

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to come to our **Parents' Evenings** this week. In some classes there was 100% sign up which is really positive. If you were unable to attend this week then please arrange to see your child's teacher as soon as possible by talking to them directly, phoning, texting or talking to the office staff. Thanks also to everyone who filled in a **curriculum questionnaire** to help us find out what you and your child think of the recent changes since the new national curriculum came into force and since we adopted the Numicon set of resources for supporting maths teaching and learning throughout school.

This week Y1 and Y2 invited some very special visitors into school. **3 firefighters from Cookridge Fire Station** came to the playground with a fire engine. The children were able to have a go with the hose, climb up into the cab and see the special equipment. Reception Class were also very curious, so they got to climb up into the engine too. Y1 and Y2 have been enjoying all the visitors they have had in conjunction with their Heroes topic. (They have been telling me about the "squishy brain thing" that Ted's mum (occupational therapist) brought in when she visited.) Thank you to everyone who has volunteered or suggested visitors for us.

Class	This Week's Superstars who have been chosen by the staff in their class:
YR (Thames)	Inaaya and Rafi
Y1 (Nile)	Hunter and Skye
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Irish and Chanelle
Y3 (Rhine)	Max and Natalie
Y4 (Ganges)	Leon and Rean
Y5 (Tigris)	Emily and Kenyon
Y6 (Amazon)	Nathan and Vishal

These Superstars were chosen for different things, but some of them were for being e-kind, e-safe and their e-best using the Internet.

Well done to **Maryam** who is this week's Citizen of the Week. Y1 children had appreciated her helping Mrs Wilkinson with the skipping at lunchtimes.

This week we celebrated a new festival for our school. As you know, we try to make sure our **festival assemblies** reflect all the families in school but this year the dates of many fall in school holidays or very close together. We thought it would be fun to find out about a new Hindu festival so this week children have been learning about the spring festival of **Holi** ready to share their learning with you this morning. Thank you to everyone who came along. Please can I remind you that it is difficult to stand up and speak loudly in front of a big audience so we all help by being as quiet as we can. We know younger brothers and siblings find this difficult so always feel very free to stand up and walk them around or take them out if needs be.



Saturday 7 March
The Dragon Who Hates Poetry
with Dommy B from BBC's Rhyme Rocket

"There is no dragon scarier in any earthly place. His face looks like his bottom and his bottom like his face..."

A fun, solo show packed full of lyrics, laughter and lots of joining in! Armed with only pen and paper, poet Dommy B needs your help to bring this fearful dragon's reign to an end!

As seen on BBC's 'Rhyme Rocket', The Dragon Who Hates Poetry is written and performed by slam winning poet Dommy B, winner of New York's famous Nuyorican Poetry Cafe Slam and UK's Superheroes of Slam. The show enjoyed a full month's run at 2013's Edinburgh Fringe before embarking on a sell out 2014 UK tour from Brighton up to Glasgow!

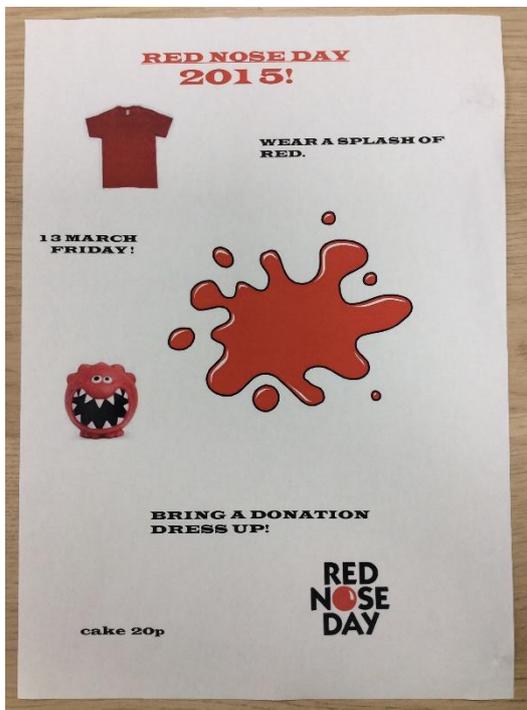
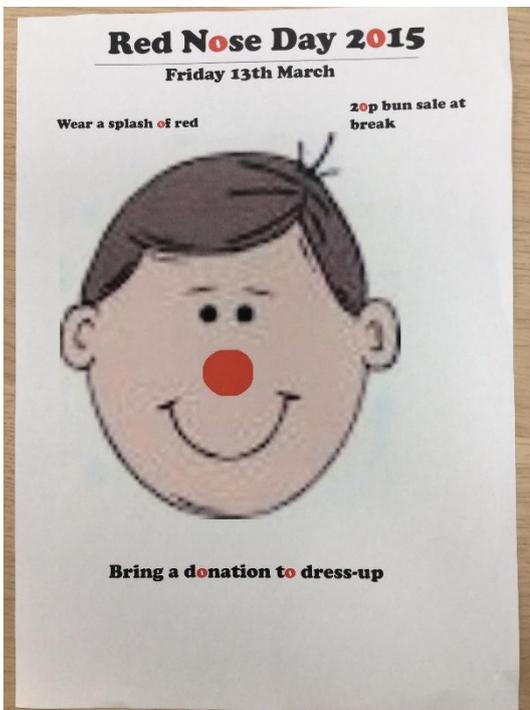
11.30am
Meanwood Institute,
Green Road

For 5+ and families
Free children
£3 adults

Headingley LitFest 2015 has just begun and there are some great events for children from this weekend. As well as the Dragon Who Hates Poetry (with slam poet Dommy B)



there is a session at 3pm in the New Headingley Club where you can ask questions and get recommendations of books for your children to read. <http://www.headingleylitfest.org.uk/> for the full programme.



