

# FERNDOWN FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Mountbatten Drive, Ferndown, Dorset BH22 9FB Tel: 01202 873747 Fax: 01202 890121  
For up-to-date information visit our website: [www.fernfirst.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.fernfirst.dorset.sch.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs J Di-Pede BA (Hons) NPQH

Newsletter No 1

10th September 2021

Dear Parents

## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

There is a really positive and cheerful feeling in school and staff are well prepared for the term ahead. The third phase of our building project was completed last Friday and you can see some photos on our website of the new facilities in Y2, Y3 and Y4.



You will have already received a separate booklet via ParentMail explaining our plans for the reopening of school. In addition, our risk assessment and contingency plan are on our website.

I would like to offer a special welcome to our new parents who have children joining us in year groups across the school. We look forward to working with you and your children during the coming year. It's been wonderful to say hello to our new children in EYFS today, who have spent some time in school for Stay and Play.

I'd like to thank you for your co-operation, understanding and support in adjusting, once again, to new procedures and some restrictions to our usual way of working this week. In particular, we appreciate you working with us in the morning and afternoons, to allow for a calm and safe entry and exit to and from school.

We are looking forward to this new academic year and will be sharing our plans for the year, very soon.

## CORONAVIRUS – PROCEDURES

Whilst some school routines are starting to return to the way they were, pre-pandemic, we need to be able to quickly implement contingency arrangements, if required by Public Health.

Our risk assessment and contingency plan have been written based on the advice of the DFE issued in August. The Trust and Dorset Council Health and Safety advisors have scrutinised our plans and agree that they are fit for purpose. Public Health Dorset have provided the operating procedure which we are following.

Children should not come to school if they have the following symptoms.

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)



## TESTING

### Symptomatic Testing

Anyone with any of the above symptoms should self-isolate at home for at least 10 days from when symptoms started and arrange a PCR test. Tests can be booked online at

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

### Asymptomatic Testing

First schools are not required to test children of our age group however families might wish to consider regularly testing using lateral flow devices.

## RESULTS

A positive LFD or PCR test result will require:

- The confirmed case to self-isolate for 10 days from either the onset of symptoms (symptomatic) or the test date (asymptomatic) = day 0.
- *Unless exempt* the close contacts of a positive case to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of last contact with a positive case = day 0.
- NHS Test and Trace will contact close contacts to let them know if they have been identified as a contact and check whether they are legally required to self-isolate.

## EXEMPTIONS

- You are fully vaccinated
- You are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- You have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- You are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

## POSITIVE CASES IN SCHOOL

- Parents of children who are identified as a close contact of a positive case will be encouraged to seek a PCR test for their child.
- Children, ***without symptoms***, who are identified as a close contact ***do not need*** to self-isolate whilst waiting for their PCR results because they are exempt.
- They must ***isolate if a positive result is received***.
- NHS Test and Trace are now responsible for contacting close contacts, however, it is possible that they will contact the school to seek our support.
- Parents will receive a ParentMail if your child is identified as a close contact.



## WE CAN HELP YOU

There may be times when you may have questions about your child's education and the work we do in school. Class teachers are very well equipped to answer most of your queries and they should always be your first point of contact. If you need further help, please speak with your child's Year Leader or Phase Leader.

Year Leaders are responsible for day to day co-ordination in their year team. Phase Leaders are members of the Senior Management Team, who contribute to school leadership decisions and have strategic Teaching and Learning responsibilities.

	EYFS	Year1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
<b>Phase Leader</b>	Mrs Cload		Mrs Errington	Mr West	
<b>Year Leader</b>	Mrs Cload	Mr Hunt	Mrs Lord	Mrs Laverick	Mrs King

## YOU CAN HELP US – APPROPRIATE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media, when used appropriately, can bring communities together in a very positive and celebratory way. Unfortunately, it can often be abused and used in ways which are wholly unhelpful and even unfairly damaging to a school's reputation.

Communicating with the school directly, referring to our letters and online communication, are the only fully reliable sources of support and information for parents.

We are aware of an increasing number of informal and unofficial groups too. Whilst these groups have their place, we have to remind and encourage parents to consider how reliable they are as we have seen examples which are inaccurate and misleading, which leads to confusion and unnecessary worry.

*Please talk to us if you need help. We are always willing to listen and explain the work we do.*

## YOU CAN HELP US – PLEASE KEEP UP TO DATE



This week's newsletter contains some important reminders for parents, which we ask you to read carefully, please.

Newsletters are prepared fortnightly. The next edition of the Newsletter will be **Friday 24th September**. Please also check your ParentMail account and the school website for any updates and reminders, in between editions.

