

# South Farnborough Infant School

## November 2025 Newsletter

*Living and Learning in Harmony*



Dear parents and carers,

I hope you had a wonderful October half term, and that you managed to enjoy some quality family time.

As we embark on the second half of the autumn term, it's clear that it's going to be a busy and exciting time, with a variety of celebrations and events approaching. To ensure you don't miss out on anything, please take a careful look at the important dates outlined below.

Many thanks,

Mrs Duffy – Headteacher

Our school day is between 08:40 and 08:50. We kindly request that all children arrive within this 10-minute window, ready to begin their day.



We understand that morning routines can sometimes present challenges, and that congestion can often be a concern around the school. Where possible, walking to school is an excellent way to avoid traffic. **For those who need to drive, please remember that free school parking permits are available for the Peabody Road Car Park.** Please contact the school office for more

### School Contact Details



**adminoffice@southfarnborough-  
inf.hants.sch.uk**  
**01252 543727**

Please note that messages left after 14:45 on the answering phone will not be picked up until the following day.

The school office is open from 08:40 am until 15:15.

### New School Website



Please subscribe to the new school website calendar by clicking on the link below (Parents-Calendar)

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

# Important Updates

**Introducing Our New School Community Pantry: Take What You Need, Give What You Can!**



We are thrilled to announce an exciting new initiative designed to strengthen our school community and support one another: **the launch of our School Community Pantry!** Inspired by the simple motto, "**Take What You Need, Give What You Can,**" this pantry is being trialed this term as a resource available to all parents, family members, and staff.

## **What is the School Community Pantry?**

It's a place where you can find essential items or contribute things you no longer need. Whether you're looking for something to top up dinner, have forgotten an item you usually pick up at the shops, or simply want to participate in a cycle of reuse and recycle, the pantry is here for you. We believe in mutual support and eliminating waste, and this is a wonderful way to do both.

## **Who can use it?**

Everyone! There's no need to ask or explain. If you see something you need, please take it. If you have something to offer, please give it.

## **When and Where?**

The pantry will be open after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays throughout the month of November in the main playground. This is a trial for November, and if it proves popular and beneficial to our community, we will certainly look to extend it.

## **If you would like to donate we are looking for:**

Non-perishable food items: (e.g., canned goods, pasta, rice, cereals, long-life milk, no nuts)

Good quality, pre-loved toys or games: (clean and in good condition)

Toiletries or hygiene products: (new and unopened)

If you have items you'd like to donate, please speak to a member of our leadership team at the school gate during drop-off or pick-up times. They will be happy to assist you.

**Thank you and Farwell**



This month we will be saying farewell to our dedicated school administrator, Mrs James. We are very sad to say goodbye to Mrs James, and we will miss her greatly. She has been an invaluable member of our team. We want to wish her all the very best of luck and success in her new job. Thank you for the many years of service and commitment to the school community.

# Important Updates

## Mental Health and Wellbeing - Uplifting activities for the whole family



As the clocks have recently gone back, we know that the darker mornings and earlier evenings can often leave us feeling more tired, reduce our time spent outdoors due to the change in weather, and for some of us it can impact our overall mental health.

To proactively combat the 'winter slump' and inject some fun and energy into our days, we are launching a series of short, sharp mood-booster activities designed for the whole family and dedicated sessions for parents.

**We encourage everyone to join us this month to energize your mornings and start the day feeling motivated!**

### 1. The Harmony Heroes' 100 Challenge (For the Whole Family)

Parents, family members, and children are invited to join us as our school's Harmony Heroes lead a fast-paced, fun physical challenge designed to wake up the body and mind.

The Challenge: 100 seconds of star jumps and 100 seconds of running on the spot!

Monday 10th November at 08:30 (If your child has a sibling in Reception please join in in the aviary)  
Year R (Children & Families) The Aviary  
Year 1 & Year 2 (Children & Families) Main Playground

This is a fantastic opportunity for a burst of family physical activity before the school day begins.

### 2. Parents Only: Get Ready for the Glitterball!

Calling all Strictly fans! In light of the Strictly Come Dancing final approaching, we would like to invite parents to experience the joy of ballroom dancing.

Mrs Parkes, who is also a champion ball dancer, will be leading a 30-minute beginner ballroom dance taster session. This is open to all parents—no experience is needed, just come along and have fun!

Date: Thursday 13th November

Time: 09:00 – 09:30

Location: School Hall

### 3. Parents Only: 15 Minutes of Peace and Calm

For a moment of quiet reflection and mindfulness, we invite parents to join a deep breathing exercise session focused on achieving calm.