School Council are busy getting ready for Comic Relief's 2015 **Red Nose Day** (which is one of the reasons why we are having our book event in the summer – including a chance to dress up!). School Council have decided that we should all wear our normal clothes, but with a dash of **red**. We will have a **cake sale** at morning break so children are asked to bring in buns and also a little money to spend, if possible. (We will send a text with details in case you don't see these posters that have been

popping up around school!!)

We would appreciate it if keen bakers could help us out before that though as we are celebrating the end of **Fairtrade Fortnight** with a **coffee and cake afternoon** from 2pm-4pm. All are welcome for a peaceful chat before the end of school or with children after school. All the cakes and snacks will have some fairtrade ingredients in them. The children have had a special assembly by Mr Martin to explain about Fairtrade and have been designing posters for a competition.

Well done to the **Rugby Team** who played at Alwoodley on Monday despite the freezing temperatures and sleet. We do try to continue with playtimes and sport activities outside whenever possible, so please make sure your children have suitable clothing. (I know many of them claim to never be cold, and that may be true while they are running around, but waiting for the bus will always be chillier!) Thanks to Mr Martin, Mr Straw and High School volunteer coach Megan for training and taking them.

Y5 were visited again this week by Alive and Kicking. Since their first visit they have improved their story writing, impressing Mr Davies and the visiting actors with their more mature and dramatic language. I look forward to reading the **Gawain and the Green Knight** book they are putting together.

Thanks, as always, for your support. Have a great weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk



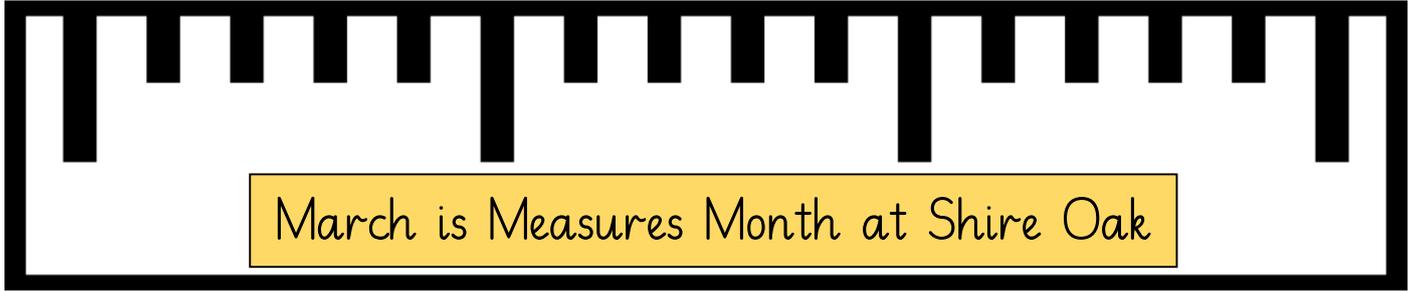
Did you know?

If you didn't make it to Parents' Evening this week then teachers would be very happy to make another, mutually convenient, time to talk to you about your child's progress. We hope that by giving you (Y1-6) termly paper reports with parents' evenings halfway through the term that you feel better informed about how your child is doing throughout the school year. If you have any queries or concerns you never have to wait until Parents' Evenings though – just ask to see us!

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 10 th March	African Voices visitors for Y5/6, 2pm.
Friday 13 th March	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Friday 13 th March	Comic Relief / Red Nose Day. Wear a splash of red and bring cakes for a sale.
Monday 16 th March	* Book Club assembly about the Leeds Book Awards work they have been doing.
Wednesday 18 th March	British Science Week themed school dinner
Wed 18 th – Fri 20 th March	Year 4 Residential, Bewerley Park, North Yorkshire.
Friday 20 th March	Year 6 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Friday 27 th March	FOSOPS bun sale after school in the hall. Buns from Y4 please.
Wednesday 1 st April	Y3/4 Easter production
Thursday 2 nd April	FOSOPS Easter Egg Hunt after school
Friday 3 rd - Friday 17 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY (Kidzone may operate a playscheme)
Mon 27 th April to Fri 1 st May	LATE GATES challenge week. Sheila Stansfield from the Local Authority will be monitoring punctuality each morning this week.
Friday 1 st May	Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Friday 1 st May	FOSOPS bun sale after school in the hall. Buns from Y5 please.
Monday 4 th May	BANK HOLIDAY, SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 8 th May	Year R Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th May	Y6 KS2 SATs Test Week.
Wednesday 20 th May	House Team hobbies half day
Thursday 21 st May	Leeds Book Awards
Monday 25 th –Friday 29 th May	HALF TERM (Kidzone may operate a playscheme)
Friday 5 th June	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Friday 5 th June	FOSOPS bun sale after school in the hall. Buns from Y6 please.
Sunday 7 th June	Shire Oak Sunday. Our contribution to the All Age Service at St Michael's.
Thursday 11 th June	UKS2 Athletics Competition, organised by Lawnswood at Becketts Park. 9:30-1:30
Saturday 13 th June	Headingley Youth Music Festival at Shire Oak (date to be confirmed)
Tuesday 23 rd June	Movie Night
Wednesday 24 th June	TRAINING DAY
Friday 26 th June	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Wednesday 8 th July	Transition day for students at Lawnswood and parents evening
Thursday 9 th July	Transition day for students at Lawnswood
Friday 10 th July	Eid assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Tuesday 21 st July	Last day of the school year

* means added or changed since last newsletter



March is Measures Month at Shire Oak

Have the children told you about any measuring activities set up in their classroom?

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, Janie Percy-Smith janieps@aol.com (Janie is also in school most Tuesdays if you would like to talk to her.)