



Dear Parents and Carers

SHIRE OAK
C of E (VC) Primary School

I hope you had a good half term break. I always look forward to this half term in school because the children are well established in their classes, the days are getting lighter and it always seems like a good time to really make good progress with learning. If you have been meaning to get into more regular habits with reading books, practising Maths Passport/times tables facts and spellings then this is the half term to do it! Please speak to your child's teacher if you are not sure what the most useful things are to concentrate on to build your child's confidence at home.

On Monday Year 5 started the week with a trip to Lawnswood High School to see their dress rehearsal of the production **Annie**. The children enjoyed the trip and were very well behaved. It was good to spot at least a couple of former Shire Oakers in the cast of the show.

The topic in Year 5 and Year 6 this term is Circle of Life and a big part of that is learning about Africa. Yesterday we welcomed visitors from the Leeds University scheme, **African Voices**. Postgraduates from the university come to help the children think about Africa and its peoples, explore the diversity of the continent and develop a greater understanding of contemporary Africa. The children engaged very well with the day and took a lot from it. Thank you very much to African Voices for a special visit.



On Wednesday we held two special assemblies (Reception to Y3 and then Year 4 to Year 6) led by two **NSPCC/ChildLine** representatives who shared the Speak Out Stay Safe campaign and gave good safety messages as well as making sure children learned the number off by heart with some hand actions.



Well done to **Year 4** who rose superbly to the challenge of putting on a great **bun sale**. Not only did they and their parents make a great array of goodies to sell but they also wrote letters of application to be bun sellers and money counters. Great job and a fantastic £73.11 raised!

Class	Well done to this week's Superstars who have been chosen by the staff in their class.
YR (Thames)	Sophie is getting much more focused on her activities. Olive has a really good attitude to her learning and is very keen.
Y1 (Nile)	Logan is eager to learn and is trying his best. Alex has been a good friend to the children in Y1.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Sara tried hard to use neat handwriting yesterday, and is trying to join her writing. All of Y2 we used our initiative and asked to check spellings in dictionaries yesterday.
Y3 (Rhine)	Skye listens to her teachers and improves her learning. George for concentrating on his balance when landing in PE.
Y4 (Ganges)	Ruby was full of super ideas when writing her Greek myth. Milo was a great actor in his Greek myth play.
Y5 (Tigris)	All the class for being great ambassadors during their visit to Lawnswood.
Y6 (Amazon)	Leon is always polite, cheerful and positive about his work. Freddie for thoughtful and enthusiastic contribution when discussing pros and cons of zoos.
Citizen of the Week was Ava in Year 4 who was nominated by Erin and Rosie because she is kind, thoughtful, happy to help, very compassionate and loving as well. Well done!	

Susan Koyuncu has asked me to let you know that the cost of **school dinners** for this half term is £69.00. (Due to Lineham Farm residential, Y4's will cost £62.10.) Can we also remind you that we need a week's notice to change children from school dinners to packed lunches and vice versa. Thank you. The office have also asked me to mention that sometimes when **messages** are given to a teacher on the playground about why a child is off school, it can take a while for that information to get to the office because they are teaching. It is helpful, where at all possible, that you also let the office know by popping in or telephoning.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our **Shrove Tuesday pancake sale** after school on Tuesday! Have a good weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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

DIARY DATES	
Monday 27 th February	Pizza Maths Club starts for Year 6 after school. 3:15-4:45pm on Mondays.
Tuesday 28 th February	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day sale after school
Wednesday 1 st March	NSPCC Y5/6 workshops
Thursday 2 nd March	* Y5 Vacuum Cleaner Project part 2
Wed 1 st – Fri 3 rd March	Y4 Residential to Lineham Farm
Wednesday 8 th March	Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Friday 10 th March	Year 5 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 17 th March	Holi Festival assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Saturday 18 th March	FOSOPS Car Boot Sale TBC
Thursday 23 rd March	Y3 Bun Sale morning break (children may bring up to 50p)
Thursday 30 th March	Easter production performance by Year 3 and Year 4.
(Friday 31 st March	Easter assembly in school – possibly Easter themed competition judging. No parents.)
Mon 3 rd to Mon 17 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Tuesday 18 th April	School re-opens after Easter
Thursday 20 th April	Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Saturday 22 nd April	FOSOPS Car Wash fundraising TBC
Wed 26 th and Thur 27 th April	Parents and Carers Consultation evenings (each family will get an appointment)
Thursday 27 th April	Y2 Bun Sale morning break (children may bring up to 50p)
Friday 28 th April	Year 4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 1 st May	BANK HOLIDAY. School closed.
Mon 8 th to Fri 12 th May	KS2 SATS week for Year 6
Friday 12 th May	Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Tuesday 16 th May	Year 1 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome! (Please note change of day)
Thursday 18 th May	Y1 Bun Sale morning break (children may bring up to 50p)
Saturday 20 th May	Spring Clean and BBQ TBC
Mon 22 nd to Fri 26 th May	Reading Week. This usually includes a book character dress up day.
Wednesday 24 th May	Year 2 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Mon 29 th May to Fri 2 nd June	HALF TERM. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Saturday 10 th June	Headingley Youth Music Festival & Summer Fair 12-4pm. All children perform c.2pm.
Mon 12 th to Fri 16 th June	Multicultural Arts Week
Friday 16 th June	Year 3 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 20 th June	Movie Night, 5-7pm. TBC
Wednesday 21 st June	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Friday 23 rd June	Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Wednesday 28 th June	Reception class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Thursday 29 th June	Reception Class Bun Sale morning break (children may bring up to 50p)
Wed 28 th & Thursday 29 th June	Transition days for Ralph Thoresby High School
Friday 30 th June	Eid assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 12 th July	Musicians end of year concert (pm)
Thursday 13 th July	Y6/5 dress rehearsal and evening performance of their production
Wednesday 19 th July	Sports Day Reception/Y1/Y2 in the morning. Y5 & Y6 in the afternoon. (if fine)
Thursday 20 th July	Sports Day Y3 & Y4 in the morning. (if fine)
Monday 24 th July	End of year parties/disco in the afternoon
Tuesday 25 th July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, Headingley. All welcome. 10:30am.
Wednesday 26 th July	Last day of term
Thurs 27 th July to Fri 1 st Sept	SUMMER HOLIDAYS. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change	

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 Hilary Whitehead.

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, particularly at the start and end of the week, if you would like to talk to her.)