

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for a good week and especially to everyone who has returned their **parents and carers consultation evening** slips – it really helps us to plan two very busy evenings and ensure everybody in school has a suitable appointment. When you come for your meeting, it is helpful if you come via the front office door, except for parents booked in to see the Reception Class teacher, who can go straight to the classroom. To help us supervise safely, only children who are booked into Acorn Club can be on the playground where they are playing, so if children are with you then bring them indoors with you or leave them playing on the field (if old enough) please. If it rains while waiting for an appointment in Reception Class please use the shelter by the Y1/2 cloakroom door, or Pre-School, when that becomes available.

Thanks also to everyone who was able to support the first ever annual general meeting of **FOSOPS** (Friends of Shire Oak, our PTA) where they shared information about their fundraising – and fund spending – this year and their forthcoming plans, including the off-site social for adults. (By the way, FOSOPS are still looking for donations of pallets to help their composting plans.)

Tomorrow is our annual **Woodland Walk**. This is a chance for families to get to know each other and for children to socialise together outside school. It is usually very popular with our new Reception families and anyone else keen to make connections in school. We will meet at the pedestrian gate on Wood Lane at 12 noon and then walk together to the Ridge to take part in an 'I Spy' challenge. We return to school for a little food and drink together in the hall. All welcome! (This is a free event.) I look forward to seeing some of you there.

Year 5 are very much enjoying their class novel and their topic, all about the **Anglo Saxons**. Straight after Harvest Festival last week they enjoyed a special online session with the University of Durham to look at artefacts and bring their learning to life. We enjoyed their **class assembly** this morning, particularly the creative masks and the amazing vocabulary and writing inspired by their topic.



The beginning of October has been a busy period for our **school rugby players** with the Y5/6 girls team and the Y6 mixed team representing Shire Oak in inter-school events. On Friday, the girls team took part in a touch rugby festival at Wetherby with teams from Harehills, Chapeltown and Meanwood. After a series of skills activities, the team played small matches, winning two and losing two. Despite the wind and rain, the team kept going and showed some impressive passing and ball handling, particularly given how greasy the ball became and how their fingers became colder over time. An impressive effort. On Tuesday, some of those players joined a big squad of boys from Y6 to play a friendly tag rugby match against our old friends at Whinmoor St Paul's. After a close loss and a draw in our previous two encounters, it was once again a tight contest which ended with an 8-7 Shire Oak win. The team started slowly in the unfamiliar surroundings but learned from early challenges and built from there. As confidence grew, so did the try scoring total. Congratulations to all the 21 girls and boys who have represented our school so positively in rugby events over the last week.

Yesterday year 2 enjoyed an all day visit to **Whistlestop Valley**. In their transport topic they are learning about trains, and there was plenty for them to experience including a ride behind a steam locomotive and a close up look at it and the turntable as well as a turn on the miniature train ride. The children were good ambassadors for our school too, well done. I hope you have a lovely weekend.

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PS We have been made aware of a potential **safeguarding issue** with a website link in books the children may be reading. There is nothing at all wrong with the content of the Spy Dog, Spy Cat and Spy Pups series of books by Andrew Cope, but the domain previously used by the author has been acquired by a third party and has inappropriate content not related to the author or the books. If these are favourites in your household I recommend obliterating the website address with dark ink, or similar!

Class	Well done to these Superstars who have been chosen by staff who work with them. Year 6 monitors write down the comments from certificates as they are given out.
YR (Thames)	Freddie has settled in well and is a brilliant role model to his peers on the carpet. Ire is kind and considerate when playing with others in Reception Class.
Y1 (Nile)	Edward always tries his best and listens well. Caterina has a great attitude to her learning.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Roza is showing determination in her maths and making good progress. Willow S is showing fantastic creativity in her writing.
Y3 (Rhine)	Medi is bringing a positive attitude and curiosity to all her learning. Gabriel Mn brought a positive attitude and great effort to swimming.
Y4 (Ganges)	Barney consistently demonstrates a determined and positive attitude towards his reading. Juliet has worked very hard incorporating new language features such as metaphors.
Y5 (Tigris)	Maisie makes thoughtful contributions in class. Eleanor acts as a good role model when it comes to organising her resources. Lucas always gives 100% to his maths work.
Y6 (Amazon)	Stan puts in maximum effort into all his learning. Aidan is focused at all times when working.
Citizen of the Week was Juliet for always following the school values and being a good friend. She was nominated by a classmate. Well done!	

