

# SHF NEWS

## Monday 30th June 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.*

This is it...the 3 week countdown! I cannot believe we are about to start **July** and certainly don't feel ready to end the year yet...although many, including the children, may disagree!

Looking towards next year, **transition booklets** are going home today to share your child's class teacher and the additional adults working across the phase. Please continue to have positive conversations at home around supporting your child/ren with change. This year we decided that all children will be informed with more time prior to the transition morning to enable teachers and children to acknowledge one another within the school day, making them feel more comfortable on transition morning. Good luck to our Year 6s who will be spending time at their new secondary schools. We will also be bidding a fond farewell to **Mr Barclay** on Friday. He has spent the year mostly with 3J and know he will be very missed. We wish him the best of luck with his new class in September.

Recent good weather and consistent responsibility shown by the children with their watering jobs has meant our **sensory garden** is doing well and the first wonderful produce has been provided by the gardening club. Thank you to Miss Podlasin for ensuring its success.



On Thursday, Year 6 attended the **Diocese Leavers' Service** at All Saints, led by Bishop Martin. It was a privilege and very special to join with some other Church of England schools in East Sussex. It was wonderful to join together in song and prayer to give thanks for the children's primary years and wish them well for secondary. Well done to Jemima and Jesse for leading prayers, Nisha for submitting our donation to charity and Leyton for carrying our school banner.

Year 6 have a busy week as their performances of **"The School-O-Vision Song Contest"** take place today and tomorrow. I've only seen the smallest glimpse of one scene so I am very excited to see the whole performance. Enjoy!

*We hope transition goes well for everyone!*

### Safeguarding

During this hot weather, please look out for members of the community that may need some extra support. Those who are most vulnerable during the heat wave include: older adults, young children, pregnant women and people with chronic health conditions. Remember to also keep pets as cool as possible and avoid exercise during the peak heat.

### Key Dates

- Monday 30th June**  
Transition booklets sent home  
Year 6 Performance 1.45pm
- Tuesday 1st July**  
Year 6 Performance 9.30am and 6pm
- Wednesday 2nd July**  
Year 2 trip to Ashdown Forest  
Year 6 hoodies presented from FOFS
- Thursday 3rd July**  
Transition morning, including new EYFS
- Monday 7th July – Friday 11th July**  
Year 6 Residential to Heatree
- Monday 14th July**  
Year 6 BBQ
- Tuesday 15th July**  
Reports sent home
- Wednesday 16th July**  
2pm I-Rock concert
- Thursday 17th July**  
Leavers' Service held at All Saints Church 8.45am  
**LAST DAY OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR!**
- Friday 18th, Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July**  
INSET DAYS
- Wednesday 23rd July – Monday 1st September**  
Summer Holidays
- Tuesday 2nd September**  
INSET DAY
- Wednesday 3rd September**  
First day of Term 1 (Years 1–6)
- Wednesday 10th September**  
First day of Term 1 for new EYFS
- Thursday 23rd October**  
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
- All term dates are available on our [website](#).**



## Uniform

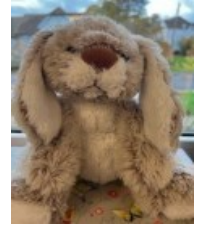
Well done to Anike in 2K who received the **Uniform Unicorn** this week for setting the high standard of wearing smart uniform. See the [website](#) for more information.

## Attendance

Congratulations to **Hedgehogs** once again for their attendance of 99.6% this week.

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

**6F** (98.3%) and **4M** (98.1%).



## Subject in the Spotlight: Religious Education (RE)

*"Let's raise the awareness of speaking skills.....Structured classroom discussion improves thinking, but it's not just a skill for learning, it's also a skill for life."* Sir Keir Starmer as leader of the opposition signalled that oracy would be a key part of the Labour Party's future 'Opportunity Mission' June 2023.

Out of all of the subjects your child will learn at school, RE has to be one of the best at giving opportunities for meaningful talk. As a subject that holds together the strands of theology, sociology and philosophy children need to be able to communicate their thinking and learn the art of speaking and listening through discussion. These are skills that transfer to every other subject and stand children in good stead for the rest of their lives.

