



Dear Parents and Carers

Happy new school year! It has been so lovely to welcome our children to school whether they are returning after the summer break or joining us for the first time. There is something rather special about the atmosphere in school the first week in September when children are trying their best to impress their new teachers, are keen to talk about their summer holidays and see their friends again. It is a great time to get into new routines around things like regular reading at home – especially now that the shock to the system is subsiding!



Reception Class have settled in so well this week! It has been great to see them getting busy in the classroom and outdoor areas, learning how school works and getting to know their classmates. Today they stayed

for their first school dinner – helped by their new buddies in Year 6 – and they all did so well. I am sure there will be some tired children this weekend, but we look forward to welcoming them back after a couple of good sleeps. (If you want to know what they have eaten, the menus will soon be online, via our website.



Year One have also done well with their transition to Key Stage One. They still have plenty of time to play outdoors and inside, as these pictures show. Unlike many schools, Shire Oak Year One still have an outside area.) There will be a short meeting next week for parents to find out more about settling into KS1. Year 3 parents will also have a meeting to find out about their child's transition to Key Stage Two (KS2).

Today we shared the news about the **death of Queen Elizabeth II** in assembly. We are waiting for further guidance from the DfE and diocese, but it is possible that school may close on the day of the funeral. In school we will mark the event by learning about the time the queen has been on the throne and what is happening in the country as well as making sure children have the chance to talk about and process any feelings of grief or loss they have that may be triggered by the situation and conversations surrounding it.



Changes to **banking arrangements** mean we are now being charged for each online payment that we receive. We will still continue to accept money this way for school dinners, instrument lessons, Acorn Club, etc. as it is helpful to parents and encourages prompt and full payment. If parents can combine payments where possible (for siblings or different activities) then that would be helpful, thank you.

We often send a **newsletter** on a Friday to celebrate what is going on in school and keep you informed about school events that are coming up. Please add the school email address to your Safe Senders List (or similar) to ensure you receive communication from us.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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DIARY DATES

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| Tues 13 th September * | Transition meeting for Y3 parents at 5:30pm, in the Y3 classroom (enter via the playground please) |
| Wed 14 th September * | Transition meeting for Y1 parents at 5pm, in the Y1 classroom (enter via the outside area please) |
| Friday 21 st October * | TRAINING DAY (School closed to children) |
| 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. | |

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