

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to everyone able to join us for our **Internet Safety Session for parents and carers** this week. Managing children's safe use of phones, games and tablets is always topical, particularly in years 5 and 6, so it was good to have conversations about the ways parents are trying to keep children safe and keep them being kind online. The leaflets that were given out, and some extra information about parental controls will be going onto the e-safety section of our website shortly for anyone who couldn't make it.

Thank you to **Year 1** for their lovely **sharing assembly** this morning. We particularly enjoyed their singing, artwork and finding out how they have been learning in their 'Let's Celebrate' topic. (See below for photos of some of their beautifully



inclusive role played weddings). It was also lovely to see Susie Hopkins back with her class. We are so pleased that she is returning to her role in school after half term and thank Marcelle Maver, Sue Strange, Lyanne Turner, Jess Miller and Joe Starkie for holding the fort!

Well done to Year 6 who held the first **bun sale** of the year and raised £53.40! Thank you to everyone who baked, shopped or sent in bun money.

Jan Kramer from **St Michael's church** has asked me to let families know that if they would like children to join in with communion at church then they are running informal preparation for communion sessions. I can pass on contact details if required.

Leeds City Council are proposing some changes to the admissions arrangements for schools in their control (i.e not VA, trust or academy schools). As part of this they are looking to **change the catchment areas** for some schools and Shire Oak is included on the list. This link <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-places/school-admissions-policy-consultation> will take you to the consultation documents, the interactive map and how to respond. The proposal is to shrink our catchment area. I am trying to speak to colleagues from the capacity planning department to find out exactly what that would mean for our prospective families and will share any relevant information I receive.

The **clocks go back this weekend**, and days are noticeably shorter and darker. Please help your children to be safe on their way to and from school by wearing light-coloured coats, reflective strips/accessories or high vis jackets. We continue to play outside as much as possible through the winter, so please ensure children are wearing sturdy shoes and have coats with them every day (even if it is a cagoule in a bag!)

**BRIGHT
BE SEEN**



As you may know, Jayne Corner teaches 'Cook It' cookery lessons to children at Shire Oak (using homegrown ingredients as often as possible). Here are some Year 3s contemplating a delicious sundried tomato and basil recipe.



School Council have been busy working on Anti Bullying Fortnight, their toy sale and considering requests that come in to school for help with charity fundraising activities. They have decided that we should support two causes with local connections in the run up to Christmas. Attached to this newsletter is a flyer from the **Romanian Shoebox Appeal** which aims to give children in areas of deprivation some treats at Christmas. This is *not* part of Operation Christmas Child (which we choose not to support for many reasons) but is an independent scheme. There are no strings attached to receiving the gifts: The children are not given evangelical materials or required to be church attenders to receive the shoeboxes. We know this first hand as Joanna Hall (who works in Reception Class) visited the charity this summer and would be pleased to talk to you about what she saw there. At Shire Oak we say that 'toys are for everyone' and there are no such things as girls' or boys' toys so only tick those boxes if your child is particularly wanting to think of children like themselves when packing the presents. The deadline for bringing them into school is the 16th November, but if you have incomplete gifts (e.g. in need of a box or wrapping) please bring them in to school as early as possible!

The other Christmas campaign they would like to support is help towards a **Christmas reunion party for neonatal babies** (in Leeds hospitals) and their **siblings** on the 15th December. This party gives families the chance to meet, support each other and share experiences through and after a very hard time. They are looking for (new) presents to give to children from Santa, money to help run the party and decorations for the venue. Please send any of these (clearly labelled) into school after half term.

I hope you all have a safe and happy half term.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane

janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk

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 Jane Hinchliffe.

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 Julia is often on the playground, if you would like to talk to her.)



Shire Oak CE (VC) Primary School

Rooted in the community – growing for the future

OUR KEY PRIORITIES FOR 2018 – 2019

- We will continue to improve the teaching and learning of **writing** so that children are given appropriate opportunities to learn and demonstrate the skills they are capable of.
- We will ensure that children are stretched in their learning so that they all achieve as well as they can and the number of children demonstrating a **greater depth** of understanding increases.
- We will prioritise **academically vulnerable** children, making sure that all teaching staff know how well they are progressing and how to help them make their next steps.
- We will embed improvements in the teaching of **reading** so that we have whole school systems for the teaching of reading that promote children's comprehension and that encourage them to respond in writing and in other ways.

Shire Oak Sharing at Christmas

Shoeboxes for Romania

Xmas wrapped boxes with items like hats, gloves, scarves, shampoo, soap, combs, calculators, balloons, toothbrushes, toothpaste, crayons, felt pens, pencils, colouring books, dolls, dynamo torches, cars, teddy bears, small toys, wrapped sweets or small travel games.

Neonatal Reunion Party

Christmas decorations, money for food and decorations, (new) presents for the children (all ages).