## STAFF NEWS

Welcome to the following new staff starting at Ferndown First School this term:

**Teachers:** Mrs Marshall, Miss Piddock, Mrs Boswell, Miss Cully  
**Teaching Assistants:** Mrs Hamer, Mrs Fowler, Mrs Sansome, Mrs Wrigley



## **FINANCE OFFICER VACANCY**

We have a vacancy for a school Finance Officer. If you are interested in applying for a position, please see our advert on the 'Staff Vacancies' page of the website or search for the full advertisement on the Dorset Council website. Closing date is Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you.



## **CONTACT DETAILS**

Do we have the right contact details for you? Please advise the school office of any changes **as soon as possible**, as it is imperative that we have the correct information for your child should we need to contact you.

## **PTA AGM POSTPONED**

All parents are members of the PTA and we would very much like your support during this coming year. We had hoped to hold a PTA AGM on Monday evening (13<sup>th</sup> September) but unfortunately we are unable to hold the meeting in person, at the moment.

We have decided to postpone this meeting until we can invite parents to school. Further information will be shared via ParentMail.

## **MUSICAL INSTRUMENT LESSONS**

Mrs Charters is responsible for leading Music in school. If you have any questions regarding instrumental lessons or class music provision, please contact Mrs Charters who is in school on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Friday mornings.



### **Piano Lessons – from Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September**

Mrs Le Rossignol is fully booked for piano lessons this term. Please speak with Mrs Charters or the school office if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

### **Other Instrumental Lessons**

We will provide information about other lessons as soon as possible.

## **EYFS NEWS**

EYFS would be grateful for donations of toys that are in good condition for our outdoor area. In particular we are looking for:

- Toy tools and builder's hats
- Plastic babies and pushchairs
- Plastic dinosaurs and animals
- Small fishing nets for water play
- Small metal pans, bowls, colanders and teapots
- Large paintbrushes and rollers

Please pass any donations to Mrs Clod or the EYFS team. Thank you for supporting our school.



## SCHOOL INFORMATION - IMPORTANT REMINDERS



### **PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING**

Families with a low income are entitled to claim Pupil Premium Funding and for every child eligible the school will receive £1,345. The additional funding is then given to school to support your child's learning and gives 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?**

Apply online at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/pupil-premium.aspx> or phone **01305 221000** in complete confidence.

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. For more information on whether you could be eligible to apply please use the following link: <https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/free-school-meals.aspx>

### **SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION**

Our first priority is your child's welfare and therefore there may be occasions when our concern about your child means that we have to consult other agencies before we contact you.

The Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Area Partnership has determined the procedures we follow. If you want to know more about these procedures then please speak to the Headteacher,

Mrs Di-Pede is the Designated Senior Lead for all matters relating to Child Protection and Safeguarding.

In Mrs Di-Pede's absence, Mr Watts is the Deputy Designated Senior Lead. Other staff who are also DSL trained are Mrs Cload, Inclusion Leader and Mrs Bramley, School Support Worker.



ParentMail letters come home regularly and are the main way in which we communicate to parents.

Parents of new Reception children and other new children who have joined will have received a link to enable them to join ParentMail.

We are pleased to advise that most parents are now registered on the ParentMail service, however, if you have not yet registered then please do this as soon as possible. If you need assistance then please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will be more than happy to help.



## **HEALTHY SNACKS**



Our school is part of The Government Fruit and Vegetable Scheme. This means that the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with a free piece of fruit or vegetable every day for their mid-morning snack. Further information, advice and guidance can be found at: [www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk](http://www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk).

Please note that mid-morning and afternoon snacks are restricted to the food listed below. No other alternatives will be permitted.

- Fresh fruit or a portion of vegetables – if your child needs their snack cut up, please do this at home and send in a small pot
- A portion of seeds/raisins/dried fruit (no nuts please or nut based foods due to some children having severe nut allergies)
- A plain biscuit (eg Rich Tea)

All healthy snacks should be placed in a named plastic container please. Please do not send in wrapped snacks. We need to reduce the amount of packaging waste and litter in the school grounds.

Water bottles can be brought into school for children to keep in their classroom, should they need a drink. Please note: Only **water** should be sent into school with your child – squash or fizzy drinks are not permitted. Children will have the opportunity to have the option of water or squash at lunchtime.



Milk is provided free of charge for all children under 5 by Cool Milk. Please contact the school office to request a registration form or you can register online at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)

## **IF YOUR CHILD IS UNWELL**



Parents are asked to follow advice provided by the NHS which is being kept up to date and includes specific guidance about Coronavirus.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

## **UNIFORM**

If the weather is warm and sunny, children can continue to wear their summer uniform for this month. If the weather does deteriorate and become colder, please ensure your child has a named coat in school.

## **HAIRSTYLES**

In line with our school uniform policy, parents are reminded that fashion hairstyles, including tramlines and razored cuts, are not acceptable. Parents are also asked to ensure that any hair below collar length is tied up with a dark coloured band/hair fastener.

