



SHIRE OAK
C of E (VC) Primary School

Letter 3
18th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

This has been a lovely week in school and it has been great to talk to children about their learning. This week we have had an **outdoor learning** focus to get us into good habits of using the school grounds at the start of the year. I have seen science, maths and other lessons outside and lots of creativity linked to various topics and children's own interests in the use of recycled loose parts materials from the Scrap Shed. (Here are Y3 working in groups to show their understanding of the structure of plants and trees. →) We also enjoy seeing children using our grounds before and after school. The current passion is collecting conkers, which is great. To keep everyone safe, please ensure that when you are supervising your children outside the school day that they do not climb over into the car park or throw things into the trees in their quests to get the not-quite-ripe horse chestnuts! Thank you. Thanks to FOSOPS for the new picnic benches which are proving popular for supervising children on the climbing frame as well as being used for learning during the day.



The **Zones** of Regulation™

BLUE ZONE Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	GREEN ZONE Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	YELLOW ZONE Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	RED ZONE Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control

This week it has been good to see the children put into action what they have been learning about **Zones of Regulation** following our reminder assemblies. In the assemblies, children talked through the different zones – and how all zones are allowed and which tools we might use to help regulate ourselves when needed. They also watched this [video clip](#) together. It has been great to hear that some families are finding this language about emotions useful at home too so we have shared visuals to support describing which 'zone' children find themselves in and the tools that can help them to feel regulated.



Has your child completed the [Big Future Survey](#) to inform the Children's Commissioner on life in modern Britain for our children? Further responses are welcomed.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing many of you at the meetings this week.

Jane Astrid Devane

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Headteacher

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DIARY DATES

Wednesday 23 rd Sept	Parent and Carer meetings: Reception Class early reading & writing (phonics) 5pm in the classroom Year One transition to KS1 5pm in the classroom Year Six Robinwood information 5pm in the classroom
Thursday 24 th September *	Y5 and Y6 drama workshops on gender bias with One Day Creative
Friday 25 th September *	Stay and Play in Reception (YR), Y1 and Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome.
Friday 2 nd October	Harvest Festival, 9am in the hall. All welcome. (As well as this special assembly we ask for donations of food that can be distributed via Rainbow Junction and the local foodbank. They particularly ask for: Unopened tinned food and dry food); Unopened bread/bakery products in a package; Opened spices/oils; Pet food. Sending it in a clean plastic shopping bag helps us pass these on too. Thank you.
Sunday 4 th October *	Families invited to St Michael's for their harvest celebration

