

SHF NEWS

Monday 13th October 2025



Inspire, Believe, Achieve

Headteacher's News

Sir Henry Fermor enables everyone to succeed; as Jesus teaches through the parable of The Lost Sheep: no one is left behind. **Inspiring** children and adults, **believing** in God at the heart of all we do, through Christ's love and guidance; all in the Sir Henry Fermor family flourish, **achieving** fullness.

The end of term is slowly creeping up on us - please remember that we are on **half term a week later** than our neighbours in Kent!

We are looking forward to a special performance of "The Secret Garden," performed by M&M productions, taking place Friday morning for children in KS2 (Years 3 to 6). This is a super opportunity to share with children the magic and excitement of acting and music, without the 'West End' price tag, although we ask for a voluntary donation of £1 to bring in on the day.

supersonic **supersonic**
Phonic friends Phonic friends



Listening Len See it Sam

For parents and carers, we are offering an **Early Reading Phonics Workshop** next Thursday 23rd October (no acting or music, but hopefully still a super opportunity to learn about our scheme in school: Super Sonic Phonics Friends). Please wait at the Year 4 entrance (behind the swimming pool) at 9am; the workshop will last approximately 30 minutes.

The sign up link for **parent consultations** is going live tomorrow at 4pm. Please note that year 2 have got some adjustments to their times. If you are unable to get a convenient appointment, please speak to the class teacher as the teacher can arrange a phone call or meet at an alternative time that's mutually convenient.

Have a wonderful week and don't forget our FOFS bingo night on Saturday!

Safeguarding

You may be aware that at the end of last week there was a concern that several titles in the **Spy Dogs, Spy Pups and Spy Cat** series by Andrew Cope contained a printed URL in the book that no longer directed people to information about the books. Instead, the link had been compromised and led to inappropriate and unsafe material.

The issue has now been resolved and the link has been deactivated. Nominet (a UK registry service provider) suspended the site for breaching the Online Safety Act.

Please continue to enjoy these books which feature cute animals using gadgets to solve crimes. However, if your child has been affected by this issue, don't hesitate to contact our safeguarding team.



Key Dates

Wednesday 15th October
KS2 Cross Country

Friday 17th October
KS2 Secret Garden Performance

Saturday 18th October
FOFS Bingo Night

Monday 20th October
2C ONLY - Parent Consultation Evening 3.30-5pm

Tuesday 21st October
Parent Consultation Evening 3.30-6pm

Wednesday 22nd October
Professional individual photos

Thursday 23rd October
FOFS pyjama day (chocolate donation)
Parent Consultation Evening 4.30-7pm NOT 2C
Last day of Term 1

Friday 24th October
INSET DAY

Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October
Half Term

Monday 3rd November
First day of Term 2

Wednesday 5th November
Year 6 leading the service at All Saints Church (& tie ceremony) 8.45am

Thursday 6th November
Initial safeguarding training for volunteers 9.15am

Friday 7th November
FOFS colour and sparkles dress down day (bottle/toy donations)
Staff and Parent Prayers 8.20-8.30am

Monday 10th November – Friday 14th November
Antibullying Week

Tuesday 11th November
Year 6 at Chapel Green (Remembrance Day)

Wednesday 12th November
Year 5 Mayan Day
New EVFS 2026 open afternoon (1.30pm) and evening (6pm)

Friday 14th November
Children In Need

Friday 21st November
Staff and Parent Prayers 8.20-8.30am

Friday 19th December
Last day of Term 2

All term dates are available on our [website](https://www.fermorschool.org).

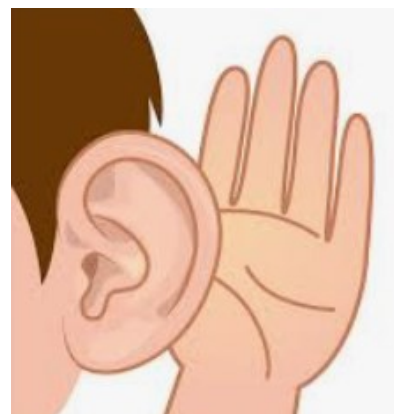
Theme of the Month: Listening When Others Are Speaking

'Let every person be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.' James 1:19

It is so important for parents to teach their children how to listen well. It is a skill, which is imperative in nurturing relationships and understanding others.

Children learn by example so we need to model active listening (from the poster last week). This includes making eye contact, using positive body language and avoiding interruptions so that our attention can be given to listening to them. It is important for children to understand that listening shows care and makes the speaker feel valued.

As Christians, listening is a way to love our neighbour and to reflect God who always listens to us. There are many stories in the bible, like the story of Samuel in the temple (1 Samuel 3) and The Woman at the Well (John 4), which illustrate how important it is to listen to God and to others.



Gold Book

Well done for your fantastic learning:

4J: Rory B for his independent use of speech, adjectives and adverbs;
Maya for her beautiful autumnal stained glass window artwork.

5M: Edie for a clear retelling of the model text;

Harry H for lovely vocabulary choices;

Finley C for writing a poem in his own time;

Bobby and Dora for independently re-writing a text in their own words.

Attendance



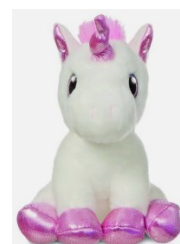
Congratulations once again to **5M** for their attendance of 99.4% this week!

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

3B (98.3%), **2C** (97.8%), **1P** (97.5%), **1MG** (97.4%), and **5N** (97%).

Awards

Uniform Unicorn: Well done to Esme in 5M for setting a high standard of wearing smart uniform.



