

30 January 2026



Attendance

Whole School Attendance: **95.1%** National: **94.8%**
Whole School target: **97%**

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to all parents and carers that braved the weather on Wednesday to ensure children were in school. Regular school attendance is crucial to ensure children are achieving their potential at school.

The Spring term is often the term where we start to see accelerated progress with children as they begin to close gaps in their learning. To support children in making accelerated progress, it is crucial that children are reading every day at home. This could be for pleasure or reading their school reading book. Please be reminded of the 'ways to support' that were set out in your child's Autumn term report and ensure that you are helping your child with these at home.

Year 4 take their statutory Multiplication Test in June. They are expected to know all the times tables up to 12 x 12. Children can be supported with their times tables in every year group - it's never too early to start. Year 4 parents are encouraged to attend the online meeting on **Thursday 5th February** for more information.

Year 1 children take their statutory Phonics Screening check in June. Parents are encouraged to attend either meeting on the **12th February at 9.15 am or 2.15 pm** to find out how they can best support their child to pass this check

Congratulations to Mrs Laverick and her husband on the birth of their baby. Grace Laverick was born on the 24th January at 10.26 pm weighing 7lb 4oz. Mum and baby are doing really well!



Have a good weekend. Let's hope it stops raining!

Key Dates & Information

More detailed information about the events below will be communicated through ParentMail.

EYFS

PE Day: **Wednesday**

- 4th February - Vision Screening Checks
- 17th & 18th March - Trip to Charisworth Farm
- 19th March - Disco 2.30pm (during school day)

Year 1

PE Days: **Thursday and Friday**

- 12th February - Phonics Screening Meeting - 9am or 2.15pm, in school
- 8th - 12th June - Phonics Screening Check

Year 2

PE Days: **Tuesday and Wednesday**

- 13th March - Titanic Dress Up Day
- 19th & 20th March - Music Concert for parents 9.15am
- 13th May - Trip to Liberty's Owl, Raptor & Reptile Centre

Year 3

PE Days: **Monday and Tuesday**

- 3rd June - Avon Tyrrell Parents' Initial meeting - online, 6pm
- 2nd July - Fiver Challenge 2.15pm, School Hall

Year 4

PE Days: **Thursday and Friday**

- 5th February - Multiplication Check Parents' Meeting - online, 6 pm
- 26th March - Avon Tyrrell Final Parents' Meeting - online, 6pm
- 22nd - 24th April - Avon Tyrrell Residential
- 11th May - Bikeability sessions begin.
- 1st - 12th June - Multiplication Check
- 26th June - Transfer Day
- 3rd July - Fiver Challenge 2.15pm, School Hall
- 17th July - Leavers' Assembly 10am, School Hall

Whole School Dates

- 3rd - 6th February - Life Education workshops.
- 5th March - World Book Day
- 18th March - School Discos - see overleaf for details
- 27th March - Easter Church Services at St Mary's
- 15th April - Parents' Evening
- 18th June - Sports Morning
- 29th June - INSET Day
- 9th July - Sports Morning (Reserve Date)

Important Information

Year 4 Avon Tyrrell Forms

Thank you to those parents that have returned the Avon Tyrrell consent forms to the school office.

The deadline for returning forms is **Monday 2nd February.**

Please make sure you complete all sections - especially the Agreement and Media consent pages at the back.

Life Education

Please see the letter sent to parents and carers today about the Life Education workshops taking place next week.

Statutory Tests/Checks Meetings for Parents

Meetings to provide further information for parents regarding the statutory Year 1 Phonics Check and Year 4 Multiplication Check will be held on the following dates:

Year 1: Phonics Screening Meeting

12th February 2026
9am or 2.15pm - In school

Year 4: Multiplication Check Meeting

5th February
6pm - Online

Please see further information about these meetings, which was sent out in a ParentMail this week.

Library Books

We are very fortunate to have a wonderful school library which every class visits once a week, so children can choose a book to enjoy at home.

However, we are increasingly finding that books are not being returned, and over time our stock is gradually decreasing. To help us keep the library well-resourced for all pupils, we are introducing a clearer system for reminding families about overdue books.

From the beginning of next half term, reminders will be sent home via a sticker given to your child, showing the title of the book that needs returning. If the book is still not returned after two reminders, we will then send a letter to parents requesting either a replacement copy or the cost of replacing the book.

Our aim is to keep the library a place where we celebrate books, nurture a love of reading, and ensure that every child has access to a rich and varied collection.

Thank you for your support in helping us look after this wonderful resource for the whole school community.

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. Children are welcome to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book. If children are not comfortable dressing up, they are welcome to wear their own clothes.

Clubs & 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)	Mr Higgins Football 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)	

Details of ad-hoc Spring term clubs have been sent out on ParentMail.

PFA News

PFA AGM - Tuesday 3rd March 6.30pm

Congratulations!! If you have a child at our school, you are already a member of the PFA.

