



Dear Parents and Carer

SHIRE OAK
C of E (VC) Primary School



Thank you to the parents, carers, grandparents and Kidzone staff who were able to join us this morning for **Stay and Play** in Reception and Key Stage One. We like the opportunity Stay and Play gives families to see the children's learning environment and talk to the teachers in an informal way. Instead of always being crafts and games we are trying this year to use Stay and Play more to let you know about learning across the whole curriculum. Today's theme was Relax and Read.

Thank you also to the **Year 1 parents** who came to the meeting on Wednesday evening. Do not worry if you weren't able to make it: We know that when children start Reception you have lots of opportunities to get into the classroom and meet the staff so we are trying to make sure that when children start Key Stage One you do feel that you know what it looks like for the children in their class, you know the staff who work with them and a bit about the curriculum. If you couldn't come then you could pop in after school on Monday or arrange another time with the teacher(s). (KS1 is what used to be called Infants and is Years One and Two)

Thank you also to the **Year 3 parents** who came to the transition meetings yesterday after school. Children moving to Key Stage Two (KS2 used to be called Juniors and is Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.) is another time of change so Ian Martin offers these meetings to make sure children are settling in well.

If you came to the meeting(s) don't feel daunted by the ideas for **helping your child at home!** For all children in school the 2 priorities are sitting down to talk (perhaps over dinner) and reading to them. Next on the list would be listening to them read and practising their Maths Passport targets and spellings - and only if there is time and energy left over might you look at some of the other ideas. We have sent home Homework Leaflets today in Years 1-6 with a reminder of these key activities, ideas for other tasks and a prompt for the 'big project' that they have a number of weeks to complete.

What a rainy week! Unusually for Shire Oak we had two '**wet playtimes**' when the children had to do activities inside instead of going outside for their break. During wet lunchtimes the youngest children will often be together in the Community Room (where Kidzone are based) and will perhaps have a DVD. Older children are in their classrooms where they have access to books, games and sometimes the computers. This can be frustrating for children who love physical exercise, so I am very pleased with how they coped with this change.

I have seen lots of **lovely learning** in classes this week. Year 4 have been making panpipes in science as they have been



investigating how to make high notes and low notes. The children all made their own instrument and ended the lesson with a pan pipe concert as they played higher notes on the short straws and lower notes on the longer straws.



Year 5 enjoyed their second trip of the term on Wednesday when they were invited to '**Cricket in the Classroom**' at Headingley Carnegie Stadium. They enjoyed improving their cricket skills, learning about Yorkshire's place in the history of cricket – and even caught some of the Yorkshire/Sussex Test Match! Well done Y5 – great Shire Oak ambassadors on your day out!

FOSOPS (Friends of Shire Oak Primary School) is our PTA but is open to everyone in our community. FOSOPS arrange a number of social and fun events throughout the year and also raise money for extras. They are a friendly and ever-changing group of people so if you can join them at their next **meeting on Monday**, please do. They meet after drop off in the morning in the Community Room (where Kidzone are based.) Smaller siblings are welcome too – some of the toys they have played with in the past are tidied away so you may want to bring something they enjoy doing.

At Shire Oak we celebrate the children's achievements in lots of ways. We smile, say thank you, give praise, tell children what they are getting right and what they are doing to improve. We give out stickers (particularly when we are getting the younger children into good habits) but most often we give out House Team points when children have put in extra effort, been extra kind, or done something that really showed them at their best. We use house team points in every class (Reception may not quite have started with this yet) but if the class are working on a target together like settling to work very quickly, then they may be recording their progress using something like circles to colour in or marbles in a jar. They will have agreed a reward they are working towards (an extra game of heads down, thumbs up or a cool science video on the interactive whiteboard, for example.)

At lunchtime children are rewarded raffle tickets for trying to eat new foods, lovely manners, helping others, playing good games, etc. The tickets collected during the week are drawn in the **Lunchtime Lottery** during SuperStars assembly (a ticket per class). The children then get to eat their lunch at the special table, queue-jump to get their dinner, have a special plate and then choose a special dessert treat from the box. In Tuesday's **SuperStars assembly** we also give out SuperStars certificates for special achievements, the Citizen of the Week award (for children who live out our values) and share other awards and achievements from outside school.

I am sorry we did not include last week's SuperStars in the newsletter. Here they are!

Class	Well done to last week's Superstars who were chosen by the staff in their class:
YR (Thames)	Not yet coming to this assembly.
Y1 (Nile)	Leilani has settled in well and tries hard everyday and Rylan has made a great start to the year.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Khi has shown a grown up attitude in Y2 and Skye is an excellent role model.
Y3 (Rhine)	Ayanda has made a great start to the year and so has Logan .
Y4 (Ganges)	Kelsey joins in with class discussions and Fred is a great role model.
Y5 (Tigris)	Leon has been a great role model to others on how to work and Coco has a great attitude to working and is an example to others.
Y6 (Amazon)	Kera had an amazing start to Y6 and Siraj is showing a mature attitude in Y6.
Class	Well done to this week's Superstars who have been chosen by the staff in their class:
YR (Thames)	Not yet coming to this assembly.
Y1 (Nile)	Rafi is following instructions well and so is Matilda .
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	Hannah is challenging herself and Emaya always follows instructions and tries her best.
Y3 (Rhine)	Milo has started the year with a positive attitude and so has Kyarna .
Y4 (Ganges)	Lily enjoys many aspects of school and Jago is making a good contribution to the class.
Y5 (Tigris)	Archie is displaying an excellent attitude in class and Francesca is putting 100% effort into all learning.
Y6 (Amazon)	Leo has a great attitude and works well in every lesson. Kenyon has started the year with a new level of maturity.

