



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been lovely to see the children back at school after the half term break and hear what they have been up to. It is also good to see them getting stuck back into their learning and trying hard in class. There are some very tired children today after the return to routine but with Bonfire Night thrown into the mix!

This week Year 4 delved deeper into their history topic when they had a special **Roman visitor** for the whole day. As well as exploring costumes and artefacts the children learned a lot about Roman times and used drama and talk to bring the topic to life.

This morning we have enjoyed sharing our learning about the Sikh religion and marking the **Birthday of Guru Nanak** in our special assembly. Thank you to all the friends and family who were able to join us today. It is important to us to learn about and learn from the major religions represented in Leeds and our school community.



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Schools in Headingley and Kirkstall are **collecting plastic bags** to give to a local **food bank** who use them to distribute food parcels. We would like to support this appeal as it is a good way for children to learn about food banks and that it is right to help our community when we are in a position to do so. It is a chance for us to explain the work of food banks in supporting anyone who finds they need some extra help and that these aren't 'other' people, but usually ordinary people with a run of unfortunate circumstances. Clean plastic bags can be brought into school and classes will arrange for them to be taken to my office for collection. Thank you for your support!

Class	Well done to these Superstars who have been chosen by staff who work with them. Year 6 monitors write down the comments on certificates as they are given out. This week teachers thought about children's learning in RE.
YR (Thames)	Liloh has settled in really well to Shire Oak and did some fantastic Divali dancing. Dylan is enthusiastic about our RE learning and always takes it into his area time. He made a fantastic Sukkah.
Y1 (Nile)	Ren contributes well in our RE lessons. Millie always tries hard in her independent RE work.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Ben makes thoughtful contributions to our RE lessons. Poppy had great ideas about how she could help people who need it.
Y3 (Rhine)	Maisie has been very thoughtful in RE and produced excellent work. Ben has been making thoughtful contributions in RE.
Y4 (Ganges)	Jennifer independently and thoroughly researched the places of worship in our local area and discussed what this tells us about our community. Clem demonstrated a focused attitude when exploring how different, important events are celebrated.
Y5 (Tigris)	Elliot and Alice H reflected on our forgiveness theme. Alice S has written a thoughtful prayer. Mali has a great eye for design.
Y6 (Amazon)	Jake for beautifully presented work in RE. Ella has produced reflective and considered work in RE.
Citizen of the Week was Georgie . She was nominated for following all the school rules and values. She is a good friend and sets a good example, by being a good house team captain. Well done!	

We are so lucky at Shire Oak to be a city school with good sized grounds and we are pleased our school community use them so well. Even with all that space, however, there are times when we need to organise who has priority where. On Tuesday nights we are very, very full in Acorn Club so it is really important to be able to **use the playground** outdoor space as soon as possible at the end of the school day. We are happy for your supervised children to stay and play, but

please take them round to the front of school so the Acorn Club staff can be clear who they are looking after! If rugby training is happening, the area near the fire pit is still available for adults to chat and children to play. Please don't be offended if Acorn Staff or texts give you a reminder about this from time to time! Whilst on the subject of sharing the grounds, please remember that it is usually only **guide dogs** allowed in our grounds. I know that some families bring the dog for a walk when collecting and dropping off the children, but please make sure that the dogs are left in a way that does not cause them – or any of our children – distress. We do have some children with a genuine fear of dogs so do not leave them anywhere that other people would have to pass them (e.g. right by the gates.) I know there can be security worries about leaving dogs away from the school grounds so there are two places where we make an exception and allow dogs to be tied up as they do not need to be passed by anyone on foot:

- Tied to the fence at the top of the field, halfway between the two pedestrian gates
- Tied to the fence between the drive to the car park and Wheatfields Hospice

