, please use the link to indicate your preference of which presentation you will be attending or if you plan to join us on one of the morning tours. [Ferndown Middle School Open Evening and Morning Tours](#)

Ferndown Upper School Open Evening – Year 8

The open evening this year will take place on Thursday 29th September 6.30 - 8.30pm. All prospective parents and students are welcome. Their admissions are handled by Dorset Council on the following link: [Starting secondary or upper school - Dorset Council](#). NB: [The closing date for applications is 31 October 2022.](#)

Extra-Curricular Clubs

At the end of this newsletter is a list of the extra-curricular clubs for Autumn term 1. [Please note it has been updated with some new clubs.](#)

Details of the Eco Council will follow shortly.

Sport News

Friday 9th September 2022 – Year 8 Girls Football v St Michaels

We braved the rainy conditions to produce a positive first match of the season against St Michaels. It was pleasing that we had 15 girls representing the school and they all worked extremely hard and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity. We thank St Michaels for visiting us and wish them a good season.

Mr Higgins
PE Co-ordinator

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Music

Wow-What a start to the new academic year!



Only the second week in & it feels as busy as the end of the year already! From the first day back, pupils have wasted no time at all in making the music room their home from home. A host of pupils from all year groups continue to come to the music room at break and lunchtimes to extend their learning and to enjoy the freedom to discover, create, be challenged and inspire one another. It was lovely to welcome some of our new Year 5 pupils to enjoy the chance to explore different instruments during break & lunch last week. With the trusted guidance from some of our more regular musical visitors from Years 6, 7 & 8- they loved to get 'hands-on' and creative.

It has been wonderful to see the children make new friends, create new pieces & enjoy all the positives that music brings. For some of our Year 7 musicians, it's been like they never had a Summer break. They've been straight back in, excited for what the next music event is & when clubs start back. I'm delighted we have so many enthusiastic pupils who bring a ray of sunshine to the music room each day. You'd never know some of them started last year as very shy, anxious individuals.

That is the impact of the wonder of music. I am very privileged to say our music department is like the Multiverse. Pupils transform- they become unrecognisable from even before they set foot through the door. As they eagerly wait outside to ask if they are allowed to come in at break time. The shy & anxious become confident, ambitious & filled with character. The agitated & restless become calm & focussed. New, often unlikely friendships are formed. The quiet develops their voice, and those who are curious- discover.

This last week, clubs started back with a bang. The children absolutely loved being part of Orchestra, Music Theatre group, Singing group & Samba Band. With instrumental lessons starting back this week too, there's been no slowing down. We are looking forward to various music events happening throughout the year- more details will be released nearer the time of each one. We start next week with FMS Open Evening, where pupils asked if they could get involved straight away. They can't wait to share their positive musical experiences with visiting Parents & future pupils.

The sad news of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth passing has been another reminder of the unity that music can bring. Following an assembly reflecting on the Queen's life- her ambition, strength, resilience & character. Pupils were able to reflect on how they could live their own lives with similar courage & conviction. In such a reflective & historic occasion, the whole School stood together in the hall to sing the National Anthem.

In the children's music lessons, they have got 'down to work' from their first lesson. Year 5 have enjoyed the start of their journey to learn about music styles from different countries in Africa. The children have experienced the rumble of Djembes from Guinea in West Africa, and started to learn a song in Swahili. If they come home saying some unfamiliar words- you can now understand why! They will continue to learn other songs in different languages this term, including songs from Ghana, Liberia, Burkina Faso & South Africa. Pupils will also further explore a range of activities where they will engage with performance, composition, and appreciation for different music styles.



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Pupils in Year 6 have been learning about innovative composers from the Classical period of music- starting with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. They have started to explore the historical context of the era and started to understand the structure and shape of melodies of the time. They will learn how composers use conversations between instrument sections- and how this laid the foundations for the music styles we listen to today. You may hear the names of Mozart and Haydn mentioned at home over the next few weeks.

In Year 7 pupils have been challenged with playing the start of Paganini's Caprice No.24. By breaking the piece into sections & assigning words for the rhythm. Pupils have found a very complex piece much easier to understand & play. I have discovered that lots of our pupils like 'chocolate buttons with milk'!

The musical focus in Year 8 has been the hypnotic sounds of the Minimalist style. Pupils have become Minimalist composers themselves using techniques from key composer Steve Reich. They have found it very strange to think 'outside the box' when so used to the traditional structured way of composition & performance. Pupils have enjoyed the freedom of being able to explore different combinations of their choice of instruments.

As a further extension of learning outside of school, below are a couple of links for your interest. These have been shared previously but for new Parents, you won't have seen them. These are two very useful sites that offer a variety of expertise and music making opportunities.