Our Year 6 children recently took part in the Diocesan Leaver's service where they gathered with children from across East Sussex to mark their transition from primary to secondary school - a very big milestone. Here are some reflections from two of our Year 6 children who have been able to use the skills they have learnt in RE to articulate their thoughts:

*"The service was more formal than we are used to and the bishop was there which made it feel special. There were Year 6's from other schools and so we felt like we part of something bigger, it wasn't just us making this change."* Jesse Yr 6

*"It was nice to have our worries addressed through prayers, a poem and the talk."*  
Jemima Yr 6

The importance of our links to the Chichester Diocese are more keenly felt on occasions such as this special Leaver's Service. To feel a part of something 'bigger than ourselves' as Jesse put it, provides a sense of connection and community and the ability to reflect and articulate that is, as Sir Keir Starmer put it, 'a skill for life'.

## Theme of the Month: Curiosity

**'Ask and it will be given to you; speak and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you'**  
**Matthew 7:7**

Tomorrow we enter the month of July (how has this academic year flown by so fast?) and our value for the month is curiosity.

Curiosity can be thought of as a person's "thirst for knowledge." Curiosity, creativity and joy mixed together in one's life becomes an extremely powerful 'potion' inspiring people to ask questions, innovate solutions, and create community. For individual children, these skills have been associated with greater levels of motivation, academic performance, creative achievement and goal-setting. They have also been found to build connectedness and a sense of community across multiple individuals.

There are specific conditions that can foster these skills early in life. For example, caregivers and teachers interested in supporting children's development of curiosity, creativity, and joy can provide opportunities for imaginative play, ask questions that build on children's interests, support and extend their creative ideas and celebrate their effort in all things.



## In Other News...

- **Heat Wave**

As a second heat wave arrives for the beginning of this week, a quick reminder to please apply sun cream/lotion to your child/ren before the school day. Hydration is essential so remember to bring in a water bottle and children will have easy access to refill their water bottles throughout the day. As is normal practice during warmer weather, we will use the forest area to provide shade but it is important for children to also wear a named sunhat. PE lessons on Monday and Tuesday in particular will be adapted to avoid strenuous activity. Swimming for EYFS and Year 2 is postponed to have an extra session the final week of term.

- **Summer Reading Challenge**

The Reading Agency, along with the UK public library network, delivers the Summer Reading Challenge across the country every year. It is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged four to eleven.

The Challenge will begin in libraries on **Saturday 5th July** and end on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September**.

To take part in the Challenge children need to read six books of their choice that they have borrowed from the library or downloaded from our [e-book library](#) over the summer holidays. They are given rewards for each book they read and a certificate and medal if they manage to complete the Challenge.

The Challenge is for all children, whatever their reading ability. Children who are not reading independently can share their books with a family member or friend, or they might prefer to listen to audio books. We have materials to enable children with additional needs to participate as well. You can find out more about these by emailing [library.enquiries@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:library.enquiries@eastsussex.gov.uk) or by speaking to your local library contact.

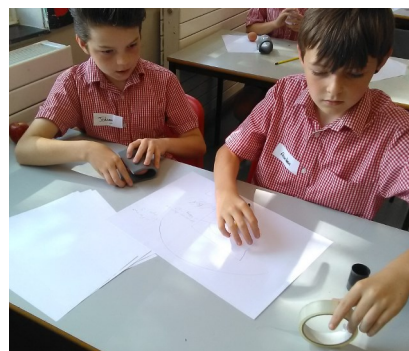


Children can be signed up at [www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/src). They will need to login to their library account (library card number and PIN) to complete the registration process.

- **STEM at Beacon Academy**

Year 5 had the most amazing morning experiencing what STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) they could experience in secondary school. It linked in with the Design and Technology which they study at Sir Henry Fermor. The children couldn't decide what they enjoyed the most. Jack said "I think it was the Eggstastic Challenge - that was cool." Nesiah and Molly enjoyed designing and creating packaging in the Engineering room, "We could use things we'd learnt in English too, like alliteration." Rory thought the food tech room was the "best thing ever", whilst George began by saying he loved "...the Engineering, no the egg experiment, I really loved the cooking when we made biscuits. Actually it was the whole morning - it was fantastic!"

Thank you to Beacon Academy for such an enriching experience, in particular thank you to Mr Hooper, Miss Balmer and Mr Clark for making SHF feel so welcome.





## Friends of Fermor



Thank you to everyone who came to our Summer Fair on Saturday, and in particular to all our volunteers who helped make it such a fantastic event.

We hope you all had a wonderful time!

We're in the process of contacting our raffle winners who weren't there for the draw and your prizes will be available to collect from the school office.

If you're interested in finding out more about FoFS, and getting involved with our Christmas Fair, then please email us at [friends@fermorschool.org.uk](mailto:friends@fermorschool.org.uk)



FOFS FACEBOOK

## Summer Fair



# Teaching and Learning: Photo Gallery

