



Dear Parents and Carers

## SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

Thank you very much to everyone who has filled in the **parents' survey**. We are planning our priorities for next year and it is so helpful to find out what is working well for families and what could be better. Some of the changes we have had to make this year due to COVID have turned out to be positive and we would like to keep (e.g. more regular cleaning throughout the school day and stricter handwashing before lunch) whilst others have been a genuine loss (e.g. not being able to invite parents in for Open Days, Stay and Play, etc.) If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to fill in the survey today to let us know what you have missed or appreciated this year. For new Reception parents it may be that you don't fully know how we normally run things – each question has an optional comment box so that you can give more detail. <https://forms.gle/SdNnEdqWcG5GRDSz6>

One of the things we have missed this year is the feeling of occasion that a class assembly brings, but I am pleased that



children and staff have worked hard to produce videos this year as an alternative – please make sure you have seen the ones from your child's class. This week Year 3 have shared their learning in a lovely virtual assembly so please do find the time to sit and enjoy it and give your child the round of applause they deserve!

Those of you who have followed the Prime Minister's announcement about the easing of restrictions will know that the **road map date has been delayed**. Happily,

that does not affect our plans for Year 6 residential, but it does change some of the other things we were hoping to do as we are continuing to work to our existing system of controls. Furthermore, as case numbers have risen in the area we are keen to minimise the numbers of people identified as close contacts should a member of our community test positive for Covid. (It also doesn't seem fair to invite people into our grounds for social events when children still can't play with siblings and friends in other bubbles during the day!) We are going to be prioritising **transition** events as these will have the greatest impact on children's subsequent schooling. We have therefore moved the meeting element for new Reception parents online, but have organised socially distanced opportunities to come and see our Early Years setting. New Reception children will still have the chance to come and do settling in sessions, but we will encourage home visits to be held outdoors if at all possible. We also think it is very important that Year 6 get to celebrate their time at primary school and get the send off they deserve so that they take that pride with them on their next steps. In conjunction with St Michael's Church we are arranging the Leavers' Service for the end of the year but the congregation will be limited to Year 6, Year 5 and parents of Year 6 children. Together with Year 5 they are busy starting to rehearse The Tempest as their end of year production and we are planning for either an audience or a video, depending on what can securely be arranged at that point – we will keep you posted! As last year, Sports Days will go ahead for all our children but it is very unlikely that we will be able to invite parents. What is usually a relaxed event would be very much changed by us having to rigidly police groups of 30 and keep track of the contact tracing information! We will be trying to take photographs and possibly videos that we can share with you.

An important part of learning to **play music** is performing for an audience. Whilst we cannot gather the whole school in



the hall, it is still our intention to share performances by all the children who are learning to play an instrument, either at home or at school. We will be making a special video of our annual **music recital** and watching it in class as well as sharing it with parents. It doesn't matter how long children have been learning or what level they are – if they can play a piece that they have practised and take pride in, they can join in. Ideally children should introduce themselves and the

piece they are playing at the start of the video, "Hello, my name is XX and I am going to play XX for you." (unless they should not say their name online – videos from behind their head are fine to preserve anonymity where that is appropriate.)

Please send videos to me for editing together, either to my email address or by sharing to my Google Classroom [msdevane@shireoak.online](mailto:msdevane@shireoak.online)

Thank you to parents for applying **long lasting sun cream** to children in the morning and supplying **sun hats** for children. We are fortunate that we have shaded areas outdoors for some of the very hot days we have had recently. It is fine to send sun cream with children who may need to reapply it during the day, particularly those who are going swimming – hats and clothing are generally more reliable protection though! On Sports Days they will need suncream and a t shirt in their house team colours, if they have one. (We supply coloured bands to wear over their PE t-shirts if not.) Obviously, we are not being super strict about uniform at this stage in the school year, but for September can I remind you that PE kits are plain white or purple t-shirts with black shorts (jogging bottoms or leggings can also be worn for outdoor PE). Football strips, etc. are not allowed – whatever your child may be telling you! Thanks for your help.

