



Dear Parents and Carers

## SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School



It was so good to have a full – and busy – week in school this week. Thank you to the families who were able to stay for **Stay and Play** this morning in Reception, Year One and Year Two. Some children struggle to talk about their day once they get home for the evening, so it is good to have some joint experiences to refer to. Thanks also to those who attended the phonics meeting.

Whilst the younger children had Stay and Play, our older children met in their five **house teams**

for the first time this year. All of Year 6 are House Team Captains and they got the year off to a great start by leading the meetings themselves. As well as encouraging team pride, they also made sure the rest of KS2 knew how to be kind, be safe and be their best in school and how the Worry Box, Buddy Bench, Mr Nash and other staff in school, etc. can help with this. Lion team in Year 6 have been working with Reverend Angela this afternoon as they learn a story and then work out how to present it to the rest of school.

Another way we develop pupil leadership is through our **School Council**. This week classes in KS1 and KS2 have been choosing their two representatives to send to the meetings. The whole school also elects a **vice chair**, who deputises for the chair of School Council and learns the ropes so that they can become the chairperson in Year 6. This year I was so pleased and proud to see that 18 of our Y5s put themselves forward. They prepared great speeches and presented them during our hustings in front of the whole school. All the candidates had a lot to offer, campaigned well and all received votes from across school. Well done to Benji, Bethan, Betty, Clara, Cora, Darcy, Dotty, Emily, Florence, Hannah, Harvey, Joe, Odysseas, Ollo, Rhian, Tayah, Teddy and Zac! The votes were incredibly close and we actually ended up with a tie break. Congratulations to Bethan and Ollo who will be sharing the role this year.

It is great to see that the leadership and entrepreneurial spirit developed at Shire Oak can continue and flourish as children go to secondary school. Former pupil, Isabel, has carried on her love of stalls (after the success of waffles and smoothies last year) and will be selling Spanish food at the new **Makers Market** this Saturday, 10-2pm at Headingley Central (formerly the Arndale Centre). It will be at the Wood Lane end, near to the gym entrance if you would like to pop along. We love finding out how our children are getting on when they move on to secondary school and value our links with local high schools. Our link with **Lawnswood** is well established and we were pleased to welcome Mr Mark Smith from the maths department this week to work with our Year 6s on **maths puzzles**. Y6 families are busy attending open days and school visits and we are also welcoming visitors from local secondary schools to talk to the class and reassure them about the move next year. They are also thinking about this year's **residential** – please make sure you talk to us about any concerns!

Other firsts this week were the first training sessions of our rugby squad and football team from Years 4, 5 and 6. It is so good to see girls and boys getting stuck into their training, whatever the weather, and working hard to develop their skills.



It is our **Harvest Festival** on Friday next week and we will hold a special assembly to which you are all invited (outside, if fine; in the hall if not!) We make a harvest table of the donated food that families bring into school, sing Harvest Festival songs and hear a little from each class about their learning on this topic. Please do send in food\* and join us!



Year 3 had their first **Forest School** session on The Ridge this week, having learned how to stay safe and assess risk in the school grounds first. They had a great time and are looking forward to their weekly sessions. They spend plenty of time outdoors all week – here they are marking estimations on chalk number lines to 1000 in the playground.

As well as children's achievements in school, it is always great to hear about what children are enjoying and doing well with outside of school. In our recent Super Stars assembly we celebrated swimming awards, Brownie badges and a



handwritten reply from David Attenborough to a letter sent by one of our children. We also heard about Nelson's amazing charity bike ride which was in memory of his namesake, a famous snowboarder. Nelson kept up with the full adult route and cycled 29 miles! We are very proud of him. You can find out more about the charity and donate at

<https://www.thecalmzone.net/ride-on-nelly>

I hope you have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing many of you at our Harvest Festival next week.

Jane Astrid Devane  
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**Rainbow Junktion**

\* We would love to pass on the following non-perishable harvest food donations: Long life milk, cooking oil, tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, tinned soup, tinned meat, tinned fish, lentils, snacks, crisps and cereal.