Citizen of the Week is Oscar J in Year 6 who was nominated for being a good role model and patient, helpful buddy to the new Reception children.

Thanks also to the children who are taking on the tricky job of writing down what certificates are awarded for, so that I can put them in the newsletter and keep a record.

PC Jamie has asked me to promote the **Go Try Sport Facebook page**: <https://www.facebook.com/Go-Try-Sport-Leeds-105491566470291/timeline/> It features various pieces of information about free sport in the Leeds area and has a short video clip showing some of the activities undertaken in the local Cluster Multi-Activity Club over the summer.

Wow! What a lot of amazing donations we received for the **Refugee Crisis** appeal. We had to leave the tent up longer to cope with all the items that were promised. Thank you so much – two large vanloads of items have gone

today to start their onwards journeys to where they are needed most. The children have been very thoughtful and loving in their responses so we are looking to join in with Project Paddington in the run up to Christmas – a scheme that pairs children with teddies sent by children with a message.

I hope you have a great weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane
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Did you know?

The room that Kidzone uses as a base has had a makeover! We are trying to remember to call it the **Community Room** to reflect all the ways it is used during the day and evening. Kidzone have sole use before and after school and during playschemes. During the day we use it for groupwork, family meetings, philosophy, Children’s Centre adult learning courses and whenever we need an extra space in school.

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.)

DIARY DATES

Monday 28 th September	*	FOSOPS meeting, 9am in the Community Room (Kidzone). All welcome!
Tuesday 29 th September		Y2 trip to Waitrose, Meanwood as part of their Food Glorious Food topic
Wednesday 30 th October	*	Y1 trip to Waitrose, Meanwood as part of their Food Glorious Food topic
Thursday 1 st October		Meeting about reading & phonics for new Reception parents/carers. 2:15pm
Friday 2 nd October		Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 7 th October		Individual and sibling school photographs
Wednesday 14 th October		House Team Hobby Half Day
Thursday 15 th October		Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Thursday 15 th October		Cricket in the Classroom trip to Headingley, Y6
Friday 16 th October		Harvest Festival, 9am. All welcome. We will be collecting food donations.
Tues 20 th & Wed 21 st October		Parent/Carer Consultation Evenings
Thursday 22 nd October		Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Thursday 22 nd October	*	Movie Night
Friday 23 rd October		TRAINING DAY – school closed to children. Child Protection refresher training.
26 th - 30 th October		HALF TERM BREAK. Kidzone may be running a holiday playscheme.
Saturday 31 st October		Deadline for applying for high school places (current Y6). You can book an appointment with the office staff to help with this if, for example, you can’t get online
Friday 6 th November		Divali Assembly, 9am, whole school. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 11 th November		Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 11 th November		Meeting about maths for new Reception parents/carers. 6pm.
Thursday 12 th November		Geography Quiz Day

Friday 13 th November	Children in Need day. (School Council will decide what we are going to do.)
Mon 16 th - Fri 20 th November *	Anti Bullying Week 2015. <i>Make a Noise About Bullying</i> is the theme this year.
Tuesday 17 th November	Open Morning. 9:15- 11:30. All current and prospective parents/carers welcome.
Tuesday 17 th November	Open Evening. 6pm. Prospective parents/carers of Reception intake 2016 welcome.
Thursday 19 th November	Year 5 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Thursday 19 th November *	'Bullied' theatre show and workshops, afternoon
Friday 20 th November	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Friday 27 th November	Birthday of Guru Nanak assembly, 9am, whole school. All welcome.
Wednesday 9 th December	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas nativity productions.
9 th – 11 th December	Year 6 Residential to Robinwood, Todmorden.
Friday 11 th December	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Tuesday 15 th December	Christmas Carol Service, 10:30am. St Michael's Church. All welcome.
21 st December – 1 st January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.
Monday 4 th January	TRAINING DAY – TBC
5 th – 8 th January	Switched On Shire Oak Week
Thursday 7 th January	Open Morning. 9:15- 11:30. All current and prospective parents/carers welcome.
Thursday 14 th January	Year 6 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 15 th January	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 20 th January	House Team Hobby Half Day
Friday 29 th January	Year 2 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
1 st -5 th February	STEM (science, tech, engineering & maths) Club Week. TBC
Thursday 4 th February	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome. (STEM focus)
Tuesday 9 th February	FOSOPS Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday) event straight after school
Friday 12 th February	Reception Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
15 – 19 February	HALF TERM BREAK. Kidzone may run a holiday playscheme.
Friday 4 th March	Year 5 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Friday 11 th March	Stay and Play, 8:50am in Rec/Y1 & Y2. Parents and Carers welcome.
Wednesday 23 rd March	Easter Production by Years 3 and 4. All welcome.
Thursday 24 th March	TRAINING DAY – TBC
Fri 25 th & Mon 28 th March	Good Friday and Easter Monday. School closed.
30 th March – 1 st April	Year 4 Residential to Bewerley Park
4 th – 15 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
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.
Wednesday 18 th May	Year 1 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 18 th May	House Team Hobby Half Day
Wednesday 25 th May	Geography Mapping Day
30 th May – 3 rd June	HALF TERM BREAK. Kidzone may run a holiday playscheme.
Friday 10 th June	Year 4 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
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.
Friday 24 th June	Reception Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
Wednesday 29 th June	Year 3 Class Assembly, 9am. Friends and family welcome.
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.
Wed 13 th & Thurs 14 th July	Year 6 production, supported by Year 5.
18 th to 22 nd July	Sport for Life Week TBC
Thursday 21 st July	End of year concert, 1:30pm. TBC
Tuesday 26 th July	Leavers' Service, 10:30am, St Michael's Church. All welcome.

* means added or changed since last newsletter

TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change