

Newsletter 6

16th October 2026



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been another busy week at Ferndown First School. Our Year 4 children have eagerly begun rehearsals for this year's production, *Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits*. We enjoyed our first read-through yesterday and it is already clear that this is going to be a fantastic show. The script is full of humour, memorable characters and some brilliant songs. It will undoubtedly be one of the highlights of the school year, and we are delighted to be returning to The Barrington Theatre for the performance. Producing a show of this scale is a huge undertaking and regular rehearsals are essential, so we would ask Year 4 families to support us by ensuring children attend school every day whenever possible. If there are any handy parents who could help with the construction of larger props, we would love to hear from you.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your patience and commitment to ensuring children are at school in good time whilst the roadworks continue along Church Road. Please take extra care when crossing at the pedestrian crossing. Unfortunately, there have been a number of occasions this week where drivers have attempted to turn right out of St Mary's Road and travel the wrong way along Church Road. This is completely unacceptable and has resulted in several near misses. If you witness any such incidents, please report them directly to Dorset Police using their non-emergency reporting channels.

Whilst the vast majority of our school community continue to be courteous and understanding, we have received a small number of reports regarding poor behaviour and inappropriate language directed towards the SGN contractors working on Church Road. This is disappointing, as the contractors are simply carrying out important work within our community. We ask everyone to continue treating those working along Church Road with the respect and kindness that we want our children to demonstrate every day.

Have a good weekend.
Mr Watts

Headteacher



Key Dates

Whole School

- 21st Oct: Parents' Evening
- 6th Nov: Wear Blue for Betsy day.
- 11th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day
- 14th Dec: iRock Parent Concert 2.30pm
- 16th Dec: St Mary's Christmas Services
- 24th Mar: St Mary's Easter Services
- 7th Jun: INSET DAY
- 14th Jul: St Mary's Summer Services

EYFS: PE Day - Wednesday

- 8th Dec: Christmas Sing-along for parents at 9.15am and 2.30pm

Year 1: PE Days - Thursday & Friday

- 1st & 2nd Dec: Trip to Museum of East Dorset
- 10th Dec: Christmas Sing-along for parents at 9.15am and 2.30pm

Year 2: PE Days - Tuesday & Thursday

- 18th Mar: Music Concert for Parents
- 19th Mar: Music Concert for Parents

Year 3: PE Days - Monday & Wednesday

- 10th & 11th Nov: Trip to Museum of East Dorset
- 1st July: Fiver Challenge at 2.15pm

Year 4: PE Days - Tuesday & Friday

- 26th Nov: Year 4 Show - Barrington Theatre at 1.30pm
- 2nd Jul: Fiver Challenge at 2.15pm
- 25th Jun: Transfer Day
- 20th Jul: Leavers' Assembly

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ASPIRATION

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Parents' Evening

We are looking forward to speaking to you all next week at our Parents' Evening. Appointments are now available to book via Arbor in the 'Guardian Consultation' section. Both in person and online appointments are available. All appointments will be 10 minutes. If you need more time with your child's teacher a further appointment can be scheduled; please email the school office to facilitate this. Online appointments will be conducted via Teams and the links for these will be sent out next week.



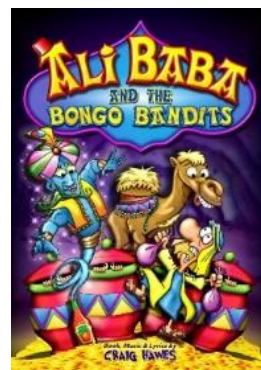
School Photo's

Thank you to Mrs Stickley for supporting with the school photo's this morning. It was wonderful to see our children looking smart in their school uniforms, so thank you to parents as well for supporting our Uniform Policy. Children will have brought home an order form with a QR code to enable parents to view and place orders for photos. These should be available to view online at the weekend. Orders need to be placed by Monday 2nd November to qualify for free delivery to school.



Year 4 Production – Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits

Year 4's performance of Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits will take place at the Barrington Theatre on Thursday 26th November at 1pm. More information about ticket sales will be sent out next week.



Year 1 Geography Walk

Our Year 1 children enjoyed their geography walk this week spotting both physical and human features of Ferndown. Thank you to our parent helpers for your support with this.

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Southern Education Trust. Registered Office: 160 Herbert Avenue, Poole, BH12 4HU.
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An exempt Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee.

