Rooted in the community – growing for the future

SHIRE OAK
C of E (VC)Primary School

Letter 10
13th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to everyone who supported who came to watch the lovely **Year 3 Class Assembly** this morning. We particularly loved their excitement for books such as The Hodgeheg, and Tilly and the Time Machine as well as all the other great topics they have been learning in class and beyond.

Thanks also to the office staff for organising **photo day** and to everyone involved in this. The photos are always back in plenty of time for Christmas presents and helps us to make a little money for school funds too.

Thank you so much to the Lees family who organised to receive and plant mixed native hedgerow plants for the edge of our playground. We love that people in our community feel able to offer to **garden,** fix and improve our environment and are very grateful!

This week each class learned about **remembrance** at a level appropriate to their age and conducted an act of remembrance that included a time of silence to remember everybody killed in wars.

This week **FOSOPS** had their AGM (annual general meeting) which is now required because they have become a registered charity. They were able to celebrate the ways that they have supported the school socially, practically and financially this year and start thinking of ideas for the year ahead. I am also pleased to say that they made decisions about using funds raised to further help the development of our school outdoor space with a celebratory history timeline and fixed multisport goal. Although they have a formal annual meeting, they are not at all formal and welcome all help whether once in a while or regularly! Just ask other parents in your child's class or me if you need pointing in the right direction! I know they have various WhatsApp groups for coordinating what they do, but if you don't use WhatsApp or see people in person, then you could email them on fosops2025@gmail.com . Thanks to all our families and friends who support the life and work of the school in so many ways.

Next week sees a great opportunity for our school community to get together as it is the annual **Winter Festival of Fire.** This event is straight after school on Wednesday and it celebrates the turning of the seasons and our commitment to outdoor learning. There will be lots of free activities including a bonfire, toasting marshmallows, making cards, arts and crafts, candle bags, mindfulness in the tipi, fireside singing and more. For a small charge or donation there will also be sparklers outside and refreshments in the hall. (I know FOSOPS were keen to find more people to help staff this stall!) Year 3 are key helpers for this event and will be laying down leaf paths for us and have been designing the great posters that are around school promoting the event. Elizabeth's great creation is attached to this newsletter!

I hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing you at the Winter Festival of Fire on Wednesday.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane
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| Tuesday 17th November | Anti Bullying Workshops as part of Anti Bullying Fortnight (date change) |
| Wed 18th November | Winter Festival of Fire straight after school. All welcome! |
| Friday 20th November | Year 6 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Tuesday 24th November | Headingley Lights Switch On at St Michaels TBC |
| Wed 25th November | Open Morning for prospective parents (although current parents may attend too) |
| Thursday 26th November | Book Club trip to Saltaire |
| Thursday 26th November | Hanukkah assembly, 9am. All welcome. |
| Friday 27th November | FOSOPS bun sale after school run and supplied by Year 3 for all families to buy from |
| Mon 30th Nov to 2nd Dec | Robinwood residential school trip for Year 6 children |
| Wed 2nd to 3rd December | D:Side sessions on Internet Safety across school |
| Friday 4th December | Young Climate Warriors ambassador working with Eco Team at lunchtime |
| Wednesday 9th December | Nativity play dress rehearsals for KS2 to watch |
| Thursday 10th December | Reception Class Nativity Play am |
| Friday 11th December | Year 1/2 Nativity Play am |
| Friday 11th December * | Year 4 unveiling our Advent Window for the local Advent trail |
| Tuesday 15th December | Carol Service at St Michael's Church 10:30am TBC |
| Tuesday 15th December | School Christmas lunch (can be booked in advance) |
| Wed 16th December | School Christmas disco night YR 3:45 – 4:45 movie night in classroom;<br>Y1/2/3 3:45 – 4:45 disco in the hall; Y4/5/6 5-6pm disco in the hall. |
| Thursday 17th December | Christmas party day with party lunch and Christmas music performances by Chestra |
| Friday 18th December | Last day of term – have a good Christmas holiday. Acorn Club closes early today. |
| Monday 4th January | First day of term |
| Thursday 7th January | Open Morning for prospective parents (although current parents may attend too) s |
| Friday 15th January | YR Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Wednesday 20th January | Parents and carers meeting about Y4 residential, 5pm. TBC. |
| Friday 22nd January | Y6 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Friday 22nd January | FOSOPS bun sale after school run and supplied by Year 4 for all families to buy from |
| Monday 25th January | TRAINING DAY school closed to children |
| Wednesday 27th January | YR and Y6 national measurement and vision checks |
| Friday 29th January | Stay and Play in YR, Y1 & Y2 at the start of the day. Lunar New Year theme. All welcome. |
| Monday 1st February | Cross Country final TBC |
| Tuesday 2nd February | Y5 trip to York Chocolate Story |
| Tuesday 2nd February | Year 6 World War II day in school |
| Wednesday 3rd February | Meeting about maths for YR parents and carers 1pm online TBC |
| Friday 5th February | Y1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome! |
| Monday 8th February | Water Safety Assemblies by Canals and Rivers Trust |
| Tuesday 9th February | Shrove Tuesday pancake sale in the hall after school by FOSOPS |
| Thursday 11th February | Y2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome! |
| Friday 12th February | Last day of half term – have a good half term break |
| Mon 15th - Fri 19th February | HALF TERM. A Camps will be running all week in school. |
| Monday 22nd February | First day of half term – pupils back in school |
| Sunday 28th February | Shire Oak Sunday, 10am at St Michael's Church. All welcome. TBC. |
| Tuesday 2nd March | Y5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Thursday 4th March | World Book Day including dressing up |
| 5th to 14th March | British Science Week |
| Mon 8th & Tues 9th March | Hands On Science Workshops as part of British Science Week |
| Thursday 11th March | After school local netball tournament hosted at Shire Oak TBC |
| Friday 12th March | Science Fair in the hall during the day |
| Friday 12th March | FOSOPS bun sale after school run & supplied by Year 1 for all families to buy from TBC |
| 15th to 19th March | Easter visits to St Michaels Church TBC |
| Monday 15th March | Weekly pizza club for Y6 starts this week |
| Tuesday 16th March | Eid ul Fitr assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Wednesday 17th March | Parents and carers consultation evening (you will book slots nearer the time) |
| Thursday 18th March | Y6 rugby at Roundhegians 1-3pm |
| Friday 19th March | Comic Relief Day TBC |

