

Whole School Attendance: 95.4% National: 95.4% Whole School target 97%

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to Year 4 on their performance of The Wizard of Oz at The Barrington Theatre last week. The children performed brilliantly, and I was very proud. The dancing, acting and singing were all high quality and the children worked as a team to make it happen. Well done to the children who chose to work backstage organising the props coming on and off the stage. We have received many emails of thanks from parents and friends of the school. Comments included:

"Just to say I was absolutely blown away by the pantomime this afternoon. I think it was one of the best I have ever seen - absolutely superb. All those instructions in rehearsal about projecting voices absolutely paid off - I could hear every word. And the singing was beautifully tuneful and confident. Great idea to have two Dorothys and scarecrows - that worked so well. The costumes, props and scenery were so lovely, and it all came together as a fabulous production to watch. The best thing though was the obvious joy in the children's performances - they will treasure that experience all their lives. What a fabulous achievement!" (Liz Le Rossignol)

"Just a quick email to say thank you so much to everyone involved in making the year 4 panto yesterday so fantastic! It was such a fabulous professional-feeling production. We were so impressed as part of the audience. Not only were the kids awesome, but the time and effort that the staff must have put into the production is incredible Thank you all so much for giving the kids the chance to be part of a such a special experience. It really is appreciated and was thoroughly enjoyed by all." (Parent)

"All 7 of our family who came to the Panto were blown away by the entire show. The children were truly fantastic, and it was the best school production we have ever seen (and that is a lot as we are primary and secondary teachers!). The opportunity to perform in a real theatre is so valuable - I have seen XXXX's resilience and focus grow massively through this experience. She has loved every second from the audition to the show - despite being full of cold on the big day! We would all like to pass on our thanks and admiration to all those who worked so hard - both on stage and behind the scenes; children and adults, staff and friends of the school. The show was a credit to you and your school. Thank you." (Parent)

I would like to thank the Year 4 teams, Mrs Charters and staff involved in making this happen. I couldn't ask for a better team!

Thank you to generosity shown in the retiring collection. The amount raised was just over £200 which will be split between the charity 'Abby's Heroes' and our own school memorial collection for Betsy.

Year 3, I am currently booking dates with the Barrington for next year.....what shall we do next time?

Here are a few photos from the performance.

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Have a good weekend

Mr Watts
Headteacher

Bedtime Story Event

Thank you to everyone that attended yesterday's Bedtime Story event. It was great fun, the school felt festive and the children enjoyed coming into school in their pyjamas with their teddies.

We raised over **£660** which is a fantastic amount. Thanks to PFA members and staff that made the event so successful.



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School Admissions Consultation 2027-28

Southern Education Trust is consulting on its proposed School Admissions Arrangements for all schools for 2027/28, seeking to:-

- bring Winton Primary School into the previous Castleman Academy Trust policy,
- updating how distance is measured for admissions to Broadstone Schools and
- add extra clarity to some sections of the policy.

The consultation will run from Monday 8 December 2025 to Saturday 24 January 2026.

You can view the full details, including the revised policy and a summary of changes, at: <https://www.southerneducationtrust.com/admissions-consultation>

Responses can be submitted in writing to Southern Education Trust c/o Broadstone First School, Tudor Road, Broadstone, Dorset, BH18 8Aa, or by email to consultation@southern.education

Responses are to be received by **Saturday 24 January 2026**.

Attendance

Miss school, miss out

There are 175 non-school days per year for holidays, shopping and appointments. There is no need, except in extreme circumstances, to miss a day's education. If you were to miss one session every week in the school academic year (remember, there are two sessions per day) then your attendance would drop to 90%. This means you would have missed 19 days overall of education in a year and risk not being ready for the next stage of education (Please see chart below).

It is vital we work together to teach our pupils the value of attending school every day. However, we do appreciate that at times, pupils may not be able to attend school due to illness.

Should you have a concern about your child's attendance, we ask that you contact us to discuss this.

