



Dear Parents and Carers

SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

The highlight of this week – and perhaps this time of the year – was our **Winter Festival of Fire** on Wednesday after school. Thanks to our staff and parent volunteers we enjoyed a roaring fire, toasted marshmallows and crumpets, gorgeous cakes, warming food and drinks, nature and seasonal inspired crafts, carol and Christmas song singing, sparklers and our reflection tent. We were proud of our current and former pupils who had their own entrepreneurial and charity stalls selling their homemade crafts. We enjoyed meeting future Shire Oak families. As usual, most of the activities were free so that all our community can take part, but from your donations and purchases of food and second hand uniform we raised over £370 and a further £50 was raised for the UK Sepsis Trust. Well done and thank you to everyone who made this event possible.



We are very aware that it is the families of our youngest children that have missed out the most on events of this kind in the last two school years. Current Reception Class did not have in person Open Mornings and current Year One missed out on some of the usual getting to know you activities. Therefore it is worth mentioning that next week and January see our **Open Mornings** resuming. Although aimed at prospective parents, if you have not had a chance to look round school you are welcome to join us. All the children from Year 6 work in pairs to lead very honest tours of school, starting from the

school hall. Do not worry if you cannot join us as we will continue to offer Stay and Play sessions and hope to resume class assemblies in the new year and other chances to come into school and see how your child is learning.



This morning our children shared their learning about and learning from the Sikh religion as we marked the **Birth** of **Guru Nanak** with a special assembly. We enjoyed the banners, singing, and fact-sharing as we spent time together.

This week Year 5 had a special peak at the **Durham University** collection of Anglo Saxon artefacts (including the Lindisfarne Gospels!) in their online lesson earlier this week. They found it all fascinating and engaged well, even though they were at a distance. Remote learning has opened up learning opportunities that were previously too far away to access. Other online learning materials were useful when Mrs Sharon Hall prepared her recent assembly about COP26. I am pleased to say that some of the children were so keen to carry on with environmental learning and action that they have formed a lunchtime **Eco Club** with Mrs Hall. I look forward to seeing what they teach us.



I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane janead@shireoak.leeds.sch.uk

DIARY DATES

Tues 23 rd November	Open Morning for prospective parents between 9:15 and 11:15am
Mon 29 th November	Y6 Viking Visitor
Tues 30 th November	Headingley Christmas lights switch on and carol singing at/outside St Michael's Church
1 st - 3 rd December	Year 6 Residential trip to Robinwood
Thursday 2 nd December	FOSOPS meeting 9:30am over Zoom (all welcome!)
Friday 3 rd December	After school hot chocolate sale in the hall
Wed 8 th December	School nurses (YR & Y6) for Nat Ch Measurement Programme & distance vision screening
Thursday 9 th December	Y4 trip to the Media Museum in Bradford
Thursday 9 th December	Reception and KS1 Nativity productions TBC
Tuesday 14 th December	Carol Service at St Michaels' Church
Tuesday 14 th December*	School Christmas dinner
Tuesday 14 th December	Book Club visit to watch Peter Pan at Leeds Playhouse in the afternoon d
Wed 15 th December *	Christmas discos after school, Y1 Y2 Y3 straight after school until 4:30pm. Y4 Y5 Y6 4:45 – 6:00pm Reception Class will have Movie Night straight after school
Thurs 16 th December	Christmas party food lunch (children with packed lunches can also bring treats today)
Friday 17 th December	Alive & Kicking Christmas drama
Thursday 6 th January *	Open morning for prospective parents between 9:15 and 11:15am
Thursday 20 th January	Y1 trip to Abbey House Museum
Thursday 20 th January *	Homework hand in day for Years 1-6
Sunday 13 th February	Shire Oak Sunday St Michael's Church (we are invited to take part in the All Age Service)
Monday 14 th March	Y3 visit to Herd Farm for Stone Age topic
27 th – 29 th April 2022	Lineham Farm residential for Year 4
9 th to 12 th May 2022	KS2 SATs (Year 6)
16 th to 20 th May 2022	Bikeability for Year 6
23 rd /24 th May	D:side sessions on medicines, alcohol and drugs TBC
Friday 27 th May 2022 *	Y6 trip to Ledston for Woodland Sessions
https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar term dates	