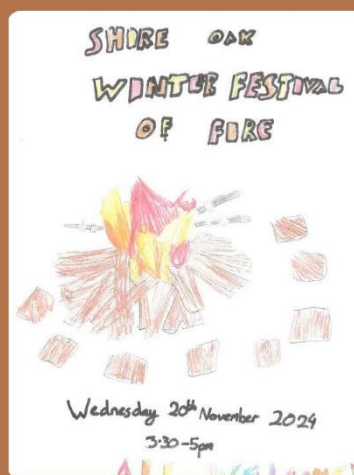
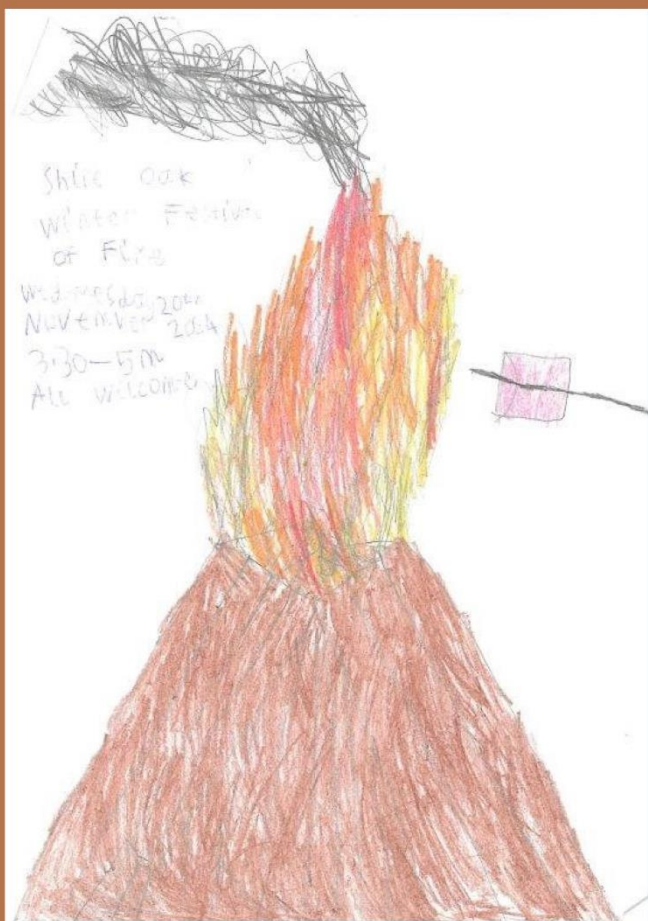
Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

It is lovely that there are **good parent networks** that support each other at Shire Oak. If you have another parent or carer who you call on to pick up when you are running late, please let the class staff know that they are always allowed to collect your child so that there isn't any confusion at the end of the day. (Year 5 and 6 are allowed to leave school independently.) Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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Winter Festival of Fire Posters by Y3



DIARY DATES

Monday 11 th November	KS2 drama workshops as part of Anti Bullying Fortnight which starts today
Monday 11 th November	An age appropriate act of remembrance will take place in school
Tuesday 12 th November	Individual photo day (prints will be back in good time for Christmas presents)
Friday 15 th November	Y6 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 15 th November *	Jeffrey Boakye UKS2 author event online
18 th & 19 th November	D:Side Internet Safety sessions
Tuesday 19 th November	Open Morning for prospective parents. Current parents also welcome to tour school.
Wed 20 th November	Winter Festival of Fire, straight after school. All welcome!
Friday 22 nd November	Year 5 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Tuesday 26 th November	PAFRAS assembly to launch Christmas appeal TBC
Tuesday 26 th November	Headingley Lights Switch On (usually gather at St Michael's from 5pm)
Thursday 28 th November	Y3 sports festival at Leeds University
Friday 29 th November	Stay and Play – join YR, Y1 & Y2 in class at the start of the day
2 nd to 4 th December	Y6 at Robinwood Residential school trip
Thursday 5 th December	Carol singing at Victoria Court 11am
Friday 6 th December	Y4 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 9 th December	Carol singing at Headingley Library, am.
Tuesday 10 th December	School nurses (flu spray)
Wed 11 th December	School nurses to visit YR and Y6 vision and growth checks
Wed 11 th December	Book Club trip to Leeds Playhouse to see The Lion, the Witch and The Wardrobe, pm.
Thursday 12 th December	R, Y1 and Y2 performing nativities to rest of school
Friday 13 th December	YR, Y1 and Y2 Nativities to parents and carers am and pm
Monday 16 th December	Christmas Discos & Reception Class movie night R/KS1 3:45- 4:45 & KS2 5-6pm <small>NEW DATE!</small>
Tuesday 17 th December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church am, all welcome.
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas school lunch (children who are on packed lunches can book this in advance)
Wed 18th December	Christmas Discos and Reception Class movie night R/KS1 3:45- 4:45 & KS2 5-6pm
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas party day, with entertainer and party food at lunch (can be prebooked)
Friday 20 th December	Last day of term. Acorn Club will close at 4pm today.
(Sunday 22 nd December)	Nine Lessons and Carols service at St Michael's Church, 6:30pm. All welcome.
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY no school for children 23 rd December to 3 rd January. Art Camp my offer activities	
Thursday 9 th January	Open Morning for prospective parents. Current parents also welcome to tour school.
13-15 th January	Y4 at Herd Farm Residential school trip
Friday 17 th January	Year 1 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Monday 20 th January	WW2 day (online) Y6
Wednesday 22 nd January	Reception Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Thursday 23 rd January	TRAINING DAY School closed to children
Friday 31 st January	Stay and Play – join YR, Y1 & Y2 in class at the start of the day
Monday 3 rd February	Canals & Rivers Trust water safety assemblies
Tuesday 4 th February	Y5 trip to York
Tuesday 4 th February	Reception Class parents meeting about maths 2:15 TBC
Friday 7 th February	Y6 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 12 th February	Y4 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
HALF TERM no school for children 17 th to 21 st February. Art Camp will run a playscheme.	
Friday 28 th February	Stay and Play – join YR, Y1 & Y2 in class at the start of the day
Tuesday 4 th March	Shrove Tuesday pancake day sale after school
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day (dressing up as a favourite character, etc. TBC)
Friday 7 th March	Y5 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
10 th and 11 th March	Science workshops as part of British Science Week
Friday 14 th March	Shire Oak science fair as part of British Science Week
Sunday 16 th March	Shire Oak Sunday 10am – all welcome to join this All Age Service at St Michael's
27 th & 28 th March	Easter visits to St Michael's Church TBC this week or next week
Thursday 3 rd April	Y3 and Y4 Easter production to the rest of school

