



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all had a great summer holiday. **Welcome** to our new families in Reception Class and to the other children who have joined us at Shire Oak. I am really pleased with the start the children have made to the **new school year**. They have come back eager to impress their new teachers and excited about seeing their friends and starting their new learning. We have been particularly impressed with the way our new Reception Class have settled in! They are already trying to be independent coming in to the classrooms with their belongings and saying goodbye to their grown ups. Well done to Reception (and their parents) for being so brave!



Reception Class had their first school dinners today, joined by some of their parents and Buddies from Year 6. Y6 are particularly proud of the role they play in making sure our youngest children feel confident in the dinner hall, have help putting away their trays and coming back to their outside area to play. As they become more confident they join the whole school in the playground, but the Year 6 Buddies continue to look after, and play with, them.

At the end of these newsletters we keep a **diary of the dates** we know are coming up in the school year. Typing these dates in has really made me look forward to 2015-2016 – both to the events we have already planned and the others that I know will pop up due to the opportunities and interests that present themselves. As the children start to find out about their new topics the staff are busy planning trips, visitors and activities to really enhance the children's learning.

Susan Koyuncu in the office has asked me to let you know that **school dinners** will cost £75.90 this half term. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 continue to be eligible for free school meals and we are pleased that virtually every child in KS1 takes up this opportunity, along with a growing number in KS2. If you have any queries about free school meals for KS2 or about the food on offer, please do not hesitate to talk to Susan. We publish the menus on our website when we get them from Leeds Catering.

We appreciate how smart and proud of their **uniform** the children look at this point in the year. Parents, please be assured that we know that our curriculum means they will not stay pristine for long and we do not expect spotless clothes each day! Whiteboard pens, mud kitchens and art all take their toll and we know that jumpers and cardigans particularly may just get a spot wash and do for another day! Lydia Virgin, who teaches art in KS2, has sent out a letter this week asking for your help with providing **cover-ups for art**. We have done this because when we try to buy aprons for the children the variety of sizes (and the limited styles available) mean that they are often either too tight or don't cover enough of the uniform. Thank you in advance – I hope you know that we don't usually like asking parents and carers to provide equipment for school!

Please share this **job advert** with anyone you know who might be interested and suitable:

We have a temporary vacancy on our **cleaning team** to cover a period of leave. It is likely that the position would be available until Christmas, although it may well be longer. (It could be shorter.) Casual work after this short term contract ends may be possible.

**Hours:** 3:30 – 5:30 (unfortunately it is not possible for children to accompany parents who work at this time. Space may be available to book in Kidzone.) During school holidays hours may be bunched together to enable deeper cleaning and will, where possible, be agreed in consultation with all the cleaners.

**Duties:** mopping, vacuuming, cleaning, dusting, washing, tidying, light maintenance tasks, carrying cleaning materials, occasional outdoor tasks and anything that is required to keep our school clean, tidy, safe and great to learn in.

**Special conditions:** this is demanding physical work and, due to the relatively short period of time at work there are not usually breaks. Cleaners do use chemicals (e.g. bleach) at times that are regulated by COSHH rules.

**Pay:** A1 £13871.04 pro rata

If you are interested please speak to Jane (headteacher) or Liz (caretaker) in the first instance. We will ask you to complete an LCC application form and there will be a practical cleaning task to do as part of your interview if you are shortlisted.

There is also a **Children's Centre Assistant** job currently being advertised in the Children's Centre.

Thank you for all your help making sure the children have had such a great start to the school year. I hope you all have a great weekend and catch up on sleep after the shock to the system this week!

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane

[janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk)

#### Did you know?

Over the summer holidays we refurbished the Y1 and Y2 classrooms, toilets and corridor and gave a good lick of paint to much of the rest of school. Thank you to Miss Craven, Miss Turner and Mrs Vollans who supplemented the efforts of the contractors with their own painting skills. It is lovely and important to give the children fresh, clean spaces to learn in.

