



Dear Parents and Carers

## SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

It was so lovely to see most of our families at the **Winter Festival of Fire** on Wednesday. We were, again, very lucky with the dry, wintry weather. Thank you to Ian Martin, FOSOPS, staff and volunteers for laying on a good array of activities to take part in, including:

- Woodland tree decorations
- Reflection space – cast off your heavy luggage
- Glitter sticks
- Hot words
- Marshmallow toasting
- Camp fire
- Songs and carols
- Pedal powered music (thanks Woodcraft Folk! – see flyer on side 4)
- Christmas fair stalls
- Hot and cold refreshments

Thank you very much to everyone who donated buns and biscuits or staffed a stall or helped to set up the teepees and fires – or just came along and enjoyed the atmosphere. We love our winter celebration of the outdoors.



← This week we also marked the **Birthday of Guru Nanak**, an important festival for many Sikh people. The children always enjoy singing **Happy Birthday Guru Nanak** and sharing the work they have been doing in classes on this festival and the Sikh religion. Thank you to the parents and carers who joined us this morning for our special assembly.



This weekend sees the **first Sunday in Advent** and we are now beginning to prepare for Christmas in school. As well as our Reception class and Y1/2 Nativity plays, December sees a carol service at St Michael's Church, class parties, a Christmas dinner and plenty of **carol singing**. If your child is in Year 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 they will have been invited to join the choir that is rehearsing once or twice a week at lunchtimes. This year we will be singing for Wheatfields Hospice, Grove Court and Victoria Court. We go in school time and walk there and back with school staff and volunteers.



Our neighbours at Wheatfields have let us know about a special course they are hosting there. It is a short, **supportive parenting course** led by Penny Vine who has a great reputation in Leeds schools for her work on peaceful relationships. To find out more: <http://www.pennyvine.com/compassionate-parenting-6-week-course/>

If you hear a strange, klaxon-like sound drifting over Headingley from time to time please don't be alarmed! Year 4 have installed a new way of highlighting great learning in their class!

I hope you have a great weekend.

*Jane Astrid Devane*

Jane Astrid Devane

[janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk)

### Did you know?

That although we ask for help with costumes for the Nativity plays, we don't want you to struggle or go out and buy costumes! If you don't have/ can't borrow anything suitable, please speak to the class staff about finding a costume through school. (You may be able to help us with a different costume instead.)

We take the safeguarding of children very seriously at our school and we appreciate your help with this. If you have any concerns or observations regarding **health and safety**, please contact Jane Astrid Devane, Marcelle Maver or Liz Craven.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding **child protection** issues, please speak to Jane Astrid Devane, Marcelle Maver or Hilary Whitehead.

If you have questions about your **child's progress** or **how to help them** with the learning they find difficult please speak to your child's teacher or make an appointment to see them via the school office.

The governors are always interested in hearing the **views of parents**. If you would like to speak to a governor, then please email the chair, Julia Kelly [shireoakgovernors@gmail.com](mailto:shireoakgovernors@gmail.com) Julia is often on the playground, particularly at the start and end of the week, if you would like to talk to her.)



← Child friendly Headingley are having a meeting tomorrow to discuss its priorities and consider wishes such as a playground for the local area. Do join them!

Making a noise about bullying! We hope the whistles weren't too annoying! ↓



## DIARY DATES

Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	*	Carol Singing at Grove Court, pm.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December		Bun sale at morning break, 30p, run by Year 5
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> December		Carol Singing at Victoria Court, a.m.
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December		Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas nativity productions.
9 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> December		Year 6 Residential to Robinwood, Todmorden.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December		Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> /Tue 15 <sup>th</sup> December	*	Carol singing, Wheatfields Hospice, pm.
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December		Christmas Carol Service, 10:30am. St Michael's Church. All welcome.
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December		Christmas Discos. KS1: 4:30 – 5:30 and KS2 5:45 – 6:45
21 <sup>st</sup> December – 1 <sup>st</sup> January		CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January		TRAINING DAY – TBC
5 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> January		Switched On Shire Oak Week
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January		Open Morning. 9:15- 11:30. All current and prospective parents/carers welcome.
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	*	Y1 and Y2 special session with Leeds Trampolining Club
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> January		Year 6 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> January		Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January		House Team Hobby Half Day
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January		Bun sale at morning break, 30p, run by Year 4
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	*	Quick Sticks Hockey competition, Weetwood Sports Park, 9:30 – 3pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> January		Football Match Shire Oak v Weetwood - played at Lawnswood School - KO. 3.45
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> January		Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> February		STEM (science, tech, engineering & maths) Club Week.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> February		Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome. (STEM focus)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February		FOSOPS Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday) event straight after school
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February		Reception Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
15 – 19 February		HALF TERM BREAK. Kidzone may run a holiday playscheme.
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March		Bun sale at morning break, 30p, run by Year 3
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March		Year 5 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March		Football Match Weetwood v Shire Oak - played at Lawnswood School - KO. 3.45
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March		Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March		Geography Day
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March		Easter Production by Years 3 and 4. All welcome.
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March		TRAINING DAY – TBC
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> & Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> March		Good Friday and Easter Monday. School closed.
30 <sup>th</sup> March – 1 <sup>st</sup> April		Year 4 Residential to Bewerley Park
4 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> April		EASTER HOLIDAY. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April		Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May		BANK HOLIDAY. School closed.
9 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> May		KS2 SATS week
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> May		Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May		House Team Hobby Half Day
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May		Bun sale at morning break, 30p, run by Year 1
30 <sup>th</sup> May – 3 <sup>rd</sup> June		HALF TERM BREAK. Kidzone may run a holiday playscheme.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June		Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June		Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June		TRAINING DAY –TBC Assessment and report writing.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June		Reception Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June		Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July		Bun sale at morning break, 30p, run by Reception Class
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July		Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> July		Eid Assembly, 9am, whole school. All welcome.
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> & Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> July		Year 6 production, supported by Year 5.
18 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup> July		Sport for Life Week TBC
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July		End of year concert, 1:30pm. TBC
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July		Leavers' Service, 10:30am, St Michael's Church. All welcome.

\* means added or changed since last newsletter

TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change



## New groups for children in Headingley & Meanwood



Families and volunteers welcome.  
Book a free taster and start in January...

### Woodchips (2-5s)

Shire Oak School, **Headingley**, Fri 3.30-4.30  
**Meanwood** Institute, Green Rd, Thu 4-5

### Elfins (6-9s)

Shire Oak School, **Headingley**, Thu 6-7.15  
**Meanwood** Community Centre,  
Stainbeck Ave, Mon 6.15-7.30

### Pioneers (10-12s)

**Meanwood** Community Centre,  
Stainbeck Ave, Mon 6.15-7.30

**More groups:** Potternewton Park, Kirkstall/ Bramley, Yeadon, Otley,  
Gledhow, Allerton Bywater, Bradford, Colne Valley.



### Find out more



07794 910715



[katy@woodcraft.org.uk](mailto:katy@woodcraft.org.uk)



[woodcraft.org.uk/ngp-wy](http://woodcraft.org.uk/ngp-wy)



Woodcraft Folk New  
Groups Project



[@yorkswoodcraft](https://twitter.com/yorkswoodcraft)

Woodcraft Folk develops children's self confidence and awareness of the world, encouraging equality, friendship and co-operation.

Weekly groups, weekend trips and summer camps are affordable and open to all.

Outdoor activities, crafts, songs and games promote big ideas like sustainability and democracy.

