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SHF NEWS

Monday 9th March 2026



Inspire, Believe, Achieve

Headteacher's News

The school was taken over by so many storybook characters on Thursday for **World Book Day!** Well done for the fantastic efforts made to promote a love of reading. Our focus was on making reading fun, with **Mrs Jeffs** and **Mrs Keene** leading the day, and by the children's responses, it was a success! They have been enjoying their free books and had a wonderful choice of further books at **Miss Holczimmer's** book swap session.

One of our school priorities is on developing our **writing outcomes**, and this starts with inspiration from reading. The teaching staff at SHF continue to receive ongoing Talk 4 Writing training to support children to create toolkits for different genres of writing. In particular, we are working on the 'Innovation' stage, where children apply their knowledge of the genre and make changes to a model text to write their own show pieces. You can find the story maps and model texts on the individual [class pages](#).

Well done to **Year 2** for leading their worship last week on **Courage and Service**. They shared the Bible story of Daniel in the Lion's Den and made links to how courage and service can be demonstrated in our own lives, including the courage to say sorry when we make mistakes and to give service to others when they need help.

Have a great week!

Safeguarding

In school, we recognise and understand how important it is to talk through worries and concerns. Children can talk to the class team face-to-face or use their **class worry boxes/worry monsters**. Alternatively, children can send a message directly to the safeguarding team using the **sheep worry boxes**. These can be found in the library, outside the staffroom and outside the Inclusion Office.



Key Dates

Monday 2nd – Friday 13th March

Assessment Weeks

Wednesday 11th March

Year 5 Earthquake Visitor

Thursday 12th March

Fermor Science Day

Friday 13th March

Staff and Parent Prayers (8.20-8.30am)

Monday 16th – Thursday 19th March

Year 6 Mock SATS Week

Wednesday 18th March

Year 6 SATS talk to parents 6pm

Spring Music Concert at All Saints Church 6.30pm

Thursday 19th March

6F Peacehaven

Wastewater Trip TBC

Friday 20th March

Year 6 SATS talk to parents (repeat) 9.05am

Monday 23rd March

Make the Rules Day

All term dates are available on our [website](#).

Gold Book

Well done for your fantastic learning:

2K: Yago for excellent effort with his handwriting and using different sentence openers.

3B: Amalie for her beautifully presented leaflet about London, even using a ruler for lines to ensure her writing was straight.

5N: Flynn for writing a fantastic discussion piece. He raised some good points, including the use of modal verbs and adverbials.

Attendance



Congratulations to **5M** for their attendance of 99.1% this week! Reggie Rabbit is hopping over to you.

Well done to the following classes who achieved over 96%:

4J (98.5%), **4M** (98.3%), **1MG** (97.9%), **2K** (97.5%) and **Owls** (96.2%).

Awards



Uniform Unicorn: Well done to Harley in **2C** for setting a high standard of wearing smart uniform.

Fermor Merit: Elijah in **2K** received the £5 book token this week, kindly donated by FOFS, for his wonderful singing.

Inspire Believe Achieve

Theme of the Month: Respectful Behaviour is Shown

'So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.' Matthew 7:12

Teaching children to listen is about being a **mirror**; since they copy everything you do; you have to **show** them what respect looks like first.

1. **Level Up (Literally):** When a child talks, get down on your knees so you're at **eye level**. By giving them 100% of your focus, you're teaching them that "listening means giving someone your time."
2. **The "Echo" Game:** After they finish talking, say, "So, what I heard you say was..." Kids feel **valued** when they know they've been understood, which makes them more likely to do the same for you.
3. **Positive Call-Outs:** Instead of just correcting them when they're loud, catch them being good. Say, "I really like how you looked at me while I was talking; that made me feel like my words were important."
4. **Specific scripts:** Using consistent phrases for when a child interrupts, such as "One moment, please; it will be your turn to speak soon," helps set boundaries.
5. **Handling resistance:** When a child refuses to listen, stay calm and offer a simple choice between two positive options.



Subject in the Spotlight: Mathematics

Number Day 2026

This year we celebrated Maths by taking part in Number Day!

- We started the day with a short assembly which highlighted the importance (and fun) of maths, and explained the links of Number Day with the NSPCC.
- Many children chose to "dress up for digits", coming to school with number themed accessories to enhance their usual uniform.
- Normal maths lessons were replaced with varied activities that were designed to be practical and to highlight both the "real life" importance of maths and the fun of maths. Activities involved creating code-breaking (and code-making) machines!
- Children in Key Stage 2 took part in NSPCC Rocks, a national Times Tables competition which ran for the day on Times Tables Rockstars.
- Throughout the day, the school buzzed with mathematical talk and the children shared what they enjoy about maths. We are very grateful to everyone for their engagement in the day and also to those who generously donated to the NSPCC too.

Subject in the Spotlight: Science

This week is **British Science Week** and the theme this year is 'Curiosity: What's Your Question?' Leading up to Science Day on Thursday 12th March, we're encouraging conversations to spark curiosity at home with these fun and imaginative [Science](#) conversation starters! Try asking your child questions such as:

- What would happen if our bones were bendy? How would we move?
- What would happen if there were 2 suns? Would it be twice as hot?
- What would happen if I only ever ate chips? How would my body feel?
- What if plants could talk?
- What if the ocean was made of jelly?
- What if you grew an extra arm - what would you do with it?

These questions build critical thinking, scientific reasoning and creativity. We would love to hear your responses to any of these questions and if you come up with any of your own, Miss Holczimmer would love to see! Perhaps you could create a funny picture of what you might look like with bendy bones or if there were 2 suns! We can't wait to hear the brilliant ideas your young scientists come up with!



In Other News...

- **Class Pages**

Alongside our weekly whole-school newsletter, we also have [class pages](#) for the most up-to-date communication, specific for each year group.

- **All Saints**



Friends of Fermor



FoFS celebrated a great year at our recent AGM and our hard work continues as we move into Spring. We have recently purchased items for swimming, and work on a canopy for Year 1's outdoor area is beginning at Easter. **Our next big fundraising goal is to support the school with big improvements to the library** - a perfect way to mark the National Year of Reading. With an estimated cost of £21k, we have already raised £11k of this, with your support. Thank you!

Our next event is just a couple of weeks away, with **Make the Rules Day on Monday 23rd March!** Well loved by the children, the day gives them the opportunity to make some new rules for the day, paying 50p for each rule. Look out for lists coming home in book bags soon - these forms do not need to be returned - they are just to help the children choose!

Coming up next term, there is a lot to look forward to. Here are some dates for the diary, with more details to come after the Easter break:

Friday 8th May (2pm) - Grandparents Day

Friday 22nd May - Pyjama Day

Friday 26th June - 'Hair with Flair' Day

Saturday 4th July - (12pm-3pm) - Country and Western theme Summer Fair

We will also be raising funds over the Easter break, with the support of Morrisons - pop into store on Saturday 4th April to take part in our **town centre Easter Egg Hunt!**

Finally, thank you to all who have transferred your child(ren)'s pancake flip sponsorship money. A reminder of our details if you still need to do so:

Friends of Fermor School

Account number: 36880068

Sort code: 30-90-89



Photo Gallery

