



Dear Parents and Carers

SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

I can't believe quite how much there is to fit into this newsletter! I know that I missed last week's edition, but even with a training day this week just look at the list of activities that have been going on this **last fortnight**:

- Two Reception Class trips – one to Leeds Beckett University garden and one to Harewood House
- Orienteering trips for Upper KS2 as part of our geography themed fortnight
- Music and storytelling for Year 5 from a British/Danish duo, sponsored by Headingley Music Festival
- Reception Class assembly – a great showcase of their confidence, acting skills and progress
- Children from our school carrying the flag at the Rhinos v St Helen's match
- Headingley Open Gardens – thank you to Jill Dickinson for her work welcoming weekend visitors to the school grounds
- Movie Night – thank you to the staff who stayed to run this event
- Stay and Play this morning – thank you for coming
- Girls' tag rugby tournament
- Meetings for the new Reception Class starting in September
- Headingley Youth Music Festival – a very successful day!

I will try my best to include as much as possible, but won't be able to fit it all in!

Mr Martin writes: The **Year 6 girls tag rugby team** took part in Leeds Rhinos tournament at Crawshaw High School with games against Shadwell, St Augustines and St Barts. Despite the warm Alpine winds blowing grit and crisp packets across the highlands of Pudsey, the team became more focused with each game. Both their reactions and their game



awareness improved significantly and by game three, spectators on the side lines had got used to Phoebe's runs through the middle and Evelyn's tenacious tackling. At the end of the tournament, captain Natalie collected well-earned certificates on behalf of all the girls who had taken part. Well played all and thanks to Miss Smith for your support.

In further rugby news, on Friday night 11 of our school rugby team had the opportunity to get out on to the Headingley pitch before the big game between Leeds Rhinos and St Helens. Their calm under pressure, their teamwork and their strength in **carrying the huge flag** across

the pitch inspired the young Rhinos team to a great performance against the league leaders, even though Saints eventually triumphed with a late drop goal. As ever, we can be very proud of our rugby team



at Shire Oak who continue to be excellent ambassadors for our school.



At this time of year you can find children at Shire Oak learning indoors and outdoors. Y1 have been busy enjoying a **geography trail** in our school grounds and also learning about the

Muslim festival of **Eid al-Fitr**. You can always tell when children have found a topic interesting, because they use it in their play with their friends and classmates, like these children in the home corner.



Year 2 have also been very busy. As well as swimming three times a week they have still been carrying on with their learning across the whole curriculum. Recently Mrs Sharon Hall challenged them all to **design and create** something new from a plastic bottle and then make it. It turned into a bit of a competition and our caretaker Miss Liz Craven was drafted in to judge the winners this week both for the creation itself, and how true it was to the original plan. All the children received a certificate and small prize for their efforts.

Just before half term, Year 6 enjoyed a special day of learning outdoors on a **countryside schools day**. They learned all about bees (dressing up in beekeeper suits and tasting honey) and later made beeswax candles to bring home. They also learnt about willow weaving and had great fun trying to make their own baskets. There was a lot to see and enjoy as they walked round in the glorious sunshine. Thanks to Mrs Flanagan for organising this unique trip and well done to the children who were complimented (yet again) on their behaviour, interest and great questions.



Finally I would like to say a big well done to all the performers at **Headingley Youth Music Festival** and a thank you to all the staff, parents, family and friends who helped make sure that it was a successful event, attended by over 600 people. The workshops, etc. are subsidised by grants and school funds, but the work of FOSOPS on the day meant that it looks like they will have made around a thousand pounds (final figure still to be announced when all bills are paid). This money will be used for the extras the budget can't stretch to and is often used to develop our outside learning areas. Headingley Music Festival (the fortnight long local festival to which we are affiliated) has a page with photos and lovely comments about our special day:

<https://headingleymusicfestival.org.uk/events/headingley-youth-music-festival-2018-the-greatest-show/> We will do it all again next year on Saturday 8th June (please put the date in your diaries now!)

I hope you have a great weekend!

Jane Astrid Devane

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



DIARY DATES

Tuesday 26 th June	Temple Academy transition day (Y7 in 2018)
Wed 26 th & Thurs 28 th June	Ralph Thoresby transition days (Y7 in 2018)
Thursday 28 th June	Year 3 class assembly, 9am in the hall. All welcome!
w/c 2 nd July	Carr Manor transition day this week, TBC (Y7 in 2018)
Wednesday 4 th July	Transition day
Wednesday 4 th July	* St Michael's PCC meeting at Shire Oak in the evening
Wed 4 th & Thu 5 th July	Lawnswood School transition days (Y7 in 2018)
Thursday 5 th July	Allerton High transition day (Y7 in 2018)
Monday 9 th July	Give out reports to parents this week.
Tuesday 10 th July	Abbey Grange transition day (Y7 in 2018)
Wednesday 11 th July	Music recital by children learning instruments. TBC.
Wednesday 11 th July	Cardinal Heenan transition day (Y7 in 2018)
Thursday 12 th July	Corpus Christi transition day (Y7 in 2018)
Thursday 12 th July	Leeds City Academy transition day (Y7 in 2018)
Thursday 12 th July	Dress rehearsal (am)& evening performance for Y5/6 End of Year Production
Friday 13 th July	Y1/Y2 trip to Meanwood Valley Urban Farm
Mon 16 th – Fri 20 th July	Learning through Sport Week (including swimming gala)
Monday 16 th July	Height and weight checks for Year 6 with school nursing service
Monday 16 th July	Y3/4 Sports Day
Tuesday 17 th July	Y5/6 Sports Day
Wednesday 18 th July	Reception/Y1/Y2 Sports Day
Wed 18 th – Fri 20 th July	Bikeability training for Year 6. Start practising riding now so you are confident to learn to go out on the roads with the tutors.
Friday 20 th July	New to you/secondhand uniform sale after school
Tuesday 24 th July	Leavers' Service, St Michael's Church
Wednesday 25 th July	Last day of term before the summer holiday
Kidzone will be running a holiday club from 30 th July to 17 th August, 8:30am to 5:30pm for children aged 4-12. To register and book a place please phone 07708879920 or 07847442492 by the 29 th June ideally.	
* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change	

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 Jane Hinchliffe.

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.)