



Dear Parents and Carers

What an end to our half term and spring term! Year 3 and Year 4 should be very proud of their acting, singing, dancing and telling of the Easter story in a fun production called **The Gospel Show**. They worked together beautifully to delight the school audience on Tuesday and the family and friends who came to see it on Wednesday. Thank you to the staff for rehearsing and preparing them and to everyone who supported with costumes and coming to watch them.

The whole school has had the opportunity to learn about the Easter story and why it is important to Christians when they visited **St Michael's Church** last week. Thank you to Revs Hannah and Heston, Governors David and Ann and others from the congregation who helped with telling the story, playing the music, etc.



Thank you so much to the families who joined spent the Sunday here a couple of weekends ago and put in a lot of hard work on our **Groundforce Day**. They weeded, cut back, constructed compost bins, cleared rubbish, rescued the Kitchen Garden and did lots of tasks that have really improved the look of our school grounds. We like to learn and play outside whenever possible, so this isn't just cosmetic – it's improving the children's learning environment! (The children who joined us were fairly helpful too but possibly enjoyed the impromptu water fight at the end the most!)

As well as organising the clear up day, thanks are due to FOSOPS for organising a special **Easter bun sale**, **Easter egg hunt** and guess the sweets game after school on Friday. This was a lovely treat as we approached the end of term. Thank you to everyone who donated buns, ran stalls or purchased treats. Thanks also to the **Eco Team** in Year 5 who ran the uniform exchange stall and are trying hard to reduce the carbon footprint caused by buying new uniform.

FOSOPS has reached 80% of its target for new playground equipment. Please complete their short survey in case you can help with workplace support, match funding or volunteering useful skills.
<https://form.typeform.com/to/PjdWdJI8>

Well done to the girls and boys in the **Year 6 rugby league team** who had a great experience putting their



skills to good use in a Well Schools tag rugby tournament at the Leeds Rhinos training ground last Monday afternoon. Most of the team started playing tag rugby in Y2 PE lessons and have continued throughout school. All that time and practice together paid off as they finished second in the North West league and then won the play off final to qualify for the Leeds wide finals in June at Headingley Stadium. There were so many positives from



the group but most noticeable was how they organised themselves and worked as a team, demonstrating great vision and awareness in creating space by passing accurately under pressure. Thanks to parent volunteer Kev for all his help coaching the team this year, including at this tournament. From such beginnings children sometimes go on to playing at a very senior level. We have just heard of another former pupil, Roman Sharma, excelling in the world of rugby and making his professional rugby league debut in the Challenge Cup for Huddersfield v Hull KR.

Well done also to the **football team** who tried hard in last Monday's game. As so many Year 6s were involved in the rugby tournament and pizza club we fielded a team of Year 5s against a team of older and more experienced players so they did well to persevere and try their best.

As the nights get lighter (and hopefully drier!) it is lovely to see children playing together after school whilst parents and carers watch them and have a chat. So that we can keep Acorn Club attendees safe, organised and outdoors as much as possible, please make sure you have **moved to the field by 3:45pm** if your children are still playing at that time.

Class	Well done to these Superstars who have been chosen by staff who work with them. Year 6 monitors write down the comments from certificates as they are given out.
YR (Thames)	Ahaan for his amazing watercolour painting in art. Well done! Orla for her detailed sketching and water colour painting in art!
Y1 (Nile)	Ivy always tries her best and is a great classmate. Idris is a great role model.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Poppy is answering reading questions with thought and care. Frankie J is working hard on her reading. She is reading with fluency and enthusiasm.
Y3 (Rhine)	Cruz has a very positive attitude to learning this term showing improvement in every area. Elizabeth has had a very positive attitude to learning this term, such as in reading.
Y4 (Ganges)	Luan is showing fantastic effort and determination in the production and delivers his lines with great expression. Matilde is working really hard to remember her lines in the production and delivers them with brilliant expression.
Y5 (Tigris)	Evie has been working hard on her weekly spelling lists. Ollie has been working hard on putting his hand up before sharing his ideas in class. Nicolas worked well on group tasks during Science Week.
Y6 (Amazon)	Charlie is putting in more effort and showing improved focus in his work. Well done! Neve is making great progress with her times tables and overall maths work. Keep it up, well done.
Citizen of the Week was Caleb for being a great singer and encouraging his friends to sing. He was nominated by Josie and Ava. Well done!	

