



Dear Parents and Carers

SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

What a day! **Headingley Youth Music Festival** was a wonderful occasion on Saturday. Thank you to all our school performers and the guest performers from Kirkstall Valley Primary, Quarry Mount Primary, Abbey Grange and Lawnswood high schools. Thank you also to all Shire Oak parents and friends who staffed stalls, put up marquees, baked cakes or helped in other ways. Thank you to Rock School, YAMSEN, Cloth Cat, Leeds Beckett Music department, Avtar Manku, Anita Collins, Matthew Bellwood, local Woodcraft folk and St Michaels Brownies who all contributed their time, expertise and enthusiasm to help children and young people from our local area enjoy making music in interesting ways. We were pleased that we had several hundred visitors and we look forward to planning HYMF18! (All ideas and offers of help gratefully received.)



The music festival was a great way to kick off our special theme week. This week has been **Multicultural Arts and Faith Week**. Thank you so much to Susie Hopkins who has worked hard to arrange a full and interesting programme of visits, visitors and activities for us to enjoy. Y1/2 visited a mosque, Y3/4 visited a synagogue and Y5/6 visited a Hindu mandir and Jain shrine and all the classes explored the similarities and differences with St Michael's Church which the children all know well. (Thank you to Rev Tony who supports us in this work, as always, and led assembly on Tuesday.) Mrs Hopkins worked very hard to choose faith communities who are outward-looking and active in inter-faith work and to find women faith leaders for the children to learn from. She also arranged a fun and thought-provoking assembly on Thursday with good friends Heston (the vicar of Hyde Park church All Hallows) and Adam, an Imam from the university. With a great deal of joking and fun they demonstrated to the children that there is always so much we have in common and that is a good basis for a friendship within which we can explore our differences and enjoy finding out more about each other. The sun shone on our bring and share picnic after school on Wednesday. Thank you so much to everyone for bringing in such an array of delicious and interesting food for us to enjoy together. We are looking forward to the Carnival performance from RJC dance this afternoon to round off a great week and to sharing our photos with you.

This week we were also pleased to start welcoming our **new** cohort of **Reception children** for September (and their parents/carers) to welcome meetings on Tuesday. I was impressed with how confidently the children were already exploring and playing in the classroom and outside area and we look forward to getting to know them even better.

Whilst the new Reception children were exploring the classroom, current Reception enjoyed a special trip to the Landscape Garden at **Leeds Beckett University** where they enjoyed pond-dipping and other outdoor activities. Thank you to Bev Keen and her students from Leeds Beckett for organising such an interesting day for our children.

You may have noticed that yesterday was **National Clean Air Day** and we were pleased to welcome Dr James Tate and his colleague Bahauddin Tashani who brought meters to measure the particles in the air near school, carry out science experiments with Year 4 and share the results of his research. His research team found that there was a dramatic difference for health in using a route like The Ridge instead of walking along the Otley Road. Research has also been shared this week that many parents find surprising – children in cars are exposed to higher levels of harmful emissions than children who walk to school. Thanks also to Andy Hickford for helping to organise this for us.

Well done to the **girls' tag rugby team** for Wednesday's tournament at Stanningley. Ian Martin reports that every game was that bit better until the final game where they won 3-1 thanks to two tries from Naomi and one from Evelyn as well as some fine defending from Cherish, great midfield control from Natalie and leadership from captain Francesca.



Please look out for the next issue of the **The Leaf**, our pupil-written and edited school newspaper. As I write, they are going to press with their issue and are already planning the next edition with more photos and write up from Multicultural Arts and Faith Week.

Have a great weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk

TRAINING DAY on Wednesday.
School will be closed to pupils.

DIARY DATES

Monday 19 th June	Y1 audiology checks
Tuesday 20 th June	Movie Night, 5-7pm. TBC
Wednesday 21 st June	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Thursday 22 nd June	Y5/6 trip to Jodrell Bank coming back later to school that day
Thursday 22 nd June	Reception class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome! THIS IS A CHANGED DATE.
Friday 23 rd June	Stay and Play for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers in their classrooms.
Monday 26 th June	Y3/4 trip to Magna
Wednesday 28 th June	Class and team photos
Thursday 29 th June	Reception Class Bun Sale morning break (children may bring 30p)
Wed 28 th & Thursday 29 th June	Transition days for Ralph Thoresby High School
Thursday 29 th June *	Lawnswood Athletics Festival at Beckett Park (Year 5)
Friday 30 th June	Eid assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 30 th June	d:side drug and alcohol education sessions
Wednesday 5 th July	Y1/2 trip to Filey coming back later to school that day
Wednesday 5 th July *	Girls Rugby Tournament
Thursday 6 th July	Transition Day
Wednesday 12 th July	Musicians end of year concert (pm)
Thursday 13 th July	Y6/5 dress rehearsal and evening performance of their production
Mon 17 th – Wed 19 th July	Bikeability for Y6. They will be able to borrow bikes and helmets if necessary. We want as many children as possible to access the training and award.
Wednesday 19 th July	Sports Day Reception/Y1/Y2 in the morning.
Thursday 20 th July	Sports Day Y3 & Y4 in the morning. (if fine) Y5/6 Sports Day will be in the afternoon (if fine). This is a change to the previously published date.
Monday 24 th July	End of year parties/disco in the afternoon
Tuesday 25 th July	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church, Headingley. All welcome. 10:30am.
Wednesday 26 th July	Last day of term
Thurs 27 th July to Fri 1 st Sept	SUMMER HOLIDAYS. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Thursday 14 th September	Judo workshops