



HALF-TERM

We would like to wish everyone a restful and fun February half-term – we hope the rain stays away! We look forward to seeing children back at school on Monday 23rd February.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

What an uplifting two weeks it has been at Shottermill! I am delighted to begin by congratulating **5SB**, who impressed us all with their outstanding performance of the poem 'We Refugees' by Benjamin Zephaniah in the **Choral Poetry Competition**. Their confidence, clarity and teamwork shone through beautifully, earning them a well-deserved first place. I would like to also congratulate all of the other classes for their engaging and high quality performances – this was a moment of pride for our whole school community.



We also celebrated an exceptional sporting accomplishment this week. A team of **26 Year 5 and 6 pupils** represented Shottermill at a fast-paced **Indoor Athletics competition** at **Woolmer Hill School**, competing against nine other Surrey schools. Sportshall Athletics is the largest school competition programme in the country, engaging over a million children each year and endorsed by England Athletics - so this was no small stage. Our pupils took part in a wide range of events, from throwing and jumping - to speed, agility and relay races. Their determination was evident in every single performance and their support for one another was just as impressive as their athletic ability.



Out of all ten schools, **Shottermill secured an incredible third place overall**. This is a tremendous result and a testament to the hard work, resilience and team spirit shown by every member of the squad. We are extremely proud of them. I would like to thank Mrs Thompson for preparing the children so well and Mrs Jones who accompanied the children on the day.

YEAR 6 PARENTS – SATS INFORMATION VIDEO

All parents are requested to watch the Year 6 SATS information video, which has been recorded by the Year 6 Teachers and uploaded to Google Classroom. We greatly value your partnership in supporting the children as they prepare for the tests which will be administered the week beginning 11th May 2026.

WEDNESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2026 – ZONES OF REGULATION PARENT WORKSHOP

Would you like to learn more about the Zones of Regulation and how we support children in developing their behaviour and emotions?

We would like to invite parents along to an informal coffee morning on **Wednesday 25th February from 9:00am – 10:15am**, where we will share a short presentation about the Zones of Regulation and explore practical strategies you can use at home to help your child recognise, understand and manage their emotions.



Respect Trust Love of Learning Communication Creativity Excellence

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WORLD BOOK DAY

On **Thursday 5th March** we will be celebrating World Book Day in school. Children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from a book - please recycle and reuse as much as possible as we don't want parents to feel any pressure to purchase something new. We have lots of fun book related activities happening in school during the day. Our kitchen team are preparing a special lunch for World Book Day also. Further details will be shared after half-term.

PANCAKE FUN

In conjunction with St Stephen's Church please see the attached flyer for a Pancake Night treat!



WELL DONE

Congratulations to Yasmin, Perth and Efi (Year 5), Rosie (Year 4) and Aurelia (Year 3) who all took part in the Chichester Festival for Music, Dance and Speech. The children all performed a poem and dramatic solo and won gold, three silver and two bronze medals! What a wonderful success girls – we are so proud of you!



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ATTENDANCE

In each newsletter we will be congratulating the three classes with the highest attendance figures. Although we do appreciate all children from time to time do get poorly and this cannot be helped, we feel it is important to celebrate the classes who have the highest attendance.

4ZH - 97.8%

4M - 97.1%

3N - 96.7%

A child with attendance below 90% is considered persistently absent and at this point will be monitored externally by the Surrey Attendance Service.

A child with 90% attendance is missing 10% of the school year. With a typical school year of 190 days, this amounts to 19 days of lost learning - the equivalent of almost four full weeks of school. When this pattern continues over time, the effect becomes much more significant. Across the four years of Key Stage 2, 90% attendance adds up to approximately 76 days of missed school, which is roughly 15–16 weeks.

National data, including SATs results, consistently shows that children who do not attend regularly do not achieve as well as those with good attendance (96% or above). Regular attendance ensures children keep pace with the curriculum, build confidence, and make steady academic progress.

We understand that absences can happen for many reasons and we are here to support you. If there are any challenges affecting your child's attendance, please contact us so we can work together to improve the situation.

Penalty Notices - Just to remind parents/carers that if you take your child out of school without authority, you will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable is £80.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £160.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive four penalty notices. Please note if you have received a penalty notice fine since 19th August 2024 the second penalty notice will be a flat fee of £160.00 – there is no reduction in fee regardless of how quickly payment is received. If you incur two penalty notices within three years you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996. Our full Attendance Policy is available to view on our website.

DOGS ON THE SCHOOL PREMISES

Please may we remind parents to please clean up after their dogs – we have noticed a lot of dog waste on the path to school. We appreciate this may apply to the wider community other than parents but we would like to take the opportunity to remind parents, and also to be vigilant when walking to school.

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DIARY DATES FOR 2025 - 2026

	February
Friday 13 th February	Year 5 Assembly: 9.15am – parents welcome
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February	Half-Term
Monday 23 rd February	Year 5 Wonderdome
Wednesday 25 th February	Zones of Regulation Coffee Morning – 9:00am – 10:15am
Friday 27 th February	5SB PTFA treat sale after school
	March
Wednesday 4 th March	Parents Consultation Evening: 1.30pm-8pm
Wednesday 4 th March	Year 5 and 6 transition to secondary school talk: 2pm and 5pm
Friday 6 th March	Year 3 Sleepover Let Girls Play Football event
Tuesday 10 th March	Year 4 Maths Workshop: 2.15pm – parents welcome Governors Meeting: 6pm
Thursday 12 th March	Science Day
Monday 16 th March	Year 4 trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace
Thursday 19 th March	4ZH DT Day
Friday 20 th March	Year 3 Assembly: 9.15am – parents welcome
Friday 20 th March	3C PTFA treat sale after school
Monday 23 rd March	4M DT Day
Wednesday 25 th March	Super School Council meeting
Thursday 26 th March	Easter Service at St Stephen's Church for Years 3 and 4 (volunteers for walking welcome!) 9.20am start
Friday 27 th March	Break the Rules Day
Friday 27 th March	End of Spring Term: 1.30pm finish

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