



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a busy fortnight at the start of our new term even though we have had two four day weeks. I hope you all had a good holiday and then a very happy Easter. The children have been enjoying the brighter days outside at home and at school.

Year 5 and Year 6 enjoyed a stellar start to their Starlight topic when they were fortunate enough to be visited by **Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell**. Jocelyn is an astrophysicist, best known for discovering pulsars, and one of the foremost British scientists of the last few decades. This is not her first visit to the school and, as ever, it was a thought-provoking and highly interesting talk and question/answer session which inspired some quality science thinking from our oldest children. We are very grateful for her taking the time to come to our school again.



Year 3 and Year 4 did very well to remember the songs, lines and acting they had been practising before the two week break and performed their **Easter Production**, Resurrection Rock, with such enthusiasm and flair for us all on Maundy Thursday. Everyone joined in the great singing and the narrators and actors told this difficult story very well. We are proud of them.

Easter celebrations of new life often involve eggs, and as has become traditional here at Shire Oak, we held a **decorated egg competition**. The majority of children entered and

there were some stunning and inventive entries that children had worked on at home – independently and with their grown-ups. Well done to all who entered and congratulations to the winners in each year group.

Susan Koyuncu in the office has asked me to let you know that **school dinners** for Years 3-6 will cost £64.80 this half term. This can be paid at the office or online. (Please ask the office for details.) We really appreciate the efforts that parents have made to stay up to date with payments as money that we don't collect for dinners and trips comes out of the school budget. We have recently used some of our devolved capital money to refurbish the very shabby KS1 toilets. The children are much happier with our shiny new bathrooms and have promised faithfully to keep them smart! We are hoping to refurbish the KS2 toilets later this year.



Although our children are too young to be fasting during the school week in Ramadan, we know that some of our families will be starting to think ahead to the **Eid** festival at the end of this period. Please pick up a leave of absence form if your child is likely to take the day off to celebrate. Thank you!

Well done to the children from Year 5 and Year 6 who went to Abbey Grange yesterday for a **netball tournament**. Taking it in turns to play every position they quickly started to improve, became more aware of the rules and worked as a team. They played so well that they qualified for the finals in May. Well done to the team and to Mrs Mitchell for organising and coaching them.

It was lovely to see so many of you this morning for **Stay and Play** in KS1 and Reception Class. This weekend we are taking part in **Headingley Open Gardens** from 2pm – 5pm on Sunday. This is usually a lovely community event where keen amateur gardeners open up their gardens for visitors to enjoy. We will also be opening our grounds and serving refreshments. Do pop in if you can! Maps of the gardens on the route are available from HEART and Oxfam Books so that you can take part in this family-friendly activity. Let's hope for sunshine!



Class	Well done to this week's Superstars who have been chosen by the staff in their class.
YR (Thames)	Joshua has so many creative ideas when playing in the sand where she shares and acts out stories with his friends. Ibrahim is creative and great at making robots. He likes to tell us about what he made too.
Y1 (Nile)	Benji persevered in PE showing great team work and positive attitude. Zac is outstanding in his effort in art and showing his ability.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Archie has shown great enthusiasm for research and investigation tasks. Leo is trying really hard with his Numbers Count work and making good progress.
Y3 (Rhine)	Arlo has been trying hard in maths to answer word problems and improve his problem solving. Asa did some fantastic work learning about how other countries celebrate Easter.
Y4 (Ganges)	Greyson has been working well and improving at the start of the summer term. Leilani has been using her creative skills in art.
Y5 (Tigris)	Ramona has been working really well in art and putting a lot of effort into her creations – well done Ramona! Ryan did a superb job on his 'home energy audit' and has been getting really involved in Y5's Energy Heroes work.
Y6 (Amazon)	Peter puts top effort into his PE lessons. Akele has made positive contributions to recent RE lessons.
Citizen of the Week was Seren nominated by peers for following all school principles, rules and values, etc. She works her hardest and comes to school every day. Well done!	

