

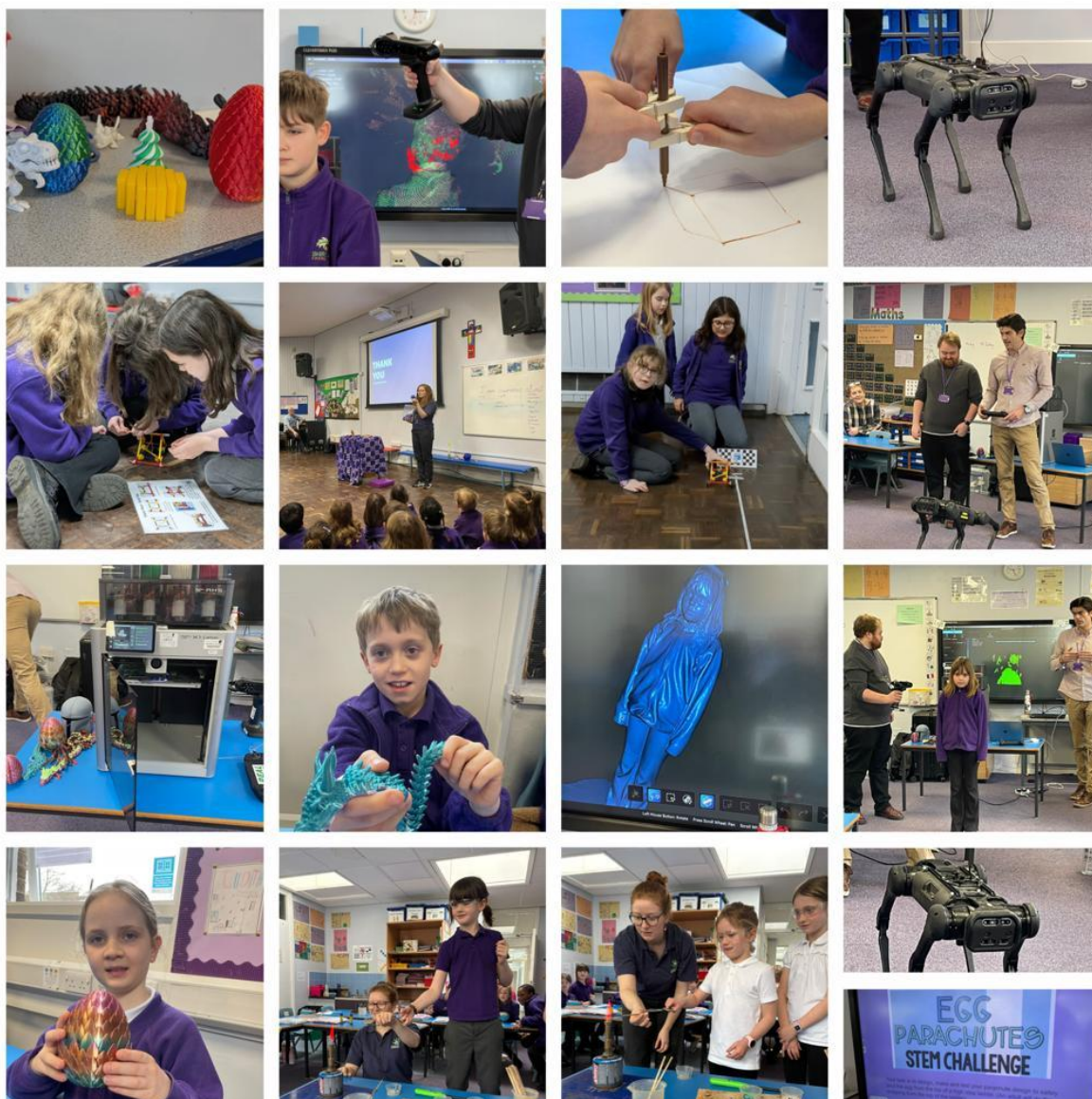
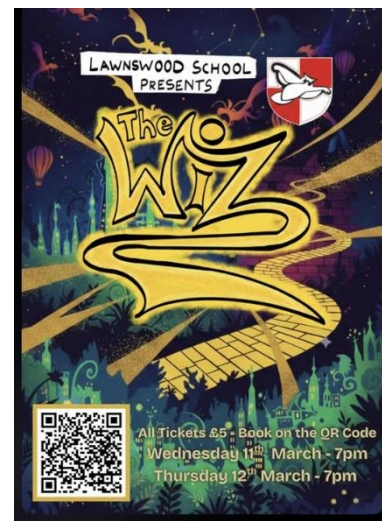


Dear Parents and Carers

What a week! The timetabling to fit in everything this week has been a triumph of logistics and we are really pleased with the opportunities the children have experienced and enjoyed this week and grateful to everyone who made it happen.