DIARY DATES

Saturday 11 th October	Woodland Walk –activities on The Ridge followed by refreshments in school.
Wednesday 15 th October *	Parents and Carers Consultation Evening (see letter for appointments)
Thursday 16 th October	Y3 trip to Harlow Carr
Thursday 16 th October *	Y6/5 football team playing Ireland Wood after school (leaving just before end of day)
Wednesday 22 nd October *	Parents and Carers Consultation evening (see letter for appointments)
Thursday 23 rd October	Diwali Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome
Thursday 23 rd October *	Football match v Weetwood (played at Lawnswood School) after school
Thursday 23 rd October	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from Y2 this time please)
Friday 24 th October	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children.
HALF TERM 27 th to 31 st October. School closed to children. Art Camp UK will be running a playscheme on site.	
Tuesday 4 th November	Individual and sibling photos today
Wednesday 5 th November	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day. Families welcome.
Thursday 6 th November	Y6 Viking workshop in Year 6
Friday 7 th November	Y3 Class Assembly. 9am in the hall, all welcome.
Monday 10 th November	Anti Bullying Fortnight begins. KS2 drama workshops today
Tuesday 11 th November	An act of Remembrance held today
Friday 14 th November	Y2 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.
Tuesday 18 th November	Open Morning for prospective parents (& anyone who wants to visit)
Wed 19 th November	Winter Festival of Fire straight after school. All welcome!
Monday 24 th November	Dodgeball tournament, group of Y4 children
Tuesday 25 th November	Headingley Christmas Lights Switch On & carols 5pm→ (St Michael's Church/outside, TBC)
Tues 25 th -Thurs 27 th Novem	Y4 Virtual Sessions about Ancient Romans
Thursday 27 th November	Yoga sessions for R/Y1/Y2/Y3
Friday 28 th November	Yoga sessions for Y4/5/Y6
Mon 1 st - Wed 3 rd Decemb	Y6 residential trip to Robinwood, Todmorden. Travelling by train.
Monday 1 st December	Group of Y5 at dodgeball tournament after school (leaving just before end of day)
Friday 5 th December	Y4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.

Friday 5 th December	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from Y3 this time please)
Mon 8 th / Tues 9 th December	d:Side sessions on Internet safety (hopefully with parent session too)
Wed 10 th December	Reception and Y1 /2 Nativities dress rehearsal to rest of school, am
Thursday 11 th December	Reception Class Nativity to parents and carers at the start of the day
Thursday 11 th December	Book Club trip to Leeds Playhouse to see a Christmas Carol, pm
Friday 12 th December	KS1 Nativity to parents and carers at the start of the day
Tuesday 16 th December	Carol Service @ St Michael's Church c. 10:30am All welcome
Tuesday 16 th December	School Christmas dinner. (If usually packed lunches, can be ordered in advance)
Wed 17 th December	Christmas disco Younger children 3:45-4:45pm. Older children 5-6pm.
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas party day, including concert TBC. Lunch will be party food & can be booked
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term
22 nd December to 2 nd January CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY School closed to children. There may be a playscheme.	
Monday 5 th January	School re-opens.
Thursday 8 th January	Open Morning for prospective parents
Friday 16 th January	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from Y4 this time please)
Tuesday 27 th January	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children
Monday 9 th February	Canals and Rivers Trust water safety sessions
Friday 13 th February	Pancake Sale after school (Shrove Tuesday in half term)
Monday 2 nd February	Health checks YR and Y6
Friday 27 th March	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from Y5 this time please)
w/c 18 th May	Bikeability for Year 6
Friday 22 nd May	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from Y6 this time please)
Friday 12 th June	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from YR this time please)
Tuesday 16 th June	Y5 trip to Water Treatment Works
Wednesday 1 st July	Transition day for children moving to Y7 at Lawnswood School and our in-school transition day with sessions for incoming Reception.
Friday 17 th July	FOSOPS ice cream sale after school
TERM DATES: https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-holidays-and-term-dates	

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

