

SHF NEWS

Friday 20th December 2024



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.

What a lovely end to the term! We were treated to a beautiful **carol service** by KS2 on Tuesday evening in the gorgeous setting of All Saints Church. This is always a memorable service, particularly with Year 6's candlelight procession. Singing is so wonderful to bring the community together and is a way of connecting spiritually. We really appreciated so many people turning up to support the children.

Thank you so much for your generosity after this service. Your donations mean we can gift **Crowborough Food Bank** £128.39 which will go towards supporting the families of Crowborough.



Today we met once again in **All Saints Church** for our end of term Christmas service, showcasing the musical learning that has taken place this term. EYFS and KS1 shared a song from their nativities and we even saw

extra art work from Owls and Hedgehogs. Thank you to children from Years 3, 4 and 5 for their recital of the poem "T'was the night before Christmas." Again we are sorry that photos and videos were unable to be taken, but we hope you enjoy seeing the joy we captured in our photo gallery at the end of this newsletter.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
We look forward to welcoming all children back on Monday 6th January 2025!

Safeguarding

If you find Christmas a difficult time of year, this website has some tips to help you cope. Different things can help us at different times, depending on our situation and how we're feeling. Try some of these ideas and see what works best for you.

Christmas coping tips - Mind

Coping with money worries

Looking after yourself

Planning ahead

Managing relationships

Talking to other people

Getting support

Key Dates

Friday 20th December
 Christmas Service at All Saints, 8.45am
 Last day of Term 2

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January
 Christmas Holidays

Monday 6th January
 First day of Term 3

Monday 6th - Wednesday 8th January
 Culture and Languages whole school focus

Wednesday 8th January
 New EYFS 2025 Open Afternoon 1.30pm

Thursday 9th January
 Year 6 Victorian Day

Wednesday 15th January
 Year 4 leading the service at All Saints Church

Monday 27th January
 Year 5 and 6 author visit—Dev Khotori

Wednesday 5th February
 Year 3 leading the service at All Saints Church

Tuesday 11th February
 Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 12th February
 Choir nursery visit

Thursday 13th February
 FOF5 Discos

Friday 14th February
 Last day of Term 3

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February
 Half Term

Monday 24th February
 First day of Term 4

Tuesday 25th February
 1.30pm safeguarding training for new volunteers

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

Thursday 6th March
 World Book Day

Monday 10th March
 Year 5 STEM visit - Earthquakes

Thursday 13th March
 Fermor Science Day (TBC)

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



Uniform

Well done to Milena in 3B 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 excellent attendance of 100% this week! This is really impressive for the last week of term!

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

2C (98.5%), **4WG** (97.7%) and **Owls** (97.1%).

Gold Book

To ensure children can celebrate their Gold Book learning with parents/carers, we are photocopying the work, where possible, to be shared at home. Well done for your fantastic learning:

5M: Effy, Isla and Ayla for creative space pictures using various materials for printing;
Fraser and Max for their paragraphs and spellings in a portal story.

5N: Reuben and Kieran for the range of colours used and additional drawings on their space pictures.

6JP: Tatty for a detailed description of Scrooge, including hyphenated words.

In Other News...

- **Parking**

We are fortunate to have access to the All Saints Church car park for drop offs and collections. If you are parking in the local area, please ensure this doesn't cause disruption for our neighbours. It is really important that the entrance to nearby roads remain clear for the safety of everyone. Don't forget we do have a 10 minute window for drop off and collection, with the initial rush dispersing quite quickly!

- **Puddle Ducks**

At Puddle Ducks WKES we are coming to the end of our swimming for this year but we have one final offer for 2024 and it is our biggest yet! This one time only offer will give any new customers **£50 off their first booking**. That is £50 of any class, at any pool with a space. Both Baby & pre-school and Swim Academy lessons.

<https://www.puddleducks.com/local-teams/west-kent-east-sussex/introductory-offers>



Subject in the Spotlight: Inclusion

Speech, Language & Communication Needs (SLCN) is one of the fastest growing area of need nationally. At Sir Henry Fermor, we feel that our provision for children who have difficulties in this area is one of our strengths.

Pupils in Early Years, Year 3 and children who join us from other schools are all assessed using an online package of support called Speech & Language Link. This allows us to identify children who may need some additional support in the classroom, or who may need more targeted intervention. Teachers also plan lessons to remove the barriers that speech and language difficulties may present.

Speech & Language Link has a Parent Portal with a huge range of videos, games, advice which you can access for free: <https://speechandlanguage.link/parent-portal/>

INCLUSION @ FERMOR

INCLUSION REVIEW

Late in Term One we welcomed John Keech to Sir Henry Fermor. John's role was to complete an Inclusion Review with the leadership team, as part of his wider work with all schools in the trust. John looked at books, met with children and took part in learning walks.

