

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 8

20th December 2019

Dear Parents



Christmas Message from Mrs Di-Pede, Headteacher

On behalf of the children, staff and Governors at Ferndown First School, I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support of Ferndown First School.

In addition to the demands of normal school curriculum, the final weeks of term have been packed full of events to mark the festive season.

Year 4 started the festive season off with their superb pantomime, "Robin Hood" at the Barrington Theatre. This was shortly followed by three wonderful nativity performances by our youngest children in EYFS. In addition, the other year groups worked hard to learn additional songs for their informal Christmas Singalong performances, which were really well attended.

There was standing room only at Church on Wednesday as we enjoyed our special Christmas service and, just the day before, the school choir visited six care homes in Ferndown, to share some seasonal joy in our community.

It's been a lot of additional work for our staff and I am grateful for their efforts. I am sure you would all want to wish them all a well-deserved holiday to relax and spend precious time with their own families.

I wish you all memorable and enjoyable times with your children, good health and happiness during this festive season and in 2020. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! School re-opens on Monday 6th January 2020.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Di-Pede
Headteacher



OTHER "CHRISTMAS AT SCHOOL" NEWS

THANK YOU PTA

Since September, the PTA has organised several events such as the school Disco, Bedtime Story event and, most recently, the Christmas hamper raffle. We would like to thank all our PTA members and everyone who has either helped organise, support or donate to these events so far this year.

Christmas Hamper Raffle – Well done to all those parents/friends and family that have won one of our lovely Christmas Hampers. We are really pleased to advise that a fantastic total of **£1,477** was raised from the sale of raffle tickets and will be used to buy new furniture for our classrooms.

RETIRING COLLECTIONS

The retiring collections from the nativity performances, our Sing-a-long performances and the non-uniform donations will be announced in the New Year and will be advised in the next Newsletter. Thank you for your generosity.

GENERAL NEWS

FREE INFANT HOT MEALS – WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE!

Don't forget!

Wednesday 8th January is the final day for ordering school meals for w/c Monday 13th January 2020.

Don't forget!

FREE INFANT HOT SCHOOL MEALS - WE REALLY WILL NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE!

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, please order them a free hot lunch for **Thursday 16th January 2020**. Even if you wouldn't normally choose a hot meal, please consider ordering a meal on this occasion as the usual menu choice for a Thursday has changed on this date only and has been replaced with either cheese and tomato pizza or pork sausages.

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school lunch every day but schools are not funded for the exact number of meals we provide. We receive a sum of money based on the average number of meals ordered on two specific days of the year.

For the funding to reflect the actual amount we have to pay, we need as many parents as possible to order hot meals for their child on **Thursday 16th January 2020**. If this doesn't happen, the school will potentially face a short fall, which will, in turn, impact on the rest of the school's budget.

For more information on how to order your child's hot meal for this day, please see the ParentMail letter that was sent home recently. Thank you.

YEAR 3 NEWS



YEAR 3 RE-SCHEDULED VIKING SAGA SINGING PERFORMANCE

Parents are invited to the re-scheduled Year 3 Viking Saga singing performance which takes place on **Friday 17th January at 2.30pm**.



SCHOOL CLUBS – SPRING TERM 2020

Some clubs have changed for the new Spring Term. Please see the information at the bottom of this letter for further details. All clubs should be booked direct through the club provider unless otherwise stated. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Di-Pede
Headteacher

See below for upcoming dates and advance notice.

UPCOMING DATES AND ADVANCE NOTICE

2020

Monday 6th January

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

Friday 3rd April

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 20th 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.



SCHOOL CLUBS - SPRING TERM 2020

EduboxTM Singing & Musical Theatre Club

After offering the Singing and Musical Theatre Club for a trial period during this term, we have decided not to continue with this club after the Christmas break. Parents should have been advised of this decision by Edubox. Parents should contact Edubox directly for any refunds due to staff sickness on Monday 16th December.

Name of Club	Day	Time/Dates	Cost/Contact Details
Chris Biddle – Tennis Club (All Years)	Monday – Lunchtime Club **SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**		£1 per session Chris Biddle - 07930 569342 or www.ferndowntennisclub.org.uk
Danny Thomas Football Club (Years 1 & 2)	Tuesday	3.15 – 4.15pm	Book direct through: www.dannythomascoachingacademy.co.uk
Karate Club (Years R – 4)	Tuesday	3.05 – 4.15pm	£3.50 per session – pay at the door Contact Roxie Ttoffali through school office.
Chess Club (Years 2, 3 & 4)	Wednesday	Lunchtime 12.30 - French Room	FREE – Mr Watts
Danny Thomas – Football Club (Years 3 & 4)	Wednesday	3.15 – 4.15pm	Book direct with Danny Thomas – as above.
Spanish Club (EYFS/Yrs 1 & 2)	Thursday	3.15 – 3.55pm	Contact Ximena Bleaney at blmlanguagelearning@hotmail.com or on 07530 291932
Chris Biddle – Tennis Club (Years 2, 3 & 4)	Friday	3.10 – 4.10pm	£3.50 per session Contact Chris Biddle – as above to register.
Danny Thomas - Dodgeball Club (Years 2, 3 & 4)	Friday	3.05 – 4.00pm	Book through Danny Thomas – as above.

Dorset Council – Information for Parents for over the Christmas Holidays

Christmas holidays are nearly here! If you're looking for festive things to do with your family, please copy and paste the following link into your browser to find all the Christmas events and activities happening in Dorset this December:

<https://familyinformationdirectory.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/kb5/dorset/fsd/results.action?qt=christmas&term=&sorttype=relevance&familychannel=400>

