



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

10th July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I can't believe that we are about to enter the final week of this school year! Before we break up for the summer, we still have Sports Day, a Year 8 trip to Bletchley Park, Year 10 students taking part in a Geography field trip to Hunstanton and a visit to the National Police Air Service Centre in Lutterworth to look forward to!

This week saw some fantastic events with all students involved in Careers Day yesterday. We received amazing feedback from some of the organisations involved who said that our students were the most polite and engaged of all the schools that they had visited!

It was great to celebrate our students' sporting successes at the Sports Awards this week, congratulations to all involved, we are very proud of you. Students' musical talents were also showcased at the Summer Music Evening, this was a spectacular event, and I know that many, many hours of practice went in to making this such a success.

At the start of the week, we welcomed our new Year 7 students for September for two days of transition activities. We are looking forward to them becoming a permanent part of our Sir Harry Smith community when we return after the break.

Year 7 students gave their Wild West performances today. This is always great fun with some fierce competition! Year 9 and 10 students involved with The Duke of Edinburgh's Award are currently taking part in their Bronze expedition and I'm sure will be returning home worn out after an adventurous couple of days...and probably in need of a shower!

A reminder that on the final day of term, next **Friday 17th July, the college will close at 12.20pm** for the start of the Summer break. Students that travel on local authority school transport will be collected at this earlier time.

Best wishes for the weekend.

Dawn White
Principal



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www.sirharrysmith.cambs.sch.uk



Hot Weather Update

Due to the forecast of continued hot weather, we are sharing the Department for Education's guidance on how schools are managing the high temperatures. The guidance explains the measures schools can take to keep children safe while remaining open wherever possible and reinforces the importance of attendance.

Please find the link below for further information.

[Hot weather and your child's school: what you need to know – The Education Hub](#)

Please also continue to follow our summer uniform guidance. Thank you.



Sir Harry Smith
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Uniform Adjustments from Monday 6th July

As we come to the end of a slightly cooler week, the forecast is now promising another heatwave period.

In light of this, and after listening to your feedback, we will relax the uniform for the remainder of this term as of **Monday 6th July**.

Blazers and ties will no longer be required and students are able to wear the following:



GIRLS

- Black school skirt/trousers or tailored black shorts
- White school shirt – years 7 – 9
- White polo shirt – year 10
- Maroon PE top



BOYS

- Black school trousers or black tailored shorts or black PE shorts
- White school shirt – years 7 – 9
- White polo shirt – year 10
- Maroon PE top



Unfortunately, despite previous requests, we had a large number of female students who chose to wear micro lycra shorts, which are not acceptable, therefore, we expect students to follow the guidance above.



Students that do come to school in incorrect uniform will be isolated and you will be contacted to rectify their uniform.



I would like to thank you in advance for your support with this.

Great British Summer Savings

Families across the country can make the most of a range of discounts and offers this summer thanks to the Government's new Great British Summer Savings scheme.

Running from 25 June to 1 September 2026, the initiative aims to help families enjoy days out and activities during the summer holidays at a reduced cost. The scheme includes:

- A temporary reduction in VAT from 20% to 5% on:
 - Children's meals in restaurants
 - Family and children's tickets for cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions
 - Entry to a wide range of family attractions
- Free bus travel throughout August for children aged 5–15 in England.

The scheme is designed to support families with the rising cost of living while encouraging children and young people to access cultural, educational and recreational experiences during the summer break.

To help families find participating venues and attractions nearby, an online postcode finder has been launched:

[Great British Summer Savings Attraction Finder](#)

We encourage all members of the Sir Harry Smith community to explore the opportunities available and make the most of a summer filled with affordable family experiences, learning opportunities and memorable days out. We hope these savings help our families enjoy a well-deserved summer break together.



SHSCC Careers Fair

What a fantastic Careers Fair! A huge thank you to all the local businesses and organisations who gave their time to inspire and engage our students.

It was wonderful to see so many students asking thoughtful questions, exploring different career pathways, and making valuable connections with employers from across our community. We hosted over 80 businesses and organisations, who gave excellent feedback about the politeness and enthusiasm of our students.

Events like these play such an important role in helping young people discover the wide range of opportunities available to them and begin thinking about their future with confidence.

Mrs Curtis.



