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SHF NEWS

Friday 19th December 2025



Inspire, Believe, Achieve

Headteacher's News

Key Dates



Such a beautiful end to the term with our whole school **Christmas service** on Friday and our **KS2 Carol Service** last Tuesday, held at All Saints Church. [Year 6](#) opening the service with their candle-light procession is always very special and a reminder of Jesus bringing light into the world. The whole evening was a celebration of music and coming together spiritually. Thank you to all for joining and either service.

I am really proud of the work ethic shown by the children of SHF. Just because it is the end of term doesn't mean that learning stops - as evidenced through our number of **Gold Book** entries this week! [Year 4](#) also celebrated the end of their history unit with a **Roman Day**; amazing costumes and a great day had by all. We even had some Romans performing at the **I-Rock concert** Wednesday afternoon!

Alongside celebrating the end of term, we said farewell to **Mrs Slater** as she is sadly leaving SHF after 18 months of being a familiar face in the lunch hall. Not only in the role of MDSA, but as a valued and committed member of [FOFS](#) (including chair of the committee!), she is going to be greatly missed.

Have a joyous Christmas and peaceful New Year!



Safeguarding

Over the Christmas period, families are under increased pressure:

- * financial and emotional strain,
- * disruption of routine,
- * feeling isolated,
- * increased stress and family tensions, and
- * access to new devices.

Keep having open conversations and seek support if necessary. Our [DSL email address](#) continues to be monitored over the Christmas break.

Monday 22nd December -
Friday 2nd January
Christmas Holidays

Monday 5th January
First Day of Term 3

Tuesday 6th January
Initial Volunteer
Safeguarding Training
9.15am

Wednesday 7th January
New EYFS 2026 Open
Afternoon 1.30pm

Wednesday 14th January
Year 4 leading service at
All Saints Church 8.45am

Tuesday 20th January
Young Voices - Choir

Wednesday 4th February
Year 3 leading service at
All Saints Church 8.45am

Friday 6th February
Number Day

Tuesday 10th February
Safer Internet Day

Friday 13th February
Last Day of Term 3

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

Gold Book

Well done for your fantastic learning:

Hedgehogs: Alisa for using her sounds to write sentences about giraffes in a factfile.

1MG: Mia, Isaac and Ella for their creative acrostic winter poems;

Arlo and Orla for clear finger spaces in their acrostic winter poems.

1P: Milo for a great number bond story on the 'explain' stage in maths.

Kiera for remembering finger spaces and accurate punctuation when writing a sentence independently.

2K: Esther for an excellent response to a 'solve' question in maths with a written explanation;

Layla-James for beautifully presented history work on castles.

4J: Ben for using the toolkit to help with his writing;

Nila for powerful, exciting and descriptive sentences in her narrative.

5N: Fred for his futuristic art using human features rather than a robotic theme;

Henri for embedding his knowledge on multiplication by supporting others;

Sabrina for successfully finding the common denominator when subtracting fractions;

Ellie for improvements in her maths presentation and reaching the 'solve' stage.

5M: Logan for his neat handwriting in his space poem;

Isla for her excellent use of abstract nouns and using the model text.

Attendance



Congratulations

Hedgehogs for their attendance of 97.7% this week! Reggie Rabbit is spending the first week of 2026 with you.

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

6F (97.3%), **1P** (97%) and **1MG** (96%).

Awards



Uniform Unicorn: Well done to Felix in **5N** for setting a high standard of wearing smart uniform.

Fermor Merit: Jochebed in **2C** received the £5 book token this week, kindly donated by FOFS, for beautiful singing in worship.

Musician: Everyone from EYFS to Year 6 for wonderful Nativity plays and carol services!



Subject in the Spotlight: Inclusion

As the festive break begins, I want to acknowledge that while Christmas brings joy, it can also feel overwhelming for children who thrive on routine. Please remember: it is okay to step back from high expectations.

