

Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



School News

'Creative Showcase' (Book Look) Event

Dear parents/carers,

We would like to invite you and your child into school for a 'Creative Showcase' afternoon on the following date:

- **Wednesday 3rd July, from 15.30 to 16.20 for all year groups**

Here at Ferndown Middle School, we value all subjects that we teach. Pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum and this is something we pride ourselves on. Earlier this year, parents had the opportunity to come in and look at Maths and English work. With this in mind, we have decided that the "book look" on Wednesday 3rd July will focus on our more creative subjects: Art, Design Technology in its different forms and Music. This will be an opportunity to see a selection of work including practical work, theory work or even some children demonstrating a selection of skills they have learnt. Although not every child's work will be on show (as they may have brought it home already) we hope to see many of you so you can see the array of opportunities that are on offer.

Please can you sign up for the event using the [this form](#) so we can ensure we showcase your child's creative abilities.

We have previously run these as separate KS2 and KS3 evenings but know that many parents have children in different key stages so hopefully this will work better for you.

As long as the weather stays as sunny as it is now, then this is the same date as Sports Day so feel free to stay on straight after this if you are attending the afternoon session.

We look forward to welcoming you into school.

Mrs Barter
Headteacher



Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



Non-uniform Day and Cake Sale

We have arranged a non-uniform day on Friday 5th July to raise funds for our school rewards scheme and end of year celebrations. During the morning breaktime a selection of homemade and shop bought cakes will be available for children and staff to buy. Further details will be shared with parents and children next week.

Pupils leaving us this summer term

If your child is due to leave us at the end of the Summer Term, please can we take this opportunity to let you know that any balance left on their lunch account under £10 will not be able to be refunded due to high charges. Please use this time to ensure your child's account can all be spent up, alternatively if there is a younger sibling in the school, we will automatically credit the amount to their account. If you have any questions about this, please contact the finance department on finance@fernmid.dorset.sch.uk

Breakfast Club

The bookings for Autumn 1 term of 2024 are about to go live and so we would like to take this opportunity to inform you of a couple of changes.

The cost of our breakfast club hasn't increased in over 6 years but unfortunately due to the ever-increasing cost of food and government led salary increases, we are having to raise the cost per session to £3.50. We hope you appreciate that we have fought to keep these costs down for as long as we could and are understanding of the situation we find ourselves in.

We will be trialling a new booking system from September. All bookings for breakfast club will now go through an online booking form to save printing out paperwork. If you have any difficulty with the online form, please contact Donna Rogers in the finance department who will be more than happy to help you. Payment will still go through your preferred payment method of ParentMail, BACS or Childcare vouchers.

Knife Harm

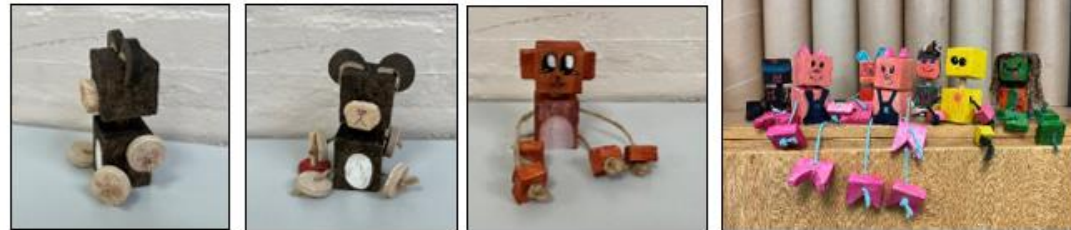
Over the past two weeks you will have seen information in the newsletter relating to knife harm and the risks associated with carrying sharp or bladed objects. In last week's newsletter it was shared that a Year 8 assembly is due to be held in order to increase pupil's awareness of the risks involved. The assembly will be taken by the Safe Schools Team who are part of the police, and it has been confirmed that the assembly will be held on Monday 1st July. The content will be age appropriate and we hope will encourage our pupils to stay safe especially when out in the community. Should you have any queries regarding the assembly please contact Veronique Giddens.



