



Dear Parents and Carers

What a lot of lovely news I have to report at the end of this fortnight! (There was no newsletter last week as we sent out the regular e-safety newsletter instead.)

World Book Day at Shire Oak was a great way to start the half term! There were characters from every genre of fiction and it was lovely to hear the children swapping book and author recommendations based on interest in each other's costumes. It was also good to see the Roald Dahl work shared in our special assembly. I hope you found the information sent home useful – especially if your child has a tendency to stick to just one series of books. The vouchers can be used at book shops towards any book or to buy the special, cheaper, WBD titles.



Thank you to everyone who helped to serve – or eat – **pancakes** on **Shrove Tuesday** last week. A delicious start to Lent which also raised money for school.

Next week is **British Science Week** and we have been getting a head start on some of our science and technology experiences. We were very impressed with how Reception and KS1 classes responded to the visitors from **Zoo Lab**. (One human and many, many creatures which I believe included stick insects, a tarantula, a scorpion, a corn snake, giant millipedes, cockroaches, a giant African land snail, a tree frog and a rat!) KS2 were also very capable yesterday when they took turns solving **robotics** challenges with coding and Lego.



Susan Koyuncu in the office has asked me to let you know that KS2 **school dinners** for the half term cost £60 if you pay in one go.

I am looking forward to hearing more from **Year 2's trip** to Leeds City Museum yesterday to learn about Leeds history and animal habitats. The children were also able to walk around to see notable points in the city, including the golden post box commemorating Nicola Adams'



2012 Olympics victory. Before they even returned to school I knew the trip was going well, however, as I received messages from a member of the public and from the workshop leader at the museum praising our children for their exemplary behaviour, interest in learning and their prior knowledge. Fabulous ambassadors for the school that we are all proud of!



Well done also to Year 1 for their lovely **class assembly** yesterday. Despite last minute adjustments due to absence, the children confidently and clearly explained their learning from their topic on toys which included all these subjects: English, maths, music, art & design, DT, science, geography, history, PSHCE and RE!



Year 6 have also been busy and enjoyed their online workshop on **The Unexpected Maths of Juggling** and joined in well with the challenges.



The **Children's Centre** on our school site has faced a number of building challenges recently that were exacerbated by flood damage before Christmas. Ever resourceful and committed to the families of babies and children up to 5 years old, Claire Birch and the team have temporarily relocated their stay and play sessions on Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Thank you to St Columba's church in Headingley who has found them a good space to run their groups. They are still offering family support and help working from their other two centres in Ireland Wood and Horsforth. They will home visit or meet in Headingley, sometimes in our school when this is needed. They can be contacted on their [Facebook page](#), by phone 0113 2591786 or email info@hhiwcc.org.

Unfortunately, I have to report that we have a number of positive **Covid** cases in school, with an outbreak in Year 1. This has affected eight members of Y1, one in Y2, one in Y3, one in Y4 and two in Y6. We have, therefore, double checked ventilation and hygiene measures in that class and are operating the class in a bubble until next week. We will also be postponing Stay and Play for Y1. We will check case numbers (and the weather) next week to see if Reception and Year 2 Stay and Play will go ahead as planned. Although there is now no *legal* duty to isolate, we still follow public health guidance as we do for all communicable diseases, and appreciate your help in following the latest NHS advice. [This pupil ill health document](#) details when children have to stay off school and when they can return after illnesses such as chickenpox and impetigo.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk PS Please make sure **children's hair** doesn't get in the way of their learning and making eye contact by tying or clipping it back if it is long or falls in their face. Thank you.

Class	Well done to these Superstars who have been chosen by staff in their class
YR (Thames)	Ava is always enthusiastic to read to a grown up. Mara has a great attitude and is always happy to have a go – especially with writing. Alun is very kind and caring to all of his classmates. Jacob is very creative and makes some amazing models! Bea has a great attitude towards writing – she loves to write in her ‘busy book.’ Luna always listens so well and has some great ideas to share at carpet time. Ben is a superstar because of his fantastic animal knowledge that she shows in his play. Gene is very curious and asks some great questions.
Y1 (Nile)	Jasper has been really impressing us with his super writing. Noah tries his best with everything we do and really been impressing us with his amazing writing. Constance is a superstar because she consistently works hard in class and is enthusiastic. Jonah is a superstar for confidently presenting his book about his holiday to the whole class. Jojo is writing with increased independence. Hamza is trying hard to add more detail to his writing. Winter always joins in with great ideas in our science work. Jonas always joins in with great ideas in our science work.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Tessa always tries her hardest in maths and shows her working out really well. Rohan perseveres with his writing and shows a good range of vocabulary. Bram has really focused on doing his best in writing lessons and he has made big improvements and he has made big improvements sentence by sentence. Skylar has settled into our school really well and her efforts are already showing in big improvements; such as in writing. Mali always engages enthusiastically with her learning across the day. Elliott engaged enthusiastically in the class trip and even when he felt nervous showed great bravery. Lexi engaged enthusiastically in the class trip and demonstrated her interest in and knowledge of Leeds history.
Y3 (Rhine)	Atticus has been trying his best and working hard on his writing. He is very helpful and thoughtful in the classroom. Gracie is trying hard and becoming more confident, especially when writing independently. Roman and Sophie have moved up a group in swimming. Dillon always gives his best and is focused in every lesson. He sets an example in all his work. Arthur has been challenging himself to write more in lessons. He has also been enjoying writing at home and showing it at school. Tilly’s skill during the Lego robotics workshop stood out. Eloise has a scientifically enquiring mind, asks fantastic questions and shares her scientific knowledge with the class.
Y4 (Ganges)	Priya is working well with her learning partner. Noah is making a big effort to present his writing to a high standard. Heath is working hard to develop his resilience as an independent learner. Joe has worked hard in PE to develop his skills and confidence in gymnastics. Betty has worked hard to improve her writing and presentation with fantastic results. Dotty works hard in every lesson and always gives 100% effort. Rhian for a good, scientific investigation into slime where she made careful notes and observations. Dylan wrote a very detailed account on the science of slime.
Y5 (Tigris)	Bella always brings a positive approach to her learning. Charlie has been working hard on developing his understanding of multiplication. Noah is reading aloud in class each week. Frankie is developing her keyboard skills on the Chromebooks. Dylan is working hard on developing his knowledge of fractions. Emily S asks thoughtful questions when planning science investigations. Morgan showed creative STEM thinking in the Lego robotics.
Y6 (Amazon)	Eli has been doing excellent independent writing. Rosa is using creative and original descriptions to bring writing to life. Rose she has put in top effort this whole term and a wonderful attitude towards her learning. Logan has been working very hard to improve his handwriting and is doing a great job. Toma designed a terrific space craft related to his book on world book day. Edie B created and designed a fantastic giant inspired by the BFG on World Book Day. Peggy found several small habitats and could add information on each one. Soli for using good scientific terminology.
Citizens of the Week were Atticus for helping find a lost, younger child and remaining calm and communicating well. Jovan was nominated by Rosa as she has noticed him following school values and trying hard to be motivated. Ella for caring, sharing, loving and helping people when they are sad. Iris and Sasha nominated her saying she deserves it because she is kind. Poppy has noticed that Evie is always kind and displays the school values. Charlie S was nominated by staff for celebrating the success of others.	
Well done to all these children who have achieved their next Maths Passport continent and are travelling on to the next one: Rose (twice), Isabel, Jamie, Peggy, Logan, Krishan and Hope.	