The PFA will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 3rd March 2026 from 6.30pm in the Staff Room.

At the AGM, we will be looking back over the last year, as well as looking ahead and sharing ideas for forthcoming fundraising events.

More information will be sent home regarding this meeting in due course.

Mother's Day Gift Shop - Thursday 12th March

We will be holding a pop-up shop during the school day on Thursday 12th March for children to choose a gift for someone special.

All gift bags will contain the same quantity of items, but children can choose from a variety of colours and styles.

Look out for a flyer coming home soon!

School Discos - Wednesday 18th March

Yr 1 & Yr 2 - 4pm to 4.50pm. Yr 3 & Yr 4 - 5pm to 6pm. £3 per child

If your Yr 2 child attends Football Club, arrangements can be made for them to go straight from Football to the disco.

More information on securing your child's place and payment arrangements will be sent via ParentMail in due course.

EYFS Disco - Thursday 19th March

The EYFS disco will be during the school day on 19th March. EYFS children can wear their disco clothes into school instead of their uniform on this day. This is free of charge.

Community Noticeboard

Free community session: 'An Introduction to Autism'



What is the session about?

The session was co-developed with parents of autistic children, a SENCo, Dorset Parent Carer Council and Specialist Teachers and Educational Psychologists from Dorset Council.

It will help you to:

- Understand what autism is and how it may impact young people and families
- Learn some practical strategies to support an autistic child/young person

Please note, this is a general information session, so we won't be able to discuss individual children or schools.

The session will be delivered by either an Educational Psychologist or a Specialist Teacher from Dorset Council

Who can attend?

Anyone from the community, this could include people:

- with an autistic child
- with a child undergoing an assessment for autism
- who are interested in learning more about autism

Where and when?

Loigh Park Family Hub and Community Centre, Gordon Road, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 2AP - Tuesday 3rd March 2026 at 10:00am until 11:30am

Event Registration

Scan the QR code or use the link below to register:



Registration Link: [Click here to book.](#)



February Tennis Fun!

For Years R-7

£27 daily

Bring packed lunch

Ferndown only pre-order meal deals. (link on sign up)

Action-packed February Half Term Tennis

Club! Fun games, skill-building and match

play in a friendly environment. Perfect for all abilities.



Sandleheath

Monday 16th Feb

SCAN ME



Year 8+ Holiday Clubs

Donhead Tuesday 3:30-5pm

Ferndown Tuesday 3-5pm



Ferndown

Tuesday 17th &

Thursday 19th Feb

SCAN ME



Donhead

Monday 16th

&

Tuesday 17th Feb

SCAN ME



For more information visit:

www.live4tennis.co.uk/holiday-tennis

NEW CHILDREN & YOUTH CLUBS

TUESDAYS ——— ST MARY'S FERNDOWN

We are really excited to be launching three after school and evening children's and youth clubs from Tuesday 16th September and we would love to see you there!

FROG



FROG YrR-Yr3 3:30 - 4:45pm

A fab after school club with games, activities, craft, refreshments and a fun look at the bible. Just £1 per child.

FISH Yr4-Yr7 5pm - 6:30pm



Full of energetic games and activities, space to think and discuss whilst also seeing what the Bible has to say about stuff and tuck shop at the end. It'll be a cracking time! There's no charge for this group but young people are welcome to bring up to £1 to spend in tuck shop.

BEACON



Beacon Youth Nights Yr8+ 7pm - 8:30pm

A time to chill with friends with drinks, snacks and games in the cafe as well as more lively games in the hall. There will also be time to unpack some of life's big questions and hear about the impact Jesus makes in our lives. Young people are welcome to bring £1 for tuck.

These clubs start on Tuesday 16th September and will run weekly during term time. If you would like your child to attend you can complete the online consent form in advance (please scan the QR code) or you can fill out a form on the night. We look forward to seeing you!



Miriam Biggs
Children & Families Minister



Mike Orman
Youth & Worship Pastor



Scan here to sign up

BABY & TODDLER GROUP

HERE IN FERNDOWN

NEW MUMS WELCOME

RELAXED & FRIENDLY

MONDAYS

9.30-10.30 AM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Pay just £6.50 for the family. Siblings, adults and refreshments are free. We are a PAYG class, so there is no need to book or make a commitment for multiple classes

CONTACT SUE 07752 015897

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TWINKLESBORSET

Term dates



Term Dates 2026-2027



Autumn Term 2026

SEPTEMBER 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

DECEMBER 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Spring Term 2027

JANUARY 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Summer Term 2027

MAY 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Bank and Public Holidays 2026-2027

25 December 2026	Christmas Day
28 December 2026	Boxing Day

1 January 2027	New Year's Day
26 March 2027	Good Friday

29 March 2027	Easter Monday
3 May 2027	May Day Holiday

31 May 2027	Spring Bank Holiday
30 August 2027	August Bank Holiday

Key

School Holidays

Bank Holidays

Staff Training Days

Last Day of Term