Design & Technology – Key Stage 2

Block Bots

New Year 5 and 6 groups have been introduced to the DT workshop and learning to be safe using tools and equipment. They have designed ideas, generated design criteria and used a range of hand tools to make these fantastic Block Bots.



Mechanisms: Linkages

Can early learning be fun?

We have also been learning about mechanisms and how they can be applied in different scenarios. Pupils explored linkages and designed an alphabet page for young children.



Textiles & Sustainability

What can you do with unwanted textiles?

These are some of the triangular juggling balls that have been made from donated textiles. Pupils used colour theory for fabric choices, learned about sewing inside out using a seam allowance and practised running stitch, back stitch and blanket stitch.



Design & Technology – Key Stage 3

Introduction to CAD/CAM

Year 7 and 8 have been gaining confidence using CAD, Computer Aided Design, using 2D software to design a personalised keyring. We used CAM, Computer Aided Manufacture, to make them using the laser cutter.



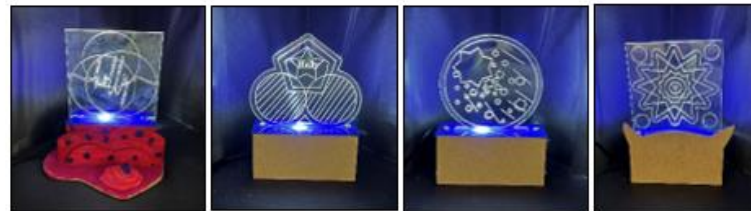
Year 7 Desk Tidy

Pupils have used design to solve the problem of organisation and storage. They combined CAD/CAM with using hand and machine tools to construct these creative desk tidies. They designed and cut their own profile shape, made a dowel joint and used the strip heater to bend the plastic back.



Year 8 Electronics: Mood Light

Pupils used their CAD skills from making the keyring to design a mood light topper inspired by an Art Movement. They learned how to solder components to a PCB and how to construct a strong base to house the circuit.



Sustainability: The 6Rs

Pupils learned about what is a product life cycle and its impact on the environment. In one lesson, Year 8 pupils designed and made these brilliant memo clip holders using wood off-cuts from projects this year. Great work Year 8.





Art & Design

We are excited to share a fantastic selection of new artworks created by our imaginative and creative students

Recycling and Sustainability

Year 6 and 7 students have been learning all about sustainability in Art.

We've discussed the many ways that art can be created using recycled and sustainable materials, as well as address topics of climate change, waste and social issues.

We are creating mixed media fish collages which will become part of a large collaborative artwork communicating the importance of protecting our oceans and sea life.



Year 5

ZENTANGLE BUTTERFLIES

Students enjoyed exploring a wide variety of watercolour application techniques. We experimented with 'wet on wet', wax crayon resist and crystallising effects using salt.



Year 6

MARK-MAKING TEXTURE CUBES

Students used their artist research skills to analyse then recreate Van Gogh inspired mark-making. They used this to decorate and then build their texture cube from the net of a shape.

CITYSCAPE CLAY TILES

Taking inspiration from artist Paul Klee, students designed and sculpted a unique cityscape design. We spent time reflecting on our knowledge of colour theory to bring these designs to life.



Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



Year 7

CHRIS RYNIAC CLAY MONSTERS

Developing ideas through artist research, collage experimentation and sketchbook designs enabled students to create a brilliant bunch of unique and animated characters.



Year 8

DECONSTRUCTED PORTRAITS

Using inspiration from artist Louis Jover, students created a mixed media artwork exploring the life and work of a famous artist.

We included a variety of techniques such as oil pastel mono printing, watercolour blending and pattern illustration.



Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



Sport News

This year Sports Day is on Wednesday 3rd July 2024.

It is expected that all pupils will come to school on this day dressed in their full school P.E. kit. This year we would like to encourage pupils to wear a T-shirt of their house colour. Please see kit list below:

- House colour T-shirt Red, Green, Orange or Yellow or FMS logo royal blue short-sleeved shirt
- Black plain shorts (no tight gymnastic or cycling style shorts or logos)
- Long blue socks/white sports socks
- FMS Blue and white reversible long-sleeved games shirt (if required)
- Training shoes



They will also need to bring a reusable sports water bottle (water will be made available to pupils for refills), as well as sun cream and a hat.

