Ferndown First School

Where every child matters

Newsletter 9
13th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers



This week has provided an opportunity for our school community to reflect, remember and come together. On Wednesday, representatives from our School Council attended a short Service of Remembrance held at the Ferndown British Legion Memorial Garden. Accompanied by Mrs Lord and Mr Onslow, the children laid our school wreath as a mark of respect and remembrance. Back in school, all children took part in a short lesson to help them understand why we stop to remember on 11th November each year, before observing a minute's silence together. The children demonstrated great maturity and respect during this important occasion, and we were proud of the thoughtful way they reflected on the sacrifices made by others.

Last Friday, we also came together to celebrate and remember Betsy during our "Wear Blue for Betsy" day. We are delighted to share that, thanks to the generosity of our families, we raised an incredible £390.09 through donations. The money will be shared equally between Gully's Place and the school fund. Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make the day such a meaningful success.

Mr Watts
Headteacher

Key Dates

Whole School

- 3rd Dec: PFA Bedtime Story Event
- 11th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day
- 11th Dec: Ukulele Parent Concert 2.35pm
- 14th Dec: iRock Parent Concert 2.30pm
- 16th Dec: St Mary's Christmas Services
- 16th Dec: Christmas Lunch
- 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

- 1st July: Fiver Challenge at 2.15pm

Year 4: PE Days - Tuesday & Friday

- 26th Nov: Year 4 Show - Barrington Theatre at 1.30pm
- 5th-7th May – Avon Tyrrell Residential
- 25th Jun: Transfer Day
- 2nd Jul: Fiver Challenge at 2.15pm
- 20th Jul: Leavers' Assembly

Southern Education Trust

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Year 4 Residential Trip to Avon Tyrrell

The final costings letters for Year 4's residential trip to Avon Tyrrell have now been sent home. All payments are to be made via Arbor.

Remembrance

On Wednesday, representatives from our school council attended a short service of Remembrance, held at Ferndown British Legion Memorial Garden. Accompanied by Mrs Lord and Mr Onslow, the children laid our wreath as a mark of respect. Children in school also observed a minute's silence, after a short lesson explaining why we stop to remember on 11th November.



Year 4 - Applications for Middle School for September 2027

Please be reminded you need to apply for your child's middle school place before the deadline on the 15th January 2027.

Fundraising for Gully's Place and School Fun

Thank you for all of the generous contributions we received last week in memory of Betsy. You have helped us raise £390.09 which will be split between Gully's Place and the School Fun.

PFA

Thank you to parents who attended the PFA AGM on Wednesday evening. It was encouraging to hear so many positive ideas and suggestions for future fundraising events. The PFA continues to make a tremendous difference to our school, and we are pleased that we are on track to raise around £5,000 by the end of term. Subject to achieving this target, we hope to invest the funds in new outdoor gym equipment for the playground, providing exciting opportunities for children to be active and develop their physical skills. Finally, keep an eye out for Christmas Hamper Raffle tickets, which will be coming home very soon. Thank you for your continued support of our school community.

We are looking for donations of good conditioned pre-loved games, puzzles, colouring books, Lego and Duplo ready to set up some 'Wet Play Baskets' for each year group. All donations can be handed in to the school office.

We are looking forward to our parent event of Christmas Wreath Making taking place on Wednesday 25th November. Please email enquiries.ffs.pfa@gmail.com to book your place.

Save the date for our Bedtime Story Event happening on Thursday 3rd December. More details about this event, including booking your child's place, will be sent out soon.

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Term Dates 2026-2027

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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
					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						

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
			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	

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 NOVEMBER 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
Singing Club Yrs R-2 3.05pm-4pm Mrs Jackson	Karate Yrs 2, 3 & 4 3.05pm – 4.15pm (External)	Football with Mr Higgins Yrs 3 & 4 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)	
Gardening Club Yrs 2-4 3.05pm-4.10pm Mrs Bramley and Mrs Cullum	Football and Multisports with Mr Higgins Yrs 1 & 2 3.15pm-4.15pm (External)			
	Games and Puzzles Yrs R-2 3.05pm-4pm Mrs Bremner			
	Mindfulness Yrs 1-4 3.05pm-4pm Miss Wrixon			

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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