

Dear Parents and Carers

What a busy fortnight! There have been so many trips and events going on, as well as ordinary day to day lessons. The last week and a bit also has a very full diary!

Thank you for your support in helping children with their recent **transition day** by being positive about their new teachers and staff and helping them to look forward to the new challenges and opportunities of the coming school year. We know that children who go into a new class expecting it to be good generally find that to be true!



Shire Oak's Got Talent winners

Year 5 enjoyed their **trip** to the waste recycling plant recently and were very adept at getting buses and walking to get to their destination. All year our children have done well on our trips being good ambassadors for our school and travelling safely whether on foot, by service bus or by coach. We are proud of them and pleased that we can help them prepare to be independently travelling by the time they go to secondary school.



Last week was our annual **music recital** and so many children played! Well over half the school are learning to play an instrument in school or at home. All our players performed well, whatever their level of experience and expertise and were able to introduce their pieces and take a well-deserved bow at the end. Thank you to Susan Koyuncu for all her work organising our peripatetic music lesson offer throughout the year, to Josh Watts for setting up a great loan drum kit and to our music teachers who supported the children to this point. Although some instrument lists are now full for the autumn, there are a couple of spaces for brass and wind instrument lessons if you are interested in your child learning trumpet, trombone, recorder, clarinet or flute.

While we are on the subject of music, we have attached information about music opportunities in Leeds: There are 7 music centres in Leeds, and all offer great value classes and ensembles for all ages and abilities. They also continue to offer bursaries and financial support for families who receive benefits, and free sessions for looked after children. **Once again, music centres have a FREE beginner ensemble on offer for children and young people to join free of charge.** All the information about how to sign up is on the leaflet and on their website [Music Centres – Artforms Leeds](#). This fantastic council-run resource will open for the new term in September. In addition, there are also a number of **FREE summer music clubs** taking place in some of the music centres in August for children and young people, and we have attached our flyer which includes more information about how to book.

Following queries from parents we tried to organise either peripatetic **singing** lessons or a more structured choir offer for the new school year. Unfortunately, we were not able to do this in a cost-effective way, so I recommend the Music Centres above for anyone interested in singing with a proper teacher. We have spoken to both St Michael's choir and the Lawnswood music department who are both going to help us strengthen our singing offer throughout the year and particularly lend some expertise to the lunchtime Christmas choir.

We are looking forward to **Sports Days** next week. Please make sure you have seen the letter from Mr Martin and the information about house team colours (PE kit and a school PE band can be worn instead). We ask that parents (and siblings!) stay in the viewing areas and alert a member of school staff if you spot that your child needs assistance.

**Rhinos – red** **Elephants – blue** **Giraffes – green** **Leopards – white** **Lions – yellow**

**Art Camp** are busy planning their activities for the summer playscheme here at Shire Oak. They have published their timetables ([mini](#) and [junior](#)) and some photos for you to look at [here](#) and [here](#). Through the cluster we can also offer some places at the [PE Partner](#) camps happening this summer. These are also available to families to book. (Contact Mr Nash about funded holiday places if this is something you need.)



Well done to our **Y5/6 rugby team** for their enthusiastic contest at Horsforth Newlathes yesterday. This was the last match for the Year 6 players, many of whom have been playing since they were in Year 3.

The whole of Year 3 and Year 4 enjoyed rugby fun yesterday when they spent the morning at **Headingley Stadium**. They met the Leeds Rhinos men's squad, Ronnie the Rhino and even some Star Wars storm troopers and showed impeccable manners queuing for autographs.



As this goes to press Year 4 are about to head off to the **Children's Day: Reimagined** event at Roundhay Park. Connie from Year 6 who was one of the Young Creatives involved in planning the event will also be going. The event is open to all children and their families in Leeds and will be going on all evening from 7:30pm so do go along if you can.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

*Jane Astrid Devane*

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### DIARY DATES

Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Children's Day: Re-imagined at Roundhay Park. Y4 will be there during the afternoon & then meet parents/carers to stay or go home. All Leeds' young people are welcome for the evening! <a href="https://leeds2023.co.uk/whats-on/children-s-day-reimagined">https://leeds2023.co.uk/whats-on/children-s-day-reimagined</a>
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3 and Year 4 Sports Day c.9:15am (subject to weather)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 and Year 6 Sports Day c.1:15pm (subject to weather)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> July *	Y6 after school sale of waffles and smoothies to fund their leavers' trip – all welcome!
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Sports Day c.9:15am (subject to weather)
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4 parents and school watching Y4 djembe performance.
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Teachers available after school to talk about end of year reports
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Return school library books by today please.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Performance to parents and carers 6pm.
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	FOSOPS meeting to celebrate and review HYMF 2:15pm. Please let us know what worked and what could be even better for next year!
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, 10:30am.
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July *	Y6 after school sale of waffles and smoothies to fund their leavers' trip – all welcome!
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of the school year (Y6 will go bowling)
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> July	Wonderday at Headingley HEART with exhibition of our competition entries
SUMMER HOLIDAY Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July to Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September. School closed to pupils.	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September *	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children.
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September *	First day of term for Years 1 to 6. New Reception Class have been told their start dates.
7 <sup>th</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024*	Lineham Farm residential trip for all in Year 4.
TERM DATES: <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>	

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