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
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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
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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
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

APRIL 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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26	27	28	29	30		

Summer Term 2027

MAY 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE 2027						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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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
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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



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LUNCHTIME AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS TIMETABLE FROM SEPTEMBER 2026

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 Sch After School Club All Years 3.05pm – 6pm	Ferndown First Sch After School Club All Years 3.05pm – 6pm	Ferndown First Sch After School Club All Years 3.05pm – 6pm	Ferndown First Sch After School Club All Years 3.05pm – 6pm	Ferndown First Sch After School Club All Years 3.05pm – 6pm
Wellbeing Club Yrs 1-4 3.05pm-4pm	Karate Yrs 2, 3 & 4 3.05pm – 4.15pm (External)	Football with Mr Higgins Yrs 3 & 4 3.15pm-4.15pm (External)	Art Bee Yrs 1 – 4 3.05pm – 4.05pm (External)	Debating Club Yrs 3 & 4 3.05pm-4pm
	Football and Multisports with Mr Higgins Yrs 1 & 2 3.15pm-4.15pm (External)		High 5 Gymnastics Years 1 – 4 Yrs 1 & 2: 3.15 – 4.15pm Yrs 3 & 4: 4.15 – 5.15pm (External)	
			Cooking Club Yr4 3.05pm-4.15pm	

Information on all the clubs above is usually provided through email. Please check your emails / the weekly Newsletter regularly for any updates regarding new clubs that are being offered to children throughout the year.

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OCTOBER HALF TERM TENNIS CLUBS

SPOOKY TENNIS HALF-TERM CAMPS!
Looking for an active, fun-filled day for your child this October half term?
Join us for a **spooky day of tennis, games and fun** at one of our three venues!

Our camps give children the chance to:

- Get active and enjoy playing tennis
- Make new friends and learn together
- Build confidence and develop their skills
- Take part in fun games and challenges
- Enjoy an action-packed day during the school holidays

Whether your child already loves tennis or is **completely new to the game**, there's something for everyone.

Donhead Tennis, Ferndown Tennis, Sandleheath Tennis.
October Half Term
Years R-7
No experience necessary

£27 PER DAY
REGISTER ONLINE:



Come along, have fun and see what tennis is all about this half term!

www.live4tennis.co.uk



WATCH DORSET MHST WEBINARS ON DEMAND

Can't make a live session?
No problem. Access our recorded webinars in 3 simple steps:

- 1 Complete the form
- 2 Select your webinar
- 3 Get the link by email

Parent/Carer link:

bit.ly/3URzbTP





MR HIGGINS MULTI-SPORTS OCTOBER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE TODAY FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE HOLIDAY OF FUN, FRIENDSHIPS AND MEMORIES!

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.

Price **£25** Per Person Per Day

- FUN-FILLED MULTI SPORTS
- MAKE NEW FRIENDS
- STAY ACTIVE
- TEAM GAMES & CHALLENGES
- INCLUSIVE FOR ALL ABILITIES
- EXPERIENCED PE TEACHER WITH 22+ YEARS' EXPERIENCE
- SAFE, FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

FUN • FITNESS • FAIR PLAY

HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL!

26, 27 & 28 OCTOBER 9AM - 3PM
AT FERNDOWN LEISURE CENTRE

BOOK NOW - PLACES ARE FILLING FAST!

SPORTS INCLUDE: Dodgeball, Benchball, Capture the Flag, Team Challenges, Football, And many more

CONTACT: Call / Message: 07980 301728
[@mrhigginsmultisports](https://www.facebook.com/mrhigginsmultisports)

Ages 6-14

FERNDOWN HALLOWEEN FIREWORKS

SATURDAY 31ST OCT 3-10PM
KING GEORGE V FIELDS, FERNDOWN

HEADLINE SPONSOR **HEARNES**

FREE ENTRY

TWO AMAZING DISPLAYS
LIVE STAGE ENTERTAINMENTS
KIDS' COMPETITIONS PRIZE DRAW
FAIRGROUND FOOD STALLS AND BARS

SUPPORTING: **john thornorton**
BROUGHT TO YOU BY: **FEST EVENTS**, **Fiesta FIREWORKS**
HOSTED BY: **HOTRADIO**

WE ALSO THANK OUR GOLD SPONSORS: **FERNDOWN COMMERCIALS**, **kitchens**, **COLTEN CARE**

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