You may prefer to search them yourself or copy and paste the link rather than clicking directly.

Please note that we do not have any control over the contents of these websites or their affiliates.

Clicking the link to view is done so at your own risk. Please take the usual precaution when visiting external websites.

<https://soundstorm-music.org.uk/creativemusicclub/>

<https://jamzone.littlekidsrock.org/>

I end with the answer to many pupils' question from the last week. How can they find out about having instrumental lessons at FMS?

As well as their main weekly music lesson with me, pupils are able to access private instrumental tuition. We have a fantastic dedicated group of visiting professional musicians who are available to inspire and help your child achieve their best learning an instrument at a level that is suited to them.

Our private specialist music staff visit the school on a weekly basis and will have direct communication with you regarding the contract, lesson dates and progress updates. Lessons are timetabled by our music assistant, Mrs Mackenzie to avoid the core subjects of English, Maths and Science, where possible.

I look forward to seeing more pupils learning instruments outside of their main music class.



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Private lessons are taught in the following instruments:

- Clarinet, Flute, Saxophone
- Voice
- Violin, Cello, Double Bass
- Piano, Keyboard
- Guitar (acoustic and electric)



(I am hoping to add Trumpet & Trombone to the list soon)

An information letter is attached to the ParentMail.

Please use this link [FMS instrument tuition request form](#) to go to the online form to complete & secure your child's lesson slot.

I look forward to a fabulous year ahead filled with music making of every kind! I may see you on the pathway to the front gate as the children leave school at the end of the day. Do stop & say 'hi'.

Very best wishes

Mr S Welcomme

Co-ordinator of music

Dates for your dairies

Harvest Festival donations of a tin please	Tuesday 27th September
Year 5 welcome tour for parents	Friday, 30 th September
Year 5 Hinduism day	Monday, 3 rd October
Virtual meet the tutor evening <i>Full details to follow at a later date.</i>	Tuesday 18 October 16.00 – 18.00
Virtual meet the tutor evening <i>Full details to follow at a later date.</i>	Wednesday 19 October 16.00 – 18.00
Inset day	Friday 21st October

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Apply for free school meals

The Department for Education has recently changed who is eligible for Free School Meals to include children from households with No Recourse to Public Funds (subject to income thresholds). Even if your child was not previously eligible, you may now be entitled to support so please read below.

The following children are now eligible for support:

- Children from families with No Recourse to Public Funds with a right to remain in the UK on the grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights
- Children from families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children's Act 1989 who are also subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- Children of a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Families holding a BN(O) passport
- Spousal visa holders, work visa holders, student visa holders
- Children of Zambrano and Chen carers
- Those with no immigration status / those who are undocumented.

If you are legally able to work, your maximum annual household income to qualify should be:

- £22,700 for families outside of London with 1 child
- £26,300 for families outside of London with 2 or more children

How to claim?

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit



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- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Registering for free meals could also raise an extra **£1,345** for a Yr5/6 child or **£955** for a Yr7/8 child, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff, or after school activities. This additional money is available from the central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

If your child benefits from Free School Meals, a daily amount is added to their lunch account which is sufficient to pay for a main meal and dessert.

Apply for free school meals

The application should only take a few minutes to complete. You'll need your National Insurance number or Asylum Seekers Service number so they can make automated checks to confirm your entitlement. They will let you know straight away if you qualify for free school meals.

To apply visit: https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_school_meals_application

Email: freeschoolmeals@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 01305221090

If you need any advice please contact the school.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

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Extra-Curricular Clubs - Autumn Term 1, from 12 September to 20th October 2022

