

Spotlight on Sherborne

CLASS
OF
2026

TRINITY 2026



We cannot wait for you to join us in September and hope that you have enjoyed your last term at your Prep School, and our recent New Boys' Day at Sherborne.

It has been another busy term here, culminating in our Commemoration Day on Saturday 27 June, a chance to celebrate the many successes of the school year. Every year, a number of prizes are awarded in memory of Old Shirburnians, and you can read about these, and the other many notable achievements of the school year, on the Class of 2026 webpage.

Have a wonderful summer boys, and we look forward to seeing you in September.



Meet next year's Heads of School – Freddie and Benji

Freddie and Benji were interviewed by members of Sherborne Prep – watch the video where they answer the important questions (eg. favourite sock colour!) on the Class of 2026 webpage.



Class of 2026 – Your Final Challenge

We have enclosed a postcard with this newsletter – please use it to let your Housemaster know what you get up to over the summer – write it and post it to him at the address in the handbook you received on New Boys' Day.

Meet the teacher Mr Gordon

Teacher of English and Head of Lower School Scholarship

What inspired you to teach?

My passion for literature and language inspired me to teach. I'm an unapologetic geek when it comes to contemporary poetry, Jacobean/Elizabethan drama, nineteenth-century fiction, and literature of all kinds. I also love languages (I speak Spanish, French, 'kitchen' Italian and a bit of Zulu, and I'm slowly teaching myself Arabic), linguistics, translation, etymology, and the wonderfully strange stories hidden inside words.

What was your childhood dream job?

When I was younger, I was fascinated to the point of obsession by animals and wildlife and I was an enthusiastic member of the WWF (The World Wildlife Fund, not the World Wrestling Federation). My dream job was to become a game park ranger in the Kruger National Park in South Africa, working in conservation, helping to protect animals and sharing the wonders of the natural world with other people. Also, I wanted to drive cool offroad vehicles around the bush.

Surprising Fact?

Linked to the above, I have a relatively encyclopaedic knowledge of different species of animals, particularly Southern African fauna, and I can identify them by sight. Now I think about it, the fact that I've become a teacher doesn't feel like I'm that far removed from being a game park ranger – both involve guiding, encouraging and occasionally trying to keep track of a lively group of wild animals with minds of their own.

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Alan Turing Centenary Bike Ride – 100km from Southampton to Sherborne

To mark one hundred years, to the day, of Alan Turing's arrival into Sherborne Boys from Southampton train station, where he commandeered a bicycle and rode 100km to get here, members of Sherborne Schools Group re-enacted his journey, with a group of staff and pupils, arriving in Sherborne at 6pm on Tuesday 5 May. Alan Turing's actions on 4 May 1926 were a small glimpse of the man he would become: the father of computer science, the mind behind Bletchley Park, and the visionary who gave birth to artificial intelligence. The General Strike had brought Britain to a standstill. Every train stood idle.

A thirteen-year-old boy named Alan Turing was due to begin his first term at Sherborne School. Most boys would have waited. He did not. He borrowed a bicycle and rode nearly 60 miles alone through the Dorset countryside, stopping overnight before arriving at Sherborne the following morning – composed, punctual, and entirely unbothered. A Sherborne school report from 1927 showed that these actions were typical of Turing's character. "Alan has been doing distinguished work for us... his determination is remarkable."



Sherborne Boys Crowned Vase Champions at Rosslyn Park

Sherborne Boys' U18 Sevens side produced a superb two-day performance to be crowned U18 Vase champions at the 2026 Rosslyn Park National Schools Sevens competition in March. Sherborne entered the Vase competition following a strong season and carried that momentum into the Sevens format with a series of impressive performances across both days. A standout performer across the tournament was Edwin, whose influence on both sides of the ball saw him deservedly named Player of the Tournament. The campaign was further strengthened by the involvement of Old Shirburnian Will Homer (M14), former England and Great Britain Sevens international, who has been working closely with the programme this term. His expertise in the Sevens game has played a key role in developing the squad's understanding and execution in this format.

