



Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you so much for all the kind donations of food that were brought in this morning to our **Harvest Festival!** It was great to see so many of you there to share our special assembly and to join us in saying thank you for the food we eat and the people who produce it.

DIY laundry liquid from foraged conkers



1 Collect your conkers: a shopping bagful will make around 50 washes.



2 Put them in a cloth bag and smash them up with a hammer to crush them.



3 Put 2 heaped tablespoons of crushed conkers in hot water.



4 Sieve the water. This is your laundry liquid and can be put in the machine drawer.



5 Dry the rest out and keep to make more liquid soap whenever you need it.

Other tips:

1. Crushed conkers can be used up to 3 times to make liquid.
2. You can add crushed conkers into a cloth bag and use in the machine drum up to 4 times.
3. You can store laundry liquid in the fridge for 1 week.
4. Conkers are poisonous if ingested, so take care with little ones around.
5. Conker wash works best when you wash between 40-60 degrees.

www.littlebunnybear.com

The children are enjoying the fun of playing with leaves and collecting conkers as **autumn** flames into colour in Headingley. (One or two children are even reviving the traditional pastime of conkers on strings.) If your child has collected bags of conkers that they don't know what to do with, you might want to have a go at this activity together which was contributed by one of our parents. (Thank you Rebecca!) ←



It has been good to see **Book Club** getting stuck into their new book this week. Ordinarily in the autumn term book club read the classic novel used by the Playhouse for their Christmas production, but this year we are doing something new whilst the Playhouse is being refurbished. We think they will still enjoy their special trip when they finish the book.



Shorter, darker days focus the mind on **safety** on the walk to and from school. A local resident on **Wood Lane** contacted me because she was concerned that children from school have been climbing garden walls on Wood Lane and then emerging onto the driveway. She points out that cars reversing down believe that their way is clear as the children are

obscured by bushes, but then pop out with a great risk to their safety – there have been several near misses already. She further points out that the wall, despite having been strengthened, is not a safe structure and bits have already fallen so it is important that it does not get weakened further. I should add that we want to be courteous neighbours and so heavy footfall across a soil drive and the litter left behind are not us being our best. The wall on our side of the road is great for walking along, so please encourage your children to be safe and considerate when on the other side of the road. A parent has also highlighted a problem of sharps being seen behind the wall near the Arndale Centre at the top of Wood Lane. We have reported it to the neighbourhood team but it is a good time of year to remind children only to pick up things like conkers that they know what are.

We are **closed tomorrow** for one of the five statutory training days in the year. We will be having refresher training on Child Protection and Safer Working Practice.

We are looking forward to the **Woodland Walk** on Saturday which will give families a chance to meet each other whilst enjoying the autumn colours and a warm snack when they come back to school. All Shire Oak families are welcome, but Reception Class families usually find it a particularly good opportunity to get to know other parents and put faces to the names of their children's new friends.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Have a good weekend!

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane
janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk

We take the safeguarding of children very seriously at our school and we appreciate your help with this. 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 Julia is often on the playground, if you would like to talk to her.)



We had three nominations for the two positions of parent **governor**. Another governor vacancy arose, however, so I am pleased to tell you that no election was necessary: Sadie Alton will continue to be a parent governor. She will be joined in the role by Sapna Gadaria. Antonia Nicholls (who was an associate governor last year) was then co-opted onto the governing body. Thank you to all three for offering their time and skills to school.

