

Dear Parents and Carers

On Monday I received this very excited message from Ian Martin: "Cracking performance by the **Y4 rugby team** at the Woodlesford tournament. Best ever performance, lost 3-2 in the final to the hosts. Ted, Sam, Noah, Rudee, Alex, Peter & Thomas were as impressive as ever but special mention for Arthur, Elijah & Logan who've all improved massively over the last 2 years. Elijah scored a debut try!" Well done Year 4!

Last week also saw two children from Shire Oak in external musical performances. On Thursday, Theo and Marcus (Y6) played violin and trombone in the **annual Leeds Schools Music Association concert** in the Town Hall. Over two hundred children took part, many of them performing for the first time in this wonderful venue. More than half of them were in a choir which sang "Running on Rails" the story of the building of the Settle to Carlisle railway over the Pennines; all had two days off school earlier in the term to rehearse, and the benefit of concentrated practice really showed. There will be another of these



programmes next year, open to Y5 and Y6 - no audition is necessary - we will remind everyone next Easter, but in the meantime anyone interested in the Leeds Youth Choir, which rehearses near the University, contact Diane Paterson at www.artformsleeds.co.uk .

Over the weekend Marcus then travelled to perform at the Aldeburgh music festival in Suffolk as part of the **Opera North Childrens' Chorus**, where they rehearsed at the Snape Maltings centre set up by classical composer Benjamin Britten and singer Peter Pears, and then performed at the bandstand on the beach. ONCC rehearse in Leeds City Centre, and although no experience is necessary to apply to join each autumn, there is an informal audition. For further information, contact Marie.Lemaire@operanorth.co.uk or visit <https://www.operanorth.co.uk/education-and-engagement> ."



On Monday Year 3 and Year 4 enjoyed their trip to **Magna**, near Sheffield. As well as finding out more about the history of steel making in the local area they enjoyed the workshops and the pavilions exploring the power of earth, air, fire and water. A great day out linked to their Extreme Earth topic.

Thank you the Reception Class families who donated enough cakes for a mega **bun sale** yesterday. Helped by sellers from Year 6, the children raised £57.45.



Year 1 enjoyed a visit from Phill Hopkins on Thursday afternoon to share stories from Bardsey Island and help them to **build their own boats** using hand tools and wood in Design and Technology. Thank you Phill – a great afternoon as part of their Buckets and Spades topic.

This morning we enjoyed our **Eid assembly** to mark the end of Ramadan. Children shared their learning about Islamic art, the phases of the moon, the role of charity and celebrations. We were particularly pleased to welcome Uwais (a former pupil now at Abbey Grange) who talked to the children about Ramadan and breaking the fast with dates. He even demonstrated the call to prayer.

Finally, **d:side** have been in school today teaching the children in KS2 about alcohol, smoking and drugs. In an age-appropriate way they have been helping children to understand the risks so they can make good decisions as they grow up.

Have a great weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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DIARY DATES

Thursday 29 th June	Lawnswood Athletics Festival at Beckett Park (Year 5) cancelled due to poor weather
Monday 3 rd July	* Woodcraft Folk's Eden Ballantyne visiting assembly
Wednesday 5 th July	Y1/2 trip to Filey coming back later to school that day
Wednesday 5 th July	Girls Rugby Tournament
Thursday 6 th July	Transition Day
Wed 5 th & Thursday 6 th July	Transition days for Lawnswood High School
Monday 10 th July	* Brass instrument demonstration in assembly
Wednesday 12 th July	Musicians end of year recital (afternoon)
Thursday 13 th July	Y6/5 dress rehearsal and evening performance of their production.
Mon 17 th – Wed 19 th July	Bikeability for Y6. They will be able to borrow bikes and helmets if necessary. We want as many children as possible to access the training and award.
Tuesday 18 th July	* Suitcase Circus performing for school
Wednesday 19 th July	Sports Day Reception/Y1/Y2 in the morning.
Thursday 20 th July	Sports Day Y3 & Y4 in the morning. (if fine) Y5/6 Sports Day will be in the afternoon (if fine). This is a change to the previously published date.
Monday 24 th July	End of year parties/disco in the afternoon
Tuesday 25 th July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, Headingley. All welcome. 10:30am.
Wednesday 26 th July	Last day of term
Thurs 27 th July to Fri 1 st Sept	SUMMER HOLIDAYS. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Thursday 14 th September	Judo workshops

