



William Barnes Primary School

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March 2025 - Spring Term 2

Headteacher Update

Unbelievably, we are now half-way through the school year; I continue to be grateful for all the smiles and chats you share with me on the playground – and how lovely it is to have those conversations in a bit of Spring sunshine! As the year has progressed, I hope that you have noticed the many little things that we have done to improve the school site, from much-needed repairs, to decluttering, to some lovely new displays. We take great pride in being part of this wonderful school and this is reflected in our smart uniforms, well-planned lessons and the many kind, smiling children who enter our gates in the mornings.

Community news

By the time you receive this, we will have participated in the Sturminster Newton pancake races. I hope lots of you have enjoyed your own home-made pancakes, too (I tend to stick to the traditional sugar and lemon, but I know a lot of chocolate spread and bananas will also be involved in Tuesday's dessert at the Locke house!).

Our School Council has chosen to donate half of this year's Comic Relief funds to the charity MyTime. This benefits a lot of children in our community, supporting young people who take on a caring role in some way at home. At MYTIME they recognise and celebrate the incredible young people who do so much to support those that they care for. They believe that young carers should have access to "the support, the friendships, and the opportunities every child and young person deserves."



Key Dates for your calendar:

- 10th March – Year 5/6 football
- 17th March – Year 3/4 football
- 17th – 19th March – Year 5 to Leeson House
- 24th March – Family Learning Week (dates and times to be shared by class teachers)
- 24th March – KS2 Girls' football
- 25th March – Reception visit to Castle Gardens
- 4th April – last day of Spring Term
- 22nd April – first day of Summer Term

A reminder that any school closures are announced on the [Dorset Council closure page](#). We would also notify families as soon as possible.

Local Food Links

If your child has hot school meals, please ensure that they have been ordered a week in advance. This applies even if you do not have to pay for their meals.

Are your details up to date?

Have you moved house or changed jobs? Did you get a new phone for Christmas? Have you created a new email account? If any of your contact details have changed, please make sure you have informed the office so that we are able to contact you appropriately.

PTFA

Many thanks to the incredibly hard-working members of the PTFA, particularly for our recent school discos. They are always looking for new recruits so please do get in touch with Ms Hudson in the school office if you are interested in offering your support.

#WB Proud

Do you follow us on our social media channels on Facebook and Instagram? Here are just some of the experiences that we have celebrated this term. Don't forget, we love to celebrate the William Barnes successes both in and out of school, so please do share your #WB Proud moments with us.



Best wishes

Headteacher



Many parents speak to us about struggles with sleep or bed-time routines. Why not visit The Sleep Charity for hints, tips and support? They have a helpline too.

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/>

We take great pride in our school and how our children wear the school uniform. Our uniform policy can be found [here](#).

If you are struggling with the cost of uniform, please come and talk to us; we can help.

Attendance

What YOU must do:

Try to telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence.

Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.

If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.

Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

Check your child's attendance every day.

Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.

Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.

If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.





SCAN TO BOOK!



LEWESTON ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMP

4-13 YEARS OLD

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ARTS & CRAFTS, FOOTBALL, HOCKEY, DODGEBALL & MORE!



PRICES:
STANDARD - HAF SCHEME
EXTENDED DAY 1 - £10 (PER CHILD)
EXTENDED DAY 2 - £15 (PER CHILD)

TIMES:
STANDARD - 9:00AM - 1:00PM
EXTENDED 1 - 9:00AM - 3:30PM
EXTENDED 2 - 9:00AM - 5:30PM

2025 Dates:

Monday 7th - Thursday 10th April
Monday 14th - Thursday 17th April

LEWESTON SCHOOL

SHERBORNE
DORSET
DT9 6EN

Booking Link:

<https://www.primary-sports.co.uk/events/2025/04/07/leweston-ultimate-activity-haf-camps-easter-2025>

More Information: ed.doble@primary-sports.co.uk/07903347412

15 free spaces a day to the free school meal children as part of the HAF scheme.

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/haf-programme>

STUDY SMART Free Online Courses

Aspire Education | ncfef | cache | Education & Skills Funding Agency

Fully Funded School Support Course

Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

*Please go to our website for more detailed information.

6 Week Course Mon - Fri Daily sessions
1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

www.studysmartuk.online

We are looking to fill 150+ School Support vacancies in local schools (e.g. SEN Support, Behaviour Mentors, 1-1 Classroom Support, Cover Supervisors etc). These roles are available in both full time and part time positions.

Please go to our website address given above, or scan the QR code for more information.



This is a 6 week course, full time, intensive course, with online guided learning sessions within school hours. If you are earning less than £23,500 per annum or are in receipt of any benefits, you will be eligible for a fully funded place with us.

TRIATHLON TRAINING DAY

LEWESTON PENTATHLON

A TRIATHLON TRAINING DAY TO INCLUDE COACHING IN SWIMMING, CYCLING, RUNNING AND TRANSITIONS

30 MARCH
09:00 - 14:45
8 - 19 year olds
£25

BOOK NOW

Leweston School, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 6EN
Email Mick Flaherty to book: flaherty121@aol.com

