



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all enjoyed the copy of **The Big Leaf** pupil newspaper that came out on Friday last week. With help only to put in the diary dates and print it out, Year 6 children have written, typed, organised, proof-read and edited it all themselves - an impressive achievement. The editors are Fred, Isabel, Phoebe, Melita, Noah and Lewis. They are currently busy trying to put together an edition for Christmas (The Big Holly Leaf) and they would like any Christmas jokes, recipes, stories or other contributions that any children at Shire Oak would like write.

This week saw the first **snow** flurries and real ice of the winter. Families who have been at Shire Oak in previous snowy winters will know that we have not closed in at least 8 years so would only do so if we could not keep children safe or get enough staff in to look after them. (Given that we have had staff walk home to Bramhope and beyond before now, you can be assured they are a pretty intrepid lot!) We do make sure the children get a chance to play outside in the snow so we ask that in wintry weather you wrap the children up warmly, make sure they have appropriate shoes or boots, and consider sending in spare clothes in case they get wet. Spare clothes do not have to be school uniform, just as sensible as you can manage.

Thank you to all the families who joined us for the **Headingley Lights Switch On**. It was good to hear our children singing cheerfully and then getting a chance to warm up, have some refreshments and explore the church afterwards. Next year though I think we should take control of the microphone!



Thank you to **Year 5** for a lovely **class assembly** yesterday. We were delighted to see the range of subjects covered in such a confident, fun and informative way: maths, English, French, RE, PE, history, geography, art & design, drama, PSHCE and music! Thank you to all the friends and family who were able to join us to support and celebrate the class and their achievements.

Well done to the **choir** who have been enthusiastically rehearsing for our **carol singing**. We have a couple of rehearsals left (Monday lunchtimes) and it is open to all children from Y2 upwards. Today we head off on our first 'gig' singing for older people at Victoria Court. All children who have been to rehearsals will get the chance to join one or more of these trips as well as taking on a key role of leading the singing during our Carol Service in the final week of term.

This weekend sees the **first Sunday in Advent** and in school preparations have had to start a little earlier than usual, due to the very early end of term date. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have been very busy learning their songs, lines, positions and poses for their nativity plays and we are looking forward to their performances. As you can imagine, trying to make sure 90 children are happy and comfortable in their roles and know what they are doing is no mean feat, especially as we try not to start too early or over-rehearse the children at the expense of the rest of the curriculum. This does mean, however, that sorting out the costumes happens a little late in the day, so we would really appreciate your help with any items that can be used for your child's costume (or that of their classmates) if you are asked to. Letting us know if you have difficulties sourcing the items is very helpful so that we can work out which costumes are sorted, and which ones we need to find/make before Tuesday! We are not expecting families to buy expensive costumes or do a lot of sewing, so please talk to us if you are not sure what is required or if you need school to help you.

I hope you have lovely weekend.

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

Jane Astrid Devane

## DIARY DATES

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Bun Sale run by Year 5 (Y5 please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Dress rehearsal for nativity performances in front of the other classes
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir singing at Wheatfields
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas nativities. 9:30am and 1:30pm
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Robinwood Residential for the Year 6 class
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir singing at Wheatfields
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir singing at Wheatfields
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church 10:30am, all welcome!
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas lunch.
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Choir singing at Grove Park
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December *	Christmas party day (children may wear Christmas jumpers or similar Christmas colours/outfits) TBC
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Story telling with Stories Alive!
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> December - Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January. School closed for Christmas holiday.	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Reports to parents Y1-Y6 go home this week.
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	New to you/secondhand uniform sale after school
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Switched On Shire Oak Week (growth mindsets, etc.)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Open Morning
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 6 class assembly
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Fractions Friday (fun maths day)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Geography Fun Facts Day
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 2 class assembly – all welcome! 9am in the hall.
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Bun Sale run by Year 4 (Y4 please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Shire Oak Sunday – joining St Michael's Church at their All Age Service, 10am.
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Reading Week will include a dress up day.
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> February to Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> February. School closed for half term holiday.	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	'Get into STEM' (science, technology, engineering & maths) visitor for Y1/2
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Movie Night
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb & Thur 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Parents Evenings (&Y5/6 children)
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Bun Sale run by Year 3 (Y3 please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Holi assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Lineham Farm residential for children in Year 4
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 5 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Bun Sale run by Year 2 (Y2 please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3/4 Easter production dress rehearsal in front of the other children
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter production. All welcome!
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> April. School closed for Easter holiday.	
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Y1-Y6 reports to parents given out this week.
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	New to you/secondhand uniform sale after school
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Bun Sale run by Year 1 (Y1 please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 2 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May school closed for the bank holiday.	
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> –Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs week for Year 6.
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Spruce Up Shire Oak Groundforce work day

Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Bun Sale run by Reception. (YR please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 1 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Non – uniform day for items for summer fair at Headingley Youth Music Festival
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	school closed for May half term holiday
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Headingley Youth Music Festival (including our summer fair) 12-4pm
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Geography Mapping Week
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Parents meeting
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Reception class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Movie Night
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Give out reports to parents this week.
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Music recital by children learning instruments. TBC.
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Dress rehearsal (am)& evening performance for Y5/6 End of Year Production
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Learning through Sport Week (including swimming gala, TBC)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Y3/4 Sports Day
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Sports Day
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception/Y1/Y2 Sports Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	New to you/secondhand uniform sale after school
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers' Service, St Michael's Church
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term before the summer holiday.
* means added or changed since last newsletter      TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change	

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 Jane Hinchliffe.

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.

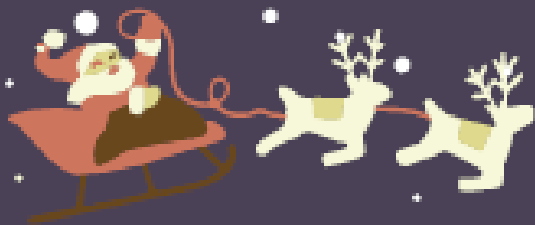
The governors are always interested in hearing the **views of parents**. If you would like to speak to a governor, then please email the chair, Julia Kelly [shireoakgovernors@gmail.com](mailto:shireoakgovernors@gmail.com) Julia is often on the playground, if you would like to talk to her.)



Look at the lovely decorations **Year 2** have been making for our **Christmas tree**, which has arrived today from our friends at **The Stables!**

LAWNSWOOD SCHOOL  
PRESENTS

# The Winter Festival 2017



WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2017  
6 PM - 8PM

Come and join us for a wonderful winter food, delicious drinks, creative craft stalls with crystal cool performances from Music, Dance and Drama.  
We'll get you jingling all the way home!

Tickets available from the Music Office or by contacting Miss K Mitchell  
via email [Mitchell.kat@elawnswood.co.uk](mailto:Mitchell.kat@elawnswood.co.uk)

ADULTS £3  
CHILD / CONCESSION £2  
FAMILY OF FOUR £8