The experience was extremely supportive and positive. Children with SEND spoke proudly about the extra-curricular opportunities they all have and could talk about a range of subjects they enjoy and feel successful in.

John noted our strong offer to support the mental health and resilience of our pupils, through ELSA, Zones of Regulation and Forest School.

We were grateful for John's insight and were very proud to show what Inclusion at Fermor is all about!

CLASS DROP-INS

This term, some of our class teachers had the opportunity to meet with our CLASS Link Adviser for advice and support.

The Communication, Learning and Autism Support Service (CLASS) offers support, advice and training to mainstream schools and academies.

Their staff hold additional qualifications in speech, language and communication needs (SLCN, including autism), specific learning difficulties and ADHD.

We are very lucky to have access to external services and benefit from working with other professionals.

SENDIASS ADVICE LINE

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS) offers detailed online information, regular free workshops and an advice line for one to one advice.

Their trained SENDIASS advisers can give you impartial, confidential information on anything to do with SEND.



WHAT HAVE OUR STAFF BEEN LEARNING?

- Mrs Piper attended training around EHCPs (Education Health Care Plans), led by East Sussex Local Authority
- Mrs Fielder took part in the first Tennax SENDCo Network Meeting
- Teachers took part in training where they reflected on the high quality teaching strategies they use to support all learners

PARENT VOICE

If your child has an Additional Needs Plan that has recently been reviewed, we would have invited you to share your views on the progress they have made. Please take the time to send us your views as they are a valuable addition to the plans!

Theme of the Month: Hope

'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future' Jeremiah 29:11

How to Teach Children About Hope

- 1) **Encourage Their Dreams:** Ask your children about their dreams and goals. Listen, support, and help them break these dreams into achievable steps.
- 2) **Model Hopeful Behaviour:** Be a positive role model. Show them how you maintain hope in the face of challenges and setbacks.
- 3) **Celebrate Achievements:** Recognise and celebrate even small accomplishments. This reinforces the idea that effort leads to success.
- 4) **Read Hopeful Stories:** Share books and stories that highlight hope, resilience, and overcoming adversity.
- 5) **Embrace Positivity:** Encourage your child to focus on the bright side of situations. Help them see the potential for growth in every experience.
- 6) **Teach Problem-Solving:** Show them how to approach problems with a hopeful mindset. Discuss solutions and alternatives, emphasising that challenges can be opportunities.

A Bright Future Awaits

By teaching our children about hope, we're giving them a gift that can last a lifetime. Hope is a powerful tool that equips them to face life's uncertainties with optimism, strength, and resilience.



Friends of Fermor



Wow! What a fantastic start to our 2024/25 fundraising! **Since September, you have helped FoFS to raise over £7,000 for the school!** Our Bingo night raised £450, wreath making £114 and the Christmas Fair a whopping £4,800 including over £1,000 from the raffle so thanks again for all the prize donations and ticket purchases! More recently, our Father Christmas in the Forest event made a further £700 and the Secret Shopping room over £900! We hope you and your family enjoy unwrapping your presents as much as the children enjoyed choosing them.

A special mention goes to our Early Years children (and parents and carers!) who were especially good at supporting the Mystery Bag collection ahead of the fair - Hedgehogs won the class treat with an amazing 100% of their bags returned, but Owls were just behind them. Thank you!

Hard to think beyond Christmas right now we know but... **We would love for as many parents and carers as possible to join us at our AGM on 22nd January** (you will receive an email about this). It is great to have the input of the whole school community in celebrating the charity's achievements, setting fundraising goals and planning our upcoming events.

We are also looking for more members to join the committee so please consider if you could spare some time in 2025 to get involved. Our next committee meeting is on Tuesday 7th January - 7.30pm at the White Hart - let us know if you'd like to come along. Likewise, if you're able to volunteer at our 2025 events and aren't already in our Volunteer group, we would love to hear from you at friends@fermorschool.org.uk. There is no pressure to volunteer for everything - we are all only human! - but more hands make light work with planning events and supporting with them on the day.

Spring Term dates for your nice, new, shiny 2025 diaries and calendars...

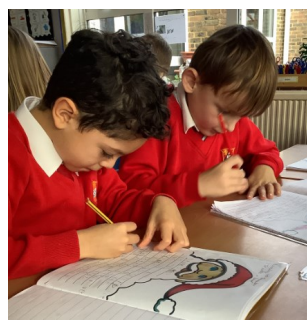
- ~ Friday 17th January - Make the Rules Day
- ~ Wednesday 22nd January - FoFS AGM
- ~ Thursday 13th February - Disco
- ~ Tuesday 4th March - Sponsored Pancake Flip

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2025!

The FoFS Team



Teaching and Learning: Photo Gallery





Merry Christmas!



*Inspire
Believe
Achieve*