## **JEWELLERY**

Small stud earrings are acceptable. No other jewellery should be worn to school. If your child cannot remove their earrings, parents will need to provide micro pore tape to cover the earrings during PE lessons and out of hours activities. If this is not done, the child will not be permitted to take part.



## PE KITS AND LESSON DAYS

From week commencing **13<sup>th</sup> September**, on the day your child has PE or outdoor games, your child may wear their PE kit to school. All other days, children should wear full school uniform, please.

Children are allowed to wear a plain navy, black or grey tracksuit on cold days and they may wear trainers to school. Please do not send your child to school in any affiliated team kit or branded clothing which is not suitable for school. Children not in kit will have to take part in their school uniform.

From 13<sup>th</sup> September:

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
Games	Year 2	Year 3	EYFS	Year 4	Year 1
PE	Year 3	Year 2	EYFS	Year 1	Year 4

## BREAKFAST CLUB



If you are interested in booking your child into the Breakfast Club, parents are asked to speak with a member of the school office to find out if there is availability. Breakfast club is £3.00 per session. We are in the process of updating Registration Forms and Terms and Conditions

## SCHOOL CLUBS

**Karate Club (Year 2 children only)** - starts again next Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> September. Please see flyer at end of this Newsletter. Please note there will be NO CLASSES ON 21 SEPTEMBER.

**DTCA Clubs** – Danny's clubs start again next week. Please see the flyer at the end of this Newsletter. If your child is attending a club which isn't on their PE or Games day, they will need to bring their PE kit to change for the club. They should wear school uniform to school.

## ADVANCE NOTICE – EXTRA BANK HOLIDAY

Parents are advised that school will be closed on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June, in lieu of the extra Bank Holiday which falls in the May Half Term recognition of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee,

Yours sincerely

*Mrs J Di-Pede*

Headteacher



## Parenting Skills and Strategies

Parenting Skills and Strategies is an advice session for you to attend in person or over the phone to gain practical and friendly support around any aspect of looking after children or aged 0-19 years or family life

Parent/carer advice, *by appointment only*  
call 01202 868224

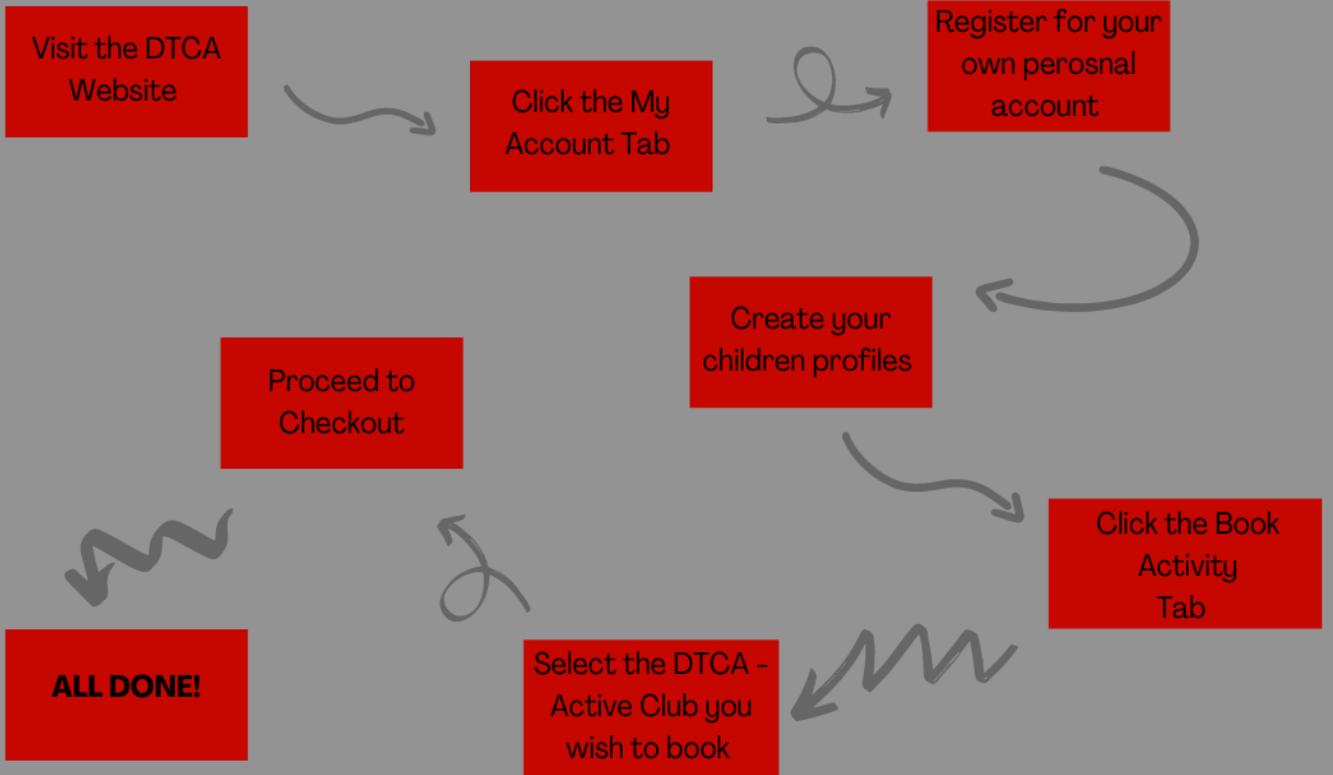
Monday		
Corfe Mullen Children's Centre	9.30am — 11.30am	13th September 11th October 8th November 13th December
Tuesday		
West Moors Children's Centre	5.30pm — 7.30pm	28th September 19th October 23rd November
Wednesday		
Leigh Park Children's Centre	9.30am — 11.30am	8th September 6th October 3rd November 1st December
Friday		
Ferndown Children's Centre	9.30am — 11.30am	17th September 15th October 19th November 17th December

