

# South Farnborough Infant School

## March 2026 Newsletter

*Living and Learning in Harmony*



South Farnborough  
Infant School



Dear parents and carers,

I hope you had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed quality time together as a family. It is hard to believe that we are now in the summer term—the final term of this academic year!

This is a very important term, with new topics, units of learning, and more class trips planned. Please save the key dates below in your diary.

I look forward to a fun and productive term ahead.

Kind regards,

Mrs Duffy

## Important Updates

### TREE TEAM WINNERS



**A huge well done to Hazel House Team**, who won the Spring term house points with an incredible **2253 points!** Hazel House enjoyed celebrating their success with extra playtime and some fun games.

Keep up the fantastic work and continue modelling our school values!

### SPONSORED BOUNCE



**A huge thank you to Friends of SFIS** for organising the sponsored bounce before half term. Thanks to your generosity—and the generosity of friends and family—you raised an incredible **£5,463.51!** This fantastic amount will be put towards much-needed resources and renovations for the school.

# Important Updates



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## The Importance of Reading at Home



Reading with your child is one of the most powerful ways to support their learning and wellbeing. Since the pandemic, national research has shown a worrying decline in shared reading at home. A UK survey by the National Literacy Trust found that only around 50% of parents read with their child every day, compared with 66% before the pandemic. This drop matters, as regular reading plays a vital role in children's development.

Research consistently shows that **children who are read to regularly develop stronger language and vocabulary skills, improved concentration, better emotional wellbeing, and greater confidence as learners**. Shared reading also builds a love of stories and strengthens relationships at home.

We encourage all families to read with their child every day, and to include a bedtime story as part of your regular bedtime routine. This doesn't need to be long and can be:

- a book from our school reading shed (located in the main playground),
- a favourite book from home,
- a visit to Farnborough Library, or
- even a made-up story from your imagination!

Reading can be in your home language, and the most important thing is spending those few special minutes together. Little and often truly makes a big difference.

Thank you for supporting your child's love of reading.

## Lateness



Unfortunately, we have seen an increase in the number of children being collected late from school. While we fully understand that unexpected circumstances can occasionally arise, the school is not able to accommodate **persistent** late collection.

From this term onwards, parents and carers are reminded that prompt collection of children at 15:05 is essential to ensure safe staffing ratios are maintained. Where a child is collected late on a persistent basis, the school may issue a fine of £5 for every 15-minute period after the scheduled pick-up time. The decision to issue a fine will be at the discretion of the Headteacher, with individual circumstances taken into consideration.

Thank you for your understanding and continued cooperation.

## Name It to Tame It! – Supporting Emotional Regulation at Home

Children experience big emotions every day, and learning how to manage these feelings is an important life skill. **“Name It to Tame It”**—the idea that **identifying an emotion early** can help us stay calm and “close our lid” before feelings become overwhelming.

Modelling emotional language at home is one of the most powerful ways to support your child. Encouraging phrases such as:

- *“I am feeling...”*
- *“My body feels like...”*

can help children recognise and name what they are experiencing.

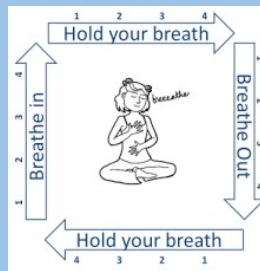
If your child finds it hard to express their feelings, you can model this for them by saying things like:

- *“I think this may be worrying you...”*
- *“I can see that this may have upset you and now you’re feeling \_\_\_ — is that right?”*

This helps children feel understood while gradually building their emotional vocabulary.

There are also lots of simple strategies you can practise together to help your child regulate their emotions, such as:

- **Square breathing** (breathe in, hold, breathe out, hold – all for a count of four)



- **The 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 grounding technique**



- Using a **glitter jar** to calm the mind

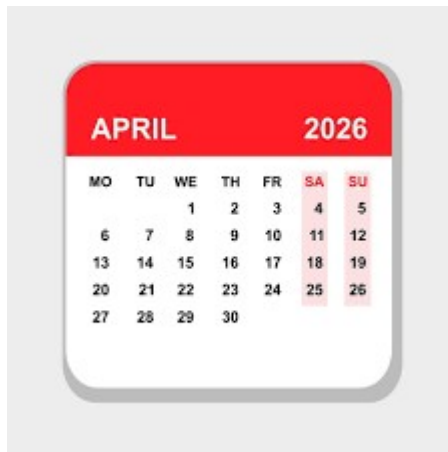


- Taking a **mindful walk** and noticing what you can see, hear, and feel

Rather than waiting until emotions become overwhelming, it’s helpful to **talk about these strategies when your child is calm**. Let them know that if they are ever feeling **upset, worried, scared, or angry**, these are tools they can try to help their body and mind feel safe again.

By naming feelings, practising calming strategies, and talking openly about emotions, we can help children build confidence in managing how they feel—both at home and at school.

# Important Dates



**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026** – Year 1 Balance Bike training

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2026** – Roots and Shoots – all welcome

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026** – All After School Clubs start

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026** – Perform Drama Workshops for all year groups

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2026** – National Teacher Appreciation Week

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026** – 13:30 Sports Day at Queen’s Road Recreation Ground – all welcome

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026** – Year R visiting Wellington Country Park

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026** – Friends of SFIS Disco – tickets required

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026** – Bling Your Bike Day – more information to follow

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026** – Summer Census – all children will have a school lunch

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026** – SeaCity workshops for Year 2

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026** – Break the Rules Day (more information to follow)

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026** – School finishes at 15:05 for May Half Term

Children return to school on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026**

<https://www.southfarnborough-inf.hants.sch.uk/>