DIARY DATES

Thursday 4 th October	Football match, away at Meanwood
Thursday 4 th October	Movie Night 5-7pm
Friday 5 th October	Training Day – school closed to children
Saturday 6 th October	FOSOPS Autumn Activity Day and Woodland Walk 12-2 (meet at school)
Tuesday 9 th October	Football match against Weetwood. This is a 'home' game, but we Lawnswood are kindly loaning us their superior pitch.
Wednesday 10 th October	Individual and sibling school photo day (photos back in good time for Christmas)
Thursday 11 th October	Y6 rugby match away, against Woodlesford
Friday 12 th October	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 12 th October	Headingley Hawks Rugby to see Year 6 girls at 2pm
Tue 16 th & Wed 17 th October	Parent and Carers Evenings – all families will receive an appointment. Y5 & Y6 children very welcome to attend with their adults.
w/c 22 nd October	Internet Safety Week including parent information event, likely to be 23/10 @2:30
Monday 22 nd October	Bun Sale – Year 6 please make/bring buns. Everyone else can buy them.
Tuesday 23 rd October	Football match against Holy Name (away)
Thursday 25 th October	Football match against Adel (home match to be played at Lawnswood)
Friday 26 th October	Y1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 29 th October to Friday 2 nd November	HALF TERM HOLIDAY. Children do not attend school. Kidzone are running an October Playscheme each day from 8:30 to 5:30am. All children welcome. £21 per day (late bookings £23) To register and book please call 07708879920 or 07847442492. Closing date 5 th October.
Thursday 8 th November	Y5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 9 th November	Divali Assembly – all welcome to share our special assembly at 9am in the hall
12 th – 23 rd November	Anti Bullying Fortnight
Tuesday 13 th November	Open Morning for current and prospective parents, 9:15-11:15am.
Tuesday 13 th November	Open Evening for prospective parents, 6pm.
Wednesday 14 th November	House Team Hobby Half Day – children working in house teams on various activities
Friday 16 th November	Y3 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 20 th November	Stay and Play for Reception, Y1 & Y2 families. All welcome at the start of the day.
Tuesday 20 th November	Y3 Wildlife Workshop on The Ridge TBC
Wednesday 21 st November	Winter Festival of Fire in the school grounds straight after school. All welcome!
Monday 26 th November	Birthday of Guru Nanak– all welcome to share our special assembly. 9am, the hall.
Monday 26 th November	FOSOPS school discos in the evening. R/KS1 4:30-5:30 7 KS2 5:45- 6:45
Tuesday 27 th November	Training Day – school closed to children
Wednesday 28 th November	Y4 Wildlife Workshop on The Ridge TBC
Wednesday 28 th November	Meeting for Reception parents about how we teach maths. 6pm. TBC
Wed 5 th – Fri 7 th December	Robinwood Residential for Year 6 children
w/c 10 th December	Book Club trip to the theatre TBC
Monday 10 th December	Bun Sale with donations by Year 5 but available for all to buy
Tuesday 11 th December	Book Club trip
Friday 14 th December	Nativity Plays by Reception and KS1 morning and afternoon
Tuesday 18 th December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church. 10:30, all welcome.
Tuesday 18 th December	School Christmas lunch
Friday 21 st December	Christmas parties and a special Christmas visitor
Mon 24 th Dec to Fri 4 th Jan 19	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY. Children do not attend school.
Thursday 10 th January	Open Morning for current and prospective parents, 9:15-11:15am.
Friday 11 th January	Y6 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 21 st January	Year 4's turn to make/bring buns for the bun sale
Wednesday 6 th February	Movie Night 5-7pm
Thursday 7 th February	Training Day – school closed to children TBC
Mon 18 th to Fri 22 nd February	HALF TERM HOLIDAY. Children do not attend school. Kidzone plan a playscheme.
Wednesday 19 th June	Training Day – school closed to children
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	



FOSOPS



FRIENDS OF SHIRE OAK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Joining FOSOPS (Shire Oak's P.T.A.) provides a great way for parents to become involved in the wider aspects of school life.

FOSOPS arrange social and fundraising events for children and families, hopefully encouraging and enriching the school community.

Recent events have included; Headingley Youth Music Festival, Groundforce Day, Ice-lolly, bun and pancake sales, movie nights, Bonfire Night, Winter Festival of Fire, uniform sales and refreshment provision for all school events, etc.

We also have larger ongoing fundraising projects to help make the school a more enjoyable place of education – we were able to build an outdoor classroom/shelter last year and based on the brilliant response from the children we hope to build two more on the schools premises – making the most of the wonderful setting in which Shire Oak school is positioned.

Any parents who feel they have something to offer and want to be involved in any way are always more than welcome.

We hold regular meetings, which will be announced via text message from the school and we have a mailing list, which you can be added to if you would like to be kept up-to-date on what FOSOPS is up to!

Please email us - fosops@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk

We are also on Facebook – send us a friend request! (Fosops Shire Oak)

Or you can leave your contact details at the office and we can add you the mailing list.

Thank you and have a great 2018/19 school year!