



Dear Parents and Carers

This newsletter covers the past fortnight and, consequently, it is jam packed! The return to school after half term saw our annual **Green Week** in school with a wide range of activities inside and outside the classroom. As part of our commitment to helping children develop sustainable, safe and healthy travel habits as they grow up, each class took part in **road safety** activities and the Leeds City Council team also ran the Bike Register event to help deter thieves and aid the recovery of stolen bikes. Our local PCSOs also supported this work in the younger years. Reception, Year One and Year Two had a day of biking with ramps and other challenges. They were enthusiastic and skilled with all non-riders improving and almost every single child mastering the skills needed. Unfortunately, it was pouring with rain that day which seems to have deterred our photography more than the children or the trainer. We hope children can build on these skills over the next few years so that by Year 6 they are ready to take part in Bikeability and even learn cycle proficiency on the roads.



We benefitted from the kind help of many **visitors** in the week, ranging from local councillors/governors, Ridge Action volunteers and parents to local businesses. Children enjoyed these sessions very much, particularly visiting the ridge and Liam's Nature England activities. We were very proud of our Year 6 House Team Captains, who planned and led the house team hobby half day on Friday afternoon. They ran sustainable craft and environment activities, led mini-assemblies and also read stories with a green theme to the younger children. A great afternoon!

On the Tuesday Year 3 had a great trip navigating up and over **Otley Chevin** using maps and compasses. They were brilliant ambassadors for Shire Oak on the service buses and throughout the day. (So much so that a member of the public took the time to email school to pass on her compliments and how much she had enjoyed sharing the journey with our children.)

Our oldest children are so inspired by the theme of **climate justice** that they have been producing some amazing artworks on the theme. These will be going to Leeds City Museum this afternoon to persuade local politicians and dignitaries to take the issue seriously. As we could only take a few children to represent our school, we will be having





an exhibition of all the works in school soon so that parents and carers can also come and admire them. Another small group of our older children represented school this week too. On Monday some of our oldest school councillors went to the local **Youth Summit** at the Civic Hall. There they learned about democracy, asked questions of local representatives, met the Lord Mayor (in the very grand Council Chambers), took part in a session to plan the allocation of funding to activities for young people and much more. I look forward to them feeding this back to the rest of School Council. As a postscript to Green Week we were delighted to welcome **Cathy the Curlew** to assembly on Monday along with Matt from Nidderdale National Landscape. Listening to the whole school imitating curlew calls was a delight!

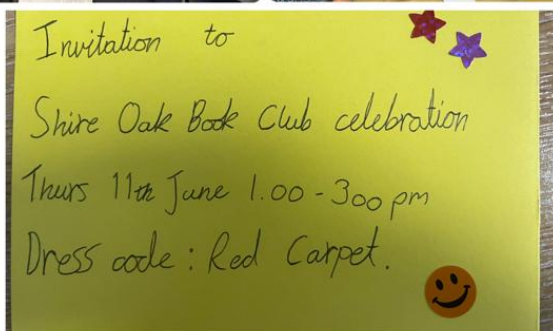
For parents interested in finding out more, or supporting work to protect curlews, please do have a look at [this page](#).

This week we very much enjoyed **Year 4's Class Assembly** and hearing all about their residential to Bramhope Scout Campsite. They really threw themselves into the activities on offer and had a great time. In fact, we were so impressed with the venue that we booked a special trip for **Reception Class** there too. They didn't stay overnight or do archery and crate stacking (!) but they did enjoy exploring the story of Jack and the Beanstalk with some (plastic) axe-throwing, bean planting and plenty of time to play. Thank you so much to Ange from Bramhope Scout Campsite for all her help in getting these new trips up and running.

Yesterday saw a very glamorous event take place in Year 6 who took part (virtually) in the **Leeds Book Awards** but put on a great spread, dressed up, decorated and had a great atmosphere in the actual classroom, excellently emceed by one of our pupils. Thank you to Janie for her work with the children reviewing the books and supporting their creation of a special gala.



School is very colourful today as it is a non-uniform day. We do this in return for donations to the tombola at **Headingley Youth Music Festival** (which is always a firm favourite with the children). Don't worry if you forgot to send something in, you can send it in on Monday! We are now on the final stretch of preparations for our music festival. For families new to school I should explain that we run and host the event as our gift to the community. Children and young people from the local area perform on mainstage (in front of school) whilst there is the opportunity to take part in many free activities. This year these include, Rock School (older children can join in and jam/rehearse before headlining the festival), DJing and digital music, storytelling, try out different instruments, silent disco, multilingual music, circus skills and much more. Alongside this our PTA (FOSOPS) runs a summer fayre to generate income for our school and contribute to the festival feeling. They will be running stalls, refreshments, inflatables, a barbecue, beat the goalie and more. There is also the opportunity for children to sell their homemade wares on our Mini Makers stall. This could be



friendship bracelets, comics, badges or their own inventions. If your child would like to take part then please let me or a member of FOSOPS know. Some of our older children will be running the stall so the sellers aren't glued to the spot for 4 hours! (If your Y5/6 child would like to help with a stall I do have slots on the Mini Makers stall, the boomwhackers and colourful music station and possibly on Beat the Goalie – just let me know! Thanks.)