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)	Are not yet attending this assembly
Y1 (Nile)	<b>Gene</b> has made a super start to Y1 and is working hard. <b>Jojo</b> is always ready to learn and gives her best in every lesson.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	<b>Kobi</b> is an excellent role model of switched on learning behaviour. <b>Maisie</b> is being kind and helpful.
Y3 (Rhine)	<b>Neve</b> has been positive and encouraging to her classmates at the start of term. <b>Otis</b> is working hard to include more detail in his writing and reading.
Y4 (Ganges)	<b>Etta</b> has quickly settled into the Y4 routine. She is always engaged, she is an enthusiastic learner and always tries her best. <b>Roman</b> is a positive role model within the class; he is always polite, tries his best and listens well.
Y5 (Tigris)	<b>Bethan</b> is taking care and attention with the presentation of her work. <b>Seth</b> is giving lots of thought to his maths and having lightbulb moments.
Y6 (Amazon)	<b>Hugo</b> is always engaged and contributing positively in every session. <b>April</b> is hardworking and has made a great start to Year 6.
<b>Acorn Club</b> are all superstars because they are settling in well, being kind and helpful and very respectful.	
Well done to these children (and any others) who have achieved their next <b>Maths Passport</b> continent and are travelling on to the next one: <b>Bill</b>	

## DIARY DATES

(Lawnswood School Open Day has already taken place but they usually welcome visitors on an ordinary school day to come and look round school.)

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Individual school photo day
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Y3 trip to Harlow Carr
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> October *	Harvest Festival. We welcome donations of food in cans and packets to give to Rainbow Junction which serves the local community (including refugees and asylum seekers) with cooked food and food parcels. Families are very welcome to join us for our harvest festival at 9am. We hope to hold it outdoors, weather permitting. If not, it will be in the hall. Each class will share a little of their learning and we will sing Harvest Festival songs.
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> October *	Cricket World Cup school dinner
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> October *	Open Day at Carr Manor School 10-1pm
w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Classes making shelters inspired by the festival of Sukkot (they may invite parents)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Y5 maths puzzle afternoon led by Lawnswood School staff
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October *	Leeds City Academy Open Evening 6-8pm
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Y3 Class Assembly at 9am in the hall, all welcome.
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	FOSOPS Woodland Walk TBC
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Y2 trip to York Railway Museum
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	TRAINING DAY (School closed to children)
HALF TERM HOLIDAY Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October. <a href="http://www.artcampuk.com/">www.artcampuk.com/</a> will be running a playscheme here:	
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Rugby Club trip to watch a World Cup match at Headingley
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Birthday of Guru Nanak assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti Bullying Fortnight begins
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	YR trip to Pizza Express TBC
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Vikings visitor for Y6
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Y1 Class Assembly at 9am in the hall, all welcome.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Y2 Class Assembly at 9am in the hall, all welcome.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti Bullying Theatre workshops for KS2
Mon/Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> /15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	D:Side Internet Safety workshops across school
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Winter Festival of Fire straight after school to celebrate outdoor learning and the changing of the seasons. Free entry and activities with food and drink to buy. All welcome!
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 and Y2. Join your child in class at the start of the day.
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Flu immunisations in school
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Morning for prospective parents. (Current parents also welcome to tour) 9:15am
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Y5 Class Assembly at 9am in the hall, all welcome.
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Headingley Christmas Lights Switch On at St Michael's with Shire Oak choir TBC 5:15pm
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Y4 Class Assembly at 9am in the hall, all welcome.
5 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Residential at Robinwood Activity Centre, Todmorden
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	YR, Y1 and Y2 Nativity Performances am and pm
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Book Club visit to Leeds Playhouse production of Charlie & the Chocolate Factory
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church, 10:30am. All welcome!
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Dinner (children on packed lunches can book this in advance via office)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Alive and Kicking Theatre in school
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December to Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January. School closed to pupils.	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	TRAINING DAY. School closed to pupils.
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Welcome back to the spring term!
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.	