For those of you who have not attended our school Sports Day before, it is a very enjoyable event. Our aim is for **ALL PUPILS** to participate in at least one sporting event. There are enough events for all pupils to participate and we encourage everyone to take part, whilst being supported by their friends and family. Years 5 & 6 will participate in the morning between 9.00 - 11.00 am and Years 7 & 8 in the afternoon between 1.30 - 3.20 pm. Lunch and break times will run as normal, and children will leave at the usual time of 3.20 pm.

We do hope that it will be possible for many parents and family members to come and support pupils as this really does make it a successful event. On arrival, please make your way to the spectator area via King George V Fields (not via the school). To fulfil our safeguarding obligations, the children will be seated in a separate area that will be inaccessible.

Ferndown Community Support group will be providing refreshments for parents/carers, so you may want to bring some money with you. All donations will go to support the food bank.

We are happy for parents and carers to take photographs of your own children, however, please note that these cannot be shared with any other audience unless you have the express permission of all people in the photograph. This is for safeguarding reasons and to protect all members of the community. We would also request that you ensure that your taking a photograph does not interfere with other people's view and that it is not off-putting for the pupils.

Thank you for your continued help and support and look forward to seeing you there for this thoroughly enjoyable day.



Wellbeing



Supporting your child during difficult times: a practical guide for parents and carers

The attached practical guide will provide explanations and practical tips about the following topics:

- Proving empathy for your child
- Looking after your mental health and wellbeing
- Where your child can find support for their mental health and wellbeing
- Where you can find support for your mental health and wellbeing

Being empathic as a parent is all about putting yourself in the shoes of your children, and really understanding their feelings, and where they're coming from. This helps them feel truly seen and heard.

However, responding compassionately to help ease your child's distress is not always easy, especially if you're going through a difficult time yourself. It's important to remember that having empathy and compassion goes beyond the parent-child relationship.

It's also about providing the same empathy and compassion for yourself, especially in the face of adversity, such as cost of living concerns, relationship difficulties, and your own mental health concerns.

The advertisement features a white header with the kooth logo. Below it is a large red area with white text. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a man and a woman standing under a bright sun, with the kooth logo and website address below them.

kooth

Worried about your child's wellbeing?

Whatever your child is struggling with, they can access **free** and **safe** mental wellbeing support, today.

An illustration of a man and a woman standing together, looking at each other. They are positioned in front of a large, bright yellow sun with rays. The background is a light blue shape that resembles a speech bubble or a cloud.

kooth.com

Ferndown Middle School

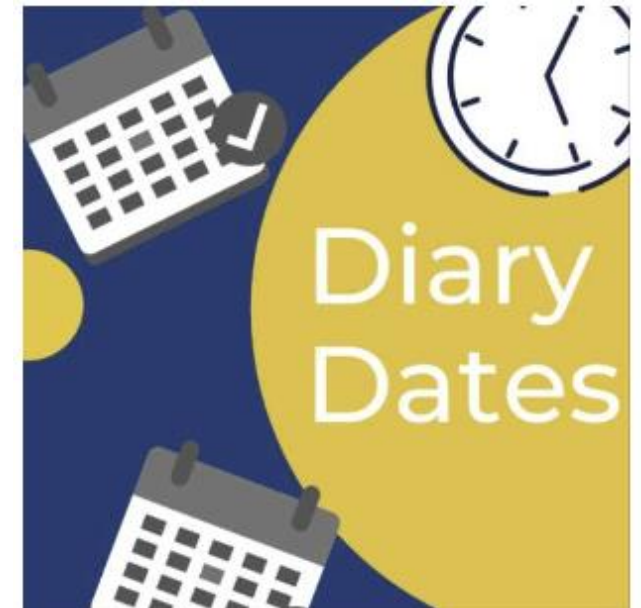
Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



Key Dates

Below are some of the key dates for the next half term.