As you plan ahead for the **Easter school holiday** please consider the opportunities your child has to **learn to ride a bicycle**. All our children in Year 6 take part in Bikeability in the summer term which builds up their confidence and safety awareness. Almost all the children progress to learning how to be safe out on the roads and pass their proficiency test. The children who don't manage that tend to be those who were not already bike riders at the start of the week, as there is just too much for them to learn all in one go. We are planning for children in Reception and Year 1 to have balance bike sessions in Green Week and for Year 2 children to have a bike fun day too, but for children in KS2 it can be worth looking for local sessions if cycling isn't something your family usually do. This website has information about sessions in Leeds, including some at Carr Manor: <https://www.cyclenorth.co.uk/children> If the places have already gone it is worth signing up for cancellations or information about future school holiday or weekend sessions.



I have been pleased to hear that so many children are signed up for **A Camps** here at Shire Oak this Easter. They may even spy some school staff working the camp, particularly in the second week! You can book and pay on their [booking](#)

[site](#), but if you need to pay by taxfree childcare vouchers then please use this [online form](#) instead (it has now been updated accurately) and pay the vouchers to school instead of paying online.

I look forward to seeing many of you tonight at **parents and carers evening**. I think just about everyone now has/ has had an appointment either last week, this evening or planned in with the teacher but if you have missed out then please arrange to see them another day as it is so helpful that we work together for their education.

At this time of year we like to start gathering the information that will help us plan for the following school year – what is working well and we need to keep doing and what could be even better. To help us with that we ask you to fill in a [parents and carers survey](#). It isn't long but really helps us to evaluate the school's performance. If you would prefer a paper copy to fill in and return, please request one via the office. (This is separate from the FOSOPS fundraising survey.)

I wish you all a very **happy Easter** and a lovely school holiday. **Happy Pesach/Passover** to all who celebrate. We look forward to seeing you on Monday 20th April.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane

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ACTING OUT!
KIDS DRAMA CLUB
AGES 6-12

NEW TERM!
TUES 21ST APRIL

WE ARE MOVING TO THE
TIPI AT SHIRE OAK
PRIMARY SCHOOL!

TUESDAYS
AGES 6-8 - 3.30M-4.30
AGES 9-12 - 4.45.5.45

*WE CAN PICK UP/DROP OFF AT ACORN CLUB

FIRST SESSION FREE!

