



Dear Parents and Carers

SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

Thank you for all the kind messages that have supported the priorities we are following at the moment. The tally chart in the staffroom has remained



competitive with classes getting outdoors as much as possible. Some computing lessons are being introduced, but the longer playtimes and focus on core strength, fine motor skills and time to talk remain the same.



bag and we will have time in the hall for dancing and/or games. (Classes will help their teachers to plan their events.) We are planning to have a birthday cake for each class and will buy traybakes unless any kind volunteers would like to make a cake big enough for the class (please let your child's teacher know ASAP if you are happy to do this). Teachers will let you know what date their class party will be.

This may also help a little with the pressure some families feel to bring in **sweets on birthdays**. This is very generous, but please do not think it is expected! In fact, the more often it has happened recently in your child's class, the more other parents might thank you for not adding another set of treats. (This might be especially the case right now where as well as dental concerns, the lack of exercise and focus on food at home has led to usually balanced diets being a bit off kilter.) Some children really look forward to treating their classmates though, and nice ideas we have seen recently have included tiny little drawings for classmates, fruit portions, a new football for the class or a big picture for everyone. If we do have treats to distribute, they will usually be given out at hometime to give parents control and to be able to check for allergies, etc.



One of our parents is a trustee for **Love Leeds Parks** charity and they are looking for well-connected people in Leeds with a range of skills/backgrounds (and some time to spare!) to join the Board of Trustees to help this new charity grow and make a difference to local parks and green spaces. Find out more about the charity and this request for help [here](#).



Local business, and friend to the school, **The Vale Stables** has currently got a Guess the Easter Egg competition running. Donations collected will be buying us some new footballs – thank you Abi, Gwen and family.



We are still enjoying finding out the **learning and hobbies** that children have been enjoying at home in lockdown. Look at this amazing timeline of key historical events that Arthur brought in! We have copied it and displayed it on the corridor leading to the hall for all to see.

Class	Well done to last week's Superstars who have been chosen by staff in their class.
YR (Thames)	All of Reception Class for coming back to school so excited, enthusiastic and ready to learn. Maisie for her great home learning and her independent story-writing which she shares with the class.
Y1 (Nile)	Charlie listens well, always does his best and is gaining confidence to share his feelings and ideas. Alice S settles quickly to her work and consistently tries hard.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Sam has been growing in confidence and is ready to do his work and putting his hand up lots. Bill has had a great attitude to school and learning this week and is producing work of a high standard.
Y3 (Rhine)	Tayah-Mai has set a fantastic example this week by being positive, happy and kind to others. Odysseas has made a positive contribution, particularly in the way he shared his learning in the science work on light.
Y4 (Ganges)	Dylan has made a great return to school and it is showing in his learning. Ada has shown a high level of enthusiasm for her learning as well as making sure her friends are happy and getting on.
Y5 (Tigris)	Soli has worked really well with maths and asks for help sensibly. Isabel has shown a positive attitude to all her learning.
Y6 (Amazon)	Lewis turned in lots of great home learning. Rory has had a top attitude and made an enthusiastic return, showing how much he loves learning.
Well done to all the children who have achieved their next Maths Passport continent and are travelling on to the next one. Charlie, Erin D, Emily K, Joe G, Asa and Sophie.	
Citizen of the Week was Roman for being positive and resourceful about his broken shoulder and having to stay indoors. He has included others and found ways to be involved in the life of the class. Well done!	

I hope you have a good weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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PS Thank you for supporting our

Easter Raffle! We are picking up our ScrapShed fundraising again.

PPS Click [here](#) for more information about the activities planned at **Art Camp** this Easter holiday!



DIARY DATES

Friday 26 th March *	Rev Angela speaking to Year 1 and Year 2
Fri 2 nd – Sun 18 th April	GOOD FRIDAY and the EASTER HOLIDAY. Art Camps will be running Tuesday 6 th to Friday 16 th April https://www.artcampuk.com/ Discounts for Shire Oakers!
Tuesday 20 th April	Year 3 due to start weekly swimming lessons at Kirkstall Leisure Centre
Wednesday 21 st April	Y2 due to start Wednesday, Thursday & Friday swimming lessons at Armley Leisure Centre
w/c/ 3 rd May *	Y3 & Y4 countryside trips to Ledston TBC
Thursday 6 th May *	Local election day. We are a polling station but hope to host in the Children's Centre as usual, to avoid disruption to children.
Wednesday 19 th May	Year 6 Woodland Session (Countryside live) all day trip
Mon 24 th - Fri 28 th May	Bikeability Training for Year 6. The more they practise in advance of this date, the better!
Wednesday 16 th June	TRAINING DAY
Tues 6 th & Wed 7 th July	Lawnswood transition days
Wednesday 7 th July	Shire Oak transition day
Monday 26 th and Tuesday 27 th July	These two days will be taken as Training Days as we have not been able to book our training in person earlier in the year. (One further training day needs to be scheduled before the end of the year.)

<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.

All visits and visitors are subject to being permitted under the COVID regulations and guidelines at the time. At present it looks like we might be able to get out and about locally from the 29th March. It is possible that residentials may be permitted from either the 17th May or 21st June depending on national rates, decisions by government, acquiring COVID Charters, etc. We are keeping a close eye on the updates!