Fri 28 June 2024	Transfer Day
Wed 3 July 2024	'Creative Showcase' (Book Look) Event
Wed 3 July 2024	Sports Day
Fri 5 July 2024	Non-uniform Day





Do you know about...

free school meals

If your child qualifies for free school meals, they will have a **healthy meal every school day**, and can get:

- access to **free holiday clubs**
- **extra money for their school** towards more teachers and activities

You could save over £450 a year!

It's easy to find out if you qualify - complete our confidential checker at dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals or phone **01305 221090**

Pupil Premium

If your child is in reception to year 2 and you receive qualifying benefits, **you could get extra £££'s for your school!**

Apply for the Pupil Premium at dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/pupil-premium

[The Dorset Parent Guide to support your child's special education needs](#)

A copy of the Dorset Parent Guide to support your child's special education needs can be found on our [website](#).

The Dorset Parent Guide to support your child's Special Educational Needs
0 to 25 years

Dorset Council
Dorset Parent-Care Council

[Dorset Education Advice Line \(DEAL\)](#)

Dorset Education Advice Line is a phone line for parents, carers and professionals who support children who may have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

This advice line is part of Dorset Councils Local Offer to children, young people and families and will work alongside existing services such as SENDIASS and the Education Psychology helpline.

Further details and a contact form can be found on the following link:

[Dorset Education Advice Line \(DEAL\) - Dorset Council](#)

Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



Extra-Curricular Clubs Summer Term 2, from 4 June to 19 July 2024

Day	Club	Duration	Times	Room/area	Leader
Monday Lunchtime	Cricket – All Years	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Field	SH/SG
	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB
	Music Theatre Group - All years	30 mins	12:40–1:10	Music Room	SW
	Gymnastics – Year 5 only	30 mins	12.15 – 12.35	Gym	XS
Monday After School	Rippa Rugby - Years 5, 6 and 7 (External club paid) 10 Jun to 15 Jul Welcome to Rippa Rugby	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Field	External
	Orchestra – Invite only	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Music Room	SW
	Tennis (External club paid) 10 Jun to 15 Jul Live4tennisbookingform Collection outside the school reception office	1 hour	15.30–16.30	Ferndown Tennis Courts	External
Tuesday Lunchtime	Spanish – All years	30 mins	12.15–12.45	LA15	FS
	Athletics, Year 5 & 6	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Field	SH
	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB
	Singing – All Years	30 mins	12.40–1.10	Music Room	SW
	Youth Club (Year 7 invite only)	45 mins	12.15–1.00	Youth Club	LB
	STEM Club – Years 7 & 8 First 10 to sign up with Miss Dale	30 mins	12.35–13.05	PA02	KD/NBA
Tuesday After School	Dodgeball (External club paid) 16 Apr to 16 Jul TeamThemebooking	1 hour	15.25–16.25	Gym	External
	Homework Club – All years	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Library	GB
Wednesday Lunchtime	Rounders – All Years	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Field	SH/SG
	Gardening Club – All years Max 12 pupils, sign up with Mrs Cooper	30 mins	12.30 – 1.00	Tranquillity	LC/TW

Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB
	Singing – All years	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Music Room	MB
	Samba - All years	25 mins	12:45–1:10	Music Room	SW
	Art Club – All years 20 pupils, sign-up sheet on Art door	30 mins	12.15–12.45	PA10	NC
Thursday Lunchtime	Sports Leaders – Year 8	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Gym	SG
	Ukulele– All years	30 mins	12.40-1.10	Music Room	SW
	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB
	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	MB, VG
	Science – Year 5 (Sign up with Mrs Johns)	35 mins	12.35–1.10	PA2	CJ
	School Council – Every other Thursday	1 hour	12.15–1.15	PA4	
	Computers – All Years – Scratch, APP Lab or Lego Mindstorms Max 15 places, sign-up sheet in ICT room	30 mins	12.30–1.00	PA03	MM
Thursday After school	Homework Club – All years	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Library	GB
	Athletics – Years 7 & 8	1 hour	15.20–16.20	Field	SH/SG
	Arts and Crafts – All years 10 places – Sign up with AM/LP	1 hour	15.20-16.20	PA12	AM/LP
Friday Lunchtime	Football – Year 5	30 mins	12.40-13.10	Field	MW
	Dance – Year 5 & 6	30 mins	12.15–12.45	Hall	KZ
	DT Club – All years - opportunity to complete unfinished practical work First 12 pupils each week	30 mins	12.15-12.45	PA11	AM
	Eco Club – All years	30 mins	12.15 –12.45	LA11	ML
	Library - All Years Max 30 children, quiet reading, choosing, renewing and returning books	25 mins	12.45–1.10	Library	GB

Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



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.
- Please be aware that it is the parent's responsibility to ensure the child knows that they are attending an after-school club.
- 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.

Breakfast Club



The breakfast club runs each morning for pupils across all year groups. Cost: £3.25 per breakfast.

Start time 7.30 am (Pupils need to arrive no later than 7.40 am and must sign in at reception). Finish time 8.30 am.

It is a fun and sociable environment where pupils enjoy a varied breakfast in the company of other pupils.

A selection of cereals, toast and drinks are provided.

Booking forms can be found on the school website: [Breakfast Club | \(fernmid.dorset.sch.uk\)](https://www.fernmid.dorset.sch.uk)

Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Winter Term Dates 2023

Inset Day	Friday 1 September 2023	Bank holidays in the autumn term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday 25 December 2023 Tuesday 26 December 2023
Autumn term starts	Monday 4 September 2023	
Half-term	Monday 23 to Friday 27 October 2023	
Autumn term ends	Friday 15 December 2023	
Christmas holidays	Monday 18 December to Monday 1 January 2024	

Spring Term Dates 2024

Spring term starts	Tuesday 2 January 2024	Bank holidays in the spring term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year's Day: Monday 1 January 2024 Good Friday: Friday 29 March 2024 Easter Monday: Monday 1 April 2024
Inset Day	Friday 9 February 2024	
Half-term	Monday 12 to Friday 16 February 2024	
Spring term ends	Thursday 28 March 2024	
Easter holiday	Friday 29 March to Friday 12 April 2024	

Summer Term Dates 2024

Summer term starts	Monday 15 April 2024	Bank holidays in the summer term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early May bank holiday: Monday 6 May 2024 Spring bank holiday: Monday 27 May 2024 Summer bank holiday: Monday 26 August 2024
Half-term	Monday 27 to 31 May 2024	
Inset Day	Monday 3 June 2024	
Summer term ends	Friday 19 July 2024	
Inset Day	Monday 22 July 2024	
Inset Day	Tuesday 23 July 2024	

Ferndown Middle School

Parent Weekly Newsletter w/c 24 June 2024



Term Dates 2024 - 2025

Autumn Term 2024	Autumn Term Monday 2 September 2024 to Friday 20 December 2024	
	Staff Training Day	Monday 2 September 2024
	Staff Training Day	Tuesday 3 September 2024
	Welcome Back to School	Wednesday 4 September 2024
	Half Term	Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024
	Last Day of Term	Friday 20 December 2024
	Christmas Holidays	Monday 23 December 2024 to Friday 3 January 2025

Spring Term 2025	Spring Term Monday 6 January 2025 to Friday 4 April 2025	
	Welcome Back to School	Monday 6 January 2025
	Half Term	Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 2025
	Last Day of Term	Friday 04 April 2025
	Easter Holiday	Monday 7 April 2025 to Monday 21 April 2025

Summer Term 2025	Summer Term Tuesday 22 April 2025 to Tuesday 22 July 2025	
	Welcome Back to School	Tuesday 22 April 2025
	Bank Holiday	Monday 5 May 2025
	Half Term	Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025
	Staff Training Day	Monday 30 June 2025
	Last Day of Term	Friday 18 July 2025
	Staff Training Day	Monday 21 July 2025
	Staff Training Day	Tuesday 22 July 2025