



Dear Parents and Carers

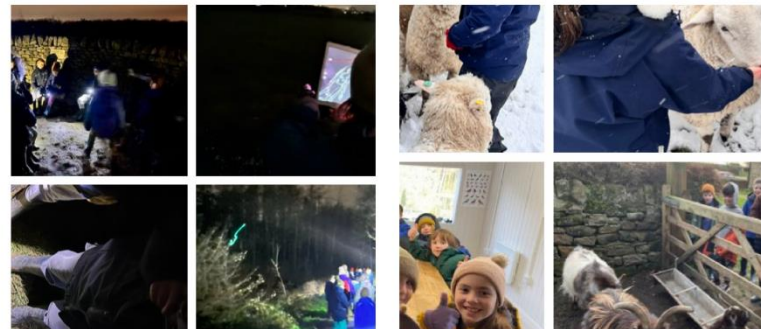
SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

This half term has been shorter than those in the autumn term, but I see that there are quite a few children (and adults too, perhaps) who are ready for a bit of a break. February half term marks the halfway point for the school year so it is a good time to take stock, talk to children about what they have been most proud of so far this year and what they are going to be working hardest at when lessons resume. I hope that the **mid-year reports** for Years 1 to 6 have helped with this. There will be an opportunity to discuss these at parents' evenings which are coming up in March, but anything more pressing can be brought up before then. Thank you to Reception parents who joined the online meeting about **early maths** learning this week. If you missed it, Ms Dalton is sharing her slides for reference.

In assembly this morning children were sharing which books they were looking forward to **reading** next week: with variable weather predicted this is a good half term to prioritise library trips and curling up with a good book!

Year 4 will certainly be ready for some down time this half term! They are due back from their residential trip to **Lineham Farm** later today and it looks like they have been having a fabulous time. Although not very far from school, the snow settled much more where they are, so snowball fights ended up on the itinerary. There were some changes to the planned activities (it's hard to cycle through snow on tyres designed for muddy tracks) but they were still able to do a full range of outdoor and adventurous activities. Staff have been pleased to see the teamwork and problem-solving that has been demonstrated so far.



This week Year 6 have enjoyed a **special workshop** on the theme of children during World War II. There was even some very creative dressing up! (I didn't manage to get any photos

though, unfortunately.) Year 3 enjoyed **investigating** the **properties** of different types of **rocks** this week to find out which might be the best to build steps to a building in Leeds.

They explored the idea of a fair test and came up with an experiment to find out which rocks are the most permeable, from chalk to marble. Granite was the preferred choice of most of the scientists. Y3 are very interested in geology and volcanology at the moment and enjoyed a special visit earlier this week from one of our dads who is an expert in this field!

Class	Well done to these Superstars who have been chosen by staff who work with them. Year 6 monitors write down the comments on certificates as they are given out.
YR (Thames)	Seth has been listening to grown ups and is participating well in our carpet sessions. Charlie is growing in confidence and he has been joining in well on the carpet.
Y1 (Nile)	Ben for his great effort in writing. Jacob for his amazing story writing.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Mara works really hard all the time and doesn't get distracted. Ben has been really helpful when we have been using the ChromeBooks.
Y3 (Rhine)	Fox has brought a positive attitude to his learning throughout Year 3 so far. Jonah has worked so hard across all subjects in Year 3 so far.
Y4 (Ganges)	Are all being superstars at Lineham Farm residential this week.
Y5 (Tigris)	Arthur did a great job holding 7 billion people in our science demonstration. Sasha has been using her creativity well in art lessons.
Y6 (Amazon)	Hannah is becoming increasingly more independent at improving her work. Alek is showing dedication to his work and improving.
Citizen of the Week was Runa who was nominated by lots of different people for being kind, helpful, positive, trying her best, following the school rules and helping people when she sees they are on their own. Well done!	

I hope you have a lovely half term break and we will see you back at school on **Monday 19th February**.

Jane Astrid Devane

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DIARY DATES

HALF TERM. School will be closed Monday 12 th to Friday 16 th February. https://artcampuk.com/ will run a playscheme. Shire Oak pupils get a 10% discount as we are the host school.	
Friday 23 rd February	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 and Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome!
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.
Tuesday 12 th 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!
Friday 15 th March	Hot Cross Bun sale straight after school TBC
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.)
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
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.