Fermor Merit: Esther in 2K received the £5 book token this week, kindly donated by FOFS, for writing her own poems outside of school.

Subject in the Spotlight: Mental Health Day

World Mental Health Day

We're standing in solidarity with all those who are



Feeling alone



Supporting a friend



Struggling with a condition



Stressed about exams



Too scared to ask for help



Stressed about money



Struggling to access support



Grieving a loved one



Feeling lost

On Friday the children and staff wore yellow to recognise World Mental Health Day.

World Mental Health Day takes place every year on 10th October. It's a reminder of the importance of good mental health and the need to prioritise and invest in good mental health.

Poor mental health is not inevitable, and World Mental Health Day is an opportunity for us all to consider how, together, we can help everyone have better mental health.

This year the focus is on the mental health impact of repeated exposure to news coverage of crises and conflicts. The theme is: Overwhelm: when global events and relentless bad news become too much.

The world is going through a tough time right now and even if you're not directly affected by events, it can still feel like a lot to cope

with. It's okay to ask for help, no matter what you, or anyone else is going through.

We may not have the power to influence or change everything we'd like to on a global scale. But there are things we can do to protect ourselves and others from feeling overwhelmed and hopeless in the face of current events.

You can visit our school Wellbeing page [here](#) and our parent guides [here](#). There is also still time to offer a donation for Mind via their [website](#).



Friends of Fermor



The autumn term is flying by! We have two dress down days coming up, either side of half term, ahead of our Magical Christmas Fair...

Thursday 23rd October - Pyjama Dress Down Day

Bring a donation for the chocolate tombola

Friday 7th November - 'Colour and Sparkles' Dress Down Day

Bring a toy for the children's tombola (EYFS/KS1) or a bottle for the adults' tombola (KS2)

Raffle tickets will be on sale on ParentPay soon. Keep an eye on our facebook page for prize updates - it's promising to be a good one!

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



FOFS FACEBOOK

In Other News...



- **Train to Teach:**

Sir Henry Fermor CE Primary School works with Teach Kent & Sussex to provide exceptional school based teacher training. Schools like ours play an important role in training new teachers, many of whom hear about us through our community networks. Whether you have spent time working in a school environment, are a recent graduate, or are looking for a complete change in career, teaching could be for you.

Why not join one of Teach Kent & Sussex's free to attend Train to Teach information events to find out more? To register please visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/train-to-teach-information-events-4632813>

Team your existing skills and life experiences with Teach Kent & Sussex's high-quality teacher training and qualify as a primary or secondary school teacher in 11 months (full-time training) or 20 months (part-time training). Financial help as you train is available, with bursaries and scholarships for up to £31,000 in some secondary subjects.

Teach Kent & Sussex is in partnership with national education provider, Ambition Institute. The programme enables you to learn what makes an effective teacher through evidence-based and subject focused theory. You will then put this learning into practice with your peers and personal mentor in a school environment.

This training route aims to give you the best start to go on and support thousands of children and young people over the lifetime of your career. It will provide you with the strong foundation skills to allow you to benefit from the continuity of your professional development, including Ambition's Early Career Framework and National Professional Qualifications.

For more information about the Teach Kent & Sussex Teacher Training programme please visit www.teachkentandsussex.org.uk

- **Lunches:**

Over the last couple of weeks we have completed a time audit to ensure every moment of learning counts. We are really impressed that on average, the register takes just 3 minutes to complete! However, it takes much longer when children are needing to add their lunch option to the list. Please can we ask for all lunches to be selected on parent pay by 7.45am.

- **Beginner trumpet Players Needed:**

We have pupil at school waiting for trumpet lessons and we really need another child or a few more so that we can start a group lesson. Mr Paul Lacey visits the school from our county Music hub: Create Music, and he has spaces to start pupils immediately. It would be great to have some brass players in our flourishing Fermor orchestra too! Instrument hire is free for the first term, with a small fee after that, so you do not have to have your own instrument. Children need to be in Year 4 or above.

If anyone is interested, please contact the office by email, or write a note in your child's contact book for the attention of Mrs Greening.

For more information about music lessons and costs or to directly apply please see the Create Music website: [Lessons at School | Create Music](#)



Photo Gallery



Introduction

Location

Species

Fun Fact

Technical Language

Topic Sentences

Present tense verbs

Lists of information

The Amazon River
All rivers follow a similar journey beginning at their source and ending at their mouth, or estuary, where they reach the sea. The Amazon River in South America is no exception. Read on to discover fascinating facts about the largest river in the world!

The Amazon River is located in South America. The river's source is in the Andes Mountains in Peru from where it flows eastwards before reaching the Atlantic Ocean close to the equator. Amazingly more than 1100 tributaries pour into the Amazon and together constitute the biggest river basin on Earth. Consequently, a fifth of all river water rushes along it this is more than the Earth's next five biggest rivers combined!

This vast river basin has created a rainforest with an estimated 340 billion trees of 16,000 different species! The Amazon is home to at least 2,500 different types of fish - more than all of Europe's rivers put together! These fish include electric eels, river dolphins, pinkish and the piranha, one of the largest freshwater fish in the world. Additionally, the rainforest is also home to more than a thousand different species of birds, sloths, black spider monkeys and poison dart frogs. It is the most biodiverse region in the world.

Did you know it is a bad idea to swim in the banks of the Amazon, particularly in the rainy season? The river rises by up to 40 metres and floods vast stretches of the forest. There is a strong possibility you would be washed away!

Present tense verbs
Category paragraphs
Topic sentences
Lists of information
Technical language
Did you know? - fun fact