TO BOOK EMAIL BETH AND VIC
ACTINGOUTLEEDS@GMAIL.COM

DIARY DATES

Thursday 2 nd April	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children.
Saturday 4 th April	Celebrate Easter together event at St Michaels 12-4pm. All welcome.
Sunday 12 th April	Next all-age service at St Michael's with 4 baptisms.
3 rd to 17 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY School closed to children. A Camps will run a holiday playscheme here at Shire Oak.
Monday 20 th April	Back to school after the Easter holiday
Tuesday 21 st April	First guided mediation and inner reflection hour for adults in the tipi (fortnightly)
Tuesday 21 st April	* First Acting Out! Sessions in the tipi after school
22 nd and 23 rd April	D:Side workshops about medicines, drugs and alcohol safety
Thursday 23 rd April	Football match v Holy Name Catholic Academy at Lawnswood (home game)
Friday 24 th April	Vaisakhi Assembly 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 29 th April	Swimming at Scott Hall starts TBC
Friday 1 st May	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 4 th May	BANK HOLIDAY School closed to children
Monday 4-10 th May	* Deaf Awareness Week
7 th to 8 th May	Year 4 Residential
Friday 8 th May	Y5 trip to waste recycling plant
w/c/ 11 th May	KS2 SATS week. As these are statutory, please avoid planned appointments, etc.
Friday 15 th May	Year 1 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
w/c 18 th May	Bikeability for Year 6
Wednesday 20 th May	Multicultural picnic after school TBC
Friday 22 nd May	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from Y5 this time please)
25 th to 29 th May HALF TERM School closed to children. There will be a holiday playscheme.	
Monday 1 st June	Green Week including Road Safety, special visitors,
Monday 1 st June	Pedestrian Training
Tuesday 2 nd June	Year 3 trip to Otley Chevin
Tuesday 2 nd June	* Y4 session with Global Learning Leeds (formerly DEC.) Please save Tetrapaks for this workshop.
Wednesday 3 rd June	* YR and Y1 balance bikes day. Y2 – scooter and bike training. (Please bring in a bike (no stabilisers) or scooter today. The class will be split into two sessions, so it may be possible to borrow from a classmate if you ask in advance. Let us know asap if you can't organise something.)
Wednesday 3 rd June	RSE parents meeting for Y5/6 (optional) 5pm TBC
Thursday 4 th June	Class photos
Thursday 4 th June	Y6 Climate Fresk session with Valeria
Thursday 4 th June	* Y1 session with Liam (Natural England)
Friday 5 th June	* Y4 session with Liam (Natural England)
Friday 5 th June	Reception Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 6 th June	* House Team Green Week activities afternoon
Tuesday 9 th June	Year 4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 10 th June	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children.
Friday 12 th June	Non uniform day in return for tombola prizes for HYMF
Friday 12 th June	FOSOPS bun sale after school (buns from YR this time please)
Tuesday 16 th June	Y5 trip to Water Treatment Works
Thursday 18 th June	New Reception parents meeting am and evening TBC
Saturday 20 th June	Headingley Youth Music Festival (HYMF) 12-4pm. All our children are in the choir and many will be in other performances. We host and run this event for the community, which incorporates our summer fair. Please avoid booking birthday parties, etc. on this day.
Thursday 25 th June	* Rugby match against Whinmoor after school
Friday 26 th June	Y3 sharing assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 29 th June	* Y6 rugby team in Leeds finals 1 pm
Tuesday 30 th June	Y1 and Y6 trip to Filey (returning after end of the school day) TBC
Wednesday 1 st July	Transition day for children moving to Y7 at Lawnswood School and our in-school transition day with sessions for incoming Reception.
Thursday 2 nd July	Music Recitals and 9:15 and 2pm. TBC

Monday 6 th July	Y5/6 Sports Day 1:15pm
Tuesday 7 th July	YR/1/2 Sports Day c. 9:15am
Tuesday 7 th July	Y3/4 Sports Day 1:15pm
Tuesday 14 th July	Y5/6 production dress rehearsal to rest of school
Wednesday 15 th July	Y5/6 production pm and evening (ticketed entrance to one of the shows)
Wednesday 15 th July	Teachers available after school to drop in and discuss end of year reports
Friday 17 th July	FOSOPS ice cream sale after school
Monday 20 th July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, 10:30am.
Tuesday 21 st July	Y6 leavers' ten pin bowling trip
Tuesday 21 st July	Last day of term. Acorn Club finishes early today.
DATES: https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-holidays-and-term-dates	

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

Child Friendly Leeds presents your... **Easter Guide** SPRING 2026

TO FREE & LOW COST ACTIVITIES HAPPENING ACROSS LEEDS

Child Friendly Leeds' 12 wishes are based on what children and young people from all parts of the city told us. Wish 7 is all about helping you find out about fun, free and affordable things to do across the city - so here's a guide to help you navigate your way through the holidays. Low-cost activities are shown with a * while all other activities are free or pay as you feel.

Follow us on social media and share your favourite activities!

Scan the QR code to view the official blog.

All Holidays Story Explorers at Leeds Central Library
Take a fantastical trip to outer space, the depths of the jungle and the bottom of the ocean with many play elements from the moon to a giant octopus and an activity table. A brilliant free interactive exhibition with the British Library.

All Holidays Hats, Play & The Farm - Temple Newsam
Explore the hats from historic styles to creating your own crafty masterpiece. Or why not visit the Home Farm or Play Barn and meet new-born lambs, and many more. Crafts, activities and trails included with standard admission during opening hours.

