



Dear Parents and Carers

What a half term! Primary schools before Christmas must be some of the loveliest but busiest places to be. Thank you for all your help in making sure children are at the right place at the right time, wearing the right clothes! Obviously, a highlight of the season is **Nativity Production day**. We all really enjoyed Reception's sweet retelling of the story and how every child took part and spoke. This was followed by Key Stage One's play which told the 'backstory' to Gabriel's role in the story of the first Christmas. In both we enjoyed proud performances, sweet singing, solos, well delivered lines, dancing, riding, shaking and so much more. Very well done to all our children for their performances and well done to the staff who organised them, rehearsed and encouraged them.



Thank you very much to **FOSOPS** who provided refreshments for the nativities and also ran a raffle which was drawn in assembly on Wednesday. Winners have been notified – thank you for all donations and ticket monies.

On Tuesday we all went to St Michaels' Church for our annual **Christmas Carol Service** which is a good way to learn about how many Christians celebrate Christmas. The children sang well and a number of volunteers had reading and speaking parts which they delivered well. Thank you to Revd Angela and Revd Tony for all their help. Tony and Angela have also been accompanying the **choir** on their various **carol singing** outings to local care homes and Wheatfields Hospice and we have received lovely feedback from residents and staff about



how much the visits were enjoyed. After church on Tuesday we returned to school for our Christmas dinner complete with hats and jokes. Thank you to all the kitchen and school staff who work hard to make it such a festive occasion.



Yesterday was **party day** and there was much excitement in school. Mrs Taylor and her cooks prepared a special party lunch which was served in different rooms in school. The hall was set up with lights and props for Alive and Kicking to present their fabulous show **Santa and the Christmas Dragon** which kicked off our party afternoon. Children then enjoyed games in their classrooms. We tried to contain some of the giddiness on one day and so after school saw the return of the school **discos**. Thank you very much to all the staff and parents who helped to run them.



Thanks also to the families who baked or bought **buns** for **Year 4** to sell. This means that they can use the money for something the class decides. We do appreciate all your support in these times of reduced budgets.

Well done to Year 5 who wrote **persuasive letters** to the Headingley councillors about their environmental concerns. He has written back with answers to their questions and an offer to come and speak to them. He said, "A huge thank you to your class for sending me those wonderful letters. What a clever and creative class you have. I was very impressed."

For children who will perhaps have access to phones or tablets over Christmas, we have been asked to share with you concerns about the **Unico Live** app. Removed from Apple but still available on Android, it looks very child-friendly but raises many concerns. More information here: <https://bit.ly/2sDW6Vz>

Whilst we are mentioning **safety**, please can I ask for your help in making sure that children do not ride their **bikes or scooters** in the ginnel/avenue from **Alma Road** gate. Children whizzing past on their bikes can be very tricky for children

with limited mobility – and for adults too, especially if also looking after smaller children. Children should not ride bikes or scooters in the ginnel or on the playground. If they need to come that way they should dismount and push instead please. Thanks for your help with this.

Please help your child remember to keep up with their reading this holiday, and hopefully also practising their Maths Passport targets (can be fun to show off to visiting family members!) We are back on the 6th January, so there is time after New Year's Eve to get back into good habits around bedtimes and getting up, ready for the return to school.

I wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and look forward to working together with you for your children in the new year.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane
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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. Our parent governors are often on the playground, if you would like to talk to them.)