Will Homer said of the win, *"It's been a pleasure to work with the boys this term. They've been incredibly coachable and have taken on board the detail required to succeed in Sevens. To see them put it all together at Rosslyn Park and come away with the Vase is a brilliant achievement."*

Mr Smith, Director of Rugby at Sherborne School, said: *"This is a fantastic achievement for the boys and a reflection of the commitment they have shown throughout the season. Rosslyn Park is an incredibly competitive environment, and to come away as Vase winners is something the boys should be very proud of. They have embraced the Sevens game, shown real growth across the two days, and represented the school superbly."*

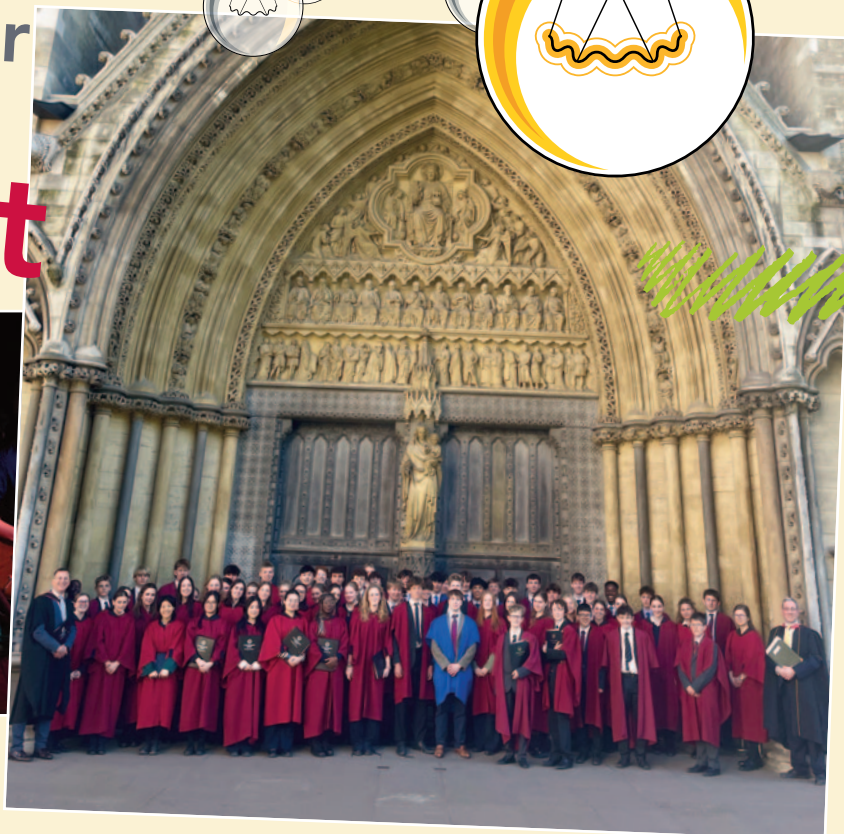


Music

From Westminster Abbey to Courtsfest



Music permeates life at Sherborne, and the very first week of term was a great example of the range of musical opportunities: On Thursday the SB Chamber Choir and SG Madrigal Society were invited to sing Evensong at Westminster Abbey, two days later Courtsfest took over the Courts for



our annual festival. Bands from SB and SG took to the stage to perform to a very appreciative audience.



Did you know?

The Old Shirburnian Society

On 26 June we celebrated the 130th Anniversary of the founding of The Old Shirburnian Society.

When a boy joins Sherborne, he becomes part of a lifelong community. During his time here, he builds friendships and values that stay with him forever, carrying the spirit of Sherborne wherever he goes. The Old Shirburnian Society exists to keep that connection alive; boys join a global network which hosts events around the world, creating opportunities to reunite, reminisce, and forge new connections. This includes professional support and networking, university visits and, for parents, the opportunity to join the Friends of Sherborne School. You can read more about The Old Shirburnian Society, and notable alumni using the link on the class of 2026 webpage.

