



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been lovely to see so many families of our younger children this morning at the first **Stay and Play** of the year. We hope these give you a chance to see and understand their classrooms and learning areas as well as give opportunities for informal conversations with the class staff.

This week it has also been good to share with you the sukkahs (special shelters) we have been building as we find out about the Jewish festival of **Sukkot**. Many of these were built outside as we get into good habits with our outdoor learning as the school year begins. School was very quiet on the occasions when nearly every single class was outside!

This week children in Y1, Y2 and Y4 have had the opportunity to take part in **mini athletics** sessions, which looked very enjoyable. It is helpful if children keep their PE kits in school so that they can always take part in opportunities like this. Other than older children who may be entering puberty, most PE kits can tolerate a half term's use before going home for a wash (as that is the equivalent of about two full days wear). With PE kits it is helpful if children with longer hair keep a few hair elastics so they can tie it up for safety before PE and games.

This week we had a special assembly on **democracy at school** and thought about all the ways we try to listen to pupils' voices here at Shire Oak. We introduced our **House Team Captains** who are all the children in Year 6. They then led their first house team meetings on Wednesday morning for KS1 and KS2. We reminded all the classes to vote for their **Class Councillors** for **School Council** and encouraged Year 5 to consider standing for election as vice-chairs so that they can then be the chairs in Year 6. This year we are very proud to have a candidate in the **Leeds Children's Mayor** elections! Atticus (Year 6) was successful in his nomination and is now standing for election with a campaign about poverty. All children in Leeds have two votes (so they can vote for a candidate from their school and one other). We have tried to make sure all children at Shire Oak have had a chance to vote this week, but if your child missed it or you know other children who might not have voted, please encourage them to get involved. [This campaign video](#) by Atticus is worth watching before voting at <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/LCM2024/> (This also has a link for those aged 10+ to get more involved in politics and social causes.) Please do encourage a good turn out from the young people connected to our school!

I look forward to seeing many of you at the meetings for Reception, Year One and Year Six parents/carers next week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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#### DIARY DATES

Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm	Robinwood Residential trip meeting for Y6 parents/carers in the classroom
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm	Early phonics meeting for Reception Class parents/carers in the classroom
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm	Transition meeting for all Y1 parents/carers in the classroom
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September *	School nurses to check Y1 hearing
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Y5 online history visit with Durham University
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	FOSOPS meeting to plan Woodland Walk 2:15pm
w/c 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Local history week in school with visits to Oakfield Terrace and artefacts day in school
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Maths Puzzles afternoon in Y5 with Mr Smith from Lawnswood School
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Y2 trip to Whistlestop Valley railway
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October 9am	Harvest Festival in the hall, all welcome. (Children also bring a non-perishable food item, if possible)
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Woodland Walk TBC (a good way to meet other Shire Oak families)
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Y3 trip to Harlow Carr

Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Netball Festival at Menston St Mary's after school. Under 11s.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Stay and Play – join YR, Y1 & Y2 in class at the start of the day
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Y6 Viking Day in the hall
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October pm	KS2 Cross Country running competition
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October 5pm	Herd Farm Residential trip meeting for Y4 parents/carers in the classroom
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents and Carers Evening 1 (booking for a slot opens nearer the time)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 9am	Y3 Class Assembly in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 9am	Y2 Class Assembly in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parents and Carers Evening 2
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	House Team Hobby Half Day – orienteering and mapwork focus Y1-Y6
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	TRAINING DAY School closed to children
HALF TERM no school for children Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> Oct – Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov. Art Camp will be running a holiday playscheme.	
w/c 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Black History focus visits to the library
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Birthday of Guru Nanak assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	KS2 drama workshops as part of Anti Bullying Fortnight which starts today
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	An age appropriate act of remembrance will take place in school
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual photo day (prints will be back in good time for Christmas presents) s
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Y6 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> November	D:Side Internet Safety sessions
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Morning for prospective parents. Current parents also welcome to tour school.
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Winter Festival of Fire, straight after school. All welcome!
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Year 5 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	Headingley Lights Switch On TBC
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Y3 sports festival at Leeds University
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Stay and Play – join YR, Y1 & Y2 in class at the start of the day
2 <sup>nd</sup> to 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Y6 at Robinwood Residential school trip
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December *	Carol singing at Victoria Court 11am
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Book Club trip to Leeds Playhouse TBC
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Y4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	School nurses (flu spray)
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> December	School nurses to visit YR and Y6 vision and growth checks
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	R, Y1 and Y2 performing nativities to rest of school
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	YR, Y1 and Y2 Nativities to parents and carers am and pm
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church am, all welcome.
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas school lunch (children who are on packed lunches can book this in advance)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas party day, with entertainer and party food at lunch (can be prebooked)
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY no school for children 23 <sup>rd</sup> December to 3 <sup>rd</sup> January. Art Camp will run a playscheme.	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> January *	Open Morning for prospective parents. Current parents also welcome to tour school.
13-15 <sup>th</sup> January *	Y4 at Herd Farm Residential school trip
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January *	Year 1 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	WW2 day (online) Y6
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January *	Reception Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	TRAINING DAY School closed to children
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January *	Stay and Play – join YR, Y1 & Y2 in class at the start of the day
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Canals & Rivers Trust water safety assemblies
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February *	Y5 trip to York
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February *	Reception Class parents meeting about maths 2:15 TBC
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February *	Y6 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February*	Y4 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
HALF TERM no school for children 17 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> February. Art Camp will run a playscheme.	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February *	Stay and Play – join YR, Y1 & Y2 in class at the start of the day
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March *	Shrove Tuesday pancake day sale after school
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March *	World Book Day (dressing up as a favourite character, etc. TBC)

Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	*	Y5 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> March	*	Science workshops as part of British Science Week
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	*	Shire Oak science fair as part of British Science Week
27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> March	*	Easter visits to St Michael's Church TBC this week or next week
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	*	Y3 and Y4 Easter production to the rest of school
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	*	Y3 and Y4 Easter production to parents, carers, etc.
EASTER HOLIDAY no school for children 7 <sup>th</sup> April to 21 <sup>st</sup> April. Art Camp will run a playscheme.		
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April		TRAINING DAY School closed to children
23 <sup>rd</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> April		Y2 Intensive Swimming course, followed by weekly lessons
28 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup> April	*	D:Side sessions on medicines, alcohol and drug safety
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	*	YR Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	*	Y1 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May		Y2 Great Fire of London workshop
12 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> May		KS2 SATs week for Year 6
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	*	Y2 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
19 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> May		Bikeability training & assessment for Y6. Start building cycling confidence to be ready!
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	*	Y3 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May		NSPCC workshops Y2, Y5 and Y6 TBC
HALF TERM no school for children 26 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> May. Art Camp will run a playscheme.		
2 <sup>nd</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Green Week, including pedestrian, scooter and bike safety. TBC
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	*	House Team Hobby Half Day TBC
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	*	RSE information meeting for parents in Y5 and Y6 5pm TBC
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Class photo day
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Year 5 trip to the recycling plant
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June		TRAINING DAY School closed to children
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Eid Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Non uniform day in return for an item (or two) for the HYMF tombola please
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Meeting for new parents/carers of Reception intake 2025 followed by home visits
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 12-4pm		Headingley Youth Music Festival, run by our school in our grounds. All our children are in the choir and often other performances, so please avoid planning parties for this day!
30 <sup>th</sup> June – 11 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Learning through Sport Fortnight
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	*	Transition visits to new classes (1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lawnswood transition days)
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Music recital for children learning an instrument in or out of school 9:30am
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Sports Day Y5/6 @1:15pm TBC
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Sports Day YR/1/2 @9:15am TBC
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Sports Day Y3/4 @1:15pm TBC
14 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> July		Y2 Intensive Swimming course, followed by weekly lessons all year in Y3
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Y5/6 production to rest of school & grandparents/carers of alternate roles
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Y5/6 production to parents and carers evening
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	*	Leavers' Service 10:30am at St Michael's Church
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	*	Leavers' ten pin bowling trip
SUMMER HOLIDAY no school for children 23 <sup>rd</sup> July to 29 <sup>th</sup> August. Art Camp will run a playscheme.		
TERM DATES: <a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-holidays-and-term-dates">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-holidays-and-term-dates</a>		

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