Day	Club	Duration	Times	Room/ area	Leader
Monday Lunchtime	Chess Club – Year 5 Limited to 12 children. Pupils to sign up with Mr Mannouch. (If there are more than 12 he will rotate the following half term).	30 mins	12.40 to 1.10	LA3	AMH
	Photography Catch-up First 15 pupils on the day, no need to sign up. A 'catch-up' session for anyone who wants to complete any missing work/improve on their projects, for all photography classes. (Currently 5:2, 6A2, 7A2 and 8A2)	30 mins	12.45 -13.15	PA9	AR
	Food Lunch Club 26th Sept, 17th Oct, 7th Nov, 5th Dec. All year groups - 16 pupils maximum. Different pupils each session, unless there are spaces. Pupils to sign up with Mrs Pemberton.	30 mins	12.20 – 12.50	PA12	LP
	Music Theatre Group - All years First 30 children on the day, no need to sign up.	30 mins	12:40 - 1:10	Music Room	SW
	Boys Football - Year 7 & 8	30 mins	12.15 – 12.45	Field	SH
	Spanish – All years	20 mins	12.50 - 1.10	LA6	EBS
Monday After School	Photography Club – Years 7 & 8 Starts on 26th Sept Limited to 15 children Pupils to sign up with Mrs Ratcliffe. (If there are more than 15, she will rotate from the Spring term).	55 mins	15.20 - 16.15	PA9	AR
	Live4Tennis – All years (External club paid) Live4Tennis booking form Collection outside of School next to Reception.	1 hour	15.30 – 16.30	Ferndown Community Tennis Courts	External
	Rippa Rugby - Years 5, 6 and 7 (External club paid) Ripparugby.co.uk/Course/5125_year_6_and_7_booking_form Ripparugby.co.uk/Course/5127_year_5_booking_form	1 hour	15.20 – 16.20	Field	External
	Chess Club – All years	1 hour	15.20 – 16.20	LA14	JME

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	Limited to 20/25 pupils Pupils to sign up with Mr Maguire.				
	Orchestra – Invite only	1 hour	15.20 – 16.20	Music Room	SW
Tuesday Lunchtime	STEM Club - Year 8 girls	30 mins	12.40 – 1.10	PA2	KM
	Singing Group - All years First 30 children on the day, no need to sign up.	30 mins	12:40 - 1:10	Music Room	SW
	Football - Year 7 & 8 Girls	30 mins	12.15 – 12.45	Field	SH
	Basketball - Year 6	30 mins	12.15 – 12.45	Gym	SG
Tuesday After School	Dodgeball (External club paid) Sept: 13 th , 20 th , 27 th Oct: 4 th , 11 th , 18 th Nov: 1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th , Dec: 6 th Teamtheme Clubs Booking	1 hour	15.25 – 16.25	Gym	External
	Homework Club – All years	1 hour	15.20 – 16.20	Library	GB
Wednesday Lunchtime	Samba - all years First 30 children on the day, no need to sign up.	30 mins	12:40 - 1:10	Music Room	SW
	Art Club – KS2 Please sign up with Miss Mayow.	30 mins	12.15 - 12.45	Art Room	LM
	Sports Leaders - Year 8	30 mins	12.15 - 12.45	Gym	KB
	Running Club - All Years	30 mins	12.15 – 12.45	Field	SH
	Craft Club First 15 children on the day, no need to sign up.	25 mins	12.40 - 1.15	LA8	EW
Thursday Lunchtime	Science Club – Year 6 Please sign up with Mrs McKinley.	30 mins	12.40 – 1.10	PA2	KM
	Football - Year 6	30 mins	12.15 – 12.45	Field	SH
	German – All Years	25 mins	12.45 – 1.10	LA14	FS
	The Ark – All years 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	MW, MB, VG
Thursday After School	Homework Club – All years	1 hour	15.20 – 16.20	Library	GB

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	Football - Year 5	1 hour	15.20 – 16.20	Field	MW
	Netball – All years	1 hour	15.20 – 16.20	Playground	SG, KB
Friday Lunchtime	Walk & Talk – All years	30 mins	12.15 – 12.45	Gym	LC

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.
- 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.

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Term Dates 2022 - 2023

Autumn Term Dates 2022 - 2023

Inset Day	Thursday 1 September 2022	Bank holidays in the autumn term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 19 September 2022 Monday 26 December 2022 Tuesday 27 December 2022
Inset Day	Friday 2 September 2022	
Autumn term starts	Monday 5 September 2022	
Inset Day	Friday 21 October 2022	
Half-term	Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October 2022	
Autumn term ends	Friday 16 December 2022	
Christmas holidays	Monday 19 December to Monday 2 January 2023	

Spring Term Dates 2023

Spring term starts	Tuesday 3 January 2023	Bank holidays in the spring term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year's Day: Monday 2 January 2023 Good Friday: Friday 7 April 2023 Easter Monday: Monday 10 April 2023
Inset Day	Friday 10 February 2023	
Half-term	Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February 2023	
Spring term ends	Friday 31 March 2023	
Easter holidays	Monday 3 April to Friday 14 April 2023	

Summer Term Dates 2023

Summer term starts	Monday 17 April 2023	Bank holidays in the summer term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early May bank holiday: Monday 1 May 2023 Spring bank holiday: Monday 29 April 2023 Summer bank holiday: Monday 28 August 2023
Half-term	Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June 2023	
Inset Day	Monday 10 July 2023	
Summer term ends	Friday 21 July 2023	
Summer holidays	Monday 24 July to Wednesday 31 August 2023	