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SHF NEWS

Monday 2nd March 2026



Inspire, Believe, Achieve

Headteacher's News

I hope you all had a restful half term break and good start to the new term. Now that we are in **March**, we look forward to the start of spring: the first sight of daffodils and maybe even the appearance of some sunshine.

During the **inset day**, the teaching staff from SHF joined other teachers across the [Tenax Trust](#) for our first **conference** together. Not only was this an opportunity to network, but training continued to be delivered about **instructional coaching** - developing teachers to be the best they can be to deliver an excellent education for your children.

We are pleased to introduce two new members of staff to the team. **Mrs Kinsella** now joins in the MDSA role and **Mrs Benson** is the new TA supporting across EYFS. I am sure you will make them feel very welcome.

Thank you to [FOFS](#) and volunteers for another successful **pancake flipping day** on Friday. This always brings a smile to everyone's faces and despite the element of competition, it is wonderful to see the children cheer each other on.

This week also promises to be busy with [Year 2](#) leading the service at **All Saints Church on Wednesday**. If you are able to volunteer to escort the children back to school, please inform the office. A reminder to please refrain from taking photos/videos during the service; we will provide time at the end. Then on **Thursday**, children are welcome to dress as their favourite character for **World Book Day**. We know that for some, this can be overwhelming, so children could choose to just bring in an item to represent their favourite story if they would prefer.

Have a lovely first week of March!

Safeguarding

Reminder, if you hold a current DBS with us and would like to volunteer in school, the next safeguarding training is the 15th April 2026 at 9.15am- 11.15am.

Key Dates

Monday 2nd - Friday 13th March

Assessment Weeks

Tuesday 3rd March

18 **Year 3** Children to Beacon Library

Wednesday 4th March

Year 2 leading service at All Saints Church 8.45am

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day!

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

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

Gold Book

Well done for your fantastic learning:

2K: Esther for using a blanket stitch for her puppet;

Leyla for great word choices about a mischievous robot;

Harry for an impressive use of hyphenated words in his story ending.

3B: Ethan for his use of accurate speech punctuation and including a stammering effect;

Zac for a well-presented and eye-catching factual leaflet about London.

3R: Cody for his focus and independence in maths when looking at the relationship between repeated addition and multiplication.

Attendance



Congratulations to **1MG** for their outstanding attendance of 100% this week! Reggie Rabbit is hopping over to you.

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

Owls (98.3%) and **3R** (96.3%).

Awards



Uniform Unicorn: Well done to Max P in **4J** for setting a high standard of wearing smart uniform.

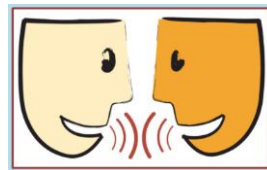
Fermor Merit: Olivia M in **1MG** received the £5 book token this week, kindly donated by FOFS, for following instructions. Thank you for being a great role-model.

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

Encouraging and modelling open communication fosters respect as children learn that their thoughts and feelings matter, and so do the thoughts and feelings of others. Communication skills are so important for children for many reasons: to make friends and socialise, to talk about their feelings, to understand how others are feeling and to resolve conflicts with others. It is a complex skill for children to talk about emotions; a skill that needs to be taught.



How can I teach children develop these skills?

- Talk about a wide range of emotions (excited, surprised, upset, frightened) to help children learn words other than just happy or sad.
- Reflect back how children are feeling and why (e.g. 'You look like you're upset because Leia has the new pushchair') to help children to make sense of social situations.
- Help children to understand how their peers feel by explaining and pointing it out to them (e.g. "I think Kelly's sad because she wants a turn").
- Don't label particular emotions as being 'good' or 'bad'. All emotions are valid. This mirrors what we teach through the 'Zones of Regulation' at Fermor.
- Talk to your children about how you are feeling, too. For example, "I'm feeling sad today because I had to leave my cat at home by herself."
- Talk about how characters feel in books, even if it isn't mentioned explicitly in the words.

In Other News...

- **Mrs Price**

Unfortunately, Mrs Price will not be in school this term after injuring her back following an accident on her horse. We are staying in touch with her regularly and wishing her a speedy recovery.

- **Baby News!**

Congratulations to Miss Rose who had her baby, Evelyn, during the half term break. Miss Rose is enjoying lots of baby cuddles with her daughter and spending time with family.

- **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.

Subject in the Spotlight: World Book Day

SHF is celebrating **World Book Day** on Thursday this week (5th March), spending time to promote reading for pleasure through a variety of exciting activities - especially poignant as 2026 is the **Year of Reading**. We are inviting children to dress up to represent a character or demonstrate links to a particular book or poem. Please can they, where possible, bring the book to school on this day also, or just bring their favourite book from home. If your child does not want to dress up, perhaps they'd like to wear an accessory to represent the book.

In addition to dressing up, we are also holding a "**paint a pebble**" competition to be judged on Friday 6th March with a winner each from Phase 1, 2 and 3. Please send these in as soon as they are ready - see below for some ideas.

The children have also had the chance to select and bring home their own **WBD £1 books**, obtained through our local TG Jones instead of the book tokens. Happy reading!

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Subject in the Spotlight: Mathematics

Continuing Development of Maths at Sir Henry Fermor

We work to inspire and encourage children in their learning across all subjects and [maths](#) is no exception! Working with the support of the **Sussex Maths Hub** we aim to ensure that every child has the opportunity to enjoy and succeed in maths. We recognise that children learn in different ways and want to encourage them to approach maths with curiosity and active engagement. Therefore, our teachers are introducing more use of **practical manipulatives and representations** to support learning as where lessons are engaging and practical, children tend to feel more positive and active in their learning.

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Friends of Fermor



A huge thank you for supporting Friday's sponsored pancake flip. A huge well done to all the children, who did a fantastic job, and the wonderful staff and volunteers who helped on the day. If your child did not bring home their form on Friday, apologies. All children should have them back by today. Please **remember to transfer your child(ren)'s sponsorship money** to the FoFS account, so we can let you know the total raised:

Friends of Fermor School

Account number: 36880068

Sort code: 30-90-89

The sun is now shining and there is lots to look forward to, this term and next, including our summer fair on Saturday 4th July - save the date!

If you would like to get involved with planning events, or volunteering at them, please get in touch at friends@fermorschool.org.uk.



Photo Gallery

