



Dear Parents and Carers

SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

I hope you are refreshed after the two week break. The children certainly seem to be enjoying the brighter, longer days and being back at school where they have started finding out about their new summer term topics.

Susan Koyuncu in the office has asked me to let you know that **dinner money** for this half term (KS2) is £66.70. Please don't forget that we can now take online payments and that it is possible to set up standing orders to help spread the cost of dinners, trips, music lessons, etc.

The **Year 6 rugby league team** started the new season with a tough cup game at Rothwell St Mary's. Despite defeat, the team drew the admiration of the opposing coach with their range of skills and inventive play based on a positive attitude and team ethic. New captain Aaliyah set a high standard from the beginning and refused to give up after the team conceded early tries following quick reactions from Rothwell players. After her strong runs and tryscoring, the team were re-energised and a breathtaking run by Jesie led to another try. As the game developed, Matthew became increasingly adventurous at dummy half (see photo as he gets the team organised for a quick play the ball from Rean and a sharp pass to Freddie to catch the opposition off their guard) and Rhiannon impressed everybody with her quick stepping, strong drives and committed tackling that led to the player of the match award. Well done to all the team for such a good start and thanks to Megan and Mr Nash for their support (including taking these great photographs).



Match report from Chris Marshall:

They say football is 'a game of two halves' and never was that more true than in the match between Shire Oak and Weetwood yesterday afternoon. Scoring just one great goal in the first half, from a strong shot by Joey, the boys were up against it by half time.

The second half was a different story with Shire Oak upping their commitment and tenacity for chasing every ball down. This approach bore fruit with Dawyne pushing on from his defensive duties to score a goal and then Leo jinked through the Weetwood players to score twice.

So with Shire Oak scoring three goals in the second half to the two from the opposition we can definitely claim that we won the second half! Clearly a moral, if not an actual, victory.

Well done to **Year 4** who had a great time at **Bewerley Park** before the holiday. They took part in all the activities, enjoyed tidying and hoovering their rooms (!) and learned a lot in their days away. Thank you very much to Chris Marshall, Abi Readman and Marcelle Maver for giving up their time.



I am sure you have seen lots of stories in the media about the **new SATs tests** this year for Y2 and Y6. Currently in Y2 these are used to *inform* the final teacher assessment, rather than be the full end of key stage attainment judgement. At our school we think it is important that KS1 children do not even know they are doing tests and so the children should never notice anything more than "I got to do some special work in a nice new book with Miss Sonuga today." We teach the new national curriculum, but we do not spend time rehearsing 6 and 7 year olds in test technique or on memorising grammatical terms. We very much hope that other schools around the country also remain true to their understanding of how children learn best and let the test results reflect a true picture of what is appropriate and reasonable for these young children. (*Stop Press: it appears that the Y2 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar test for this year has been withdrawn after it was accidentally leaked online.*) In Y6 it is impossible to hide from the children the fact they are sitting exams, so we concentrate on making sure they feel prepared but not pressurised and ready to show off their best learning rather than worrying about the result. It is clear already that this year's tests represent a significant hike in the expected national standards (from an old 4c/4b to something more like a 5c!) but until the results come out it is going to be very hard to predict exactly what children are going to attain (unlike the last few years when our teacher assessments have been entirely consistent with the results achieved by children in the SATS tests.)

As you know, we choose the charities we support very carefully and link them to the children's learning where at all possible. However, it has come to our attention that the recent **earthquake in Ecuador** has affected members of our school community. I understand the Ecuadorian Embassy have set up an emergency fund but it is also possible to make a contribution of aid via <https://donate.oxfam.org.uk/emergency/ecuador> Our thoughts and prayers are with all families in the world affected by natural disaster, war or unrest.

Apologies to **FOSOPS** for not including their newsletter before the two week break. Please find it attached to today's newsletter.

Have a great weekend!

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane
janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk

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, Julia Kelly shireoakgovernors@gmail.com Julia is often on the playground, particularly at the start and end of the week, if you would like to talk to her.)

HANDS OFF OUR SCHOOLS NO FORCED ACADEMIES

Thursday 28th April 7:30pm

Leeds Rose Bowl

(Portland Crescent, LS1 3HB – Near Leeds Civic Hall)

Speakers include: Judith Blake (Leader Leeds City Council), Patrick Murphy (NUT Leeds and NEC) and Jane Astrid Devane (Leeds headteacher)