Tuesday 6 th October	Y3 trip to Harlow Carr
Thursday 8 th October	After school local rugby tournament at Weetwood Primary School TBC
Friday 9 th October	Y5 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.
Saturday 10 th October	FOSOPS Woodland Walk TBC
Wednesday 14 th October	Y5 virtual Anglo Saxons history workshop with Durham University a.m.
Wednesday 14 th October *	Parents and carers consultation evening (you will book slots nearer the time)
Thursday 15 th October	Y2 trip to Whistlestop Valley
~~Friday 16th October *~~	~~Stay and Play in Reception (YR), Y1 and Y2 at the start of the day. Families welcome.~~
Wednesday 21 st October	Y4 Class Assembly in the hall, 9am. All welcome
Wednesday 22 nd October *	Parents and carers consultation evening (you will book slots nearer the time)
Friday 23 rd October	TRAINING DAY school closed to children (Last day of term – have a good half term break)
Monday 2 nd November	First day of the half term
Thursday 5 th November	Flu immunisations in school
Friday 6 th November	Diwali Assembly in the hall, 9am. All welcome.
Wed 11 th November	An Act of Remembrance will be held
Thursday 12 th November	Individual photos day TBC (prints will be back before Christmas)
Friday 13 th November	Y3 Class Assembly in the hall, 9am. All welcome.
Monday 16 th November	Anti Bullying Workshops as part of Anti Bullying Fortnight
Wed 18 th November	Winter Festival of Fire straight after school. All welcome!
Friday 20 th November	Year 6 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.
Tuesday 24 th November	Headingley Lights Switch On at St Michaels TBC
Wed 25 th November	Open Morning for prospective parents (although current parents may attend too)
Thursday 26 th November	Hanukkah assembly, 9am. All welcome.
Mon 30 th Nov to 2 nd Dec	Robinwood residential school trip for Year 6 children
Wed 2 nd to 3 rd December	D:Side sessions on Internet Safety across school
Wednesday 9 th December	Nativity play dress rehearsals for KS2 to watch
Thursday 10 th December	Reception Class Nativity Play am
Friday 11 th December	Year 1/2 Nativity Play am
Tuesday 15 th December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church 10:30am TBC
Tuesday 15 th December	School Christmas lunch (can be booked in advance)
Wed 16 th December *	School Christmas disco night YR 3:45 – 4:45 movie night in classroom; Y1/2/3 3:45 – 4:45 disco in the hall; Y4/5/6 5-6pm disco in the hall.
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas party day with party lunch and Christmas music performances by Chestra
Friday 18 th December	Last day of term – have a good Christmas holiday
Monday 4 th January	First day of term
Thursday 7 th January *	Open Morning for prospective parents (although current parents may attend too) s
Friday 15 th January *	YR Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.
Wednesday 20 th January *	Parents and carers meeting about Y4 residential, 5pm. TBC.
Friday 22 nd January *	Y6 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.
Monday 25 th January	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Wednesday 27 th January	YR and Y6 national measurement and vision checks
Friday 29 th January *	Stay and Play in YR, Y1 & Y2 at the start of the day. Lunar New Year theme. All welcome.
Tuesday 2 nd February	Y5 trip to York Chocolate Story
Wednesday 3 rd February *	Meeting about maths for YR parents and carers 1pm online TBC
Tuesday 9 th February *	Shrove Tuesday pancake sale in the hall after school by FOSOPS
Thursday 11 th February *	Y2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 12 th February *	Last day of half term – have a good half term break
Monday 22 nd February *	First day of half term – pupils back in school
Sunday 28 th February *	Shire Oak Sunday, 10am at St Michael's Church. All welcome. TBC.
Tuesday 2 nd March *	Y5 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.
Thursday 4 th March *	World Book Day including dressing up
5 th to 14 th March *	British Science Week
Mon 8 th & Tues 9 th March	Hands On Science Workshops as part of British Science Week
Thursday 11 th March	After school local netball tournament hosted at Shire Oak TBC
Friday 12 th March *	Science Fair in the hall during the day

Monday 15 th March	*	Weekly pizza club for Y6 starts this week
15 th to 19 th March	*	Easter visits to St Michaels Church TBC
Tuesday 16 th March	*	Eid ul Fitr assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.
Wednesday 17 th March	*	Parents and carers consultation evening (you will book slots nearer the time)
Friday 19 th March	*	Comic Relief Day TBC
Wednesday 24 th March	*	Parents and carers consultation evening (you will book slots nearer the time)
Thursday 25 th March		TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Wednesday 31 st March	*	Y3/4 production dress rehearsal to the rest of school TBC (may move to week before)
Thursday 1 st April	*	Y3/4 production to families TBC (may move to week before)
Thursday 1 st April	*	Y5 trip to music day at Lawnswood School
Monday 19 th April	*	Pop up pool swimming due to start TBC
Friday 23 rd April	*	Vaisakhi assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
6 th to 7 th May	*	Y4 residential to Bramhope Scout Campsite TBC
Friday 7 th May		Y5 trip to Recycling and Energy Recovery Facility
w/c Monday 10 th May		KS2 SATs week (statutory tests – please avoid appointments, etc. this week)
Friday 14 th May	*	Y2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.
Mon 17 th – Fri 21 st May		Bikeability for Year 6. They have the strongest chance of achieving the proficiency standard if they have practised cycling in preparation. Cycle North often run sessions in school holidays for beginners
20 th /21 st May	*	D:Side sessions in school on substances
Tuesday 25 th May	*	Y1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome.
7 th to 11 th June	*	Green Week with road safety activities, etc.
Thursday 10 th June	*	Class photo day
Wednesday 16 th June		TRAINING DAY school closed to children
DATES: https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-holidays-and-term-dates		

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

