



Dear Parents and Carers

SHIRE OAK
C of E (VC) Primary School

This is the final newsletter of the term and the year. I would like to thank you for all the great cooperation we enjoy in working together to help your children learn and thrive at school. Thank you for the **comments, compliments and feedback** we have had throughout the year, not least in the parents and carers survey. Governors have spent time discussing the survey and making plans to let you know where changes will be made or information clarified in response.



Year 4 prepared so well for the **Children's Day: Reimagined** at Roundhay Park and it was great to see their banners on display there. Unfortunately, the day itself was rather wet so the finale was a bit of a damp squib, but we were pleased to hear the special song last week instead when Year 4 sang it for us after their amazingly accomplished **djembe performance**.



With varying weather conditions, it was great to see our **Sports Days** go ahead this year. The children joined in and competed well with good sportship and encouragement to each other. Thank you to everyone who came to watch and to the staff for organising all the events.

Acorn Club is going from strength to strength, and we appreciated the helpful comments in the parents and carers' survey which we will take into account. Thank you also to the families who returned the booking form by the deadline so that we could plan staffing cover. From September we will be moving to ParentPay for online payments, and we understand that may also give you the option of booking wraparound care too. Watch this space! Over the summer we are recruiting a leader to run the afterschool sessions (and supervise the food menus, ratios, etc.) as well as additional playworkers. If you know anyone would be a great fit for our school, please make sure they see these links which will go live on the 4th August. Thank you.

<https://leeds.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/1/home/requisition/23630?c=leeds>
<https://leeds.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/1/home/requisition/23631?c=leeds>

Very well done to all our performers in Y5 and Y6 for their stunning production of **A Midsummer's Night's Dream**. The confidence, composure, comedy and cooperation were amazing and we were all impressed at the performance to school and then again to family on Thursday night. Thank you to everyone who encouraged, auditioned, rehearsed, costumed, resourced and applauded them to put on such a good play!



Children in Reception, Year One, Year Two, Year Four and Year 6 will have had additional **statutory assessment** information accompanying their child's end of year report. These online guides (below) by the Department for Education explain more about them. At Shire Oak we deliberately

keep these tests and checks as low key as possible (and children in KS1 do not know they are doing them.) Hopefully the drop-in parents' evenings last Wednesday gave the opportunity to discuss what the results mean for your child, if there was any uncertainty. The information in these DfE guides will be broadly the same for next year other than us not knowing what the pass mark will be for the phonics screening check until after all data is submitted and the KS1 SATs being discontinued. (This year the pass mark for phonics was 32. Any child scoring below that will continue to receive support in phonics learning and will take the check again next year in Year 2.) The information below the links sets out how we keep you up to date on your child's learning and progress at school.

[KS1 and KS2 SATS info for parents](#) [Phonics Screening Check info for parents](#) [Multiplication Check info for parents](#)

How we keep you informed about your child's learning throughout the year

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Transition meetings: Y1 & Y3	Homework leaflet & times tables to work on given out	Open Morning	Homework leaflet & times tables to work on are given out	Give out times table results	Homework leaflet & times tables to work on given out
Reception phonics meeting	Open Morning	Give out times table results.	Give out mid-year report to parents for discussion.	Curriculum newsletter, homework leaflet & times tables to work on given out	Times tables tests
Parents Evenings	Times table tests	Curriculum newsletter, homework leaflet & times tables to work on given out	Parents Evenings		Give out full end of year reports, including times tables scores with Phonics results (Y1), SATs results (Y2 & Y6) and multiplication check results (Y4)
Curriculum newsletter, homework leaflet & times tables to work on given out		Open Morning	Times table tests		Drop in parents evening
		Reception maths meeting			

Also throughout the year: Stay and Play, Class assemblies, Children with SEN will have Individual Support Plans, etc. Weekly school newsletter (information about curriculum enrichment days, etc.) Teachers are accessible at the start and end of the day and also by appointment throughout the year.

These last few days have held a lot of **goodbyes** for our school as people move on to new schools and new chapters of their lives. Susie Hopkins is retiring after 32 years of teaching (30 on this site!) and Christine Bennett is also retiring after an amazing 25 years. (We are delighted that she will still be helping at Acorn Club for a while longer though.) Sharon Hall is moving to be closer to family after her time at Shire Oak. We thank them for their loyal and dedicated service to our school and the hundreds of children in Headingley whose lives have been touched by their care, guidance and hard work. We wish them all the best for the future.



We are also saying a fond farewell to the Year 6 class before they move on to secondary school. They were a credit to their families in the **Leavers' Service** and have funded their last day bowling trip by holding waffle and smoothie sales. (Thank you to all who supplied ingredients or bought treats!)

Congratulations to all the finalists in the **WonderDay** competition who received special letters in this morning's assembly. I hope you are planning to go and see the entries on display and enjoy the activities on offer at HEART. (See attached poster.) In assembly we also celebrated the **rugby team**, final end of year



SuperStar and Maths Passport certificates and Poppy and Sasha's great fundraising efforts. (£85 each!) **Elephants** were announced as the house team trophy winners for 2022-2023. Well done all!

I hope you have a lovely summer holiday. Good luck to everyone moving on to new schools and I look forward to seeing the rest of school again in September.

Jane Astrid Devane

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PS We know some children will have more **screen time** over the holidays, so we hope you find the attached information about **parental controls** helpful in managing this.

PPS If you are looking for **things to do** in the holidays, don't forget to check out [Breeze in the Park](#) for local events throughout the summer. There are also [relaxed sessions](#) for children with additional needs. There are also discount vouchers for Yorkshire attractions in this [booklet](#).

DIARY DATES

Saturday 29 th July	Wonderday at Headingley HEART with exhibition of our competition entries. (Finalists have had letters.)
SUMMER HOLIDAY Wednesday 26 th July to Friday 1 st September. School closed to pupils.	
Monday 4 th September *	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children.
Tuesday 5 th September *	First day of term for Years 1 to 6. New Reception Class have been told their start dates.
7 th - 9 th February 2024*	Lineham Farm residential trip for all in Year 4.
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.