DIARY DATES

11 th to 20 th March	British Science Week
Thursday 17 th March *	Y6 trip to Eden Camp
Monday 14 th March	Y3 visit to Herd Farm for Stone Age topic
Tuesday 15 th March *	Stay and Play YR, Y1 and Y2 at the start of the school day. This is postponed for Y1 and we will make a decision after the weekend about Reception and Year 2 Stay and Play.
Friday 18 th March	Y6 Class Assembly. Families welcome to come and watch at 9am in the hall.
Friday 18 th March	Comic Relief Day
Tuesday 22 nd March *	Book Club trip to the little cinema at Armley Mills
28 th to 30 th March	Easter visits to St Michael's Church
Tuesday 29 th March	Games Night after school. All welcome.
Friday 1 st April	Easter production by Years 3 and 4 in the morning. Parents welcome.
4 th to 18 th April	Easter holidays (Leeds always has the first two weeks of April)
Tuesday 19 th April	Back to school after Easter
27 th – 29 th April	Lineham Farm residential for Year 4
Friday 29 th April	YR Class Assembly. Families welcome to come and watch at 9am in the hall.
Monday 2 nd May	School closed due to the bank holiday
Thursday 5 th May	Stay and Play YR, Y1 and Y2 at the start of the school day TBC
9 th to 12 th May	KS2 SATs (Year 6) As these are statutory tests appointments should be avoided for Y6.
Friday 13 th May *	Eid Assembly 9am in the hall (we hope to be able to invite parents to this) TBC
16 th to 20 th May	Bikeability for Year 6
23 rd to 27 th May	Green Week Including road/pedestrian safety (YR – Y3 Monday) & scooter safety training (Y4 Y4 Friday)
23 rd /24 th May	D:side sessions on medicines, alcohol and drugs TBC
Wednesday 25 th May	Y4 Class Assembly. Families welcome to come and watch at 9am in the hall.
Thursday 26 th May	Class photos
Friday 27 th May	Y6 trip to Ledston for Woodland Sessions
30 th May to 3 rd June	HALF TERM BREAK
Wednesday 8 th June	RSE meeting for Year 5 and Year 6 parents
Wednesday 15 th June	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Friday 17 th June	Non uniform day (please bring tombola prizes for the summer fair at HYMF)
Friday 17 th June	Music recital pm. All children who learn an instrument may perform.
20 th to 24 th June	Multicultural Arts and Faith Week including after school event on Wednesday
Tuesday 21 st June	Meetings for Reception Class 2022 parents (am and evening)
Saturday 25 th June	Headingley Youth Music Festival. We run this event for the local community and it includes our summer fair as well as performances, workshops, activities and other music-making 12-4pm
Thursday 14 th July	Year 5 and Year 6 production in the evening
18 th July	YR Y1 Y2 Sports Day in the morning TBC Y5 Y6 Sports Day in the afternoon TBC
19 th July	Leavers' Service at St Michaels' Church, 10:30 am
19 th July	Y3 Y4 Sports Day pm TBC
Friday 22 nd July	Year 6 Leavers' trip
25 th and 26 th July	TRAINING DAY school closed to children (some of this training may be disaggregated)
Wednesday 27 th July	Day given in lieu of the Platinum Jubilee which falls in the half term break in June
https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar term dates	
TBC means to be confirmed. * marks items that have been added or amended since the last newsletter	



The **Eat them to Defeat Them VegPower** campaign is well underway with carrots (of all colours!) and peppers already sampled and an assembly enjoyed. Thanks to parents who have been trying to put a little extra veg into lunch boxes too!