



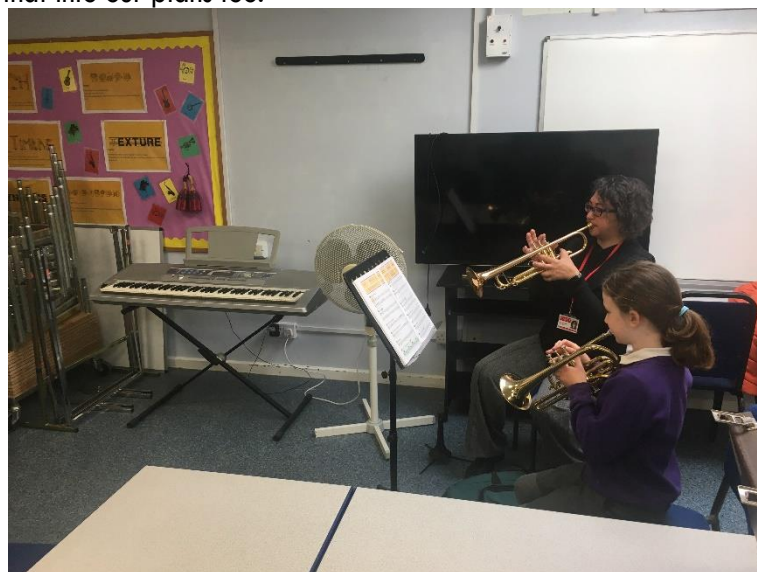
# SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had a good Bank Holiday weekend, despite the rain! I also hope that Y3 and Y4 parents enjoyed the video of the **Easter production**. Do make sure you have seen it! I am looking forward to sharing YR and KS1 assemblies too.

I am very pleased to see that our diary is now starting to fill up with **trips and school based activities**. Whilst we are still operating to our COVID risk assessment, the easing of lockdown is making it easier for us to plan for visits and visitors. Year 6 missed out on their Robinwood residential in December, and then the rescheduled date fell the wrong side of the 17<sup>th</sup> May. We have been working hard to look for an alternative (in desperation promising a sleepover in school if nothing else could be arranged, despite that being a logistical nightmare!) I am happy to say that we have managed to find a slot at Waddow Hall, in Clitheroe. Waddow Hall is a regional Girl Guiding centre that offers outdoor and adventurous activities and we are looking forward to taking the children there. As they were excited about the idea of a late night at school with a pizza oven, we are going to factor that into our plans too.

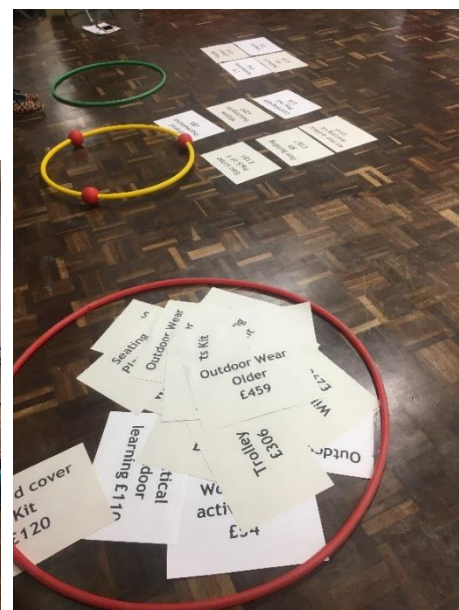


Last week we welcomed Isaac from the Leeds City Council Schools Health and Safety team who was conducting our **COVID audit**. I am very glad that he was pleased with how we have balanced health and safety measures with keeping things as 'normal' as possible in school. He wrote, *"The main thing I would like to say is that throughout the school I observed best practice in all areas and have no concerns about the management of COVID on your site. Your buildings are in good condition and are clearly well maintained...I would just like to add how impressed I was with your site, a lot of hard work has gone in to your processes. You and all the staff should be so proud with the hard work you have put in."* He also happened to watch a fire drill and was impressed with how quickly we evacuated the building. This wasn't a planned drill (we had just had one a few weeks before) but the result of a young child's curiosity about the call point they had spotted!

As we plan in Sports Days, Leavers' Events, etc. it is natural that for adults our thoughts turn to **next year**. However, for the children who have had such disruption the last year, the last thing they need right now is to be worrying about transition! We will, as ever, make sure that transition is planned carefully and that children who need extra support with these times receive it. In the meantime, please try to avoid speculating on next year's teachers, or talking too much about 'you won't be able to do that next year in Year X!' as it can add to their anxiety when they aren't as settled as they usually would be at this time in the year. Please also do not assume that staffing will be the same as it has been this year! For all sorts of reasons, including transition, professional development, staff specialisms, etc. we do move staff around and that is certainly the case for September 2021. Don't worry – we will make sure we let children know on their transition day and you will receive a letter about it then too.

I am pleased that we have been able to offer proper **school dinners** instead of the grab bags I know some schools are still using and Catherine Taylor is already working hard on next term's menus to suit them to our children's favourites. I wonder though if some KS2 children have been packing their own lunches? I heartily approve of such independence, but a supervisory look might be a good idea as we have seen some strange **packed lunches** this week that seem to consist of just chocolate and other treats that cause a sugar rush and afternoon drop! (I should say we also seen some lovely ideas too, with children being braver about bringing things other than plain sandwiches, e.g. leftover pasta meals, wraps, pieces of cheese and meat, interesting fruit and vegetable snacks, etc.) It might help with planning to know that school lunches have a roast dinner on Thursday and a cooked pudding on that day too, so that is our usual 'treat' day. If you are planning to send the odd treat, then a Thursday might be a good idea to stick to.