DIARY DATES

Mon 29 th Oct to Fri 2 nd Nov	HALF TERM HOLIDAY. Children do not attend school.
Thursday 8 th November	Y5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Thursday 8 th November	Y3/4 trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Friday 9 th November	Divali Assembly – all welcome to share our special assembly at 9am in the hall
12 th – 23 rd November	Anti Bullying Fortnight with theatre workshops on the 12 th and 22 nd .
Tuesday 13 th November	Open Morning for current and prospective parents, 9:15-11:15am.
Tuesday 13 th November	Open Evening for prospective parents, 6pm.
Wednesday 14 th November	House Team Hobby Half Day – children working in house teams on various activities
Friday 16 th November	Y3 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 20 th November	Stay and Play for Reception, Y1 & Y2 families. All welcome at the start of the day.
Tuesday 20 th November	Y3 Wildlife Workshop on The Ridge TBC
Tuesday 20 th November *	Headingley Christmas lights switch on & carol singing outside St Michael's 5:30pm
Wednesday 21 st November	Winter Festival of Fire in the school grounds straight after school. All welcome!
Thursday 22 nd November *	KS1 learning about Thanksgiving with a visitor (TBC)
Monday 26 th November	Birthday of Guru Nanak– all welcome to share our special assembly. 9am, the hall.
Monday 26 th November	FOSOPS school discos in the evening. R/KS1 4:30-5:30 7 KS2 5:45- 6:45
Tuesday 27 th November	Training Day – school closed to children
Wednesday 28 th November	Y4 Wildlife Workshop on The Ridge TBC
Wednesday 28 th November	Meeting for Reception parents about how we teach maths. 6pm. TBC
Thursday 29 th November *	Y1 trip to St Michaels to learn about baptism (TBC)
Thursday 29 th November	Toy Sale by School Council (clear out before Christmas)
Wed 5 th – Fri 7 th December	Robinwood Residential for Year 6 children
w/c 10 th December	Book Club trip to the theatre TBC
Monday 10 th December	Bun Sale with donations by Year 5 but available for all to buy
Tuesday 11 th December	Book Club trip
Friday 14 th December	Nativity Plays by Reception and KS1 morning and afternoon (FOSOPS refreshments)
Monday 17 th December	Carol singing at Wheatfield's Hospice
Tuesday 18 th December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church. 10:30, all welcome.
Tuesday 18 th December	School Christmas lunch
Friday 21 st December	Christmas parties and a special Christmas visitor
Mon 24 th Dec to Fri 4 th Jan 19	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY. Children do not attend school.
Thursday 10 th January	Open Morning for current and prospective parents, 9:15-11:15am.
Friday 11 th January	Y6 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Thursday 17 th January	Maths Focus Day
Friday 18 th January	Stay and Play for Reception, Y1 & Y2 families. All welcome at the start of the day
Monday 21 st January	Year 4's turn to make/bring buns for the bun sale
Friday 25 th January	Y2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Sunday 3 rd February	Shire Oak Sunday at St Michael's Church 10am. (We will join their all age service)
Wednesday 6 th February	Reception Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 6 th February	Movie Night 5-7pm TBC
Thursday 7 th February	Training Day – school closed to children TBC
Monday 11 th to 15 th February	Reading Week – including our Book Day dressing up day and House Team Hobby Half Day
Mon 18 th to Fri 22 nd February	HALF TERM HOLIDAY. Children do not attend school. Kidzone plan a playscheme.
Tuesday 26 th February	Bun Sale with donations by Year 3 but available for all to buy
w/c Monday 25 th February	STEM Week including Geography Focus Day 27 th & Escape Rooms on the 28 th
Wed 6 th to Friday 8 th March	Lineham Farm residential for Y4
Thursday 7 th March *	Stay and Play for Reception, Y1 & Y2 families. All welcome at the start of the day
Thursday 7 th March	Geography Focus Day
Thursday 14 th March	Stay and Play for Reception, Y1 & Y2 families. All welcome at the start of the day
Friday 15 th March	Y5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 25 th March	Bun Sale with donations by Year 2 but available for all to buy

Sat 30 th March -Sun 14 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY. Children do not attend school. Kidzone may offer a week.
Thursday 18 th April	Easter Production by Y3/4. All welcome!
Fri 19 th /Mon 22 nd April	School closed for Good Friday and Easter Monday
Friday 26 th April	Stay and Play for Reception, Y1 & Y2 families. All welcome at the start of the day
Monday 29 th April	Bun Sale with donations by Year 1 but available for all to buy
Thursday 2 nd May	Y2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 6 th May	BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY. Children do not attend school.
Friday 10 th May	Y4 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Mon 13 th to Fri 17 th May	KS2 SATS Week for Year 6
Tuesday 21 st May	Y1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 24 th May	Non uniform day (bring in items for Headingley Youth Music Festival tombola stall)
Mon 27 th to Fri 31 st May	HALF TERM HOLIDAY. Children do not attend school. Kidzone run a playscheme.
Thursday 6 th June	Reception Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Saturday 8 th June	Headingley Youth Music Festival (includes our summer fair) All welcome! TBC
Tuesday 11 th June	New Reception Parents meetings (am and evening)
Tuesday 11 th June	Reception Class visit to Leeds Beckett Discovery Garden (TBC)
Wednesday 12 th June	SRE (Relationships Education) parents' evening for Y5/6
Friday 14 th June	Eid Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 18 th June	Stay and Play for Reception, Y1 & Y2 families. All welcome at the start of the day
Tuesday 18 th June	Movie Night 5-7pm TBC
Wednesday 19 th June	Training Day – school closed to children
Monday 24 th June	Bun Sale with donations by Reception Class but available for all to buy
w/c 24 th June	Multicultural Arts and Faith Week TBC
Wednesday 3 rd July	Transition Day (visiting new classes)
Thursday 4 th July	Y3 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 10 th July	Music Recital (TBC) for children who learn an instrument or singing
Thursday 11 th July	Y5/6 production (dress rehearsal in the morning) performance in the evening
Monday 15 th July	Y3/4 Sports Day (subject to weather) in the morning
Tuesday 16 th July	Y5/6 Sports Day (subject to weather) in the morning
Wednesday 17 th July	R/1/2 Sports Day (subject to weather) in the morning
Wed 17 th to Fri 19 th July	Y6 Bikeability (be practising ready for this!) TBC
Monday 22 nd July	End of year celebrations (
Tuesday 23 rd July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church 10:30am
Wednesday 24 th July	Last day of term before the summer holiday.

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar> term dates

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

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