For Year 6 the week started with a trip to **Lawnswood School** to see their production of **The Wiz**. They enjoyed the acting, singing and music and it will hopefully inspire them to get involved in school activities and clubs when they make the transition to secondary school this autumn. It was great to see so many Shire Oak alumni in the cast and always great to keep up to date with their progress after primary school.

Chris Marshall has organised a great roster of workshops and activities in conjunction with **British Science Week** and this year's theme, 'Curiosity: what's your question?' So far this week we have enjoyed an assembly and workshops from Hands-On Science (including fingerprinting, kitten rescue, massive magnets, elastic racers, firework science, CSI biometrics and circulation and the heart.) KS2 have had a go at 3D printing thanks to Robert Kay from the University of Leeds who also brought a very popular robot dog with him! We have a curiosity wall full of great questions in the hall and there have been mystery objects in boxes travelling round school for children to investigate and detect. The week is rounding off with a science fair today which gives the children the chance to



provoke curiosity about their learning in others. There is even more to follow next week with Virtual Reality workshops for KS1 and Lower KS2! Thanks to Chris for all his hard work on this (so we'll let him off the result of the **football match** on Tuesday and will therefore instead congratulate Adel Primary for a well-played game!) The match report actually involved us going 1-0 up from a penalty early on, some goals from our opponents and then a ball over the head of the defenders and ending with a close chance. Well done to all who played.

At Shire Oak we value the learning of languages other than just English and in KS2 all our children learn **French**. We were therefore very pleased to welcome Stephanie Puissegur to work with us for the day on Wednesday. She spent time with every KS2 class and introduced them to French games and vocabulary. The day ended with useful CPD for teachers on how to teach French and on French pronunciation.



A new pocket park!



Come and join our first community event this Easter weekend! We'll be planting wild primroses & snowdrops around the site on Sat 4th April, 12pm - 3pm.

No gardening experience necessary, plants and tools are provided!

The Friends of St Michael's Graveyard can be contacted at headingleyparishhall@yahoo.co.uk

An exciting local initiative to make a new pocket park in St Michael's Graveyard, right in the Heart of Headingley is gathering pace.

Once the burial ground for Headingley's 19th-century High Church community, it has not been used for burials for well over a hundred years.

Today, many assume the site is out of bounds to anyone who is not part of the church.

Over time, the graveyard has sadly become overgrown and, in places, almost impenetrable with brambles and ivy. Rubbish has also been dumped around the site.

A newly formed Friends Group has been developing plans to regenerate the graveyard as a welcoming green space for everyone. With support from local Councillors and private funding, the site will undergo light-touch landscaping to encourage biodiversity.

The Friends Group is also planning an annual programme of public events, with a particular focus on adult wellbeing and encouraging children's curiosity about nature and outdoor play - all contributing to make **St Michael's Graveyard Pocket Park** to become a peaceful green sanctuary.

← St Michael's are working on developing some of their grounds to be a space for the community. We are following with interest.

FOSOPS have done amazingly well and already reached 80% of its target for new play equipment. We are taking a bit of a leap of faith and commissioning the first bit of construction to happen during the Easter holidays so that the maximum number of current Shire Oakers can benefit from your efforts. To help with the remaining 20% **FOSOPS** are looking at workplace schemes and any other ideas for further fundraising. If you could respond to this [short survey](#) to help them with this last push, that would be very helpful indeed. Money isn't the only way to help our

school and the weekend after this one there is an opportunity to get stuck into improving our grounds. Whether you are a keen and skilled gardener or happy to wield a broom there will be plenty to do (we are taking suggestions). If you can bring your own water bottle and any tools you particularly like using, that would be very helpful too. Thanks in advance and thank you also to Rose and family for getting a headstart this weekend – the Year 4 flowerbed looks lovely now. **FOSOPS** have attached an update newsletter to this newsletter – do take a look!

Have a lovely weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane

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Booking for the Easter **A Camps** playscheme here at Shire Oak is now open [online](#). For parents wishing to pay by taxfree childcare vouchers, please contact the school office and we will send out a link to use when it has been updated.

Themed Days:

- **Monday:** Moneyball Monday - Team building games so that children can get to know each another along with the coaches.
- **Tuesday:** Inflatable Tuesday - An active day with our normal camp activities, as well as a inflatable obstacle course for campers to test their skills!
- **Wednesday:** Wet Wednesday – Outdoor water games ***subject to weather**
- **Thursday:** Individual Camp Theme – It's a surprise!
- **Friday:** Finale Friday – come along and enjoy an exciting end to the week.