SHSCC Careers Fair



Year 11 Key Information for Parents & Carers

As students move into Year 11 at Sir Harry Smith Community College, we want to share a brief overview of the key opportunities and expectations for the year ahead. Year 11 is an important milestone, and we are committed to supporting every student as they work towards their exams and enjoy memorable experiences along the way.

Next week, each student will receive a bespoke letter outlining their individual attendance band, expectations, and personalised information regarding these events.

End of Year Prom

Students will have the chance to celebrate their time at SHS at the Year 11 Prom on **Friday 2nd July 2027** at the Holiday Inn Peterborough. Payments can be made in instalments through ParentPay, and further details will be available on ParentPay next week.

Alton Towers Trip

Year 11 will begin with a celebratory trip to Alton Towers on **Thursday 15th October 2026**. Consent and payment will be completed via ParentPay, with additional information released next week.

Leavers' Hoodie

Students will have the opportunity to purchase a 2027 Leavers' Hoodie, designed by Year 11 student leaders. Payments can be made in instalments, and full details will be available on ParentPay next week.

Attendance & Behaviour

Clear expectations will support students in accessing these opportunities. Attendance, punctuality, behaviour, and conduct throughout the year will determine eligibility for events. Students will receive regular half-term updates to help them stay on track.

Working Together

We hope these experiences motivate students to support one another and make the most of their final year. If you have any questions or require support, please contact the school office.

Year 6 Transition Days

Our Year 6 students began their transition journey with an exciting Mission to Mars experience, exploring five curriculum hubs designed to develop teamwork, critical thinking and resilience.

Day 1: Mission to Mars Hubs

- Interplanetary Engineering: Mars Rover Construction — Students designed and built prototype rovers, applying problem-solving and collaboration to meet mission challenges.
- Science & Exploration: Balloon Rocket Challenge — A hands-on investigation into thrust and motion, encouraging curiosity and scientific enquiry.
- Interplanetary Communications: Message & Performance Challenge — Students crafted creative messages for the Mars crew, showcasing communication skills, kindness and teamwork.
- Ethics & Decision-Making: Mars Colony Dilemma Centre — Groups tackled moral dilemmas faced by future colonists, developing thoughtful reasoning and respectful discussion.
- AstroNutrition Command Unit — Students planned survival menus for astronauts, using critical thinking to balance nutrition, practicality and mission constraints.

Day 2: Transition Carousel

- Reading Assessment — Students completed a reading age assessment, enabling us to plan September's curriculum with precision.
- Pastoral Session — House teams spent time getting to know one another, building relationships and strengthening community.
- Wellbeing Session — A focused session on understanding and maintaining positive mental wellbeing.
- Library Session — Creative story writing activities inspired imagination and literacy.
- Commando Joe's Team Building — High-energy challenges promoting cooperation, resilience and problem-solving.

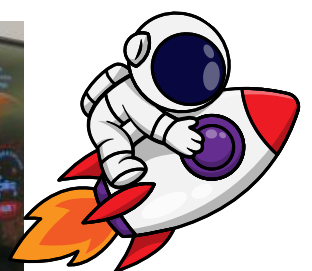
Prepared, Respectful, Safe

Throughout both days, students consistently demonstrated our core values:

- Prepared — arriving ready to learn, participate and equipped for success.
- Respectful — showing respect for themselves, peers, staff, resources and the College environment.
- Safe — moving sensibly around the site and engaging safely within learning spaces.

A Fantastic Start

We have been genuinely impressed by students' outstanding behaviour for learning, their eagerness to engage, and the positivity they brought to every session. Their kindness, curiosity and teamwork set a brilliant foundation for September — and we cannot wait to welcome them back to continue their journey.



Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

Our Year 9 & 10 students have been on their Duke of Edinburgh Expedition this week.

DofE is open to any young person aged 14-24. Participants build their own programme, choosing activities and a cause to volunteer for. The DofE is structured into three levels of Award which increase in challenge and duration: Bronze, Silver, and Gold. The main differences between the Award levels are the minimum length of time it takes to complete the programme, how challenging it is, and the minimum age you can start. There are four main sections of a DofE programme: Volunteering, Physical, Skills, and Expedition.

Well done to all our students this week!



