

Dear Parents and Carers

This week we have been telling the children to:



ZIP IT

Keep your personal stuff private and think about what you say and do online.



BLOCK IT

Block people who send nasty messages and don't open unknown links and attachments.



FLAG IT

Flag up with someone you trust if anything upsets you or if someone asks to meet you offline.

We marked **Safer Internet Day** at Shire Oak with a visit from the Team Players theatre group who entertained and educated the children about the joys and dangers of the Internet and how to keep themselves safe on the web. Reception and Year 1 shared a story about Digiduck's Big Decision instead and we had an assembly all together on Tuesday where we decided that when we are using the Internet we can still follow our Shire Oak principles and Be e-Safe, Be e-Kind and Be Our e-Best.

We have made sure that **all the children know that if they find something upsetting on the net** that they should turn it over (tablet) or turn off just the screen (computer) and tell an adult straight away. It is helpful if parents are also repeating these messages at home.

Also on the theme of personal safety, this week Y5 and Y6 had the first of two visits from **Childline** who are making sure the children know to tell a trusted adult if they have worries and how to contact Childline should they or a friend need it.



Y5 received a mysterious story writing challenge this week and, happily, the African myths they wrote passed the test and so they were rewarded with an old English story of **Gawain and the Green Knight** (told by our friends Alive and Kicking and our very own Mr Bache in disguise.) The children have thrown themselves into the storytelling and drama today and I look forward to seeing what else they will write before next week's visit. Thank you to the parents in Y5 who allowed children time to work on their story plans at home. It was great to see the children voluntarily taking work home to finish! We really want Year 5 to write more confidently so that they can practise the skills they need, so your help was greatly appreciated.

One of the best ways to help your child(ren) is to celebrate their strengths and identify their next steps in their learning with the class teacher. Next week is **Parents' Evening** time and the children are always keen to know what their teacher has said to you so please – even if you are assuming 'No News is Good News' please make an appointment to talk about your child's progress. If you can't make Tuesday or Wednesday next week then please see your child's teacher or the office to arrange another mutually convenient time to catch up.



It is now **Fairtrade Fortnight 2015**. At Shire Oak we are marking it with a special assembly, Fairtrade ingredients in the school dinners, a poster competition organised by the diocese and our own coffee and cake afternoon to mark the end of the two weeks. All friends and family are invited to the coffee and cake afternoon on Monday 9th March. Miss Corner and Y3 will be baking in preparation but we would appreciate any other contributions using Fairtrade ingredients. (Look for the blue and green swirly sign.)

School dinner payments for this half term (KS2 only) are £63.80, with the exception of any Year 4 children who are going to Bewerley Park. (The payment for them will be £57.20.) May I also remind you that dinner money will be going up to £2.30 a day for KS2 from the 20th April?

From the 2nd to the 20th March we will be logging who **bikes** or **scoots** to school. We will find out how much pedal power we are using to get to school, enter the **Big Pedal competition** and have a lucky draw for anyone who bikes or scoots during the period.

There was no Superstars assembly this week as we had a special Safer Internet assembly on Tuesday instead. I hope you all have a good weekend and I look forward to seeing you and talking to you at Parents' Evenings.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane

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Did you know?

We will be sending out the £1 World Book Day tokens soon. We are not dressing up next week as we are going to have our own special Reading event later on in the year.

March is Measures Month at Shire Oak

We will all be spending extra time on weight, capacity, length, etc.

Can you help at home by doing some baking, crafting, DIY or anything else that gets children weighing, measuring or reading different kinds of scales? Playing estimating games 'How much juice in this bottle? How much does this apple weigh?' gives children a good sense of measure. This area of maths needs lots of everyday practice so your help is appreciated.

DIARY DATES

Friday 27 th February	FOSOPS bun sale after school in the hall. Buns from Y3 please.
Monday 2 nd March	FOSOPS meeting, just after drop off in Kidzone. All welcome.
Week beginning 2 nd March *	Children will show their homework to other classes.
Tuesday 3 rd March	KS1 visit from firefighters with a fire engine (subject to change)
Tues 3 rd & Wed 4 th March	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 5 th March	Y5 drama and writing project with Alive and Kicking (to be confirmed)
Friday 6 th March	Holi (Hindu Festival) assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Tuesday 10 th March *	African Voices visitors for Y5/6, 2pm.
Friday 13 th March	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Friday 13 th March *	Comic Relief / Red Nose Day. Wear a splash of red and bring cakes for a sale.
Wednesday 18 th March *	British Science Week themed school dinner
Wed 18 th – Fri 20 th March	Year 4 Residential, Bewerley Park, North Yorkshire.
Friday 20 th March	Year 6 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Friday 27 th March	FOSOPS bun sale after school in the hall. Buns from Y4 please.
Wednesday 1 st April	Y3/4 Easter production
Thursday 2 nd April	FOSOPS Easter Egg Hunt after school
Friday 3 rd - Friday 17 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY (Kidzone may operate a playscheme)
Mon 27 th April to Fri 1 st May *	LATE GATES challenge week. Sheila Stansfield from the Local Authority will be monitoring punctuality each morning this week.
Friday 1 st May	Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Friday 1 st May	FOSOPS bun sale after school in the hall. Buns from Y5 please.
Monday 4 th May	BANK HOLIDAY, SCHOOL CLOSED
Friday 8 th May	Year R Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th May	Y6 KS2 SATs Test Week.
Wednesday 20 th May	House Team hobbies half day
Thursday 21 st May	Leeds Book Awards
Monday 25 th –Friday 29 th May	HALF TERM (Kidzone may operate a playscheme)
Friday 5 th June	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Friday 5 th June	FOSOPS bun sale after school in the hall. Buns from Y6 please.
Sunday 7 th June	Shire Oak Sunday. Our contribution to the All Age Service at St Michael's.
Thursday 11 th June *	UKS2 Athletics Competition, organised by Lawnswood at Becketts Park. 9:30-1:30
Saturday 13 th June	Headingley Youth Music Festival at Shire Oak (date to be confirmed)
Tuesday 23 rd June	Movie Night
Wednesday 24 th June	TRAINING DAY
Friday 26 th June	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Wednesday 8 th July	Transition day for students at Lawnswood and parents evening
Thursday 9 th July	Transition day for students at Lawnswood
Friday 10 th July	Eid assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Tuesday 21 st July	Last day of the school year

* means added or changed since last newsletter

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, Janie Percy-Smith janieps@aol.com (Janie is also in school most Tuesdays if you would like to talk to her.)