To book please contact East Dorset Locality Team:

☎ 01202 868224  
✉ [eastlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:eastlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)



# DTCA ACTIVE HOW TO BOOK



[dannythomascoachingacademy.co.uk](http://dannythomascoachingacademy.co.uk)



@Danny Thomas Coaching Academy



dtca\_uk



@DTCA\_UK



DTCA -UK





# DTCA-WRAPAROUND CARE Ferndown First School

Comprehensive wraparound care for children aged R - Yr 4



[dannythomascoachingacademy.co.uk](http://dannythomascoachingacademy.co.uk)



@Danny Thomas Coaching Academy



dtca\_uk

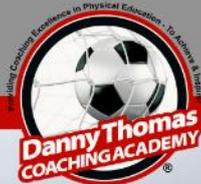


@DTCA\_UK



DTCA -UK





**ONLY  
£24  
FOR 6  
SESSIONS!**

# DTCA ACTIVE



**Wednesday Football  
Year 1 / 2  
15:05 to 16:05**



**Thursday Football  
Year 3 / 4  
15:05 to 16:05**

**Friday Dodgball  
Year 2 / 3 / 4  
15:05 to 16:05**



**Wednesday 15th of September  
to  
Friday 22nd October**



[dannythomascoachingacademy.co.uk](http://dannythomascoachingacademy.co.uk)



@Danny Thomas Coaching Academy



dtca\_uk



@DTCA\_UK



DTCA -UK



# KARATE CLUB YEAR 2 CHILDREN ONLY

All enquiries – please call the number at the bottom of the flyer.



Chief Instructor  
Hanshi Alan Gibson  
8<sup>th</sup> Dan

## SAMA ORGANISATION



Assistant Chief Instructor  
Shihan David Jacobs  
7<sup>th</sup> Dan



# Karate KIDS

@ Ferndown First School  
YEAR 2 ONLY - Classes to start 14/09/2021.  
3.05pm - 4.15pm

In class children learn "Sama Karate" based on the style of Wado Ryu led by professional instructors with a strong emphasis on discipline, self-control, fitness, suppleness and most importantly fun.

For over 20 years the Sama Organisation has taught classes of traditional **non-contact** karate in schools to girls and boys aged four years and above. If your child would like to try karate they will need to bring along the following: the consent slip below, loose fitting clothing e.g. PE kit.

**Due to COVID-19 our payment system has changed:** The cost is £3.50 per session paid every half term UPFRONT. BACS payments preferred but cash will be accepted. Details will be provided to parents/guardians at the end of the first class. Please be aware that after an initial period of 3-4 weeks students will need to have licence and membership to train with the Sama Organisation; the combined fee is £20.00 for 1 year.

Talk to your instructor for information and forms or if you have any questions.

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS MUST WAIT OUTSIDE THE HALL FOR CHILDREN TO BE BROUGHT TO THEM AT THE END OF THEIR LESSON. COVID-19 GUIDELINES MEAN CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO OUR TEACHING METHODS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF YOUR CHILDREN AND OUR INSTRUCTORS.**

---

PLEASE DETACH THIS SLIP AND RETURN TO SCHOOL OFFICE/BRING TO CLASS

I would like my child \_\_\_\_\_ (name) to try Sama Karate  
I understand there is no obligation to join or buy karate suits until I am convinced he/she intends to stay in the class.

I will collect my child from the school at the end of the class.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT NAME & NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ (in case of emergency)

For more information telephone the Regional Co-Ordinator on  
023 92251626  
Or email: sama.organisation@outlook.com