

Dear Parents and Carers

We had two special visitors to school on Monday. A **Viking woman** came to spend the day with Year 6 who learned about Viking work, food, tools, clothes, travels and much more. They were very interested in the artefacts and stories from Viking times.



Year 5 had an in-person reply to letters they had sent recently to their **MP. Alex Sobel** came to answer and share their concerns about litter in the local area and tell them about his time at COP 26 in Scotland.



We are very pleased that year 6 got off safely to their residential visit to **Robinwood** near Todmorden. They carried their own bags on the train journey there and we are looking forward to hearing all about their adventures. So far we have heard that they have enjoyed archery, night line, zip wire climbing and the crate challenge!



I know parents and carers of our younger children have been waiting for the news about this year's **Nativity performances** and will understand why I have delayed sharing the arrangements until now. As you know, last year they were not permitted to go ahead in person due to the restrictions and so we made a video of them instead. This year we have been working towards performing them in the hall, firstly for the other children and then for families. This is still our plan as I write. However, it would not be prudent to be as generous in our invitations as we usually are when we welcome parents, grandparents, smaller siblings, etc. and all to just pack into the hall to watch the performances! In order to reduce numbers in the hall we are separating the Reception performance from the Y1/2 performance and will repeat this in the afternoon. We know that ticketing events can cause unnecessary tensions, so I am trying to avoid that, if I can. I therefore ask families to be as considerate as possible when

choosing who is going to attend and typically not send more than a maximum of 2 people per child (either both at one performance or one each morning and afternoon.) Unless it makes it impossible to attend, please do not bring younger siblings (babes in arms are, of course, welcome). We will ask adult visitors to wear masks indoors. Tea, coffee and mince pies will be available whilst you wait for performances – please wrap up warmly as the hall will be well ventilated and we will clear the hall between performances. To help us judge the likely attendance (and to make contingency plans if necessary) please fill in a google form for each adult attending: <https://forms.gle/DapNx4XchU9HxVvz7>

Thank you to Liz Craven who has been selling tickets for the **disco**, **Reception Class movie night** and the **Christmas raffle**. These will be on sale at the start of next week too. Tickets for the disco and movie night include unlimited drinks and a slice of pizza. Fruit, sweets and other snacks will be available to buy. FOSOPS are also running a **hot chocolate sale** after school today in the hall. I believe some Y4 entrepreneurs will be there too, selling cupcakes for Children in Need. ☺

I have tried to summarise below the main events happening in the next two weeks. They are busy weeks and the children will be tired and need help to pace themselves and the excitement of things happening inside and outside school.

Monday 6 th	Tuesday 7 th	Wednesday 8 th	Thursday 9 th	Friday 10 th
		Dress rehearsals of plays for the rest of school to watch a.m. School nurses to see YR and Y6.	Nativity Plays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception 9:30- c.9:45am • Year 1/2 10:15 – c.11am • Reception 1:30 – c.1:45pm • Year 1/2 2:15 – c. 3pm Y4 trip to Bradford Media Museum Y3 Forest School as usual	Y3 swimming as usual
Monday 13 th	Tuesday 14 th	Wednesday 15 th	Thursday 16 th	Friday 17 th
Raffle tickets being drawn Some of choir singing outside Headingley Hall nursing home in the afternoon	Carol Service in church, am School Christmas dinner Book Club are going to the theatre	Reception Class Movie Night after school 3:15- 5:15pm Christmas discos after school, Y1 Y2 Y3 straight after school until 4:30pm. Y4 Y5 Y6 4:45 – 6:00pm (Y1, 2 & 3 can bring clothes to get changed into at home time)	Some of choir singing at Victoria Court in the morning Christmas party lunch Class parties (Y3 & Y4 joint Forest School party on The Ridge, others in school) Children can wear a Christmas jumper, top, or their own choice. Bottoms do not have to be school uniform, but should be appropriate for indoors and outdoors – no frou frou skirts please!	Alive and Kicking 'Open for Christmas' show (KS1 am, KS2 pm) No swimming in the final week TBC

Well done to Year 4 for their **sharing assembly** which we enjoyed watching this morning. Lots of lovely learning on display!



