



Dear Parents and Carers

## SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

It has been lovely to see the children back in school after the half term break. I'm glad that everyone stayed safe during bonfire night. Just before half term the whole school staff took part in training about **understanding autism** which helped us to build on the practice already in school. (Many of the strategies that help children with autism help all children to feel safe, secure and know what they are doing in school.) The rest of the training day was on curriculum and assessment.



In Year 3 **Forest School** the children have begun the 6 week process of working in teams to plan, find materials and solve problems to build dens that will be waterproof and keep six children warm and dry. A great start!

Thank you to everyone who was nominated or voted in the recent **parent governor election**. It is great that we have so many parents and carers involved in supporting and challenging our school to improve. The following three parents were elected. Their term of office is for four years: Charlie Stobbart, Kate Wright and Laura McCullagh.

Leeds City Council is running a public consultation on the 2025/2026 admission policy for Leeds community and voluntary controlled schools. You can share your views until 4 December 2023. (Shire Oak is a voluntary controlled school. This means it has formal links with the church, but our admissions policy and RE curriculum is the same as other Leeds City Council schools.) Find out more at [www.leeds.gov.uk/SchoolAdmissionsConsultations](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/SchoolAdmissionsConsultations)

Well done to our Year 5 and Year 6 children who have been making sure families could make a donation to receive a poppy. We always support the Royal British Legion collection but this year we also had white poppies available after requests from children and families. Thank you to the parent who enabled that to happen without outlay to the school. Today we have had a short act of **remembrance** in each class to think about all those who have died or been injured in war.

It is a while since it was recorded, but two of our budding sports journalists are featured on the **Leeds Rhinos** website, interviewing one of their players, Richie Myler: <https://www.therhinos.co.uk/article/19617/school-kids-q&a-with-richie-myler> Well done to both of them for well planned, clear questioning!



Thank you to the parents who were able to join us this morning for our **Diwali Assembly**. It was great to share the work being done in classes about this festival and the religions that celebrate it. As the nights draw in it is especially fitting to learn about and learn from festivals of light like this. **Happy Diwali** to all celebrating this weekend!

I know that some of you will be planning your diaries for the weeks ahead to Christmas. One date is Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November, from 5pm. This is a lovely, local event in Headingley. The community meets at St Michaels' Church (who serve refreshments). We then usually sing carols inside the church before going outside to sing some more and then count down to the **switch on of the Headingley Christmas lights**. All are welcome! On the 8<sup>th</sup> December there will be another lovely community event at Leeds City Square with a reading of the festive classic, 'A Christmas Carol' by Oliver Bray, Dean of the Leeds Beckett School of Arts.

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/news/2023/10/leeds-beckett-university-welcomes-city-to-live-reading-of-festive-classic/>



Class	Well done to these Superstars who have been chosen by staff who work with them. Year 6 monitors write down the comments on certificates as they are given out.
YR (Thames)	<b>Millie</b> has settled in so well and she is a lovely member of the class. <b>Frankie J</b> has been working so hard and she has been wowing Ms Dalton in phonics.
Y1 (Nile)	<b>Gemma</b> uses her phonics well in her reading. <b>Thomas</b> has a great learning attitude.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	<b>Alfie</b> tries his best in every lesson and is very focused on his work. <b>May</b> has worked hard to develop her knowledge of 2 digit addition crossing ten.
Y3 (Rhine)	<b>Stella</b> is always positive and an encouraging member of class, working well with partners and as part of a team. <b>Nicolas</b> is consistently a kind and encouraging member of the class, working well with partners and as part of a team.
Y4 (Ganges)	<b>Effie</b> always makes the right choices and tries her best in every lesson. <b>Mason</b> has worked really hard on staying focused during lessons and it is really showing in the work he produces.
Y5 (Tigris)	Are <b>all</b> working hard on their Anglo Saxons topic. Individual certificates next time.
Y6 (Amazon)	<b>Charlie</b> is producing quality work in writing sessions. <b>Oliver</b> is making good contributions across a range of subjects.
<b>Citizen of the Week</b> last week was <b>Indi</b> who was nominated by Mali because she is kind hearted and if someone is on the buddy bench she helps them find a friend.	

Well done to everyone for **100% attendance** in school on Thursday! I hope you have a lovely weekend.

