



Parents and Carers

**Thank you to Year 2** for working together to share some of their learning with us this morning in their assembly. It was great to hear (in loud, clear, hall voices) about the people who inspire them and how they are singing to learn their maths facts. Thanks also to the parents and carers who came along to watch them today.

Here are the **Shire Oak Spelling Rules** I mentioned last week. The children start learning these in Year 2 and the quicker they learn them, the easier they will find learning to spell accurately. Please help your child by spotting these rules in use, and encourage them to use them when doing their writing. Thank you.

**Shire Oak's Top 8 Spelling Rules**

- When do I use:**  
ssion, tion,  
sion, cian
- Drop the 'e' after consonants to add 'ing', 'er', 'est', 'y':  
hike → hiking
- '-le' adjectives to adverbs... drop the 'e', change for 'y':  
simple → simply
- Drop the 'y' for an 'i' and add 'es':  
baby → babies
- 'o' sound after 'w' uses 'a':  
want, watch, wand
- Double the consonant after a short vowel sound to add a suffix:  
pat → patted
- Drop the 'y' to add 'ed', 'er', 'est':  
copy → copied
- Homophones:  
their/they're/there  
your/you're  
here/hear  
to/too/two

Many of you know that Ms Lydia Virgin teaches art throughout KS2. You may not know that she is also our trained Nurture Leader, who works with children to build their confidence and self esteem and to feel positive about school and life. She uses the therapeutic intervention called 'Drawing and Talking' but she also uses sand tray work, particularly with younger children or children who prefer practical activities to drawing. She is **collecting a bank of resources** she can use so if you have any 'small world' figures, including people, animals, plants, etc. then she would love to have them. Please give them in via the office or your child's teacher. Thank you.

Well done to Year 5 who raised over £50 yesterday at their **bun sale**. Despite the freezing weather, the Year 5 salespeople diligently staffed their stall whilst a long and patient line queued for buns. Thanks for sending in money so your children could shop for their treat and thanks to Year 5 parents for baking and donating cakes and biscuits. Particular thanks to parents who sent in special diet cakes. It may be helpful to know for future bun sales that the following cakes are in particular demand (if labelled accurately): egg free, gluten free, nut (and nut trace) free. We have a number of

children in school with severe allergies, and it is always great to see them properly included when a food treat is being shared.

Class	Well done to this week's Superstars who have been chosen by the staff in their class. Staff have particularly been noticing children who take responsibility for themselves and their good learning.
YR (Thames)	<b>Myla</b> and <b>Bella H</b> use their phonics for reading and writing and use their knowledge to make their own creations.
Y1 (Nile)	<b>Hope</b> and <b>Rose</b> are taking responsibility by listening, learning and answering questions.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	<b>Rafi</b> and <b>Dilraaj</b> who have taken responsibility for listening well and for their learning.
Y3 (Rhine)	<b>Sophie</b> and <b>Nathaniel</b> who have taken responsibility for doing their best work.
Y4 (Ganges)	<b>Layten</b> , <b>Maddison</b> and <b>Alfie</b> who have taken responsibility for learning their spellings.
Y5 (Tigris)	<b>Isabel</b> and <b>Jago</b> who are ready to learn and contribute well.
Y6 (Amazon)	<b>Maleehah</b> and <b>Helena</b> for taking responsibility for their learning.
<b>Citizen of the Week</b> was <b>Bea</b> in Reception Class who was nominated by some of the girls in Y5 because she is a good friend to everybody in her class and is very kind. Well done!	

Today is a busy end to the week and I look forward to seeing what the **Vacuum Cleaner Project** in Year 4 and Year 5 looks like. I am also looking forward to popping into the first of 2017's philosophy sessions with students from Leeds University later on.

Finally, the weekend after this one sees the annual **Shire Oak Sunday**. Earlier in the year than usual (in the hope of avoiding clashes with road races and blocked routes) the service at St Michael's Church will be at 10am on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February. All children from Shire Oak are invited to attend, and all who wish to participate will have a role to play. There are a few speaking parts that require practising, a hymn to sing for the congregation that we have all been learning with Mr Davies and the chance for each class to talk about the value that they have been learning about and to share pictures of the lovely artwork in the hall. Please talk to your child about whether they are able to attend so that when I ask for volunteers on Monday they have a good idea what I am asking and if they can join us! Thank you.

Have a good weekend. I hope the football team who played Holy Name on Thursday after school have thawed out and can write me a match report soon!

*Jane Astrid Devane*

Jane Astrid Devane  
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An amount of money has been found on the school premises. If you have lost some money, please contact the office to let them know how much it was and where you think it might have fallen. Thank you to the honest Shire Oak citizen in Year 5 who handed it 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	
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan – Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Shine a light on bullying week. Visiting theatre production Tuesday 'Hope' (Y2-6)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Tim Peake inspired science session in Y5
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Children's Heart Appeal Café in the hall, 2:30-4pm. TBC
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Shire Oak Sunday – we join the congregation at St Michaels, 10am. All welcome.
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	House Team Hobby Half Day

Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	*	Shire Oak v Allerton Football match at home after school. Please support us!
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February		Reception Class' first class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> February		HALF TERM. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February		NSPCC assemblies
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	*	Y4 Bun Sale morning break (children may bring up to 50p)
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February		Pizza Maths Club starts for Year 6 after school. 3:15-4:45pm on Mondays.
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February		Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day sale after school
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March		NSPCC Y5/6 workshops
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> – Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> March		Y4 Residential to Lineham Farm
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March		Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March		Year 5 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March		Holi Festival assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	*	FOSOPS Car Boot Sale TBC
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March		Y3 Bun Sale morning break (children may bring up to 50p)
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March		Easter production performance by Year 3 and Year 4.
(Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March		Easter assembly in school – possibly Easter themed competition judging. No parents.)
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> to Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> April		EASTER HOLIDAY. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April		School re-opens after Easter
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> April		Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April		FOSOPS Car Wash fundraising TBC
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> and Thur 27 <sup>th</sup> April		Parents and Carers Consultation evenings (each family will get an appointment)
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April		Y2 Bun Sale morning break (children may bring up to 50p)
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April		Year 4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May		BANK HOLIDAY. School closed.
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> May		KS2 SATS week for Year 6
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May		Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	*	Year 1 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome! (Please note change of day)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May		Y1 Bun Sale morning break (children may bring up to 50p)
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> May		Spring Clean and BBQ TBC
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> to Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> May		Reading Week. This usually includes a book character dress up day.
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 2 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> May to Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> June		HALF TERM. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> June		Headingley Youth Music Festival & Summer Fair 12-4pm. All children perform c.2pm.
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> June		Multicultural Arts Week
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June		Year 3 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June		Movie Night, 5-7pm. TBC
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> June		TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June		Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June		Reception class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June		Reception Class Bun Sale morning break (children may bring up to 50p)
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> June		Transition days for Ralph Thoresby High School
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June		Eid assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July		Musicians end of year concert (pm)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July		Y6/5 dress rehearsal and evening performance of their production
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July		Sports Day Reception/Y1/Y2 in the morning. Y5 & Y6 in the afternoon. (if fine)
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July		Sports Day Y3 & Y4 in the morning. (if fine)
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July		End of year parties/disco in the afternoon
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July		Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, Headingley. All welcome. 10:30am.
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July		Last day of term
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup> July to Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept		SUMMER HOLIDAYS. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
* means added or changed since last newsletter		TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change