



Dear Parents and Carers

# SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

What a busy fortnight! For many of us the highlight of last week were the **Nativity** productions put on by Reception Class and Year 1/Year 2. It was so lovely to see the children enjoying their moment on stage, singing together, dancing and acting so well. Thank you to everyone who helped with rehearsing, staging, costuming, props and logistics. The programmes are attached to this newsletter in case you didn't pick up a souvenir copy.



Well done to **Year 4** for their exemplary behaviour and learning on the trip to Bradford Media Museum. As well as enjoying themselves and helping deepen their science topic work they received this lovely compliment from the impressed staff there, "That is a class to be proud of!"





There are many children in KS2 who can also be proud of the way they have conducted themselves out in the community. We were so pleased to be invited to **carol sing** for some of the local nursing homes again this year and the **choir** were a credit to the school in how they performed and brought some cheer with them. We weren't able to stay and chat to the residents this year, naturally, but we still received some lovely compliments and sweet treats! All children in KS2 can join the choir which rehearses some lunchtimes in the run up to Christmas. The choir also helped with the singing when we walked to St Michael's Church for our annual carol service. Unfortunately, Reverend Angela was stuck in quarantine and couldn't be with us, but the children sang, did readings and led prayers well. Special mentions go to Ada, Archie, Bea (Y5) and Annabelle (Y3) who played their instruments for us on the way in and the way out. The older children had already played in a large concert the previous Friday evening as part of Headingley and Kirkstall Combined Schools Band and it was a privilege to hear them and the other bands their brass teacher, Joelle Braithwaite, leads.



We then came back to school and enjoyed a special Christmas lunch with all the trimmings! Thank you to Mrs Taylor and her team for their hard work feeding us all!



Thank you to **FOSOPS** for their fundraising and social efforts this half term. They have had a hot chocolate sale, sold tea and coffee at the Nativities, supported the Open Morning and put on a Christmas disco. Every family at Shire Oak is automatically a member of our PTA (Friends of Shire Oak Primary School) and we appreciate the different ways that you contribute throughout children's time at our school. (In the first week back we are looking for volunteers again to help with our second Open Morning by serving refreshments and telling prospective parents about life at Shire Oak.)



Although we make sure children are learning all the way to the end of term, there are plenty of fun things going on in school at the moment. As I finish this letter children are enjoying a performance by **Alive and Kicking**, featuring Tricky Pixie and Scary Fairy. Yesterday they enjoyed **party** food at lunchtime, wearing their Christmas clothes and playing party games. Year 3 and 4 gave their party a special twist by going to The Ridge to celebrate Christmas and the end of term with a special Forest School session. Earlier this week the children in Book Club went to see Peter Pan at the Leeds Playhouse – the book they had been studying together. Thank you to Janie Percy-Smith and Abi Readman for

organising the visit.

Do make sure you have seen Year 4's lovely Advent 'window' to take part in the local window trail. I wish you and your families a very happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane [janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk)



We have had two confirmed cases of COVID in Year 1, three cases in Year 6 this week (1 confirmed) and one confirmed case in Reception class this week.

Class	Well done to these Superstars who have been chosen by staff in their class
YR (Thames)	<b>Kayon</b> showed me his knowledge of number bonds to five using counters and a 5 frame. <b>Runa</b> could subitise groups and use her number bond knowledge in addition.
Y1 (Nile)	<b>Annabel</b> is working hard with her maths making some progress. <b>Evie</b> is keen with her maths and asks for extra challenges.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	<b>Tomos</b> and <b>Stan</b> have listened and watched carefully then tried successfully to use equipment and written methods to add and subtract 2 digit numbers.
Y3 (Rhine)	<b>Georgie</b> is working hard in maths in school and at home. <b>Emma's</b> maths work and presentation is always of a high standard.
Y4 (Ganges)	<b>Cora</b> is working hard in maths to learn new concepts and develop her understanding. <b>Nelson</b> works hard to learn new facts in maths and challenges himself with deeper reasoning.
Y5 (Tigris)	<b>Ada</b> applied her maths knowledge well to the recent assessments. <b>Amirali</b> produces clear and accurate work with arithmetic calculations.
Y6 (Amazon)	<b>Edie E</b> handles any maths challenge she is set and applies herself tremendously in lessons. <b>Franklin</b> settles to his maths tasks quickly and completes all the work he is given and often more.
<b>Citizens of the Week</b> was <b>Hope</b> for showing great kindness and represented by Shire Oak values by standing up on the train as soon as she spotted a person with a walking stick getting onto the train. <b>Toma</b> was also citizen of the week has he has grown in his kindness to others. He tries, tries and tries again with his learning. He is a good classmate but an even better friend. He helps others at things they may find hard. Hope was nominated by the staff and Toma was nominated by Peggy.	
Well done to all these children who have achieved their next <b>Maths Passport</b> continent and are travelling on to the next one: <b>Robyn, Bram, Achilles, Luke, Flo, Joseph, Charlie N-S, Tomos and Otis.</b>	

#### DIARY DATES

Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Open morning for prospective parents between 9:15 and 11:15am
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> January *	Leeds United PSHCE session with Y6
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Y1 trip to Abbey House Museum
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	Homework hand in day for Years 1-6
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Y5 trip to the chocolate factory
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Shire Oak Sunday St Michael's Church (we are invited to take part in the All Age Service)
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3 visit to Herd Farm for Stone Age topic
27 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Lineham Farm residential for Year 4
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	KS2 SATs (Year 6)
16 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Bikeability for Year 6
23 <sup>rd</sup> /24 <sup>th</sup> May	D:side sessions on medicines, alcohol and drugs TBC
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Y6 trip to Ledston for Woodland Sessions
<a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar</a> term dates	



**Happy Christmas  
and a peaceful  
new year!**

