

FERNDOWN FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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For up-to-date information visit our website: www.fernfirst.dorset.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs J Di-Pede BA (Hons) NPQH

Newsletter No 2

20th September 2019

Dear Parents

As we come to the end of another busy week in school, please remember that **school is closed to children on Monday 23rd September for a Staff Training Day.**

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

Families with a low income are entitled to claim Pupil Premium Funding and for every child eligible the school will receive £1,320. The additional funding is then given to school to support your child's learning and give them the best possible start in education.



How does my child get their pupil premium grant?

The money is paid to the school and we decide how to spend the money to ensure the greatest impact for your child. Even if your child is in Reception or Key Stage 1 and already gets a hot school meal it is still important that you apply because of the extra benefits. The school will get the pupil premium grant for your child so we can support their learning and give them the best possible start in education. **It is your child's entitlement, so please don't waste it!**

How do I apply?

Copy and paste the following link into your browser – you can then apply online. Further information is also available on this page

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/pupil-premium.aspx>

The registration process is quick and easy. You need your national insurance number to hand. You will find out straight away if you are eligible. If you need access to a computer we can provide this in school.

HARVEST FESTIVAL – FOR CHILDREN IN YEARS 1 - 4



On **Wednesday 2nd October**, children in Years 1 – 4 will be walking to St Mary's Church to celebrate Harvest Festival.

Children in Reception will be staying in school and have their own Harvest celebration to look forward to later this term, linked to their learning. They will join the whole school at church for our Christmas Service.

Donations welcome! Parents are welcome to send in a donation, ie tin, bottle, packet food etc (please check sell by dates). These donations will then be passed onto a local food bank.

If you are able to help walk with us to church, please speak with your child's class teacher. The service will start as close to 9am as possible. All family and friends are welcome.





POWER MATHS AT FERNDOWN FIRST SCHOOL

We use Power Maths as a resource to aid our maths teaching in Ferndown First School. It is part of our mastery approach which requires pedagogical understanding in current concrete, pictorial and abstract methods for children to develop a full understanding. We advise parents not to be using these books at home.

We encourage parents to focus any maths time at home on X-tables using <https://trockstars.com/>. Your child has a login and password to access their account at home. **Otherwise, to support your child at home further, one of the best resources is free to access online at <https://whiterosemaths.com/>. The resources have teaching notes and guidance to follow.**

As TT Rockstars is for those children in Year 2 – 4, Year 1 parents are asked to focus on counting, reading and writing numbers to 100 in numerals and counting in multiples of 2s, 5s and 10s.



DOUBLE PARKING IN MOUNTBATTEN DRIVE

Thank you to those parents who continue to use our car park with care and consideration for other users.

We are really concerned that parents are double-parking in Mountbatten Drive on the approach to school. This is resulting in congestion and seriously reducing access for emergency vehicles. Parents are asked to park in local car parks, such as Tesco and walk the short distance to school. Parents can also contact the village hall and pay for access to their car park.

The staff car park, adjacent to Caterpillar Club, is strictly for **Dorset County Council staff only**. Parents are not permitted to park in this area.

SCHOOL REWARD SCHEME



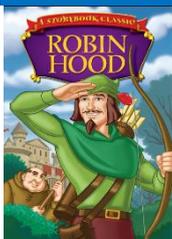
We are pleased to advise that the following pupils are winners of the Golden Award tickets:

Lucy-Anne – Year 3
Michael – Year 4
Inaia – Year 1

Anjum – Year 3
Aurora – Year 1
Poppy and Poppy – Year 2

Well done to all those who were nominated and to those who won!

ROBIN HOOD - YEAR FOUR MUSICAL PRODUCTION – BARRINGTON THEATRE



Mrs Di-Pede and Mr Watts will be launching the Year 4 performance of Robin Hood next Tuesday afternoon, with auditions due to take place the following week. This performance will be taking place at the Barrington Theatre on Friday 29th November, in the morning. More details will be sent home to parents in due course.



PTA NEWS



Thank you to the parents who came to the PTA AGM on Tuesday. It was great to see some new faces who are willing to contribute ideas. We have planned some exciting events for this term. More information will be sent home in due course.

Thanks also the parents who have expressed an interest in helping at events. We will put you on the mailing list to receive information.

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES NEWSLETTER

A Clubs & Activities Newsletter will be coming home shortly. This gives parents more detailed information on the clubs we offer and how to book, as well as activities taking place locally.

NEW RECEPTION 2020 – HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR YOUR CHILD’S PLACE?

Parents of those children born between 1.9.15 and 31.8.16 can now apply for their child’s school place for September 2020. Please go to the link at www.dorsetforyou.com/school-admissions and follow the instructions for applying online. 15th January 2020 is the closing date for starting school for the first time application.

