



Dear Parents and Carers

# SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

School feels wonderfully busy at the moment, indoors and outdoors. Children (and teachers) have been working hard to make the most of the time in school and to make up for the time without normal lessons earlier this year. (In fact, attendance has been at – or very close to – 100% in all classes this week. At this time of year teachers are also busy collecting **assessment** information to inform end of year reports and prepare for transition meetings with next year’s teachers. As part of this, children will have taken part in written assessments (from Y2 upwards) but these are done in a very low key way as part of normal classroom work, with support from adults as usual. You are probably aware that the statutory assessments (i.e. Y2 and Y6 SATs, Y1 phonics check, Y4 times tables check and the Early Years Framework) have been suspended for this year. As a school we have worked with local schools to produce a transition unit to help prepare the Y6 children for high school. Based on Shakespeare’s *The Tempest*, the children are reading, writing, solving maths problems, doing science investigations and tackling PSHCE topics. Work from this unit will go up to participating high schools so that their new teachers can help them to continue to make good progress from September.





Year 4 were tired, but happy, on their return from **Lineham Farm** after three days and two nights away from home and school. As sleepovers have been limited in recent months, this was a new experience for many of our children and they tackled the activities and dormitory life with enthusiasm and determination. We were one of the last schools to visit Lineham Farm before the first lockdown, and we were the first to visit now as it reopened. Year 6 are also looking forward to their rescheduled residential in a few weeks' time.

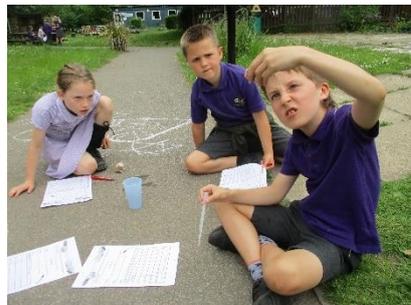
Year 1 would like to say thank you to Phill Hopkins for coming in to spend time making **wooden boats** with the class and for letting them learn how to use the drill.

On Thursday some of our children were able to (safely) watch the **partial eclipse** using special glasses, colanders, shadows, etc. Here are photos of Year 5 capturing the special moment.

Year 3 have also been exploring scientific themes as they **investigated** the suitability of different **rocks** for replacing the steps of Leeds Town Hall. They said: "We rejected permeable chalk and impermeable (but slippery) marble and chose an impermeable and rough igneous rock like granite."



We rejected permeable chalk and impermeable (but slippery) marble and chose an impermeable and rough igneous rock like granite."



Although we are busy cramming in as much as we can before the end of the year, we are also planning for next year. Taking part in the **parents' survey** will really help us in this work so that we understand what is working well for families and where we can make improvements. The survey is online this year (but please ask if you need a paper copy). <https://forms.gle/SdNnEdqWcG5GRDSz6> Please fill it in by the end of next week (18<sup>th</sup> June), thank you! We want to make sure we also find out what you have been missing and would like to see returned to school when COVID restrictions allow (I am certainly missing Headingley Youth Music Festival this fortnight) as well as anything from this period of time that is worth keeping.

Have a great weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane  
[janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk)

With this newsletter you should receive a copy of the activity timetable for the **Children's Centre**. Our Headingley Children's Centre works in an amalgamated partnership with Horsforth and Ireland Wood to help families expecting babies and/or with children aged 0-5. These activities will run up until 23rd July 2021, when the summer timetable will commence. To attend, families need to ring 01132591786 to book a place.

## DIARY DATES

Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	TRAINING DAY
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Writing Week including Windrush stories
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1/2 trip to Filey (date change due to coach availability)
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Poetry work with Andy Craven-Griffiths
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Meetings for new Reception parents TBC
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Skipping Celebration Day for KS1 following several weeks of Skip into Summer workshops
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Abbey Grange transition day for Y6 into Y7
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Cardinal Heenan transition day for Y6 into Y7
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	After School family event including barbecue TBC
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> – Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 6 residential to Waddow Hall.
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Role models in sport assembly
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> & Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Lawnswood transition days
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Shire Oak transition day including new Reception Stay and Play TBC
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Abbey Grange, Ralph Thoresby & Leeds City transition days for Y6 into Y7
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	TRAINING DAY – this is the last one to be scheduled this year. We were previously unable to book the training we had planned, which is why this is later notice than usual.
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	(Virtual) visit from Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell to Year 5 and Year 6
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 am TBC
13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Carr Manor transition days for Y6 into Y7
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3 and Year 4 Sports Day pm TBC
14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Prince Henry's transition days for Y6 into Y7
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 and Year 6 Sports Day am TBC
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	City of Leeds transition day for Y6 into Y7
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5/6 Performances to school (pm) and parents/carers (evening) TBC
<del>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July</del>	Leavers' Service (possibly at St Michael's Church) am THIS DATE IS LIKELY TO CHANGE
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of term including end of year assembly
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> July	These two days will be taken as Training Days as we have not been able to book our training in person earlier in the year.
<a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar</a> term dates	
* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change.	

I am happy to include this announcement and attached flyer for Woodcraft Folk who meet at our school:

*Inspired by the real need for a summer of play, local charity Leeds Woodcraft Folk invites children to taster activities for under 6s or ages 6-12: Saturday 12 + 26 June*

*Book to avoid disappointment or try dropping in on the day.*

Form: <http://bit.do/playoutJune21>

Facebook event: <https://fb.me/e/H3bVzFEy>

*Shire Oak Woodcraft group for ages 6-12 has restarted on Thu 6pm to 7:15pm, meeting at school and local outdoor space. They recently planted wildflowers and litter picked with Woodhouse Ridge Action Group. This week, they were looking forward to using the firepit and making chocolate orange campfire cakes.*

*Find out about our regular groups for ages 2-16 in Meanwood, Headingley, Kirkstall, Allerton and Gledhow.*

Flyer: <https://woodcraft.org.uk/activities/leeds-playouts-12-and-26-june>