

Dear Parents and Carers

The sun may not have been shining, but we did manage to hold Y3/4 and then Y5/6 Sports Days in the end. Thank you to all the friends and family who came to support and well done to the children who competed cheerfully, roared for their teams and tried their best.



Eagle-eyed newspaper readers may have noticed our own **Hilary Whitehead** in a recent edition of the Yorkshire Evening Post. They ran a competition to find the stars of our schools and our nomination was shortlisted as she has made such a great contribution to the children of Headingley for many, many years. There isn't an online version of the article, but we have framed a copy for Hilary. At the Leavers' Service yesterday we also presented her with the school bell that she has been ringing all these years (actually a WW2 ARP bell!) with an inscription to remember us by. We have not made a permanent appointment to the position of Learning Mentor yet. We are happy, however, in the interim, to introduce Jane Hinchliffe to you. Jane was the Senior Family Outreach Worker in the INW Hub Cluster that we were part of and we have asked her to cover some of the family support, mentoring and safeguarding responsibilities that Hilary carried out. She will be on the playground in the morning, along with Lawrence Nash (our behaviour support worker) to chat to parents and to be a point of contact to let us know if your child is worried, upset or finding things difficult for any



reason. You can, of course, always speak to your child's teacher, myself or Marcelle Maver as well.

On Friday we welcomed some special visitors to our rugby presentation assembly. Part of our end of year celebrations always include certificates and awards for the rugby players who are leaving us and going to high school. This year there was an extra award for the whole school. We have been awarded the **Ben Bateson Award for School Rugby League**. This cup is awarded for good sporting attitudes and effort and has been won by us because of the way our mixed and girls teams have conducted themselves and tried hard over the last couple of years. Steve Boothroyd and



Steve Bateson (Ben's son) came to present the trophy and were impressed when we asked all the children involved in rugby at Shire Oak to stand up... they had never seen a school with such high participation numbers in KS2! Thank you to Ian Martin for his commitment to rugby at our school and to all the children who turn up to train and play in all weathers.

We are proud of all our adult volunteers who give up so much time to help children with extra-curricular activities and to the children who make the best possible use of the opportunities on offer.

Well done to Year 6 who wrote some wonderfully descriptive, funny and thoughtful memories of their time at Shire Oak. They played for us on the way in and out of church (and assembly this morning) as well as singing together for us. It was good to be together at St Michael's yesterday for the **Leavers' Service** to celebrate their time at Shire Oak and wish them well for their next steps. Thank you to everyone who joined us and particularly to the families of Y6 who have supported us so well for the last seven years.

Thank you to FOSOPS (and particularly Liz Craven and Carmel Turner) for supporting the children's end of year **celebrations**. The Just Dance games, conga and other fun disco activities were particularly appreciated on Monday afternoon, although each class has had its own unique twist on the festivities and Year 6 still have their final celebration yet to come!

Thank you to all the children, families, staff, volunteers, governors, students and colleagues who work so hard to make Shire Oak a good place to learn and grow. I hope you all have a lovely summer with plenty of rest and relaxation ready for a new year in September.

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DIARY DATES

Thurs 27 th July to Fri 1 st Sept	SUMMER HOLIDAYS. School closed to children. Kidzone may run a playscheme.
Monday 4 th September	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Tuesday 5 th September	First day of term. (10 youngest Reception class start today – morning only)
Wednesday 6 th September	Next 10 Reception class children start today – morning only
Wednesday 6 th September *	Transition meeting for parents of children going up to Y1 at 5:15pm.
Thursday 7 th September	Final group of Reception class children start today – morning only
Friday 8 th September	Reception Class stay for lunch for the first time. Parents/carers may join them if they wish.
Monday 11 th September *	Drop-in transition appointments for parents of children going up to Y3 3pm-6pm.
Thursday 14 th September	Judo workshops
Tuesday 26 th September *	Stay and Play for parents/carers of Reception, Y1 and Y2 at the start of the day.
Wednesday 27 th September *	Phonics and reading meeting for new Reception Class parents/carers TBC
Friday 29 th September *	Alive and Kicking theatre group working with Y4 (linked to Stone Age)
Monday 2 nd October *	Alive and Kicking theatre group working with Y3 (linked to Stone Age)
Thursday 5 th October *	Y1 class assembly – all welcome! 9am in the hall.
Friday 6 th October *	Harvest Festival, 9am (hall). All welcome. Please bring a non-perishable food gift.
Thursday 12 th October *	Stay and Play for parents/carers of Reception, Y1 and Y2 at the start of the day.
Thursday 12 th October *	Individual school photos
Friday 13 th October *	Y4 class assembly – all welcome! 9am in the hall.
Tues 17 th & Wed 18 th October*	Parents and Carers Consultation evenings after school. All children have an appointment. Children in Y5 and Y6 are expected to attend with their adult.
Friday 20 th October	TRAINING DAY school closed to children TBC
Monday 6 th November *	Anti bullying theatre show
Thursday 23 rd November	TRAINING DAY school closed to children THIS WILL BE RESCHEDULED
Tuesday 2 nd January	TRAINING DAY school closed to children
Wednesday 20 th June	TRAINING DAY school closed to children