

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to everyone who brought their children to the **Headingley Lights Switch On** this week. We certainly swell the numbers at this local event and our children enthusiastically joined the choir in leading the carol singing in church before heading outside for the Lord Mayor to lead the countdown to the lights switch on.

This week we received a great message from the **British Library** in reply to us sharing the work we had been doing: Thanks for this wonderful message.

It's such a joy to see the fabulous library of books from children at your school. The miniature books are like jewels and we love the graphic stories - so full of energy and power. It's fantastic to hear how you've brought the project to life at Shire Oak, and to see the brilliant collaborations between students in different years.

As some of your students have stepped inside their own stories and made books about themselves, we'll enter you into our prize draw to win £50 of National Book tokens for your school. We'll let you know after 4 Dec, if we've pulled your name out of our virtual hat.

Huge thanks again for taking part. Please send our best wishes to all the authors and illustrators of the future at Shire Oak. I'm sure your display will be gorgeous!

All best wishes, Andrea, Gwen and the Learning team



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. <i>This week the focus was on reading.</i>
YR (Thames)	Ren has been impressive with his lovely fluent reading and love of stories. Eliie has been working hard on her sounds both at home and at school.
Y1 (Nile)	Elizabeth has a great attitude to reading. Medi has made amazing progress in reading.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Stanley has good enthusiasm for reading. Lily has made thoughtful contributions to class reading discussions.
Y3 (Rhine)	Vince has been enthusiastic about and working hard to improve his reading. Amelie, Jennifer, Maisie and Jasper have been reading a wide range of books independently.
Y4 (Ganges)	Neve for persevering through each book she reads. Joe A for using non-fiction books to find interesting information.
Y5 (Tigris)	Austin contributes well during guided reading sessions. Gracie is working hard in Mrs Pakalna's reading group. Amber is working hard at developing her reading vocabulary. Dillon is reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction books. Etta is reading a range of different authors. Sasha is writing reflective comments about the books she has read. Raajan is reading a selection of books about Sikhism and a variety of popular novels. Arthur is reading everything from Arsenal to Albert Einstein.
Y6 (Amazon)	Joseph has been finding a love of graphic novels. Dotty has been reading a broad range of both fiction and non-fiction. Ollie has read nearly 100 books already this year. Heath has been persevering through each book he reads.
Citizen(s) of the Week were Levi, Tomas and Stan who were nominated by Mr Nash and children in their class for being attentive to and supportive of classmates. They help others feel confident and they are never bystanders to unkind behaviour. Well done!	

As well as celebrating the achievements of our children inside school, we love to hear about the things they are enjoying and achieving outside school and are happy to share certificates and medals in our **Superstars Assembly**. (Just pass them on to Mrs Marcelle Maver.) I was pleased to hear that J in Y3 really enjoyed joining the youth tennis club at Leeds Beckett University and that he won player of the week in only his second week for his determination and enthusiasm to do his best.



Well done to Year 5 for a lovely, self-authored class assembly this morning. We enjoyed seeing the broad curriculum you have been following and particularly enjoyed the musical rendition of Livin' on a Prayer!

FOSOPS have been busy in the run up to Advent and Christmas festivities. There were lots of great entries to the **Christmas card competition** and it was very hard to judge. In the end the judges also had to take into account a balance of styles across the pack and also which designs scanned in well for reprinting. All who took part received a little gift yesterday to congratulate them on their efforts. The winning entries are attached to this newsletter. The cards are due back from the printers early next week and then FOSOPS will be making up the packs ready for selling (volunteers very welcome to help!) The price of one pack of cards is £5, two packs for £8. All profits go to FOSOPS' fundraising to develop the outdoor environment and physical activity at school.



Cards will be on sale in the playground before and after school on Weds 6th, Thurs 7th and Fri 8th December. Packs of 6 cards. £5 for one pack and £8 for two packs of Christmas cards and **Christmas raffle tickets**, will be on sale before and after school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next week in the Quiet Zone of the playground. Cash and card payment are both fine. (For children at Acorn Club, please send a message to a FOSOPS member via your parent networks.) Thank you to FOSOPS for all their efforts.

On the subject of Christmas festivities, we do not take part in Christmas Jumper Day as we don't want families to feel pressurised to buy clothing that may only have one wear. We know some children have jumpers they would love to show off though, so on Christmas party day they can wear Christmas jumpers, Christmas tops or anything else that they feel is special (but still suitable for a busy school day).

Have a lovely weekend!

Jane Astrid Devane

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Ben, our piano teacher, in concert! →

Parents wanting a cultural break next Friday could enjoy some free [Charles Dickens in town](#).