Sports Celebration Evening

Last night, we held our first Sports Celebration Evening since before Covid, recognising the outstanding achievements of our talented athletes and dedicated Sports Leaders. The evening was filled with a positive and celebratory atmosphere, providing a fitting opportunity to congratulate our students for their resilience, hard work, commitment and teamwork throughout the year.

We were delighted to welcome sports broadcaster Mark Sagers as our guest speaker. Mark captivated the audience with fascinating stories from his career, including his experiences interviewing well-known figures such as Sir David Beckham and Margaret Thatcher. His insights into the world of sport and journalism were both inspiring and entertaining.

A particularly moving moment of the evening came when Mark presented the College with a unique painting created by a resident of a Brazilian favela. The artwork reflected the artist's feelings about the 2014 FIFA World Cup being hosted in Brazil while many local communities felt excluded, with tourists and those attending the tournament being encouraged to avoid their neighbourhood. We were deeply touched by this generous gift and honoured to receive such a thought-provoking piece of art.

Another highlight of the evening was a fantastic performance by the amazing Sir Harry Smith College Cheerleading Team. Their energy, skill and enthusiasm captivated the audience and complemented what was a truly memorable celebration. Their outstanding performance was a wonderful showcase of their talent and dedication.

The evening was a wonderful celebration of sporting excellence, dedication and community, and a memorable occasion for everyone who attended.

Mrs Hunt.



The Story Behind the Picture

When our Sports Awards guest speaker, Mark Saggars, unveiled the artwork during his presentation, it was more than just a picture. It was a reminder that behind every great sporting event are thousands of untold human stories.

In 2014, during the FIFA World Cup in Brazil, Mark was the Lead Sports Correspondent for Sky Sports, based in Rio de Janeiro. As journalists from around the world arrived to report on football's biggest tournament, they received a clear message from FIFA: avoid the favelas.

Like many journalists driven by curiosity and a desire to uncover the real story, Mark and a small group of reporters decided to do exactly the opposite.

What they found was nothing like they had expected.

Instead of hostility or danger, they were welcomed by communities full of warmth, laughter and excitement. Families were preparing to celebrate the World Cup, children played football in the streets, and there was an overwhelming sense of pride that the world's greatest sporting event had come to their country.

One meeting in particular stayed with Mark.

He met a local artist who lived in one of the favelas. The artist explained that he didn't want his community to be hidden away or forgotten. He wanted people to see that the favela was filled with talented, hardworking and passionate people who simply wanted to be part of the World Cup story. Through his artwork, he hoped visitors would look beyond the stereotypes and see the community for what it truly was.

Mark purchased one of the artist's paintings, and it has remained with him ever since as a reminder that the biggest stories are often found away from the stadiums and television cameras.

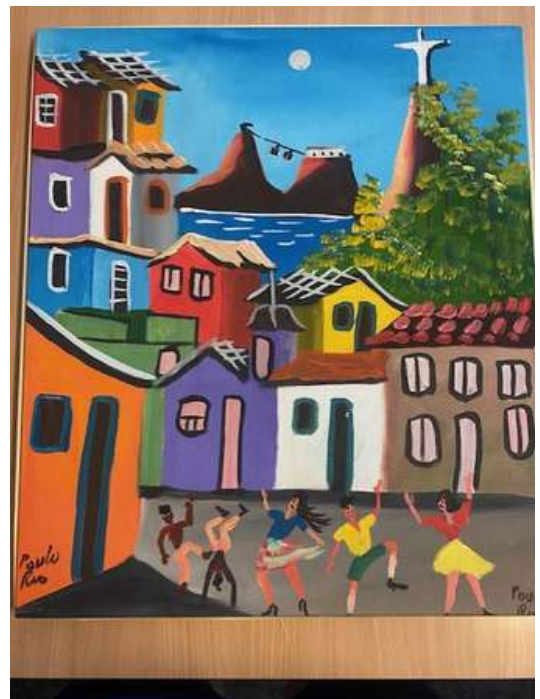
At this year's Sir Harry Smith Sports Awards, Mark generously donated that very picture to the school.

It is a remarkable gift—not because of its monetary value, but because of the story it tells. It reminds us to challenge assumptions, to look beyond first impressions and to remember that sport has an incredible ability to unite people from every background.