Class	Well done to recent Superstars who have been chosen by staff in their class.
YR (Thames)	<b>Nicolas</b> is very kind and always encourages his friends. <b>Fox</b> is making great progress in his learning. <b>Woody</b> is trying really hard with his writing. <b>Anya</b> knew lots about recycling and shared it with the class.
Y1 (Nile)	<b>Robyn</b> is always cheerful and is a great friend to others. <b>Levi</b> tries so hard with all his learning. This week he wrote a fantastic riddle about a mystery animal. <b>Neve</b> worked imaginatively in Green Week making amazing models. <b>Lexi</b> worked hard in Green Week, sharing books, writing and making models.
Y2 (Aruvi Aru)	<b>Rory</b> during Green Week produced some very thoughtful pieces of writing based upon our learning. During our focus on road safety <b>Bill</b> demonstrated excellent listening skills and supported his peers.
Y3 (Rhine)	<b>Clara</b> has been working very hard at home. <b>Alek</b> has been working hard to do his best writing and has made great word choices. <b>Emily</b> is showing a really positive attitude to her maths.
Y4 (Ganges)	<b>Amirali</b> has put lots of effort into his English. <b>April</b> has been showing a positive attitude to her work. <b>Olive</b> worked really well in a team at Lineham Farm; she gave ideas and listened to others. <b>Frankie</b> showed fantastic leadership skills at Lineham Farm; she was a great role model. ( <b>All of Y4</b> were superstars at Lineham Farm!)
Y5 (Tigris)	<b>Kienna</b> has been trying hard. <b>Joe</b> has persevered and kept going with his comprehension tasks. <b>Coco</b> made thoughtful contributions in Green Week. <b>Rose</b> wore a great upcycled outfit for Green Week.
Y6 (Amazon)	<b>Ania</b> for her attitude to learning and how she enjoys it and is a great example to all. <b>Frankie</b> has put lots of effort into his writing. <b>Fred</b> has put in top work during The Tempest English project. <b>Isobel</b> as she has challenged herself by being brave in unfamiliar situations.
<b>Well done to all the children who have achieved their next Maths Passport continent and are travelling on to the next one</b> – there are too many to record here, but they have been celebrated in assembly and have brought home their certificates. Special mention goes to <b>Charlie R-B</b> who is the first person in Y3 to complete Australasia!	
<b>Citizens of the Week</b> were <b>Mason</b> who, as well as being a good big brother to his new baby, is making good choices in his behaviour and his learning and <b>Connie</b> , who is always very kind. Well done!	

Have a great weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

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#### DIARY DATES

Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	*	New Reception parents meeting on Zoom
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June		Writing Week including Windrush stories, poetry day and more!
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June		Poetry work with Andy Craven-Griffiths
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	*	Drop-ins for new Reception families to see the classroom and outside area
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June		Y1/2 trip to Filey
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	*	Y3 trip to Otley Chevin and Almscliffe Crag
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> June		Skiping Celebration Day for KS1 following several weeks of Skip into Summer workshops
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> June		Abbey Grange transition day for Y6 into Y7
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June		Cardinal Heenan transition day for Y6 into Y7
<del>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June</del>		<del>After School family event including barbecue TBC ☹️</del>
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> – Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> July		Year 6 residential to Waddow Hall.

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	*	Additional drop-in time for new Reception families to visit the classroom, etc. if away earlier
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> July		Role models in sport assembly
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> & Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> July		Lawnswood transition days (this may now be one day)
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July		Shire Oak transition day including new Reception Stay and Play TBC
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> July		Abbey Grange, Ralph Thoresby & Leeds City transition days for Y6 into Y7
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July		TRAINING DAY – this is the last one to be scheduled this year. We were previously unable to book the training we had planned, which is why this is later notice than usual.
w/c 12 <sup>th</sup> July	*	The Scrap Shed should be arriving!
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July		(Virtual) visit from Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell to Year 5 and Year 6
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> July		Sports Day for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 am TBC
13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> July		Carr Manor transition days for Y6 into Y7
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July		Year 3 and Year 4 Sports Day pm TBC
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Closing date for Wonder Day competition entries
<del>14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> July</del>		<del>Prince Henry's transition days for Y6 into Y7</del>
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July		Year 5 and Year 6 Sports Day am TBC
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July		City of Leeds transition day for Y6 into Y7 (*now virtual)
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	*	Prince Henry's transition day for Y6 into Y7
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July		Year 5/6 Performances to school (pm) and parents/carers (evening) TBC
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	*	Leavers' Service at St Michael's Church 10:30am
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July		Last day of term including end of year assembly
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> July		These two days will be taken as Training Days as we have not been able to book our training in person earlier in the year.
(Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> July	*)	Wonder Day at HEART. Our children's competition entries will be displayed
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	*	TRAINING DAY (school closed to children)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	*	Nasal Flu vaccinations
27 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	*	Lineham Farm residential for Year 4
<a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar</a> term dates		
* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change.		

**Wonder Day!**

A DAY OF ACTIVITIES,  
WORKSHOPS AND FUN FOR  
ALL AGES AT HEART!

**SATURDAY 31ST JULY 2021**  
**10AM - 4PM**

BOUNCY CASTLE • FILM • GAMES  
CRAFTS • CAFE • CIRCUS SKILLS  
AND LOTS MORE!

Child-Friendly  
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heart  
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