After School Club

We are pleased that we can offer additional spaces on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays for this half term. This expansion was carried out as a trial, and I am pleased that there has been a sufficient increase in uptake that we will make this a permanent offer.

If you would like to book your child into the After School Club for any Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays that are left this term, please email the school office with:

- The dates you require
- Whether you would like 5pm or 6pm collection time
- Your preferred method of payment (childcare voucher or invoice via ParentMail)

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Year 1 trip to The Museum of East Dorset

This week Year 1 enjoyed a trip to the Museum of East Dorset to continue our learning about Victorians. We completed four activities: schoolroom, washday, traditional games and Victorian Christmas cards. The children really enjoyed pretending to be a Victorian for a day!

In the schoolroom, we experienced writing with chalk on a slate, reciting rules and copying Victorian style handwriting. The teacher was very strict!



During the washday activity, we learnt that washing would sometimes take up to 16 hours for Victorian people. We worked really hard collecting the water, cleaning the handkerchiefs with the dolly and scrubbing them with the brush.

We played the traditional games card in the hat and feather flapping. We thought these would be great for wet play!

School Closure in Adverse Weather

In the event of adverse weather that means we cannot open school, parents will receive a ParentMail message as early as possible. If you would like to check online the website for this is dorsetforyou.com.

If we are able to open school but conditions are unsafe to walk around the usual one-way route, drop off will be through the Main Office, Staff Entrance and Quiet Entrance. Parents will be directed to the relevant entrance and be asked to keep to gritted paths. A ParentMail will be sent out to advise of this as early as possible.

Upcoming PFA Events

Christmas Hamper Raffle

If you would like to purchase tickets, please ensure the stubs are completed and returned to the main school office with the correct money in a sealed envelope, marked with your child's name, class and 'RAFFLE' by 3pm on Monday 15th December. More raffle tickets are available to purchase from the school office. Prizes will be drawn on Tuesday 16th and winners contacted by the office.



Christmas colouring competition

Entries will need to be returned to the school office by Wednesday 10th December. A small prize will be given to each winner on Friday 12th December during our celebration assembly.

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KEY DATES AUTUMN TERM 2025

Monday 8 th December	EYFS Nativity
Tuesday 9 th December	EYFS Nativity
Wednesday 10 th December	Choir on Tour
Thursday 11 th December	Yr 1 Sing-a-Long 2.30pm
Friday 12 th December	Christmas Jumper Day Flu vaccinations Yr 1 Sing-a-Long 9am
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Services at St Mary's Church 09.15 EYFS & Y1 Service 10.45 Y2,3 &4 Service
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Lunch Choir on Tour
Friday 19 th December	Christmas surprise! Last day of term, early collection available (ParentMail form to follow)
Wednesday 21 st January	Yr 4 Trip to Winchester Science Centre
Friday 30 th January	EYFS Vision Screening
Tuesday 3 rd February	Life Education Workshop
Wednesday 4 th February	EYFS Vision Screening
Thursday 5 th February	Life Education Workshop

More details on these events, and more, will be sent to parents in due course.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCHTIMES				
		Book Club Yrs 3 & 4 12.45 Library Mrs Errington		Chess Club Yrs 2-4 12.45pm Hall Mr Watts
				Choir Yrs 3 & 4 12.45pm Music Room Mrs Charters
AFTER SCHOOL				
Ferndown First School After School Club. All Years. 3.05pm – 6pm				
Live4Tennis Yrs 3 – 4 3.05pm – 4.05pm (External)	Karate Yrs 2, 3 & 4 3.05pm – 4.15pm (External)		Art Bee Yrs 1 – 4 3.05pm – 4.05pm (External)	
			High 5 Gymnastics Years 1 – 4 Yrs 1 & 2: 3.15 – 4.15pm Yrs 3 & 4: 4.15 – 5.15pm (External)	

ParentMail notifications have been sent out for the externally provided clubs such as tennis, musical instruments, karate, art and gymnastics. We are also looking forward to Mr Higgins' Football club starting after the Christmas Holidays.