DIARY DATES

Thursday 12 th March	Y3 trip to Discovery Centre
Friday 13 th March	Science Fair in school
Sunday 15 th March *	Mothering Sunday service at St Michael's, 10am (giving out seeds to take home)
Monday 16 th March	Y6 Pizza Club starts (each Monday for the next few weeks)
Monday 16 th March	Y5 football team v Weetwood at Lawnswood (home game)
16 th - 20 th March	Neurodiversity Celebration Week
Wednesday 18 th March	Virtual Reality workshops
Thursday 19 th March	Eid ul Fitr assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome! TBC
Thursday 19 th March	Y3 Sports Festival am
Sunday 22 nd March	Groundforce Day – come and help improve our school grounds between 11am and 3pm
Monday 23 rd March	Y6 Tag Rugby at Kirkstall pm
Monday 23 rd March	Football team playing away at Holy Name Catholic Academy
25 th – 27 th March	Class visits to St Michael's to explore Easter story
Wednesday 25 th March	Parents and Carers' Evening (appointments this week or next week)
Friday 27 th March	FOSOPS bun sale and Easter activities after school (buns from everyone this time please)
Tuesday 31 st March	Y3/4 Easter production (dress rehearsal to the school)
Wednesday 1 st April	Y3/4 Easter production to parents and carers in the morning
Wednesday 1 st April	Parents and Carers' Evening.
Thursday 2 nd April	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children.
Saturday 4 th April	Celebrate Easter together event at St Michaels 12-4pm. All welcome.
Sunday 12 th April	Next all-age service at St Michael's with 4 baptisms.
3 rd to 17 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY School closed to children. A Camps will run a holiday playscheme here at Shire Oak.
22 nd and 23 rd April	D:Side workshops about medicines, drugs and alcohol safety
Thursday 23 rd April	Football match v Holy Name Catholic Academy at Lawnswood (home game)
Friday 24 th April	Vaisakhi Assembly 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 29 th April	Swimming at Scott Hall starts TBC
Friday 1 st May	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 4 th May	BANK HOLIDAY School closed to children
7 th to 8 th May	Year 4 Residential
Friday 8 th May	Y5 trip to waste recycling plant
w/c/ 11 th May	KS2 SATS week. As these are statutory, please avoid planned appointments, etc.
Friday 15 th May	Year 1 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
w/c 18 th May	Bikeability for Year 6
Wednesday 20 th May	Multicultural picnic after school TBC
Friday 22 nd May	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from Y5 this time please)
25 th to 29 th May	HALF TERM School closed to children. There will be a holiday playscheme.
Monday 1 st June	Green Week including Road Safety
Wednesday 3 rd June	Pedestrian Training
Wednesday 3 rd June	RSE parents meeting for Y5/6 (optional) 5pm TBC
Thursday 4 th June	Class photos
Friday 5 th June	Reception Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 9 th June	Year 4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 10 th June	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children.
Friday 12 th June	Non uniform day in return for tombola prizes for HYMF
Friday 12 th June	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from YR this time please)
Tuesday 16 th June	Y5 trip to Water Treatment Works
Thursday 18 th June	New Reception parents meeting am and evening TBC
Saturday 20 th June	Headingley Youth Music Festival (HYMF) 12-4pm. All our children are in the choir and many will be in other performances. We host and run this event for the community, which incorporates our summer fair. Please avoid booking birthday parties, etc. on this day.
Friday 26 th June	Y3 sharing assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 30 th June	Y1 and Y6 trip to Filey (returning after end of the school day) TBC

Wednesday 1 st July	Transition day for children moving to Y7 at Lawnswood School and our in-school transition day with sessions for incoming Reception.
Thursday 2 nd July	Music Recitals and 9:15 and 2pm. TBC
Monday 6 th July	Y5/6 Sports Day 1:15pm
Tuesday 7 th July	YR/1/2 Sports Day c. 9:15am
Tuesday 7 th July	Y3/4 Sports Day 1:15pm
Tuesday 14 th July	Y5/6 production dress rehearsal to rest of school
Wednesday 15 th July	Y5/6 production pm and evening (ticketed entrance to one of the shows)
Wednesday 15 th July	Teachers available after school to drop in and discuss end of year reports
Friday 17 th July	FOSOPS ice cream sale after school
Monday 20 th July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, 10:30am.
Tuesday 21 st July	Y6 leavers' ten pin bowling trip
Tuesday 21 st July	Last day of term. Acorn Club finishes early today.
DATES: https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-holidays-and-term-dates	

* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is to be confirmed and may have to change.