We take the safeguarding of children very seriously at our school and we appreciate your help with this. If you have any concerns or observations regarding **health and safety**, please contact Jane Astrid Devane, Marcelle Maver or Liz Craven.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding **child protection** issues, please speak to Jane Astrid Devane, Marcelle Maver or Hilary Whitehead.

If you have questions about your **child's progress** or **how to help them** with the learning they find difficult please speak to your child's teacher or make an appointment to see them via the school office.

The governors are always interested in hearing the **views of parents**. If you would like to speak to a governor, then please email the chair, Julia Kelly [shireoakgovernors@gmail.com](mailto:shireoakgovernors@gmail.com) Julia is often on the playground, particularly at the start and end of the week, if you would like to talk to her.)

#### DIARY DATES

Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome. The theme for this S&P is Relax and Read.
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	*	Y1/2 trip to Waitrose, Meanwood as part of their Food Glorious Food topic TBC
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	*	Meeting about reading & phonics for new Reception parents/carers. 2:15pm
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	*	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	*	Individual and sibling school photographs
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	*	House Team Hobby Half Day
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	*	Harvest Festival, 9am. All welcome. We will be collecting food donations.
Tues 20 <sup>th</sup> & Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> October	*	Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	*	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October		TRAINING DAY – school closed to children. Child Protection refresher training.
26 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup> October	*	HALF TERM BREAK. Kidzone may be running a holiday playscheme.
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	*	Deadline for applying for high school places (current Y6). You can book an appointment with the office staff to help with this if, for example, you can't get online
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Divali Assembly, 9am, whole school. Friends and family welcome.

Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Meeting about maths for new Reception parents/carers. 6pm.
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Geography Quiz Day
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Children in Need day. (School Council will decide what we are going to do.)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Open Morning. 9:15- 11:30. All current and prospective parents/carers welcome.
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Open Evening. 6pm. Prospective parents/carers of Reception intake 2016 welcome.
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Year 5 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Birthday of Guru Nanak assembly, 9am, whole school. All welcome.
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	*	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas nativity productions.
9 <sup>th</sup> – 11 <sup>th</sup> December	*	Year 6 Residential to Robinwood, Todmorden.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	*	Christmas Carol Service, 10:30am. St Michael's Church. All welcome.
21 <sup>st</sup> December – 1 <sup>st</sup> January	*	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January		TRAINING DAY – TBC
5 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> January	*	Switched On Shire Oak Week
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	*	Open Morning. 9:15- 11:30. All current and prospective parents/carers welcome.
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	*	Year 6 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	*	House Team Hobby Half Day
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	*	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> February	*	STEM (science, tech, engineering & maths) Club Week. TBC
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome. (STEM focus)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	*	FOSOPS Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday) event straight after school
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	*	Reception Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
15 – 19 February	*	HALF TERM BREAK. Kidzone may run a holiday playscheme.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	*	Year 5 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	*	Easter Production by Years 3 and 4. All welcome.
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March		TRAINING DAY – TBC
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> & Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> March	*	Good Friday and Easter Monday. School closed.
30 <sup>th</sup> March – 1 <sup>st</sup> April	*	Year 4 Residential to Bewerley Park
4 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> April	*	EASTER HOLIDAY. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	*	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	*	BANK HOLIDAY. School closed.
9 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> May	*	KS2 SATS week
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	*	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	*	House Team Hobby Half Day
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	*	Geography Mapping Day
30 <sup>th</sup> May – 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	*	HALF TERM BREAK. Kidzone may run a holiday playscheme.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June		TRAINING DAY –TBC Assessment and report writing.
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Reception Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Eid Assembly, 9am, whole school. All welcome.
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> & Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Year 6 production, supported by Year 5.
18 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	*	Sport for Life Week TBC
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	*	End of year concert, 1:30pm. TBC
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Leavers' Service, 10:30am, St Michael's Church. All welcome.

\* means added or changed since last newsletter

TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change