DIARY DATES

Mon 25th to Fri 29th April	Our Reading Week. This will include a dress up day (characters from books) on Tuesday 26th. This will be after the 16th May – confirmed dates to follow.
Thursday 28 th April	Bun sale at morning break, run by Year 2
Friday 29 th April	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Monday 2 nd May	BANK HOLIDAY. School closed.
9 th to 13 th May	KS2 SATS week
Friday 13 th May	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Saturday 14 th May	FOSOPS Spring Clean event at school – please help!
Wednesday 18 th May	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 18 th May	House Team Hobby Half Day
Thursday 19 th May	Bun sale at morning break, 30p, run by Year 1
Sunday 22 nd May *	Shire Oak Sunday. All children invited to take part in a special family service at St Michael's Church, 10am.
Wednesday 25 th May	Y6 school nurse height and weight check
Friday 27 th May	Non uniform day – please bring a tombola prize for HYMusicFest instead money
30 th May – 3 rd June	HALF TERM BREAK. Kidzone may run a holiday playscheme.
Wednesday 13 th June *	Leeds City Academy transition day for September's Y7
Tuesday 7 th June *	Dance Carnival Brazil workshop to prepare for Sunday's performance at the Triathlon on Sunday that will be passing close to school. (max 30 places available.)
Friday 10 th June	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 10 th June	Reception Class trip to Tropical World
Saturday 11 th June	Headingley Youth Music Festival (our community music festival & summer fair)
Sunday 12 th June *	Columbia Threadneedle World Triathlon passes school – we are performing!
Tuesday 14 th June	New Reception Parents' meeting 9:30am and 6pm
Tuesday 14 th June	Y3 trip to the Mining Museum
Friday 17 th June	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 22 nd June	TRAINING DAY –TBC Assessment and report writing.
Thurs 23 rd & Fri 24 th June	Ralph Thoresby transition days for September's Y7
Friday 24 th June	Reception Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 29 th June	Class photograph day – clean, smart uniform please!
Thursday 30 th June	New date for Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 1 st July	Bun sale at morning break, 30p, run by Reception Class
Tuesday 5 th July *	Allerton High transition day for September's Y7.
Wednesday 6 th July	Transition Day – meeting new classteachers, etc.
Thursday 7 th July	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Friday 8 th July	Eid Assembly, 9am, whole school. All welcome.
Friday 8 th July	FOSOPS Toy Exchange and afternoon tea – to be confirmed
Wednesday 13 th July *	Year 6 production, 9:15am TBC (This may have to change due to High School transition arrangements)
Thursday 14 th July	Year 6 production, 2:00pm TBC
18 th to 22 nd July	Sport for Life Week
Mon 18 th & Tues 19 th July	Bikeability training for Year 6
Tuesday 19 th July	Y3/Y4 Sports Day, 9:15am weather permitting
Wednesday 20 th July	R/Y1/Y2 Sports Day, 9:15am weather permitting
Wednesday 20 th July	Y/Y6 Sports Day, 9:15am weather permitting
Thursday 21 st July	End of year concert, 1:30pm (this is a change of time)
(Thurs 21 st and Fri 22 nd July)	Reserve dates for Sports Day (Thursday pm KS2 and Fri am R/1/2 Fri pm KS2)
Tuesday 26 th July	Leavers' Service, 10:30am, St Michael's Church. All welcome.
Tuesday 15 th November 2016 *	Open Morning for current and prospective parents, 9:15- 11:15am. (Open Evening for prospective parents who cannot attend during the day, 6pm.)
Thursday 12 th January 2017 *	Open Morning for current and prospective parents, 9:15- 11:15am.
Wed 1 st – Fri 3 rd March 2017	Y4 Residential to Lineham Farm TBC
* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change	

March 2016

FOSOPS Newsletter

Friends Of Shire Oak Primary School

Welcome to the new FOSOPS newsletter!

FOSOPS (Friends Of Shire Oak Primary School) is a great way for parents to become involved in the wider aspects of school life.

The newsletter will keep parents up to date with what's happening

Who are we?

FOSOPS is a volunteer group formed of parents and school staff who want to help make Shire Oak the best and most fun place it can be for children, parents and staff!

Most parents will already know someone who is part of the FOSOPS team. All parents are welcome to join or help out!

What do we do?

The FOSOPS group meets regularly. We come up with fun ideas for activities and events that help raise extra money for the school.

Not all parents can make all the meetings. Some parents are able to help by volunteering at events, some by donating prizes for raffles or competitions.

Events!

Recently FOSOPS has organised:

Toy exchange and sausage sizzler

Pancake Day



FOSOPS Events Coming Soon

Wed 23rd March

Yr3 & Yr4 Easter Production

Movie Night

Sat 14th May

Spring Clean 10am-2pm

Fri 8th July

Toy Exchange!!

Thanks to FOSOPs

From the money raised so far, we are able to get:

- The new scooter pod
- Dishwasher
- Microwave
- Hall blinds

We would like to continue to raise money for:

- Improving the outdoor space
- Outdoor activities