



Dear Parents and Carers

Writing Week has been a great way to round off the half term. We have enjoyed:

- poetry day with rhymes, riddles, haiku, acrostic, stanzas and shape poems
- older children working with younger children to help them edit and redraft their writing
- a whole school collaborative story based on a mystery object in each class
- author visits from Miles Salter and Scott Allen
- a playscript writing workshop with a (parent volunteer) dramaturg
- the messages in bottles that were done at home (thank you family supporters)
- writing across the whole curriculum
- special reading volunteers working with classes
- Superstars assembly with a writing theme (see below)

Thank you very much to Alun Davies and Katy Harris for organising such a rich and varied week which will hopefully inspire our children further in their writing.

This week we also had our termly **House Team Hobby Half Day** and it was the first time that Reception Class has joined the rest of school. The activities were mostly themed around The Olympics (as we start to look forward to Tokyo 2020) and there were drama workshops, PE activities, fancy icing tasks, baking and computing activities. The children work together in mixed age groups from their house teams and the older children are great leaders for the younger ones. Thank you to Marcelle Maver for organising it and all the support staff for their skill and energy making it run so smoothly.



Year 5 were very disappointed that Storm Ciara had caused the dress rehearsal of **We Will Rock You** at Lawnswood School to have problems with their electrics so that the invited primary schools couldn't go and see it. Quick-thinking Y5 staff managed to find a DVD of a previous performance of the play at Ralph Thoresby instead for the children to watch. The evening performances went ahead, however, and we were very pleased to see so many former Shire Oak pupils taking part in the cast, crew and band – with some of them only in Year 7. A superb performance!



Storm Ciara, coupled with the road closure on Otley Road, meant a smaller congregation than usual at St Michael's for **Shire Oak Sunday** this year. The children who braved the horizontal rain and strong winds represented the school beautifully though and were complimented for their good reading and clear speaking. Well done and thank you!

Games Night was not a casualty of Storm Ciara but instead of an abundance of romance in Headingley! The clash with Valentine's Night (and the first evening of the half term break) proved too problematic and so this will be rescheduled for next half term instead.

Coming up very soon after we come back to school is **Shrove Tuesday** and the annual **FOSOPS pancake sale** after school. If you can donate some pancakes for us to reheat, we would be very grateful (the type that come in packets from the supermarket are great – don't feel like they must be homemade!) Volunteers to help run the sale would also be welcomed.

Also starting after half term is an exciting **new opportunity for families** in the local area. Instead of sitting waiting whilst your children do exciting activities, or paying for a babysitter so you can get out and do something fun – how about learning music together? Please see the details below and get in touch if you want to find out more!

Headingley Family Learning Centre

in association with

HORSFORTH MUSIC CENTRE

presents

Family Choir

Mondays 4.30 - 5.30pm

AND

Family Ukelele /Guitar Class

Mondays 4.30 - 5.30pm

(max 20 places)

Come along and learn new skills as a family. Introductory price of just £10 per family for 6 weeks half term. All instruments provided.

Booking advised. Starts Monday 24th February, registration from 4pm.
Venue: Shire Oak School, Wood Lane, Headingley. LS6 2DT.



@HeadingleyFLC



HeadingleyFLC@gmail.com



Another family **music enjoyment** event is coming up early next half term when we will host a **concert** that is raising money to support the equipment and running of the Headingley and Kirkstall Combined Schools Band. The band started here at Shire Oak last year and is now hosted by Kirkstall Valley (with Shire Oakers in its ranks). All very welcome!

Performances by the Headingley and Kirkstall Combined Schools Band AND Tutti Leeds Community Concert Band

March 6th 2020

6.30pm

Shire Oak School Hall

Tickets: Adults £2, Children £1 (purchase at the door)

Have a safe and happy **half term** and I look forward to seeing you all back on the 24th February.

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

Monday 24 th February	*	Family Learning starts at Shire Oak – choir and guitar/ukulele
Tuesday 25 th February	*	Pancake Sale straight after school
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
Friday 6 th March		Concert by Combined Schools Band and Tutti, school hall in the evening TBC
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
Tuesday 24 th March		Y4 Piano Fantasia trip (as part of Leeds Piano Competition)
Thursday 26 th March		Step into Easter trip for Y5
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.
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!
Thursday 30 th April		Stay and Play, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in class at the start of the day
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.
Saturday 16 th May		Ground Force Day and BBQ – help to improve our grounds
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	*	Confirmed as 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		