

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been lovely to welcome children back after the half term break. It was especially great to hear about what they have been reading recently. There is still time to get into good habits of **reading for pleasure** – whatever works for your family! If there are barriers to reading at home, these could be discussed at the parents and carers' consultation evenings that are coming up soon. Please watch out for the sign-up letter next week!

It was also lovely to see so many families able to join us this morning for **Stay and Play** – even though the rain stopped us from spreading out into outside areas. Please don't feel guilty if you can't come to these! Your child enjoys a bit of extra attention from school adults or others they already know. The main purpose of these sessions is for informal conversations about your children, a chance to see and understand their learning environment and to give you a context for learning conversations at home.

Very well done to Levi in Y4 who took part in regional finals this week and is now going to be part of the squad representing West Yorkshire in the **National Cross Country finals** in Leicestershire at the start of March. Keep up the great running practising Levi!

Susan Koyuncu has asked me to let you know that there are new [menus](#) for the **school dinners**. These are on our www.shireoak.org website under Parents and Carers.

Our Year 3s gave their views about **Woodhouse Ridge** to local officers when they met them during their Forest School session before half term. You can also have your say, if you haven't already: <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/theridge/>

Please find attached another newsletter about **staying safe online** that was produced for Safer Internet Day.

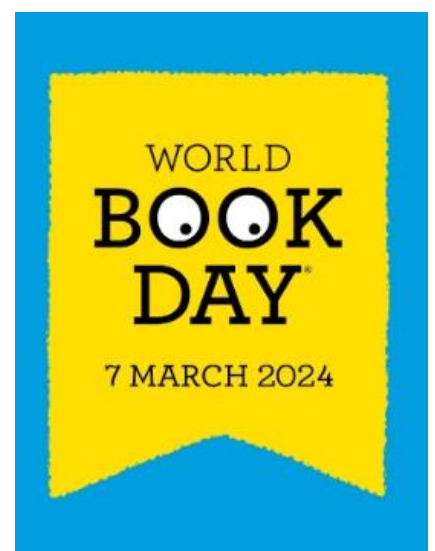
I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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PS World Book Day is coming up soon! Amongst other reading and writing activities that day we will be having a dress up day so it may be worth spending some time this weekend thinking about favourite books and authors. We never want parents to feel pressurised into buying costumes for things like this – it should be a celebration of reading, not a money-making exercise! Some costumes are more props than clothes, e.g. George's Marvellous Medicine: spoon and a bottle; Billionaire Boy: a big wad of cash; Tracy Beaker: a diary. For those that like dressing up there are some good and adaptable ideas here <https://www.madeformums.com/toddler-and-preschool/last-minute-easy-world-book-day-costumes/> (This is not an endorsement of the website as a whole.) Danny the Champion of the World wears outdoorsy clothes, a long cardigan can be Hogwart's robes, Tom Palmer's football books have sports kit mentioned and Sophie in the BFG is mostly in pyjamas. Some children do not like dressing up or a change to their school routine and that is, of course, fine. Many book characters wear school uniform, so that might be an option. Alternatively, wearing a sticker or badge with a quote from a favourite book can be a good way to share. What we want from the day is a chance to talk about a love of books and to pick up recommendations for great future reading which is why costumes based on books, rather than films, is the aim.



DIARY DATES

Thursday 29 th February	Year 5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y5 friends and family welcome!
Friday 1 st March	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y4 friends and family welcome!
Tuesday 5 th March	Y3 Stone Age trip to the Discovery Centre
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day. We usually dress up as book characters today.
Mon 11 th & Tues 12 th March	(British Science Week 8 th to 17 th March) Our workshops on these dates.
Monday 11 th March *	Y5 or Y6 watching dress rehearsal of Beauty and the Beast at Lawnswood School
Tuesday 12th March	Y5 piano and science workshop as part of Leeds International Piano Festival
Thursday 14 th March	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 & Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
Thursday 14 th March *	Y3 at Leeds University School Sports Festival TBC
Friday 15 th March	Hot Cross Bun sale straight after school TBC
Monday 18 th March *	Water safety assemblies
18 th to 20 th March	Class visits to St Michael's to learn about the Easter story
Wednesday 20 th March	Parents and Carers Evening (appointments with class teachers)
Tuesday 26 th March	Y3/4 Easter Production dress rehearsal am for classes in school
Tuesday 26 th March	Parents and Carers Evening (appointments with class teachers) (this is a corrected date)
Wednesday 27 th March *	Y3/4 Easter Production AM, families welcome THIS IS A TIME CLARIFICATION
Thursday 28 th March	TRAINING DAY. School will be closed to children. Staff will be training in school.
EASTER HOLIDAY. School will be closed Good Friday 29/3 to Friday 12/4. https://artcampuk.com/ will run.	
Monday 15 th April	Year 2 intensive swimming lessons start (letter to follow nearer the time)
Friday 19 th April	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 & Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
22 nd & 23 rd April	D:Side PSHCE sessions (Safety around medicines, alcohol, etc.)
Tuesday 23 rd April *	LKS2 Netball festival after school
Friday 26 th April	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y2 families and friends welcome!
Sunday 28 th April	Shire Oak Sunday at St Michael's Church 10am, all welcome to the all-age service
Sunday 28 th April *	Leeds Rhinos netball match – tickets available via school
Friday 3 rd May	Reception Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All YR friends and family welcome!
BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY. School will be closed the 6 th May for one day.	
13 th to 17 th May	KS2 SATs week (Year 6)
Friday 17 th May	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All Y1 friends and family welcome!
HALF TERM. School will be closed Monday 27 th May to Friday 31 st May. https://artcampuk.com/ will run a playscheme	
3 rd to 7 th June	Green Week, including pedestrian and scooter training
3 rd to 7 th June	Bikeability training for Year 6. This will include road cycling if the assessment is passed!
Tuesday 4 th June	Y3 trip to Otley Chevin TBC
Wednesday 5 th June	R&S Education meeting for Y5 and Y6 parents/carers
Tuesday 11 th June	Y5 trip to the water treatment plant
Tuesday 11 th June	Y5/6 Girls' Tag Rugby qualifiers 1-3pm
Wednesday 12 th June	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children. Staff working offsite.
Thursday 13 th June	Eid assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 14 th June	Non uniform day (in return for a tombola present for HYMF, thank you)
Thursday 20 th June	New Reception parents/carers meeting (am and evening)
Thursday 20 th June	Y5/6 Mixed Culley Sevens 1-3pm
Friday 21 st June	Y5 trip to the recycling plant
Saturday 22 nd June	Headingley Youth Music Festival 12-4pm. This is our gift to the community and also our summer fair. All children in school are in our choir that performs, as do Y4 djembe players and other musicians. (Please avoid booking parties today!)
Monday 24 th June	Y5/6 Girls' Tag Final stages (at Headingley) 1-3pm
Wednesday 26 th June	Y5/6 Girls' Contact Festival 1-3pm
Friday 28 th June	Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All friends and family of Y3 welcome!
Wednesday 3 rd July	Transition day TBC
Thursday 4 th July	Music Recital am. All welcome!
Mon 15 th & Tues 16 th July	Sports Days TBC
Wednesday 17 th July	Y5/6 production to rest of school
Thursday 18 th July	Y5/6 production to friends and family, all welcome! (evening)
Monday 22 nd July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, 10:30am. All welcome!

Tuesday 23 rd July	Y6 Leavers' trip
TERM DATES: https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar	

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