*Jane Astrid Devane*

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## DIARY DATES

Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	FOSOPS meeting at 2:15pm to plan for Winter Festival of Fire
13 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti Bullying Fortnight. Includes drama workshops (KS2) on the 13 <sup>th</sup>
w/c 13 <sup>th</sup> November	YR trip to Pizza Express TBC
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y2 family and friends welcome!
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Open Morning for prospective parents. Current parents also welcome to look round school to see it in action on an ordinary learning day.
Wed'day 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Winter Festival of Fire, straight after school in the grounds.
27 <sup>th</sup> November onwards	Lunchtime choir start carol singing at local care homes, etc. from this week
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Shire Oak singing at Headingley Christmas Lights Switch On. St Michael's Church, 5pm. All welcome. Refreshments available.
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Year 5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y5 friends and family welcome!
4 <sup>th</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 residential trip to Robinwood in Todmorden.
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Meeting for Year 4 parents about Lineham Farm residential, 5pm in the classroom TBC
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y4 friends and family welcome!
12 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> December	D:Side sessions on Internet safety
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Inter Schools football tournament hosted by Lawnswood School
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Dress rehearsal for YR/Y1/Y2 Nativity Plays
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> December	School nurses to see YR and Y6
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	YR/Y1/Y2 Nativity Plays YR 9:30 and 1:30. KS1 10:15 and 2:15 TBC
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Book Club (mostly Y5) trip to Leeds Playhouse Christmas production, Oliver!
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service, St Michael's Church, 10:30am. All welcome!
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas dinner (packed lunches can book in advance)
Wed'sday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas discos R/1/2 3:45-4:45pm and KS2 5:00-6:00 pm
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas party day including entertainer and party lunch (packed lunches can book in advance or bring their own party food lunchbox)
<p style="text-align: center;">CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Mon 25<sup>th</sup> to Fri 5<sup>th</sup> January.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">There is a Christingle Service at 4pm on Christmas Eve at St Michael's Church that many of our children enjoy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">School is closed to children. <a href="#">Art Camp</a> are measuring demand for a holiday club. Fill in their survey <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Open Morning for prospective parents. Current parents also welcome to look round school to see it in action on an ordinary learning day.
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Y3 poetry assembly at 2:30pm following work this week with local poet, James Nash. All welcome!
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Stay and Play in YR/Y1/Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	Reception Class trip to Pizza Express (TBC)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y6 friends and family welcome!
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Reception Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All YR friends and family welcome!
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children. Staff will be training in school.
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y1 friends and family welcome!
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Y5 chocolate trip to York TBC
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Lunar New Year Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
7 <sup>th</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Lineham Farm residential trip for all in Year 4.
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception Parents and Carers maths meeting 2:15pm
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 and Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y5 friends and family welcome!
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y4 friends and family welcome!
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3 Stone Age trip to the Discovery Centre
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day. We usually dress up as book characters today.
8 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup> March	British Science Week
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 & Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Hot Cross Bun sale straight after school TBC
18 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Class visits to St Michael's to learn about the Easter story
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents and Carers Evening (appointments with class teachers)

Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3/4 Easter Production dress rehearsal am
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3/4 Easter Production PM, families welcome
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents and Carers Evening (appointments with class teachers)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	TRAINING DAY. School will be closed to children. Staff will be training in school.
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 2 intensive swimming lessons start (letter to follow nearer the time)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 & Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	D:Side PSHCE sessions (Safety around medicines, alcohol, etc.)
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y2 families and friends welcome!
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Shire Oak Sunday at St Michael's Church 10am, all welcome to the all-age service
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Reception Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All YR friends and family welcome!
13 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs week (Year 6)
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y1 friends and family welcome!
3 <sup>rd</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Green Week, including pedestrian and scooter training
3 <sup>rd</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Bikeability training for Year 6. This will include road cycling if the assessment is passed and it helps if children are confident so get them practising now!
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Y3 trip to Otley Chevin TBC
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	R&S Education meeting for Y5 and Y6 parents/carers
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5 trip to recycling plant TBC
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5 trip to the water treatment plant
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5/6 Girls' Tag Rugby qualifiers 1-3pm
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children. Staff working offsite.
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Eid assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Non uniform day (in return for a tombola present for HYMF, thank you)
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception parents/carers meeting (am and evening)
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5/6 Mixed Culley Sevens 1-3pm
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Headingley Youth Music Festival 12-4pm. This is our gift to the community and also our summer fair. All children in school are in our choir that performs, as do Y4 djembe players and other musicians. (Please avoid booking parties today!)
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5/6 Girls' Tag Final stages (at Headingley) 1-3pm
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5/6 Girls' Contact Festival 1-3pm
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All friends and family of Y3 welcome!
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Transition day TBC
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Music Recital am. All welcome!
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> & Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Days TBC
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 production to rest of school
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 production to friends and family, all welcome! (evening)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, 10:30am. All welcome!
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Y6 Leavers' trip
TERM DATES: <a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar</a>	

\* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change.

**Acorn Club** have been creative with the leaves.

