

SHF NEWS

Monday 2nd 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.

Thank you **Year 5** for leading the worship at **All Saints** on Goodness and Faithfulness last Wednesday. I loved the particularly stunning approach to sharing the Fruits of the Spirit song by singing to the rest of the school and having the signs scattered around the church. Thank you to parents/carers and other adults able to attend and support the children — it was a great turn out!



Another thank you is extended to all that attended the **FOFS Christmas fair** on Saturday, raising much-needed funds to support children's learning and experiences at Fermor. We really appreciated the generous donations from local businesses for our raffle — any raffle prizes not collected on the day are available from the school office.

EYFS and **KS1** are busy in their final week to perfect their **nativities**. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to apply their skills (acting, speaking, listening, art, dance) for a real-life purpose. KS2 are not left out as the corridors are filled with the joyous sound of Christmas carols in preparation for their carol service.

Have a fantastic first week of December!

Safeguarding



Families in East Sussex have several **food banks** available to them if they are faced with hardship. The Centres are run by the Salvation Army, local charities and the Trussell Trust. In order to get help from a food bank, families often need to be referred with a voucher, which can be issued by a number of

local community organisations (for instance GPs, Social Workers, Early Help Key-work and advice agencies e.g., Citizens Advice). Your local foodbank can advise which agencies can help:

- * Crowborough Foodbank, All Saints Church, Crowborough
- * Uckfield Foodbank- The Source, The Hub, Civic Approach, Uckfield

e: info@crowborough.foodbank.org.uk; 07936 515798

Did you know?

Your child gets free school meals if they're in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. You do not need to apply for them.

However, if you receive a qualifying benefit, you should apply now as your child's school will be given additional funds. This will also ensure your child gets free school meals when they move into Year 3.

A list of benefits that may mean that your child is eligible for free school meals (even if they are in year R-2), are listed on the website link below.

[Free school meals | East Sussex County Council](#)

Key Dates

Monday 2nd December
Year 3 Volcanoes Stem Visit
Year 5 Space Stem Visit

Thursday 5th December
Choir singing at Town Carol Service, All Saints 7.30pm

Friday 6th December
EYFS Nativity 2pm

Monday 9th December
KS1 Nativity (2pm) 1R and 2K

Tuesday 10th December
KS1 Nativity (9.15am) 1P and 2C
Choir singing at Glyndebourne 7.30pm

Wednesday 11th December
New volunteers safeguarding training 1.30pm

Thursday 12th December
Christmas dinner and wearing Christmas jumpers

Friday 13th December
Staff and Parent Prayers 8.20-8.30am
Father Christmas in the Forest and wearing Christmas jumpers

Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th December
FOFs Secret Shopper Sessions

Tuesday 17th December
KS2 Carol Service at All Saints Church, 6pm

Wednesday 18th December
I-Rock Concert KS1 Hall

Friday 20th December
End of Year 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

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



Uniform

Well done to Sophie in 1R 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 **Owls** for their attendance of 98.9% this week.

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

4WG (97.8%) and **1R** (96.8%). Keep it up!



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:

1R: Vasy and Michaela for their acrostic poems and Sophie for her pre-cursive handwriting.

4M: Winter for her maths presentation, Jasmine for delivery an effective persuasive speech, Ellie for her inspirational mood board in art and Tayla-Rae for great progress with her handwriting.

5N: Charlie B for his maths presentation and Zachary for progress with his handwriting.

6JP: Tatty for great suspense in her story, Charlie for great facts about India and Charis for including more challenging punctuation in her writing.

Theme of the Month: Courage

'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1:9

Having the Courage to Stick to Your Convictions

Once upon a time, there was an old man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach every morning before he began his work. One morning, he was walking along the shore after a storm and found the beach littered with starfish as far as the eye could see.

The old man noticed a boy approaching and as he walked, the man could see that he was occasionally bending down to pick up an object and throw it into the sea. The boy came closer and the man called out, "Good morning! May I ask what you are doing?" The boy looked up and said, "Throwing starfish into the ocean. The tide has washed them up onto the beach and they can't return to the sea by themselves. They will die, unless I throw them back into the water." The old man replied, "But there are tens of thousands of starfish on this beach. You won't really be able to make much of a difference." The boy bent down, picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as he could into the ocean. Then he turned, smiled and said, "It made a difference to that one!"



Adapted from The Star Thrower, by Loren Eiseley (1907 - 1977)

In Other News...

• Year 2 Learning

This week, the children in Year 2 have been busy rehearsing for their Nativity! The Fleece Force are very disciplined! Year 2 have also been using their acting skills in English where they acted out a scene from Leaf, our beautiful text for the rest of this term, and then produced a freeze frame to empathise with the main character and use exciting and rich vocabulary to support their writing.

We can't wait to see you all at the performance of The Fleece Force!

• Christmas Lights

Well done to the choir for singing at the Christmas Light Switch on in Crowborough on Friday. It was lovely to see the smiles on your faces and really getting the audience into the Christmas spirit—Feliz Navidad was certainly a hit!