All Holidays The Search for the Lost Eggs at Lotherton
Dragon Quest is back - a family-friendly adventure to discover the secrets of these mythical beasts. Finish your quest to collect your certificate - become an honorary Dragonologist. Drop by face painting on bank holidays and weekends.

28 Mar -19 Apr Medieval Easter at Royal Armouries
Free action-packed Easter holiday at the museum, with combat demonstrations and themed activities, plus you can explore the amazing national collection of arms and armour and watch the knights compete in a four-day jousting tournament.

31 Mar - 11 Apr Easter activities at Kirkgate Market
Enjoy free activities: Lego, Duplo, colouring, and crafts (11am to 3pm - weekdays only), Circus School (1st & 2nd April), Bath Bomb Making (8th & 9th April, 11:30am to 2:30pm), special screening from Leeds Young Film Festival (10th & 11th April).

28 Mar - 19 Apr Birds and Bumblebees at Tropical World
Discover the exotic birds that live in our waterfall house, see how many you can find using our NEW Spotter Sheet. Visit the Activity Room and make a feeder, or do some colouring. Children must be supervised by an adult at all times.

Fri 17 Apr Planet Omar with Zanib Mian - Author Event
Come and meet Zanib Mian as she introduces Planet Omar, shares the fun and mayhem behind her stories in this free, family-friendly event at Leeds Art Gallery for children aged 7+.

28 Mar - 19 Apr Easter fun at Leeds Museums & Galleries
Felted Egg Hunt at Leeds Industrial Museum, Silly Sheep Round Up at Kirkstall Abbey, Bunny Fun at Abbey House Museum and Play the Room at Leeds City Museum. All are either give what you can or included in admission.

Every Sat 11-2pm Rowland Road Play Patch - Yorkshire Contemporary
A fun community adventure space where children can build dens, explore loose-parts play, get creative with arts and crafts and connect every Saturday.

11 - 12 Apr The Springs - Leeds Local Easter Market
Discover Easter treats and gifts from local traders on Saturday 11 April (10am-3pm) and Sunday 12 April (11am-4pm), with free family fun including face painting (Sat 11-2, Sun 12-3) and sunflower seed potting (both days 11-1).

15 Apr 11-3pm Peter Rabbit™ hops into the Merrion Centre for Storytelling
Peter Rabbit™ will be popping up on The Green at the Merrion Centre for free interactive story-time sessions between 11am and 3pm, with appearances at 11:00, 12:00, 13:00, 14:00 and 15:00, each lasting around 30 minutes.

7 - 19 Apr Easter Holiday Junior Activities - Active Leeds Leisure Centres
Enjoy a range of aquatics and sports sessions across the city. Find intensive swimming, gymnastics lessons, dive camps, and outdoor adventures. Activities & price vary by site, booking methods may differ & starts from £7.50.

All year round Mumbler's Guide to School Holidays from activities, events and camps
Including family days out, free & low cost activities, trails and egg hunts including Harewood House, and all the fantastic shows and events on at theatres.

All year round Leeds Local Offer - SEND things to do
Provides information, services & activities for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families.

Sign up for free to **Healthy Holidays Leeds!**
School-aged children and young people eligible for free school meals can take part in FREE activities and holiday clubs - with a healthy meal over holiday periods.

Did you know that you can apply to close your street for a set amount of time to turn your neighbourhood into a play street?
In partnership with... **breeze** Leeds CITY COUNCIL

2026

Blossom Festival

Headingley Community Orchard

THE BIG PICNIC

SUNDAY APRIL 26TH

11.00 - 2.30

REFRESHMENTS
OUTDOOR GAMES
MUSIC

Bring your picnic
enjoy the blossoms

Headingley Community Orchard:
next to St Chads Parish Centre,
Otley Road, Far Headingley.

Headingleycommunityorchard1@gmail.com

Horsforth Music Centre



Headingley
Development
Trust

supported by

Love
Leeds
Parks

