

Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter End of Academic Year 2026



Headteacher's Comment

Dear Parents and Carers

As I write my final newsletter message as Headteacher of Ferndown Middle School, I do so with immense gratitude and pride. It has been a privilege to serve this wonderful school community and to work alongside such talented staff, supportive families and, most importantly, our fantastic pupils.

Over the last year, I have been continually inspired by the kindness, resilience, determination and humour of our young people. Ferndown Middle School is a special place because of the strong relationships that exist between students, staff and parents, and I feel incredibly fortunate to have been part of that journey.

As I prepare to move on to a new chapter, I leave with many fantastic memories and confidence that the school will continue to thrive and achieve great things in the years ahead. Thank you for your trust, encouragement and support throughout my time here. I wish Mr Jones well when he takes the reins from September.

This week we have said goodbye for our Year 8's for most it is four years of growth in so many ways at FMS. It was great to see them on Thursday letting their hair down and enjoying their fun day in school. I personally wish them well for their transfer to the upper school of their choice. Please aim high, keep your kindness and be ambitious for the future.

Finally, we have our Honey Jar label winner – Congratulations Ellis in 5CB Your jar of our Honey is on its way with your own label on the jar!

I wish every member of the Ferndown Middle School community a restful summer and every success and happiness for the future.

With sincere thanks and best wishes

Grant Hopkins

Interim Headteacher



Ferndown Middle School

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School News

Dear children

*Come rain or shine you wave and smile which always makes me feel fine even when there's darkness in the sky.
As you go up a year or even change from school to school just want to send you a cheer and wish you all the best for another year.
I'll miss your happy faces, your chats and your jokes, your endless questions and the little waves from all your folks.
Traffic speeding to and fro, some are all just go go go!
When you cross the road, please stop and take care,
Look both ways twice and always be aware.
You might see me out and about although not know it's me without my high viz and my stick.
From the very tall to the tiny, small I'm going to miss you all!
Now it's time for me to say goodbye,
And I won't pretend it doesn't make me cry.*

Sarah J Middleton
School Crossing Patrol



Ferndown Middle School

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Medication in School – End of Term Reminder

Any medication currently stored in school will be sent home with your child on Friday 17th July. If your child is not in school on that day, please ask them to collect their medication from the School Office at the end of their final day in school.

Medication will be returned in a named bag and, for current Year 5, 6 and 7 students, will include new medical forms for the next academic year. If you would like the school to continue holding medication for your child, please complete and return the forms to the School Office on the first day of term. All medication must be clearly labelled with your child's name.

Students with asthma may carry their own inhaler, provided a completed blue consent form has been submitted. Inhalers should be kept in the student's school bag and be available to them at all times.



Extra-curricular activities

We are pleased to let you know that we will be continuing to offer a range of extra-curricular activities for pupils in the new academic year, both during the school day and after school. We will send you full details September.

Details of any externally run paid clubs will be shared with parents as soon as they become available in the new academic year. We look forward to offering another exciting programme of activities for our pupils in the year ahead.

Breakfast Club and KS2 After School Club

Breakfast Club and **KS2 After School Club** will both start back from the **Thursday 3rd September 2026** and **bookings are now open**. We have made a slight change to the booking process to fall in line with both Ferndown and Parley First Schools, all bookings must be paid for at the time of booking. This means that bookings can only be made where there is sufficient credit on your child's account.

Childcare voucher payments will be an exception to this process. As these payments can take some time to be received and credited to our bank account, parents using childcare vouchers will still be able to book sessions in the usual way.

We appreciate your understanding and support as we implement this update.

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



Message from the Children's Commissioner

Hi, my name is Rachel and my job is to hear from all children and young people in England.

As the Children's Commissioner, I've launched this survey so you can have your say on what it's like to be a child or young person in England today. I will take your views to the Government, to help them make life better for children. Everything you tell me will be kept private. You don't have to answer any question if you don't want to. There are no right or wrong answers. Just answer honestly! To find out more, visit my [website](#).

Thank you to all the children and young people who have already taken part in the national survey. There is still time to have your say, so if you haven't yet completed the survey, we encourage you to take part.

[The Big Future](#)



Wellbeing



Skin betting is an emerging trend where players gamble using in-game cosmetic items that can carry real-world value. This guide helps parents understand how these systems work, why they appeal to young people, and how easily they can blur the line between gaming and gambling.

It also highlights key risks, including unregulated platforms, social pressure and influencer promotion, while offering practical advice on spotting warning signs and putting safeguards in place. Supporting adults to have informed, open conversations, it aims to promote safer, more positive gaming experiences for children and young people.

Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 22 June 2026



Ferndown
Middle School

Term Dates 2026-2027



Southern
Education
Trust

Autumn Term 2026

SEPTEMBER 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2026						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

DECEMBER 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Spring Term 2027

JANUARY 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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FEBRUARY 2027						
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MARCH 2027						
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29	30	31				

APRIL 2027						
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Summer Term 2027

MAY 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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31						

JUNE 2027						
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28	29	30				

JULY 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Bank and Public Holidays 2026-2027

25 December 2026	Christmas Day
28 December 2026	Boxing Day

1 January 2027	New Year's Day
26 March 2027	Good Friday

29 March 2027	Easter Monday
3 May 2027	May Day Holiday

31 May 2027	Spring Bank Holiday
30 August 2027	August Bank Holiday

Key

School Holidays

Bank Holidays

Staff Training Days

Last Day of Term