Art Camp would like me to remind you that:

Christmas camp is only a few weeks away and we have lots planned: We have a Christmas fancy dress party with a visit from Santa, lots of themed classes; TV presenting, film making, DJing, circus skills, disco, dance, drama, circus skills... and so much more fun.

There's a 10% discount for Shire Oak Children.

For further info www.artcampuk.com or jon@artcampuk.com
[Junior Camp timetable](#) [Mini Camp timetable](#)



Thank you for making sure that the children have the **right clothes and footwear** for the cold weather we have been experiencing.

It is good to be able to let the children go out to play, whatever the weather. We always try to avoid 'wet play' at Shire Oak as they need the fresh air and exercise.



Thank you to everyone who donated their Morrisons Let's Grow vouchers to our school. We have placed an order for gardening and outdoor equipment!



It was lovely to see so many Shire Oak families at the **Headingley Christmas Lights Switch On** this Tuesday. They sang well and there was a great community feel to the event. Thank you for bringing your children to join in and sing.

There is a consultation happening about changes to the Lawnswood roundabout. If you want to share your opinions, this is the link: [Consultation Link](#)

We have had no further confirmed cases of COVID in school this week.



Class	Well done to these Superstars who have been chosen by staff in their class
YR (Thames)	Matilde is very sensible during practising our Nativity and takes part really well. Lily is very patient and understanding.
Y1 (Nile)	Jacob and Jennider are always patient and kind.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Willis is always patient and kind with classmates. Coco is always patient and respectful when sharing equipment and working with others.
Y3 (Rhine)	Josh shows patience by using the '5 Bs' in lessons. Etta consistently shows patience and perseverance with work. She is always patient when waiting for her turn.
Y4 (Ganges)	Rhian approaches her role as 'odd job monitor' positively, always happy to help. Cora is always kind, patient and considerate to others in class.
Y5 (Tigris)	Myla has a patient and thoughtful approach to her school work. Amber is a patient and well mannered person around school.
Y6 (Amazon)	Were away at Robinwood
Well done to all these children who have achieved their next Maths Passport continent and are travelling on to the next one: Patch, Aidan, Jann and Sam .	

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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DIARY DATES

Friday 3 rd December	After school hot chocolate sale in the hall
Wed 8 th December	School nurses (YR & Y6) for Nat Ch Measurement Programme & distance vision screening
Thursday 9 th December	Y4 trip to the Media Museum in Bradford
Thursday 9 th December	Reception and KS1 Nativity productions (a.m. and p.m.)
Monday 13 th December*	Some of choir singing at Headingley Hall
Tuesday 14 th December	Carol Service at St Michaels' Church, 10:30am.
Tuesday 14 th December	School Christmas dinner
Tuesday 14 th December	Book Club visit to watch Peter Pan at Leeds Playhouse in the afternoon
Wed 15 th December	Christmas discos after school, Y1 Y2 Y3 straight after school until 4:30pm. Y4 Y5 Y6 4:45 – 6:00pm Reception Class will have Movie Night straight after school
Thurs 16 th December *	Some of choir singing at Victoria Court in the morning
Thurs 16 th December	Christmas party food lunch (children with packed lunches can also bring treats today) and party day. This is the day for wearing Christmas jumpers or other tops that children like.
Friday 17 th December	Alive & Kicking Christmas drama
Thursday 6 th January	Open morning for prospective parents between 9:15 and 11:15am
Thursday 20 th January	Y1 trip to Abbey House Museum
Thursday 20 th January	Homework hand in day for Years 1-6
Thursday 27 th January	Y5 trip to the chocolate factory
Sunday 13 th February	Shire Oak Sunday St Michael's Church (we are invited to take part in the All Age Service)
Monday 14 th March	Y3 visit to Herd Farm for Stone Age topic
27 th – 29 th April 2022	Lineham Farm residential for Year 4
9 th to 12 th May 2022	KS2 SATs (Year 6)
16 th to 20 th May 2022	Bikeability for Year 6
23 rd /24 th May	D:side sessions on medicines, alcohol and drugs TBC
Friday 27 th May 2022	Y6 trip to Ledston for Woodland Sessions

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar> term dates