Friday 4 th April	Y3 and Y4 Easter production to parents, carers, etc.
EASTER HOLIDAY no school for children 7 th April to 21 st April. Art Camp will run a playscheme.	
Tuesday 22 nd April	TRAINING DAY School closed to children
23 rd , 24 th & 25 th April	Y2 Intensive Swimming course, followed by weekly lessons
28 th and 29 th April	D:Side sessions on medicines, alcohol and drug safety
Friday 2 nd May	YR Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 9 th May	Y1 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 9 th May	Y2 Great Fire of London workshop
12 th to 16 th May	KS2 SATs week for Year 6
Friday 16 th May	Y2 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
19 th – 23 rd May	Bikeability training & assessment for Y6. Start building cycling confidence to be ready!
Friday 23 rd May	Y3 Class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Wednesday 21 st May	NSPCC workshops Y2, Y5 and Y6 TBC
HALF TERM no school for children 26 th to 30 th May. Art Camp will run a playscheme.	
2 nd to 6 th June	Green Week, including pedestrian, scooter and bike safety. TBC
Wednesday 4 th June	House Team Hobby Half Day TBC
Wednesday 4 th June	RSE information meeting for parents in Y5 and Y6 5pm TBC
Thursday 5 th June	Class photo day
Friday 6 th June	Year 5 trip to the recycling plant
Wednesday 11 th June	TRAINING DAY School closed to children
Thursday 12 th June	Eid Assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
Friday 13 th June	Non uniform day in return for an item (or two) for the HYMF tombola please
Tuesday 17 th June	Meeting for new parents/carers of Reception intake 2025 followed by home visits
Tuesday 17 th June	Y5 trip to water treatment plant pm.
Saturday 21 st June 12-4pm	Headingley Youth Music Festival, run by our school in our grounds. All our children are in the choir and often other performances, so please avoid planning parties for this day!
30 th June – 11 th July	Learning through Sport Fortnight
Tuesday 1 st July	Transition visits to new classes (1 st and 2 nd Lawnswood transition days)
Friday 4 th July	Music recital for children learning an instrument in or out of school 9:30am
Monday 7 th July	Sports Day Y5/6 @1:15pm TBC
Tuesday 8 th July	Sports Day YR/1/2 @9:15am TBC
Wednesday 9 th July	Sports Day Y3/4 @1:15pm TBC
14 th – 18 th July	Y2 Intensive Swimming course, followed by weekly lessons all year in Y3
Wednesday 16 th July	Y5/6 production to rest of school & grandparents/carers of alternate roles
Thursday 17 th July	Y5/6 production to parents and carers evening
Monday 21 st July	Leavers' Service 10:30am at St Michael's Church
Tuesday 22 nd July	Leavers' ten pin bowling trip
SUMMER HOLIDAY no school for children 23 rd July to 29 th August. Art Camp will run a playscheme.	
TERM 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 set to be confirmed and may have to change.

Photo day on Tuesday!
Winter Festival of Fire the
Wednesday after next!