The painting will become a lasting reminder for our students that curiosity, kindness and understanding can reveal stories far more powerful than those we expect to find.

Thank you, Mark, for sharing not only your experiences, but also this wonderful piece of sporting history with the Sir Harry Smith community.

Mr Treliving.



Matilda the Musical: Reward Trip

Students across all year groups attended a reward trip to see Matilda at the Cambridge Theatre in London, in recognition of their participation in Oliver Jr. and the Summer Concert.

The students were amazing throughout the trip—impeccably behaved and a wonderful representation of SHSCC. Their enthusiasm and maturity made us incredibly proud, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the show. It was a fantastic experience and a well-deserved reward for all their hard work and commitment.

Mrs Steele.



Orienteering Festival 2026

Due to the hot weather the festival held at All Saints Inter-Church Academy in March, was adapted and the Sports Leaders led 4 stations of battleships, across the swamp, rollerball and the vortex under the shade of the trees and in the mini wooded area which was a lovely environment for the activities.

The Leaders as always were full of enthusiasm, encouragement and instructed the primary students with clarity and maturity and came across as enjoying the session as much as the younger students.

I am so proud of how well they represent themselves and the college and how they have grown in confidence after having the experience at the festivals this year. Well done and thank you to you all, you are amazing leaders!

Mrs Hunt



Sports Leaders Report – New Road Sports Day

Despite the extremely hot weather this morning, which meant the New Road Sports Day had to be shortened and finish at 10:30am, our sports leaders performed exceptionally well throughout the event.

They coped amazingly with the challenging conditions and adapted quickly to the revised schedule. They gave clear instructions to the younger students with confidence and efficiency, ensuring that activities started promptly.

Throughout the morning, the sports leaders demonstrated professionalism, enthusiasm and confidence. They were excellent role models, showing maturity and commitment while supporting both staff and students.

A highlight of the morning was a guest appearance in goal from the Peterborough United mascot 'Peter Burrow' and the leaders couldn't resist having a photo taken with him.

I am incredibly proud of the way they conducted themselves and the positive manner in which they represented the college. Their hard work and dedication played a significant role in the success of the morning.

Mrs Hunt.



Summer Music Evening

On Wednesday 8th July, over 70 students from Years 7–11 took to the stage for our annual Summer Music Evening. The performances showcased an impressive variety of musical styles and instruments with every student performing to a high standard.

Our musicians should be incredibly proud of their dedication, perseverance and commitment to regular practice, all of which enabled them to deliver such accomplished performances.

We were delighted to enjoy a fantastic range of ensemble performances throughout the evening. Highlights included: the Year 9 band performing Chasing Cars, Hit the Road Jack (featuring Kiera on saxophone), Maya and Charley's duet, as well as our Year 11 band giving their final performance together. Thank you to our final act who brought the concert to a memorable close with a rousing rendition of 'Don't Stop Me Now'.

The Djembe Drumming Group has grown considerably in recent years and delivered an energetic and captivating performance to round off the first half of the concert.

Music continued throughout the interval, with Rosie, Vanessa, Mia and Thomas entertaining the audience with their performances during this refreshment break.

Our choir performed a wonderful Matilda medley, particularly fitting as many of the students had enjoyed seeing the musical the evening before!

A special mention also goes to our String Group who made their Summer Music Evening debut. Thank you to Mr Westbrook for his support in establishing this exciting new ensemble.

As always, it is bittersweet to say goodbye to our Year 11 musicians. We would like to wish Pedro, Jenson, Sophie and Daniel every success as they leave SHS to continue their studies. Thank you for your commitment and contribution to the Music Department over the past five years, you will be greatly missed.

As our older students move on, it is wonderful to see so many talented younger musicians stepping forward. Outstanding solo performances were given by James, Zak, Lucas, Sophie H, Sophie W, Ollie, Elliott, Rebecca, George, Isabella and Emily. Congratulations to each of you!

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who helped make the evening such a success. We are incredibly grateful to our technical team, site staff, administrative and finance teams, and our peripatetic music teachers. Your support behind the scenes makes events like this possible and is very much appreciated.

Well done to all of our performers for a fantastic evening of music, we look forward to next year!

Mrs Gray.



