

SHF NEWS

Monday 3rd March 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.

Welcome to Term 4!

Hopefully everyone had a lovely half-term break and even spotted a slither of sunshine during the week. Thank you for your patience at the end of last term and going into the half-term break where we were impacted by **loss of the internet and phone lines**. We apologise for the inconvenience of Hugg vouchers being delayed and indeed did share with BT and East Sussex the scale of the impact this caused. Thankfully we are back up and running once more!

I want to start this term with a huge thank you to the supermarkets: **Morrisons and Tesco**. It is with thanks to the grant received from Morrisons that we were able to purchase the new scooter and bike shelters shared in the last newsletter. We also received additional school uniform from Tesco to add to the stock we keep in school. I am really proud of the partnerships we have with others in the community.



As we finished our **worships on wisdom** last week, it was an absolute pleasure to share with the children how my dog, Skye, is learning to have wisdom with regards to personal space! She is learning that by respecting boundaries she can have a more positive relationship with others. Just as Skye is being taught and guided, the Bible teaches and guides Christians. We are not robots but free to make our own decisions, building our lives on the strong foundations of wisdom. It is heart-warming to see how our children are beginning to make wiser choices and support those around them to make careful decisions.

Have a wonderful first week of March and don't forget church on Wednesday!

Safeguarding

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if a child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, in fact.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any 'view once' content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

Key Dates

Tuesday 4th March
FOFS Sponsored Pancake Flip
Year 5 and 6 netball 3.30pm

Wednesday 5th March
Year 2 leading the service at All Saints Church

Thursday 6th March
World Book Day

Friday 7th March
Staff and Parent Prayers 8.20-8.30am

Monday 10th March
Year 5 STEM visit - Earthquakes

Thursday 13th March
Fermor Science Day
Year 6 boys' football match 3.30pm

Monday 17th March – Friday 14th March
Assessment Week

Monday 17th March
Year 6 SATS talk for parents 6pm

Friday 21st March
Staff and Parent Prayers 8.20-8.30am
Red Nose Day (own clothes)

Thursday 27th March
6F Beyond the Drain (Peacehaven)
Cross Country finals 10.30am-1pm
Spring Music Concert 6pm

Tuesday 1st April
Parent Consultation Evening 3.30-6pm

Wednesday 2nd April
I-rock Concert 2.15pm
World Autism Awareness Day

Thursday 3rd April
6JP Beyond the Drain (Peacehaven)
Parent Consultation Evening 4.30-7pm

Friday 4th April
Easter Service at All Saints Church 8.45am
Last day of Term 4

Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April
Easter Holiday

Tuesday 22nd April
First day of Term 5

Wednesday 23rd April
9.15am Initial Safeguarding Volunteer Training
Year 1 to the Pocket Park

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



Uniform

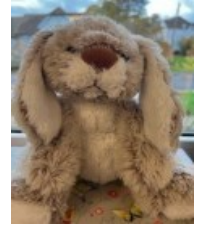
Well done to Seref in 1P who received the **Uniform Unicorn** this week for setting the high standard of wearing smart uniform. See the [website](#) for more information.

Attendance

Congratulations to **3J** for their attendance of 98.8% this week.

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

3B (98.1%), **4WG** (97.5) and **2C** (97.4%).



Gold Book

Well done for your fantastic learning:

1R: Niamh and Logan for their fabulous facts pages on dogs.

3B: Theo and Florence for the excellent range of vocabulary used to create character portraits.

3J: Walt for his fun daily diary;

Dillon for creating a character and setting from a picture.

6F: Leo for his effort and focus during a writing lesson;

Oscar L for a clearly presented story map.

Theme of the Month: Forgiveness

'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.' 1 John 1:9

As parents (and at school) we teach our children the importance of a sincere apology when they have made an error, but what if they are the one receiving the apology? While giving someone they've hurt a sincere apology requires the child to swallow their pride and can be difficult, I've found that children struggle just as much with forgiveness.



Forgiveness requires children to set their pride aside and lower their defences. It could be something that we class as simple as name-calling, but to a child this offence causes deep hurt that is not easily forgiven. We all have to teach and model to children how to forgive others.

There are many verses in the Bible that speak of forgiveness and its importance in our lives. 'For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.' Matthew 6:14
More on this next week.....

Subject in the Spotlight: English (Story Telling)



On Thursday last week, as a stunning start to our [World Book Day](#) activities, every child got the opportunity to engage in a story telling session with the renowned [Kevin Graal](#). The children were captivated (staff too) with tales of crocodiles at parties, golden horned goats and "happy ever afters!" This year in our English we are promoting the importance of oracy as a foundation for writing so it was fantastic to see the children participate with interactive stories and riddles from around the world with so much enthusiasm. We are sure that they have come home with lots of inspiration which will continue in the future! One child commented "This is the best day ever because I am going to be a story teller too."



In Other News...

- **Spring Music Concert**

This year, we will be holding our annual music concert in the Key Stage One hall at 6pm on Thursday 27th March. All instrumentalists that learn at school will be invited to play by their teachers, and the choir, recorder club and orchestra will be involved. The concert should last about an hour and we will welcome one or two adults per family to be part of the audience.

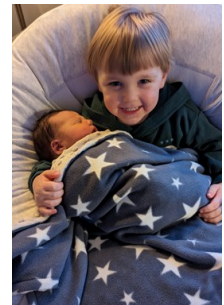


More details will follow if your child is directly involved, but if there are any children who have lessons on a musical instrument outside school who would like to play a piece, please get in contact with the office or make a note in your child's contact book marked for Mrs Greening.

We look forward to sharing our musical talents with you all.

- **Baby News!**

Congratulations to Mrs Williams on the birth of her beautiful and healthy son, Otto, who was born Thursday 13th February. We are all sending lots of love as they enjoy spending time as a family of 4.



Friends of Fermor



Our **Sponsored Pancake Flip** is tomorrow! Please make sure all forms are returned (even if you have been unable to collect any sponsors) as these also serve as permission for the event.



We are delighted that we have had a good number of parents get in touch to volunteer as **Class Reps**. There are, however, **still a few classes not represented** so if you know this is the case for your class, and are able to volunteer some time to plan a stall for the Summer Fair, we would love to hear from you at friends@fermorschool.org.uk. The more stalls we can run, the bigger the fair and, crucially, the more money we can raise to support the school

Remember, Easyfundraising is another easy way you can support FoFS; it's simple, shop with 8,000+ online retailers and we'll receive a free donation! They are currently running a 'refer to win' giveaway of £500 so it's a great time to join if you haven't already.

Enjoy the sunshine, and your pancakes tomorrow!

The FoFS Team

Teaching and Learning: Photo Gallery