Subject in the Spotlight: RE



Why does Christmas matter to Christians?

This is the **RE** enquiry question for our Year 2 children this term. The children have been looking at the theme of 'Incarnation' - the word Christians use to describe God becoming flesh and living on earth as a human being. As RE lead, I went along to ask the children how they might answer the question and I received some thoughtful answers.....

* 'It was the day Jesus was born.....Jesus frees everyone from sin.....when you do something naughty.' Leo Yr 2

* 'It's Jesus' birthday....Jesus is their king.' Harry Yr 2

The nativity rehearsals have also been providing opportunities for learning as the Year 2 children have analysed the last page of their script for key words in order to understand more deeply their meaning as they think about them in the context of their play.

In Year 1, the children were able to answer their question: '**What do Christians believe God is like?**' in the following ways:

* 'God is good and kind and he keeps us safe.....In RE we do lots of thinking and put that into our book.' Esther Yr 1

* Niamh responded to her understanding that God is good by saying 'We could send God a love heart in the post!'



It was delightful to hear the beginnings of philosophical, theological and sociological thinking in our KS1 children as it is these 3 disciplines which make up RE learning. We endeavour to provide all children at Fermor with the ability to engage with these strands, and as they grow be able to have meaningful discussions which will eventually enable them to form their own opinions.



Friends of Fermor



Wow! What a Christmas Fair! Thank you so much for coming along on Saturday, and supporting us with donations in the run up to the big day. We hope you all had a great time, there certainly seemed to be a lot of smiling faces! **We will update with the amount raised next week.**

A huge thank you to those who invested so much time and energy into preparing for the day and a massive shout out to all our volunteers who included parents, grandparents, staff and even Year 5s and 6s! Without them, events like this simply wouldn't be possible. Like any event, there is always room for improvement so look out for a Christmas Fair feedback form which should drop in your inbox tomorrow - we would love to hear what you most enjoyed and where changes might be needed for future events.

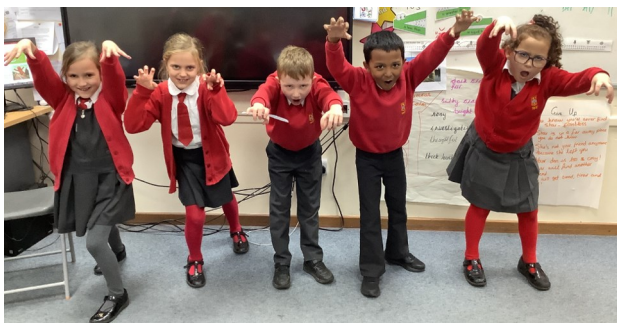
We are also currently seeking feedback on our Father Christmas in the Forest event on Facebook, so please check out our socials to have your views heard.

Father Christmas in the Forest is on **Friday 13th December** (tickets on ParentPay) and the **Secret Shopping Room** is on **Monday 16th December** (children should bring their money in a named envelope on the day, ready to visit with their class).

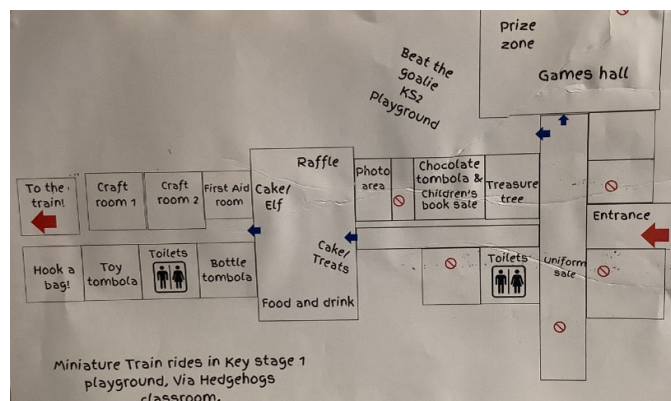
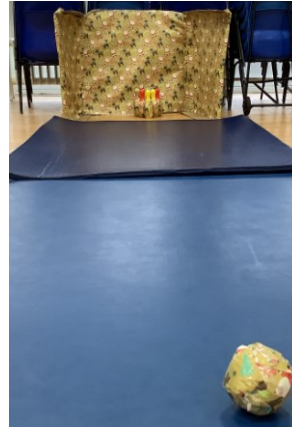
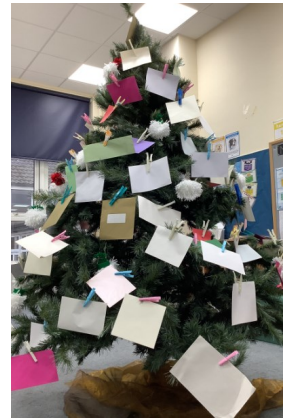


Finally, if you're able to **volunteer** at events, or would like to get involved in the committee, drop us an email at friends@fermorschool.org.uk. **Our next meeting is this Wednesday at 7.30pm.** We would love for you to join us.

Teaching and Learning: Photo Gallery



FOFS Christmas Fair: Photo Gallery



Thank you to our wonderful committee members, staff and volunteers!