The festival kicks off at 12 noon with a performance by all of Year 4 on their djembes – always a joyous sound! Headingley and Kirkstall Combined Schools Band play at 13:10

**THE WHOLE SCHOOL** (joined by children from other schools) will sing The Climb at 13:45. Everyone who sings is rewarded with a go on the bouncy castle or the massive inflatable assault course.

Children who have made it through all the heats to the final of Shire Oak's Got Talent will be performing at 13:55

I believe the parents WhatsApp groups are busy with requests for gazebos, volunteers, cakes, tombola prizes, bottles, teddies and more, but if you aren't sure what they need – please do ask! They will be on the playground next week selling **raffle tickets** and they have had some excellent prizes donated. The music, storytelling and circus activities at HYMF are all free, but for the stalls and refreshments there are small charges. Instead of cash you can buy tokens (in advance or on the day) to use.

The children in the Headingley and **Kirkstall Combined School Band** have been busy rehearsing and getting in some performance practice before the festival itself. Yesterday they played for the whole school at Kirkstall St Stephen's and were fantastic! A real treat to listen to. (If your child is interested in playing a (plastic) brass instrument next year, there is probably still a chance to sneak onto the list!)

The children who didn't quite make it to the finals of **Shire Oak's Got Talent** performed in assembly this morning. The quality was very high indeed so I am very glad the whole school got a chance to see the results of their hard work and practice.

I hope you have a lovely weekend. Thank you for all your support as we get ready to welcome people to our school for the music festival. Can you display our **HYMF26 poster** somewhere please? Or give it to a local nursery or playgroup to share? (Electronically or on paper.)

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane  
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PS Dame Rachel de Souza is keen to hear from children in her national survey, The Big Future in order to direct her work as Children's Commissioner: [survey link](#)



**HEADINGLEY YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
**RAFFLE PRIZES**

- GREEN ROOM, LEEDS £100 VOUCHER
- FRIENDS OF HAM £50 VOUCHER
- RUDY'S PIZZERIA £50 VOUCHER
- FRIENDS OF HAM WINE HAMPER
- GEORGE AND JOSEPH CHEESEMONGER £20 VOUCHER
- ZAAP THAI £25 VOUCHER
- CHARMING NAILS VOUCHER
- £20 VOUCHER FOR NUMBER TRAIN CLASSES
- SELECTION OF WINES AND SPIRITS DONATED BY ASDA
- ...AND LOTS MORE!

**GREEN ROOM**  
**FRIENDS OF HAM** BAR & CHARCUTERIE  
**Rudy's** PIZZA NAPOLETANA  
**George & Joseph** - CHEESEMONGERS -  
**ASDA**  
**Number Train**

SHIRE OAK PRIMARY SCHOOL  
SATURDAY 20TH JUNE | 12PM - 4PM



**HEADINGLEY**  
**YOUTH MUSIC**  
**FESTIVAL**

SHIRE OAK PRIMARY SCHOOL

STALLS - RAFFLE - FOOD  
GAMES - INFLATABLES - WORKSHOPS  
LIVE PERFORMANCES

**SATURDAY**  
**20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**  
11AM-4PM

## DIARY DATES

|  |  |
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| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June   | <del>FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from YR this time please)</del> Postponed due to HYMF  |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June  | Y5 trip to Water Treatment Works   |
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June  | New Reception parents meeting am and evening   |
| Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> 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.<br>Y4 Djembe playing at 12 noon to kick us off<br>Whole school singing at 1:45pm |
| Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June   | Archaeologist Kat Baxter (with Egyptian artefacts) to speak to Year 3 pm   |
| Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June   | Rugby match against Whinmoor after school  |
| Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June   | Y3 sharing assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!   |
| Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June   | Y6 rugby team in Leeds finals 1pm  |
| Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June  | Y1 and Y6 trip to Filey (returning after end of the school day) TBC  |
| Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July   | Transition day for children moving to Y7 at Lawnswood School and our in-school transition day with sessions for incoming Reception.  |
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July  | Music Recitals and 9:15 and 2pm. TBC   |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July  | Y5/6 Sports Day 1:15pm   |
| Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July   | YR/1/2 Sports Day c. 9:15am  |
| Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July   | Y3/4 Sports Day 1:15pm   |
| Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July   | * FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns and treats from YR this time please)  |
| Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July  | Y5/6 production dress rehearsal to rest of school  |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July  | Y5/6 production pm and evening (ticketed entrance to one of the shows)   |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July  | Teachers available after school to drop in and discuss end of year reports   |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July   | FOSOPS ice cream sale after school   |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July   | Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, 10:30am.  |
| Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July  | Y6 leavers' ten pin bowling trip   |
| Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July  | Last day of term. Acorn Club finishes early today.   |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> July to 21 <sup>st</sup> August   | * A Camps will be running a holiday playscheme here with sports, crafts, themed activities and hopefully the swimming pool. The booking link will follow soon and it will be part of the Leeds Healthy Holidays scheme for families in receipt of Free School Meals.   |
| DATES: <a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-holidays-and-term-dates">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-holidays-and-term-dates</a> |  |

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