This session will be led by our PSHE and Wellbeing Lead, Mrs Paintin. Come and experience 15 minutes of peace, learn different breathing styles, and gain practical techniques that you can use at home.

Date: Monday 24th November

Time: 09:00 – 09:15

Focus: Practical deep breathing and mindfulness techniques.

Location: Music Room

## Special Invitation to Mark Remembrance Day – Tuesday, 11th November



As we approach Remembrance Day, we are planning a special commemoration on Tuesday 11th November, dedicated to honoring the sacrifices and enduring commitment of those who have served in the Armed Forces.

We would like to extend a special invitation to children from military families, or those who have immediate family members (past or present) who have served in the services. We invite these children to bring in a special, significant item related to their family's service. This will provide a unique opportunity for them to share a truly personal connection during our special assembly and activities, helping children understand the meaning behind this important day in history.

This item could be:

A photograph of a serving family member.

A piece of uniform.

A special award, medal, or service plaque.

We understand that these items are often irreplaceable and hold immense sentimental value. If your child wishes to participate, please kindly hand the item directly to your child's class teacher upon arrival on Tuesday 11th November.

### SEN Support within the local community



We understand that parenting a child with special educational needs can be a unique and sometimes challenging journey. Finding the right support and resources is incredibly important, and we want to ensure you know about the wonderful local help available right on your doorstep.

We are delighted to share information about **BRAAIN**, a fantastic organisation dedicated to supporting families. **BRAAIN specialises in assisting parents of children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and/or other special needs.**

Wherever you are in the diagnosis process, BRAAIN can support you. They are a comprehensive signposting service, directing you to the most appropriate resources for your family's specific needs. This includes: Details on specialist schools in the area, guidance on accessing professional help, information about clubs and activities for your children and finding invaluable support groups for yourselves.

One of the most powerful forms of support can come from connecting with other parents who truly understand your experiences. Sharing ideas, frustrations, and successes in a supportive environment can be incredibly helpful. **BRAAIN facilitates this through their regular parent support group, held on the first Tuesday of every month at 8pm at the Ship Inn pub, 162 Ship Lane, Farnborough, GU14 8BE.**

For more personalised guidance, BRAAIN also offers an **appointment service**. You can book a time to speak with them directly, and they will happily chat through the wealth of support available to you. This could include details of healthcare services you'll be referred to, available support packages, training and workshop opportunities, or even social events.

You can find out more and get in touch via: Website: <https://www.braain.co.uk/> Email: [enquiries@braain.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@braain.co.uk)



With Christmas fast approaching, we understand that whilst it can be a very exciting time, we also appreciate that it can put added pressure on families. If you are worried about anything this festive season, we want you to know that we might be able to support you via local charities. For example, the types of things we might be able to help with include:

If you are worried about not being able to afford to buy your child a present this Christmas.

If you are concerned about not having enough money for food.

If you are worried about your mental health, please do not suffer in silence.

Please do reach out to Mrs Duffy or any member of the school team. We are here to listen and will do our very best to support you and your family. Let's take the stigma away from asking for help. We are a community, and it is important that we all have someone to lean on.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November** – Friends Krispy Kreme Sale

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November** – Odd Socks Day

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November @0830** 100 Challenge for parents and children

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November** Remembrance Day

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November** KS1 Parents Evening

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November** KS1 Parents Evening

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November @09:00** Ballroom Dancing taster session for parents

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November** Friends of SFIS MUFTI Day

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November @ 14:30** Barn Owls class assembly

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November @ 14:30** Kestrels class assembly

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November** Year 1 visiting Brooklands Museum

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November @14:30** Sparrowhawks class assembly

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November** – SHINE Dress Up Day – wear bright clothes to school

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November @11:00 - 14:00** Friends of SFIS Christmas Fair

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November** – Usborne book sale

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November @09:00** Deep Breathing workshop for parents

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December** - Friends Crafternoon (tickets required)

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November @09:00** Maths Parent Workshop

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December @09:15** Robins Christmas crafts - parents welcome

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December @09:15** Skylarks Christmas crafts - parents welcome

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December @09:15** Swifts Christmas crafts - parents welcome

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December** School Christmas Panto for all year groups

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December @ 14:00** Year 2 Christmas Performance at a local church (more information to follow)

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas lunch

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December** ELF Day

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December @14:00** Year R Nativity Tickets required - more information to follow soon

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December @09:30** Year R Nativity Tickets required more information to follow soon

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** MUFTI Day - school finishes at 13:30