Have a lovely weekend – I hope to see some of you on Sunday!

Jane Astrid Devane

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PS Mr Marshall is asking us to collect washed 2 litre milk bottles – the type with a handle. They are for a whole science project that is coming up soon...



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 Jane Hinchliffe.

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. Our parent governors are often on the playground, if you would like to talk to them.)

DIARY DATES

Sunday 28 th April	*	Headingley Open Gardens – our school gardens will be open as part of the route, with refreshments available so please call in
Monday 29 th April		Bun Sale with donations by Year 1 but available for all to buy
Thursday 2 nd May		Y2 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 6 th May		BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY. Children do not attend school.
Tuesday 7 th May	*	Netball tournament finals, St Mary's Menston TBC
Thursday 9 th May	*	Rugby cup at Woodlesford
Friday 10 th May		Y4 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Mon 13 th to Fri 17 th May		KS2 SATS Week for Year 6
Mon 20 th & Tues 21 st May		D:Side drug, alcohol and medicine safety lessons
Tuesday 21 st May		Y1 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 22 nd May		The Big Sing – Year 6 perform with children from all of Leeds
Thursday 23 rd May		Countryside Live trip to Ledston, Year 6s
Thursday 23 rd May		Possible tri athletics tournament (TBC)
Friday 24 th May		Non uniform day (bring in items for Headingley Youth Music Festival tombola stall)
Mon 27 th to Fri 31 st May		HALF TERM HOLIDAY. Children do not attend school. Kidzone run a playscheme.
Thursday 6 th June		Reception Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 11 th June		New Reception Parents meetings (am and evening)
Tuesday 11 th June		Reception Class visit to Leeds Beckett Discovery Garden (TBC)
Wednesday 12 th June		SRE (Relationships Education) parents' evening for Y5/6
Friday 14 th June		Eid Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Saturday 15 th June		Headingley Youth Music Festival (includes our summer fair) All welcome! NEW DATE
Tuesday 18 th June		Stay and Play for Reception, Y1 & Y2 families. All welcome at the start of the day
Wednesday 19 th June		Training Day – school closed to children
Monday 24 th June		Bun Sale with donations by Reception Class but available for all to buy
Monday 24 th June	*	Y6 visit to Leeds City College TBC
w/c 24 th June		Multicultural Arts and Faith Week (including Ofrenda, Vicar and Imam assembly and trips to places of worship)
Wednesday 26 th June	*	The Big Play concert (Year 4 playing at Pudsey)
Tues 2 nd & Wed 3 rd July	*	Lawnswood transition days for Year 6
Wednesday 3 rd July		Transition Day (visiting new classes)
Thursday 4 th July		Y3 Class Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 5 th July		Staff v pupils football match & barbecue in aid of WWF (organised by Y6)
Friday 12 th July	*	Author visit to Y1? TBC
Wednesday 10 th July		Music Recital (TBC) for children who learn an instrument or singing
Thursday 11 th July		Y5/6 production (dress rehearsal in the morning) performance in the evening
Monday 15 th July		Y3/4 Sports Day (subject to weather) in the morning
Tuesday 16 th July		Y5/6 Sports Day (subject to weather) in the morning
Wednesday 17 th July		R/1/2 Sports Day (subject to weather) in the morning
Wed 17 th to Fri 19 th July		Y6 Bikeability (be practising ready for this!) TBC
Monday 22 nd July		End of year celebrations
Tuesday 23 rd July		Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church 10:30am
Wednesday 24 th July		Last day of term before the summer holiday.
Wednesday 16 th October	*	Skylar's Missing Note music concert
Wednesday 6 th November	*	Power of One show as part of Anti Bullying Fortnight
Thursday 19 th December	*	Santa and the Christmas Dragon (Alive and Kicking)

<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



Maths at Y1 Stay and Play