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| Monday 22nd March | Cycling Day for Year 5 (and a group of children in Year 6 who are not able to ride confidently yet). They will need a bike and helmet for this day. The trainer can provide a limited number for children, but we would need to know in advance. Our hope is to make sure everyone is confident enough to be able to take part in Bikeability sessions in and out of school in the summer term of Year 6. |
| Wednesday 24th March | Parents and carers consultation evening (you will book slots nearer the time) |
| Thursday 25th March | TRAINING DAY school closed to children |
| Wednesday 31st March | Y3/4 production dress rehearsal to the rest of school TBC (may move to week before) |
| Thursday 1st April | Y3/4 production to families TBC (may move to week before) |
| Thursday 1st April | Y5 trip to music day at Lawnswood School |
| Friday 2nd April | Last day of term. Have a lovely Easter holiday. Acorn Club closes early today. |
| Mon 5th to Fri 16th April | EASTER HOLIDAY. A Camps will be running in school and the swimming pool will be back |
| Monday 19th April | First day of term |
| Monday 19th April | Pop up pool swimming due to start TBC |
| Friday 23rd April | Vaisakhi assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome! |
| Friday 23rd April | FOSOPS bun sale after school run and supplied by Year 5 for all families to buy from |
| 6th to 7th May | Y4 residential to Bramhope Scout Campsite TBC |
| Friday 7th May | Y5 trip to Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility |
| w/c Monday 10th May | KS2 SATs week (statutory tests – please avoid appointments, etc. this week) |
| Friday 14th May | Y2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Mon 17th – Fri 21st May | Bikeability for Year 6. They have the strongest chance of achieving the proficiency standard if they have practised cycling in preparation. Cycle North often run sessions in school holidays for beginners |
| 20th/21st May | D:Side sessions in school on substances |
| Tuesday 25th May | Y1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Friday 28th May | FOSOPS bun sale after school run & supplied by Reception for all families to buy from |
| Friday 28th May | Last day of half term |
| Mon 30th May to Fri 1st June | HALF TERM A Camps will be running in school |
| Monday 7th June | First day of half term |
| 7th to 11th June | Green Week with road safety activities, etc. |
| Wednesday 9th June | RSE information meeting for Y5 & Y6 parents/carers |
| Thursday 10th June | Class photo day |
| Friday 11th June | YR Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Wednesday 16th June | TRAINING DAY school closed to children |
| Thursday 17th June | Y4 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Friday 18th June | Non uniform day in return for prizes for the tombola at HYMF |
| Wednesday 23rd June | Parents/ carers meetings for incoming Reception class morning and evening TBC |
| Saturday 26th June | Headingley Youth Music Festival 12-4pm. This is a festival and summer fair we host for the whole community. Everybody in school is performing so we ask families not to schedule birthday parties, etc. to clash with it. Thank you! |
| Thursday 1st July | Y3 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome. |
| Friday 2nd July | Orienteering Day Y5/6 Becketts Park; Y3/4 The Ridge YR/1/2 school grounds TBC |
| Wednesday 7th July | Transition Day with Stay and Play sessions for new Reception Class. TBC |
| Thursday 8th July | Music recitals 9:15am and 2pm |
| Monday 12th July | Y5/6 Sports Day 1:15pm TBC |
| Tuesday 13th July | YR/1/2 Sports Day 9:15am TBC |
| Tuesday 13th July | Y3/4 Sports Day 1:15pm TBC |
| Wednesday 14th July | Y5/6 production dress rehearsal to school |
| Thursday 15th July | Y5/6 productions afternoon and evening 5:30pm (ticketed) TBC |
| Tuesday 20th July | Leavers' Service St Michael's Church 10:30 am |
| Wednesday 21st July | Teachers available after school to discuss end of year reports |
| Thursday 22nd July | Leavers' Bowling trip and last day of the school year. |
| 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