Thank you to Kate Wright from the Governing Body who came to work with **School Council** last week as they put together a bid for resources for the **Nature Garden**. All the classes contributed great ideas and worked well together to choose the best items to buy if the bid is successful. They also had plenty of other ideas for the Nature Garden, so now they are thinking about fundraising ideas to help pay for the work already done and their future plans!



Thank you for all your support, as ever. Have a lovely weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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**Look at the awe and wonder on Year 4 faces as they tried out their own volcano models!**



Class	Well done to recent Superstars who have been chosen by staff in their class.
YR (Thames)	<b>Clem</b> independently wrote a story that he and the teacher could read out. <b>Winter</b> always participates really well on the carpet and in class. She is very kind. <b>Khadija</b> has a great attitude and is always enthusiastic, smiling every day. <b>Evie</b> tries hard with her reading and it is paying off!
Y1 (Nile)	<b>Beckett</b> is trying really hard with his learning and is therefore making good progress. <b>Sonny</b> takes so much care with his tasks and tries his best to push himself. <b>Bram</b> works hard and has completed extra challenges in maths. <b>Rohan</b> persevered with the wall bars in PE.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	<b>Raajan</b> is sharing ideas and engaging more in class discussions as his confidence grows. <b>Evie</b> is always switched on and ready to learn with a smile on her face. <b>Austin</b> has settled in well to Y2 and is polite and courteous. <b>Rory</b> always works hard and gives his best.
Y3 (Rhine)	<b>Joe</b> has a positive attitude to learning and is solving problems by using the 5 Bs independently to complete tasks. <b>Emma</b> has a positive attitude to learning in <i>all</i> of school life, inside and outside the classroom. <b>Charlie RB</b> has a mature and positive attitude to reading comprehension activities that are tricky. <b>Florence</b> has been mastering maths facts and written calculation methods to help her move forward in her learning.
Y4 (Ganges)	<b>Erin W</b> always contributes her best in class. <b>Manraaj</b> is always ready to learn and follows instructions quickly and sensibly. <b>Emily K</b> is doing her best in every piece of work. <b>Frankie</b> is making good progress in editing and is particularly focused on checking her writing carefully.
Y5 (Tigris)	<b>Edie B</b> for her English work which is always well thought through and clearly presented. <b>Asa</b> has been working well on all aspects of learning about fractions. <b>Flo</b> performed well in her times table assessment because she has worked hard at learning them. <b>Lawrence</b> is working hard on his North America Maths Passport targets.
Y6 (Amazon)	<b>Dilraaj</b> is always demonstrating a Y6 learning attitude. <b>Isabella</b> makes meaningful contributions to all our lessons. <b>Eva</b> makes good choices for herself and those around her. <b>Anil</b> has been really focused on his maths work and it shows.

Well done to all these children who have achieved their next **Maths Passport** continent and are travelling on to the next one: Achilles, Aidan, Beckett, Bram, Coco, Dylan, Effie, Elliot, Finlay, Jann, Joe A, Joseph, Levi, Mason, Roberta, Rohan, Sonny, Stan, Tomos, Willis, Tessa, Hope, Kienna, Dave, Peggy, Rylan, Isobel, Anna, Lyle, Connie, Harvey, Dotty, Benji, Oliver, Kai, Chloe, Ellie, Krishan, Coco, Isabel, Rocco, Joe, Dylan, Cora, Emily, Teddy, Florence, Nelson and Zak!

**Citizens of the Week** were **Year 2 and Year 3** for being great ambassadors for school when they go to their swimming lessons. Betty in Y3 nominated **Miss Craven** for being brave when the fire bell goes off and for all the jobs she does in school to keep us safe.

### DIARY DATES

Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Y4 trip to Ledston
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Woodland Session (Countryside live) all day trip
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> - Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> May	GREEN WEEK. Includes pedestrian/road safety and scooter training as well as Bikeability Training for Y6. The more they practise in advance of this date, the better! This is likely to include a fundraising dress up day but the point is <i>not</i> to buy new clothes for this. Rather, wear a handmedown, a charity shop item, an upcycled outfit, the colour green, something made with recycled fabric or anything sustainable that your child likes.
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> -Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Lineham Farm residential for Year 4 if road map progresses as planned
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	TRAINING DAY
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June *	Meetings for new Reception parents TBC
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Skipping Celebration Day for KS1 following several weeks of Skip into Summer workshops
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> – Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> July *	Year 6 residential, TBC
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> & Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Lawnswood transition days
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Shire Oak transition day
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July *	TRAINING DAY – this is the last one to be scheduled this year. We were previously unable to book the training we had planned, which is why this is later notice than usual.
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> 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.

<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 29<sup>th</sup> March. It is possible that residential may be permitted from either the 17<sup>th</sup> May or 21<sup>st</sup> June depending on national rates, decisions by government, acquiring COVID Charters, etc. We are keeping a close eye on the updates!