Summer Music Evening



Music Lessons for September

Interested in learning how to play an instrument?

If your child is interested in learning an instrument and would like one to one lessons with our visiting instrumental teachers please visit the website for further details (link below) and a link to a lesson request form, requests made now will be processed for a September start.

Instrumental Lessons at SHSCC

SHSCC Music Department are supported by an experienced team of visiting music teachers who provide lessons for students at the start of their musical journey and those wanting to continue lessons.

Instruments offered	Teacher
Clarinet/Piano/Keyboard	Mrs King
Guitar/Bass Guitar/Ukulele	Mr Whiston
Drum Kit	Mr Hill
Vocal Lessons	Mrs Carr
Drum Kit/Violin/Cello	Mr Westbrook

When: Lessons take place during the school day on a rota basis and are held in the practice rooms in the music department.

Cost: There is a charge for these lessons full details of prices are available in the instrumental music letter.

Questions: If you have any questions please get in touch via the school office – office@sirharrysmith.com

We look forward to meeting our new musicians and helping you to get involved in our extra-curricular provision.



Sir Harry Smith School World Cup Sweepstake update...

WORLD CUP UPDATE:

The Race for a September Non-Uniform Day!

As the World Cup enters its final stages, the competition for the coveted free non-uniform day in September is heating up!

Sadly, for many forms and year groups, the dream has already come to an end. There were scenes of despair as teams such as Brazil (7E), Germany (9D), Portugal (7D), USA (8D) and Morocco (7G) all saw their World Cup journeys come to a premature end.

Other unlucky forms include 8G (Croatia), 8C (Colombia) and 9B (Australia), all of whom were dreaming of walking into school in their own clothes in September.

However, there are still several hopeful contenders left in the competition:

- 🏆 6CLC – Argentina
- 🏆 7C – Switzerland
- 🏆 10D – Norway
- 🏆 8E – England
- 🏆 9C – France
- 🏆 Year 9 – Spain
- 🏆 Year 8 – Belgium

The remaining quarter-finals promise plenty of drama:

- Spain (Year 9) vs Belgium (Year 8)
- Norway (10D) vs England (8E)
- Argentina (6CLC) vs Switzerland (7C)

Meanwhile, 9C (France) can sit back, relax and enjoy being the first team through to the semi-finals.

With just a handful of teams left, the possibility of an entire year group earning themselves a free non-uniform day is becoming very real. The pressure is on, the excitement is building and allegiances are changing daily as students suddenly discover lifelong passions for Norwegian, Swiss and Belgian football!

Who will be celebrating in July and enjoying a well-earned non-uniform day in September?

Only time will tell...

Current favourites: France, England and Argentina.

Current mood in 7G: "There's always the next World Cup..."



Sir Harry Smith School World Cup: Keepy-Uppy Challenge



Sir Harry Smith
Community College



SIR HARRY SMITH

KEEPY-UPPY CHALLENGE

DURING THE WORLD CUP!

100
KEEPY UPPYS
A DAY



Students are to complete
100 keepy uppy's a day
throughout the World Cup.
If you cannot do 100 in one go,
you do not need to.



DEADLINE:
15TH JULY 2026



Can anyone **record themselves** doing this,
possibly even including a few tricks?



Get sponsored for **cancer research**
if you can – this works towards your
Aspire Awards – Service Award.



One video from everyone that enters.
If you raise some money look at the website
for a **free Bobby Moore tee shirt!**



Please email your video to
challenges@sirharrysmith.com



PLAY. CHALLENGE. INSPIRE.



ASPIRATION FOR ALL



Useful Information

2026		SEPTEMBER					
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
		1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				

For those of you looking to plan ahead and book holidays, our term dates for 2027/28 are now available on our website.

Spend £50 on SHSCC school uniform at Chromasport School & Teamwear Ltd and receive a free PE Polo Shirt. Offer ends 31st July.