Prioritise predictability, use visual schedules where possible, and allow for plenty of quiet downtime to regulate sensory needs. Your child's comfort—and your own wellbeing—is far more important than "perfect" traditions.

We are incredibly proud of your children's progress this term. You should have all received your child's learning plan. These will be reviewed with you at the next parent's evening.

For a holiday countdown and social story to support your child, please see the [inclusion page](#) on the website.

Dec 22	Dec 23	Dec 24	Dec 25	Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28
Home Day	Home Day	Christmas Eve	CHRISTMAS	Boxing Day	Home Day	Home Day
Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 1	Jan 2	Jan 3	Jan 4
Home Day	Home Day	New Year's Eve	New Year's Day	Home Day	Home Day	Get Bag Ready!
Jan 5						
BACK TO SCHOOL						

Using this Countdown effectively:

- The Morning Ritual: Encourage your child to put a large 'X' through the previous day every morning at breakfast.
- Colour Coding: You might highlight "Home Days" in one colour and "Out and About Days" (like visiting relatives) in another.
- The "Transition" Day: Notice January 4th is marked as "Get Bag Ready." This helps bridge the gap between the relaxed home routine and the structured school environment.

Going Back to School on Monday 5th January

For the last two weeks, I have been on my Christmas holiday. I have spent time at home with my family and had a break from my school routine. **It is okay to enjoy being at home.**

On **Monday 5th January**, school starts again. This is a transition. A transition is when we move from one thing to another.

What will happen:

- On Monday morning, I will wake up and put on my **school uniform**.
- I will check my bag to make sure I have everything I need.
- I will travel to school just like I did before the holidays.

When I arrive at school:

- I will see my **teachers** and my **friends**.
- My classroom will look the same as it did in December.
- We will follow our school routine, like worship, playtime, and learning time.

I might feel **excited** to see my friends. I might also feel **a little bit nervous** or tired because I am used to being at home. **All of these feelings are okay.** If I feel worried, I can tell an adult at school. My teachers are very happy to see me and are there to help me settle back in.

Theme of the Month: Opening Our Minds to New Opportunities

'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.' Philippians 4:13

In every twist and turn of the story surrounding Christ's birth, our God who made the earth, sky and stars had a plan. Our world today is in much the same chaotic state as it was back in Herod's day. We still worry about the future and it can be hard trusting a God we cannot see while perplexing events unfold. We need to remember that God is in control.



Like most Hallmark movies, the Christmas story has a happy ending. Even though we are a sinful people, God regards our lowliness, desiring to forgive and shepherd us through life. We can rest in the knowledge that God knows our story, and that He has a plan for us. And the happy ending? He came to bring us inner peace, no matter our circumstances.



Friends of Fermor



Wow! What an end to a fantastic term of fundraising, with our magical Christmas fair alone raising over £4,300!

There is lots more to look forward to in 2026. If you would like to get involved with planning events, or volunteering at them, **please get in touch at friends@fermorschool.org.uk**.

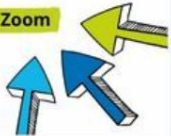


FOS FACEBOOK

In Other News...

- Train to Teach



Join our virtual
**Train to teach
information event**
6th Jan, 7pm, Zoom


Virtual train to teach information event

For those finishing university or considering a career change into teaching, Teach Kent & Sussex can help. Our Ofsted outstanding Teach Kent & Sussex team work with leading national educational charity Ambition Institute to offer the best regional bespoke, individualised teacher training programme. Come and meet the Teaching School Directors to learn all about the Teach Kent & Sussex training programme and have your questions answered.

www.teachkentandsussex.org.uk/events/



WED 24	11am, 2.30pm, 4pm & 5.30pm CHRISTINGLE Booking essential. Book online from 8am 13 December. 11am is a small service especially for those with disabilities.	11pm CHRISTMAS EVE 'MIDNIGHT' COMMUNION
THU 25	10.45am CHRISTMAS DAY ALL AGE CELEBRATION	CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH Book online

www.allsaintscrowborough.org

Photo Gallery