IS YOUR CHILD DUE TO START MIDDLE SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2020? APPLY FOR YOUR CHILD’S PLACE NOW

If your child is due to start or transfer to a Middle school in September 2020, you must apply for a school place through the local authority where you live. For more information and to apply online, go to <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/starting-junior-or-middle-school.aspx>. Please note that the closing date for applications is 15th January 2020. Parents will not receive the confirmed offer of their child’s place until 16th April 2020.

RECEPTION NEWS



Forest School will be taking place this term on the following dates:

RD - 11th October
RC - 18th October
RPS - 25th October

Parents are reminded that their children should have the following **named** clothing in school, in a separate, named carrier bag on these days please: a top/jumper with long sleeves, trousers and wellies.

RECYCLE WEEK – 23-29 SEPTEMBER



Next week is national Recycle Week. In 2018, people were motivated to care about plastics in a way they never have before. Sustainability is firmly on the national agenda and the public is looking to organisations to help solve major environmental issues.

This year, at school we will be thinking about recycling in celebration assembly and remembering to recycle our fruit peel and crisp packets.

For more information, please go to <http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/recycle-week-2019>



HOT SCHOOL MEALS – ORDER VIA PARENTMAIL



Parents are advised that new menus and order forms are now available for completion via ParentMail.

If you pay for your child's meals, you will have received an invoice requesting payment. This will be generated weekly and retrospectively.

Please be vigilant when completing your forms and ensure you have selected the right choice before submitting, as amendments to orders **cannot** be made by parents or by the school. Thank you.

Parents are reminded that in most cases, we are not able to provide a meal, whether your child has forgotten to bring their lunchbox into school or if you have not ordered your child a hot school meal. **It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that their child's lunch is provided for them and to place their child's order on time.**

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT LESSONS

If you have any questions regarding instrumental lessons or class music provision, please speak with either Miss Carlson or Mrs Di-Pede.



Ukulele Lessons

Robert Holly from Dorset Music Service will be providing lessons for those children who have expressed an interest in Ukulele lessons. These will start on Monday 30th September.

Woodwind Lessons – Tuesdays – After School

Our new woodwind teacher, Mrs Dales-Bull has begun teaching woodwind on Tuesday afternoon. If your child would like to learn to play a woodwind instrument, please ask for further details.

Piano Lessons

Mrs Le Rossignol is fully booked for piano lessons this term. Please speak with Mrs Di-Pede if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

ADDITIONAL MUSIC CLUB PROVISION / SPANISH CLUB

Thank you to those parents who have expressed an interest in their child taking part in additional after school clubs.

Recorder & Ukulele Clubs - Unfortunately, due to a lack of interest, the Recorder and Ukulele Clubs are not viable at present and will not be going ahead.

Singing & Musical Theatre Club - We are pleased to advise that the Singing & Musical Theatre Club has been very popular and will be running. Parents will receive a letter with this Newsletter confirming details for the Singing & Musical Theatre Club advising that the **provisional** start date will be Monday 30th September. If you are still interested in securing a place for your child you **MUST** complete this letter and then send it, electronically, to the following address **before** the club starts so that your child is registered with the company: office@educationbox.co

Spanish Club – We can also confirm that we have sufficient numbers of children to run the Spanish Club, however, more information will be sent home to those parents who have registered their child's interest confirming start dates, times, payment in due course. Please keep a look out for this on ParentMail.



REMINDERS.....

UNIFORM

Parents are asked to ensure that their children wear the correct shoes in school. Shoes should be worn as trainers are not permitted. As the weather gets cooler, please ensure your child is provided with a named coat. Thank you.

HAIRSTYLES

In line with our school uniform policy, parents are reminded any hair below collar length should be tied up with a dark coloured band/hair fastener.

HEADLICE

We have had a few cases of headlice reported to school recently. Please ensure you check your child's head thoroughly/regularly and treat appropriately. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Di-Pede

Headteacher

UPCOMING DATES AND ADVANCE NOTICE

2019

Monday 23rd September

Wednesday 2nd October

Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

Friday 20th December

Staff Training Day

Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church

Parents' Evening – more information to follow

Half Term Holiday

Term ends – school ends at 1.30pm

2020

Monday 6th January

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

Friday 3rd April

Spring Term starts

Half Term Holidays

Term ends – school ends at 1.30pm

Monday 20th April

Wednesday 29th April – Friday 1st May

Friday 8th May

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Friday 17th July

Monday 23rd July

Summer Term Starts

Yr 4 Osmington Bay visit

May Day Holiday

Half Term Holidays

Term ends – school ends at 1.30pm

Staff Training Day

**Please note that more information will be sent home via ParentMail and the Newsletter.
2 further training days are to be taken and you will be notified of these dates in due course.**