CHROMA

SCHOOL : SPORT : BUSINESS



Sir Harry Smith CC

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Bretton, Peterborough
PE3 8RF

 01733 262526

Mon-Fri 9:00am-5:00pm
Sat 9:00am-1:00pm

Useful Information

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators FAIR PLAY AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION

In school sports, fair play and friendly competition are important for character development. Fair play embodies respect and integrity while good-natured competition balances rivalry with camaraderie. This guide addresses potential challenges – like the pressure to win – and offers practical tips on instilling values of fair play and cultivating a positive sporting environment for young athletes.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Parents, carers and teachers should try to exemplify fair play: demonstrating respect for opponents, coaches and officials. Children frequently learn by observing adult behaviour, so displaying a sense of fair play sets a powerful precedent for them to follow in their own actions on and off the field.

2 EFFORT OVER OUTCOME

Encourage children to focus on giving it their all, rather than basing their entire performance on whether they win or not. This fosters a growth mindset, where the journey and the process of improvement are valued just as much as the end result. It also reduces the pressure to "win at all costs", which can be a harmful outlook in some situations.

3 SET CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

Establish clear guidelines and expectations for behaviour before, during and after sporting events. Ensuring that children understand what is considered acceptable conduct helps prevent misunderstandings and promotes a positive, respectful atmosphere.

4 HIGHLIGHT COOPERATION

Underline the value of teamwork and cooperation in achieving success. Success isn't just about individual achievements, but about how well the team communicates, encourages each other and works together towards a common goal. A strong focus on cooperation fosters camaraderie and mutual support among players.

5 DISCUSS ACCEPTING DEFEAT

Help children to understand that they can't win every contest – that losing occasionally is a natural part of both sport and life in general. Teaching them to accept defeat gracefully and learn from their mistakes promotes resilience, humility and the ability to bounce back stronger from setbacks. Taking a loss in one's stride is also an admirable trait and can help children and young people garner respect in their future life.

6 ENCOURAGE INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION

Promote an environment where all children feel welcome and valued, regardless of their skill level. Prioritise the importance of participation and enjoyment over winning, creating a supportive atmosphere where every child can thrive and develop their abilities without unnecessary pressure.

7 FOSTER CONFLICT RESOLUTION SKILLS

Teach children how to resolve conflicts peacefully and respectfully, both on and off the field. Providing them with strategies for effective communication and problem-solving helps build stronger relationships and enhances their ability to navigate challenges, which can be a huge boon to them throughout their adult lives.

8 TEACH RESPECT

Emphasise to children the importance of respecting everyone involved in the game, regardless of the outcome. Respect for your teammates, opponents, coaches and officials helps to create a positive, inclusive sports environment where everyone can feel valued and appreciated.

9 GIVE CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK

Offer feedback that focuses on areas for improvement rather than unfettered criticism. Praise what a child has done well and advise on how to improve, rather than simply pointing out shortcomings. Encouraging a growth mindset and highlighting progress helps children to develop confidence, resilience and a desire to continue striving for excellence.

10 CELEBRATE GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

Try to avoid solely drawing attention to children's physical performance on the field. Recognise and celebrate acts of sportsmanship, fair play and kindness, too. By spotlighting positive behaviour, you reinforce the importance of such conduct and inspire children to practise this in the future, creating a culture of respect and camaraderie within the sports community that does wonders for morale.

Meet Our Expert

Caroline Holder is a PE consultant based in Staffordshire. Having worked across all age ranges delivering PE in schools, she now trains teachers and works with schools to develop their provision and ensure it achieves maximum impact for pupils. She passionately believes in the impact that PE, sport, and activity can have on children.



WakeUp
Wednesday

The
National
College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/friendly-competition>

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Key Information

Term Dates

SPRING TERM 2026	
START OF TERM	Monday 5th January 2026
Professional Day (college closed to students)	Friday 13th February 2026
Half Term	Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 27th March 2026

SUMMER TERM 2026	
START OF TERM	Monday 13th April 2026
May Day Bank Holiday (college closed)	Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25th to Friday 29th May 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 17th July 2026
Professional Day (college closed to students)	Monday 20th July 2026

Contacting Us

Please visit our website to find out the best way of contacting the person you would like to get in touch with. Please do remember that if you are contacting a member of our teaching staff, they will have teaching commitments during the day so please bear with them. If you would like to meet with a member of staff then please do arrange an appointment first.

In any cases of an emergency, please call the school on **01733 703991**.

Social Media

Please be sure to follow us on social media. We have Facebook pages for Sir Harry Smith Community College, Park Lane Primary School, New Road Primary School and the Aspire Learning Trust.

