



Dear Parents and Carers

What a lovely week in school! We are so proud of the children who have worked hard to tell the **Christmas story** in such a confident and enthusiastic manner. We loved Reception's **Nursery Rhyme Nativity** and **Stable Story** by KS1. Thank you to all the adults in school (and at home) who have practised words, sang the songs, sorted costumes, props and scenery and made sure that they were able to take it seriously without it taking over the school day.

Thank you also to the staff who organised the refreshments and raffle. Thanks to 34 generously donated prizes we made at least £156 on the raffle and nearly £60 on refreshments. It has been a busy week for fundraising and Y5 brought in

a great selection of cakes, raising over £50. This year FOSOPS are fundraising for tablets for each class that can be used for taking pictures and videos to share children's work on the new interactive whiteboards.



This week we have been eagerly awaiting updates from **Year 6** as they spend three days away from school on their **residential** at Robinwood Activity Centre. They have been kept busy from morning until night and it sounds like they have been showing great teamwork and trying hard with all the new experiences. We look forward to hearing all their news!



The Shire Oak Christmas postal service is up and running! Our special **Christmas postbox** is set up near Miss Craven's office and our older children are working hard to sort the post and deliver it to classrooms. The children love getting post this way, and it helps make the giving out of Christmas cards manageable. Please ask your child to label the envelopes clearly with first name (surname or surname initial if it is a name we have more than one of) and the year group please.



Next week is also a busy week. We will continue carol singing at care homes in the local community and may join in with the singing on Friday at the Arndale Centre. We will also hold our annual **Carol Service** at St Michael's Church. This is a very special way to prepare for Christmas and we hope you can join us (the children sit in the central rows and we ask our friends and family to sit in the seating to each side).



Tuesday 10:30am St Michael's Church.

We will then go back to school for our Christmas lunch.

You may have noticed something special along Alma Road, Grove Road or Grove Lane. Residents on this corner are decorating and **illuminating their windows** every night in December as they count down to Christmas. Look out for their window displays when you leave school. This is a non-traditional **Advent Calendar** so there will be everything from Harry Potter themes to flying unicorns! We are joining in with fun and our Numicon Christmas pictures will be gracing the Alma Road gate from today thanks to Year 4.

Finally, I would like to update you on **Christmas party arrangements this year:**

As our party day this year is the last day of term, we are not asking children to bring in food to share because we always get too much to eat in one day! This is the programme for the day:

- Children may wear a Christmas jumper/top or other festive outfit on Friday (e.g. red top). Clothes and footwear should be appropriate for wearing all day, including playing outside.
- Morning (after assembly): Time for pairs of classes to play party games in the hall
- Lunch: we will decorate the dining tables and Miss Taylor is providing party food for school dinners (wedges, etc.). Children with packed lunches are allowed to bring treat food and juice as part of their packed lunch on Friday.
- Afternoon: storyteller for the whole school
- Before going home: a festive biscuit for everyone (gluten free will be provided where necessary)

I hope you have lovely weekend before the last busy but fun week of the term.

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

DIARY DATES

Monday 11 th December	Choir singing at Wheatfields
Tuesday 12 th December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church 10:30am, all welcome!
Tuesday 12 th December	School Christmas lunch.
Wednesday 13 th December	Choir singing at Grove Park
Friday 15 th December *	Christmas party day (children may wear Christmas jumpers or similar Christmas colours/outfits). They will play games in the hall in the morning, have a party lunch and then have a storyteller in the afternoon.
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Story telling with Stories Alive!
Saturday 16 th December - Tuesday 2 nd January. School closed for Christmas holiday.	
Tuesday 2 nd January	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Friday 5 th January	Reports to parents Y1-Y6 go home this week.
Friday 5 th January	New to you/secondhand uniform sale after school
Monday 8 th January	Switched On Shire Oak Week (growth mindsets, etc.)
Wednesday 10 th January	Open Morning
Thursday 11 th January	Year 6 class assembly
Friday 12 th January	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Friday 12 th January	Fractions Friday (fun maths day)
Friday 19 th January	Geography Fun Facts Day
Friday 26 th January	Year 2 class assembly – all welcome! 9am in the hall.

Monday 29 th January	Bun Sale run by Year 4 (Y4 please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Monday 29 th January	* Y3 trip to Farnley Hall, near Otley (tree identification)
Thursday 1 st February	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Sunday 4 th February	Shire Oak Sunday – joining St Michael’s Church at their All Age Service, 10am.
Mon 5 th to Fri 9 th February	Reading Week will include a dress up day.
Friday 9 th February	Reception Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Saturday 10 th February to Sunday 18 th February. School closed for half term holiday.	
Monday 19 th February	‘Get into STEM’ (science, technology, engineering & maths) visitor for Y1/2
Wednesday 21 st February	Movie Night
Thursday 22 nd February	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Wed 28 th Feb & Thur 1 st March	Parents Evenings (&Y5/6 children)
Thursday 1 st March	Bun Sale run by Year 3 (Y3 please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Friday 2 nd March	Holi assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 7 th March	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Wed 7 th – Friday 9 th March	Lineham Farm residential for children in Year 4
Friday 16 th March	Year 5 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 26 th March	Bun Sale run by Year 2 (Y2 please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Wednesday 28 th March	Y3/4 Easter production dress rehearsal in front of the other children
Thursday 29 th March	Easter production. All welcome!
Friday 30 th March – Sunday 16 th April. School closed for Easter holiday.	
Wednesday 18 th April	Y1-Y6 reports to parents given out this week.
Thursday 19 th April	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Friday 20 th April	New to you/secondhand uniform sale after school
Thursday 26 th April	Bun Sale run by Year 1 (Y1 please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Friday 27 th April	Year 4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 1 st May	Year 2 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 7 th May school closed for the bank holiday.	
Mon 14 th –Fri 18 th May	KS2 SATs week for Year 6.
Saturday 19 th May	Spruce Up Shire Oak Groundforce work day
Monday 21 st May	Bun Sale run by Reception. (YR please bring in cakes, children can bring up to 50p)
Tuesday 22 nd May	Year 1 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 25 th May	Non – uniform day for items for summer fair at Headingley Youth Music Festival
Saturday 26 th – Sunday 3 rd June school closed for May half term holiday	
Saturday 9 th June	Headingley Youth Music Festival (including our summer fair) 12-4pm
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th June	Geography Mapping Week
Tuesday 12 th June	New Reception Parents meeting
Wednesday 13 th June	Reception class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 19 th June	Movie Night
Wednesday 20 th June	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Friday 22 nd June	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 at the start of the day.
Thursday 28 th June	Year 3 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 4 th July	Transition day
Monday 9 th July	Give out reports to parents this week.
Wednesday 11 th July	Music recital by children learning instruments. TBC.
Thursday 12 th July	Dress rehearsal (am)& evening performance for Y5/6 End of Year Production
Mon 16 th – Fri 20 th July	Learning through Sport Week (including swimming gala, TBC)
Monday 16 th July	Y3/4 Sports Day
Tuesday 17 th July	Y5/6 Sports Day
Wednesday 18 th July	Reception/Y1/Y2 Sports Day
Friday 20 th July	New to you/secondhand uniform sale after school
Tuesday 24 th July	Leavers’ Service, St Michael’s Church
Wednesday 25 th July	Last day of term before the summer holiday.
* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change	