DIARY DATES

4 th to 6 th December	Year 6 residential trip to Robinwood in Todmorden.
Tuesday 5 th December	Some of choir carol singing at Wheatfields pm.
Tuesday 5 th December	Meeting for Year 4 parents about Lineham Farm residential, 5pm in the classroom.
Wednesday 6th December	Please note this is a rescheduled date due to siblings coming home from residential.
Thursday 7 th December	Y3 trip to university sports festival. (Please note, not back until c.4:15pm)
Friday 8 th December	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y4 friends and family welcome!
12 th and 15 th December	D:Side sessions on Internet safety
Tuesday 12 th December	Inter Schools football tournament hosted by Lawnswood School
Wed 13 th December	Dress rehearsal for YR/Y1/Y2 Nativity Plays
Wed 13 th December	School nurses to see YR and Y6
Thursday 14 th December	YR/Y1/Y2 Nativity Plays YR 9:30 and 1:30. KS1 10:15 and 2:15 TBC
Thursday 14 th December	Book Club (mostly Y5) trip to Leeds Playhouse Christmas production, Oliver!
Friday 15 th December	Year 4 Roman day with external visitor. Children can dress up as Romans if they like!
Monday 18 th December	Some of choir carol singing at Headingley Library.
Tuesday 19 th December	Carol Service, St Michael's Church, 10:15am. All welcome!
Tuesday 19 th December	School Christmas dinner (packed lunches can book in advance)
Wed'sday 20 th December	Christmas discos R/1/2 3:45-4:45pm and KS2 5:00-6:00 pm
Thursday 21 st December	Christmas party day including entertainer and party lunch (packed lunches can book in advance or bring their own party food lunchbox)
<p style="text-align: center;">CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Mon 25th to Fri 5th January.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">There is a Christingle Service at 4pm on Christmas Eve at St Michael's Church that many of our children enjoy.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">School is closed to children. Art Camp are running a holiday club.</p>	
Thursday 11 th January	Open Morning for prospective parents. Current parents also welcome to look round school to see it in action on an ordinary learning day.
Thursday 11 th January	Y3 poetry assembly at 2:30pm following work this week with local poet, James Nash. All welcome!
Friday 12 th January	Stay and Play in YR/Y1/Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
Tuesday 16 th January	Reception Class trip to Pizza Express (TBC)
Thursday 18 th January	Year 6 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y6 friends and family welcome!
Friday 19 th January	Reception Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All YR friends and family welcome!
Monday 22 nd January *	Leeds Rhinos assembly about healthy lifestyles
Tuesday 23 rd January	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children. Staff will be training in school.
Friday 26 th January	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y1 friends and family welcome!
Tuesday 30 th January	Y5 chocolate trip to York TBC
Wednesday 31 st January *	Y1 trip to Abbey House Museum TBC
Friday 2 nd February	Lunar New Year Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
7 th - 9 th February	Lineham Farm residential trip for all in Year 4.
Wednesday 7 th February	Reception Parents and Carers maths meeting 2:15pm
Friday 23 rd February	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 and Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
Thursday 29 th February	Year 5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y5 friends and family welcome!
Friday 1 st March	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y4 friends and family welcome!
Tuesday 5 th March	Y3 Stone Age trip to the Discovery Centre
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day. We usually dress up as book characters today.
8 th to 17 th March	British Science Week
Mon 11 th & Tues 12 th March	Workshops in school.
Tuesday 12 th March	Y5 piano and science workshop as part of Leeds International Piano Festival
Thursday 14 th March	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 & Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
Friday 15 th March	Hot Cross Bun sale straight after school TBC
18 th to 20 th March	Class visits to St Michael's to learn about the Easter story
Wednesday 20 th March	Parents and Carers Evening (appointments with class teachers)
Tuesday 26 th March	Y3/4 Easter Production dress rehearsal am
Wednesday 27 th March	Y3/4 Easter Production PM, families welcome

Wednesday 27 th March	Parents and Carers Evening (appointments with class teachers)
Thursday 28 th March	TRAINING DAY. School will be closed to children. Staff will be training in school.
Monday 15 th April	Year 2 intensive swimming lessons start (letter to follow nearer the time)
Friday 19 th April	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 & Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
22 nd & 23 rd April	D:Side PSHCE sessions (Safety around medicines, alcohol, etc.)
Friday 26 th April	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y2 families and friends welcome!
Sunday 28 th April	Shire Oak Sunday at St Michael's Church 10am, all welcome to the all-age service
Friday 3 rd May	Reception Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All YR friends and family welcome!
13 th to 17 th May	KS2 SATs week (Year 6)
Friday 17 th May	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y1 friends and family welcome!
3 rd to 7 th June	Green Week, including pedestrian and scooter training
3 rd to 7 th June	Bikeability training for Year 6. This will include road cycling if the assessment is passed and it helps if children are confident so get them practising now!
Tuesday 4 th June	Y3 trip to Otley Chevin TBC
Wednesday 5 th June	R&S Education meeting for Y5 and Y6 parents/carers
Friday 7 th June	Y5 trip to recycling plant TBC
Tuesday 11 th June	Y5 trip to the water treatment plant
Tuesday 11 th June	Y5/6 Girls' Tag Rugby qualifiers 1-3pm
Wednesday 12 th June	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children. Staff working offsite.
Thursday 13 th June	Eid assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 14 th June	Non uniform day (in return for a tombola present for HYMF, thank you)
Thursday 20 th June	New Reception parents/carers meeting (am and evening)
Thursday 20 th June	Y5/6 Mixed Culley Sevens 1-3pm
Saturday 22 nd June	Headingley Youth Music Festival 12-4pm. This is our gift to the community and also our summer fair. All children in school are in our choir that performs, as do Y4 djembe players and other musicians. (Please avoid booking parties today!)
Monday 24 th June	Y5/6 Girls' Tag Final stages (at Headingley) 1-3pm
Wednesday 26 th June	Y5/6 Girls' Contact Festival 1-3pm
Friday 28 th June	Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All friends and family of Y3 welcome!
Wednesday 3 rd July	Transition day TBC
Thursday 4 th July	Music Recital am. All welcome!
Mon 15 th & Tues 16 th July	Sports Days TBC
Wednesday 17 th July	Y5/6 production to rest of school
Thursday 18 th July	Y5/6 production to friends and family, all welcome! (evening)
Monday 22 nd July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, 10:30am. All welcome!
Tuesday 23 rd July	Y6 Leavers' trip
TERM DATES: https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar	

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

Santa PAWS

Bring the family to Santa's grotto, dogs and fancy dress welcome 🐾

£3 charity donation inc. a gift!

Sunday 10th December
From 11:00am
Moortown Fire Station
Stonegate Rd, LS17 6EJ

West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service

The Fire Fighters Charity

Firebirds KS9