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 24 th December		Christingle Service at St Michael's, 4pm. All welcome to this child-friendly service.
Tuesday 7 th January	*	NSPCC 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' assemblies
Thursday 7 th January	*	Football match after school
Thursday 9 th January		Open Morning, 9:30am. All welcome!
Monday 13 th January		Food Waste Workshop launch for after school club
Wednesday 15 th January		Maths Focus Day and maths meeting for Reception parents (in the afternoon)
Thursday 16 th January		Y6 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Thursday 16 th January	*	Y5 and Y6 NSPCC assemblies in the afternoon
Friday 17 th January		Stay and Play, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in class at the start of the day
Monday 20 th January		Bun Sale with donations by Y3 but available for all to buy
Tuesday 21 st January		TRAINING DAY – school closed to children
Thursday 23 rd January		Y3 assembly to present poetry written with local poet, James Nash (2:30-3pm)
Friday 24 th January		Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 24 th January	*	Parents quiz night by FOSOPS TBC
Monday 27 th January		Y4 science workshop
Friday 31 st January		Geography Knowledge Day
Monday 3 rd February		Y4 science workshop
Wednesday 5 th February	*	Y1 and Y2 visit to Abbey House Museum
Thursday 6 th February		Reception Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Sunday 9 th February		Shire Oak Sunday - welcome to join the all age service St Michael's Church 10am
10 th to 14 th February		Writing Focus Week including House Team Hobby Half Day
Monday 2 nd March		Bun Sale with donations by Y2 but available for all to buy
Tuesday 3 rd March	*	Y3 trip to Harlow Carr
Thursday 5 th March		World Book Day – we dress up as characters or 'wear' quotes we love.
Thursday 5 th March		Stay and Play, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in class at the start of the day
Wed 11 th - Fri 13 th March		Lineham Farm residential for Year 4
Wednesday 18 th March		Year 1 Class Assembly
Wednesday 18 th March		Movie Night TBC
Thursday 19 th March		TRAINING DAY – school closed to children TBC
Tuesday 24 th March		Y4 Piano Fantasia trip (as part of Leeds Piano Competition)
Friday 27 th March	*	Y5 rugby league match at Richmond House (walking at 2.30pm, kick off 3.30)
Thursday 2 nd April		Easter production dress rehearsal
Friday 3 rd April		Easter production, c.9:15 in the hall, all welcome!
Wed 22 nd & Thur 23 rd April		Parents Evenings in the evening. Y5 and Y6 attend appointments with their parents.

Thursday 30 th April	Stay and Play, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in class at the start of the day
Monday 27 th April	Bun Sale with donations by Y1 but available for all to buy
Wednesday 29 th April	Y2 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 1 st May	Y4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Mon 4 th & Tues 5 th May	Visits from d:side on medicines, drugs, alcohol and smoking
Thursday 7 th May	Reception Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 8 th May	VE Day Bank Holiday (2020 only) SCHOOL CLOSED
11 th to 14 th May	KS2 SATs week
Friday 15 th May	* Y6 flag bearers at Leeds v Huddersfield rugby match in the evening.
18 th to 22 nd May	Green Week including road safety
Thursday 21 st May	Class and team photos
w/c Monday 1 st June	Bikeability for Y6. Get practising so you're ready!
Friday 5 th June	Eid assembly
Friday 5 th June	Non-uniform day (in return for tombola items for Headingley Youth Music Festival)
Monday 8 th June	Bun Sale with donations by Reception Class but available for all to buy
Monday 8 th June	Nurses to see Reception and Y6
Wednesday 10 th June	Y5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 10 th June	Relationships Education meeting for Y5/6 parents in the evening TBC
Thursday 11 th June	New Reception parents' meetings (am and evening)
Saturday 13 th June 12-4pm	Headingley Youth Music Festival. All our children perform & includes summer fair
15 th to 19 th June	Geography Mapping Week (includes orienteering)
Tuesday 16 th June	Stay and Play, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in class at the start of the day
Wednesday 17 th June	TRAINING DAY – school closed to children TBC
Tuesday 23 rd June	* Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 24 th June	Music recital for children learning instruments in and out of school
Wednesday 1 st July	Transition Day
Friday 3 rd July	Adults v Children netball match and barbecue
Thursday 9 th July	Y5/6 production performance in front of the school
Thursday 9 th July	Y5/6 production for parents in the evening, 6pm. All welcome!
Monday 13 th July	R/1/2 Sports Day c.9am and Y5/6 Sports Day c.1.10pm (weather dependant)
Tuesday 14 th July	Y3/4 Sports Day c.9am
Thursday 16 th July	Leavers' Service 10:30am St Michael's Church
Friday 17 th July	Parties and Y6 Leavers' Bowling trip or similar
Monday 20 th July	Likely to be a closure day due to building work on our roof.
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	

Some Y6s at Robinwood →

Great learning seen this week:

Christmas Haiku
 Christmas Kennings
 Adjectives for party clothes
 6 times table song
 World War II poems
 Maths investigations
 Christmas science
 Carroll & Venn diagrams
 Recount writing
 Lots of reading

...it's not all parties!