Details of Spring term clubs will be sent out via ParentMail over the coming weeks - please keep an eye out!

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(Please note: the clubs above are permanent fixtures. All half-termly or ad-hoc club details will be sent when relevant.)

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD



**Mr Higgins
Multi Sports**



PE STARS

**Christmas Jumpers and
Festive Clothing
Optional**





**Christmas Holiday
Multi Sports Club**
@ Ferndown Leisure Centre

Mr Higgins is an experienced Head of PE with 20 years experience. Mr Higgins thrives in inspiring everyone to enjoy their sport through advocating FUN, FITNESS and FAIR PLAY.

DEVICE FREE
ZONE

Price
£25
Per Person
Per Day

9am-3pm
Ages
6-14

CONTACT
Call/ Message: 07980 301728
Facebook/ Instagram
@mrhigginsmultisports

VENUE
Ferndown Leisure Centre,
Cherry Grove, Ferndown BH22
9EZ, United Kingdom

Dates **MON 22 DEC** **TUES 23 DEC**



**The Barrington Arts
and Community Centre**

Get in touch or check out our website for more
EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

EVENT SCHEDULE

December

MONDAY 1ST	<p>Matinee Movies 1:30pm</p> <p><small>No need to book just turn up and refreshments are available</small></p>	<p>£3 CASH ONLY</p>	
FRIDAY 5TH	<p>The New Jersey Boys 7:30pm</p> <p><small>Back by popular demand join them for an nostalgic musical journey through the career of one of the biggest selling groups of all times - The Four Seasons.</small></p>	<p>£20</p> <p><small>TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE AND ONLINE</small></p>	
SATURDAY 6TH	<p>Classy Bird Artisan Food & Craft Fayre JJ's Catering Pop-Up Cafe 10am till 3pm</p>	<p>CLASSY BIRD</p> 	
SATURDAY 6TH	<p>Jive & Kicking 7:45pm till 11pm</p> <p><small>No need to book pay on the door enjoy an evening of music and dance Bar open throughout event</small></p>	<p>£10</p> 	
WEDNESDAY 10TH	<p>FREE Xmas Concert BYMB 7:15pm</p> <p><small>Bournemouth Youth Marching Band are performing a special Christmas concert. Please book your tickets to secure your seat</small></p>	<p><small>TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE</small></p> 	
FRIDAY 12TH	<p>Carols Around The Tree 6pm</p> <p><small>Carols around the Christmas tree. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served in the cafe</small></p>		
FRIDAY 12TH	<p>Five Star Swing 7:30pm</p> <p><small>An extra special event don't miss this evening full of swinging Christmas songs to get you in the Christmas spirit seats are going fast so secure yours with a ticket</small></p>	<p>FREE</p> <p><small>Suggested donation of £10 per ticket TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE AND ONLINE</small></p>	<p>DON'T MISS OUT!</p> 
TUESDAY 16TH	<p>Bingo 1:30pm</p> 	<p><small>Classic bingo with cash prizes, raffle and refreshments available (CASH ONLY) Open at 1:30pm to buy books with 2pm eyes down</small></p>	
WEDNESDAY 17TH	<p>Phoenix Christmas Celebration 7pm</p> <p><small>Ferndown Phoenix is taking over the Barrington Centre with a spectacular burst of Christmas songs, festive spirit, and pure holiday joy! Come along and join the celebration of the season!</small></p>	<p>FREE</p> 	
SATURDAY 20TH	<p>Fun Family Christmas Show 11am or 3pm</p> <p><small>Mr Merlin & Okay Dokey the Dragon, Jamie Jigsaw, The Lovely Bubby Show, and DJ Phil team up for a high-energy Christmas extravaganza packed with comedy, magic, music, and interactive fun for all ages.</small></p>	<p>£7.50</p> <p><small>TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE AND ONLINE</small></p>	

please note booking fees may apply **Pennys Walk, Ferndown, BH22 9TH**
www.barringtoncentre.co.uk **01202 894858**

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