



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been so good to welcome all the children back into school and hear the buzz of learning and playing all over. Despite the weather, we have stayed true to our intention to get the children **outside** for additional sessions – prompting healthy competition between classes and staff that was heating up even when this photo on the left was taken earlier in the week. Children have been making Andy Goldsworthy inspired art, experimenting with sound vibrations, playing in their outside areas, holding Circle Time discussions, hopping, measuring the perimeter of school and catching up with their friends.



Inside school there have been practical experiments, strength-building PE sessions, fine motor skill development activities and lots of discussions. Even if we were *only* concerned with children's academic progress, their mental and physical health needs to be in good condition for them to feel safe and secure to develop and learn at a good pace so this is the right

priority for us. Do not worry – there has still been plenty of learning in English, maths and all our other subjects this week (with the possible exception of computing!)



Following my text last week, a little more information has been published on the **lateral flow tests for C19** that are available to families of primary aged children. (These tests are not aimed at primary aged children.) <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1tuYvRbcoXYvnxuv4OLhfK55j9ervL21d>

I am happy to pass on this message from a **former Shire Oak pupil** who is now completing her course at university: Hello I'm Katie, Mrs Dickinson's daughter. I'm in my third year at Manchester Metropolitan University studying Early Years and Childhood Studies.

If you are a parent/carer of a child with Special Educational Needs and Disability or know someone who is, you/they are invited to take part in my dissertation. Any age, race and gender is welcome.

I'm exploring how 'naughty' behaviour is identified, categorised and managed?

To take part just follow the link : <https://forms.gle/L5h518N9DH6ipBoU6>

It should only take a few minutes to complete

Any questions please email me : 18015994@stu.mmu.ac.uk

Thank you, much appreciated! Katie

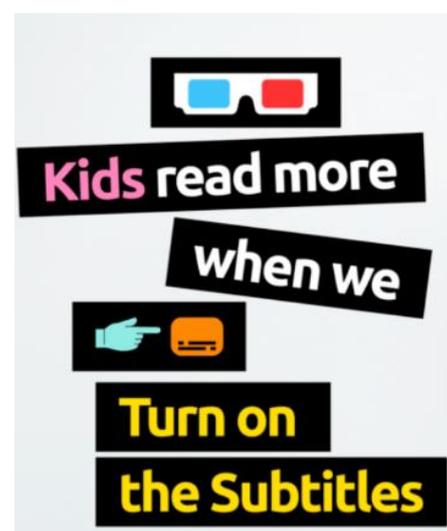
I know many of you are concerned that lockdown means children are getting a lot more **screen time** than usual. [This suggestion](#) to help with reading skills by turning on the subtitles or watching music videos with lyrics, might help some of us feel a little less guilty! →

I hope you have a good weekend.

Jane Astrid Devane

Jane Astrid Devane
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PS We have noticed that **Leeds University email** servers seem to be blocking our emails from Teachers2Parents. If this affects you, please let the office know an alternative email address we can use.



DIARY DATES

Tuesday 16 th March	TRAINING DAY TBC (school closed to children) This has been postponed.
Friday 19 th March *	Red Nose Day. Classes may decide to run a low key joke event, or similar. Noses may be worn to school but there is no whole school event.
Fri 2 nd – Sun 18 th April *	GOOD FRIDAY and the EASTER HOLIDAY. Art Camps will be running from at least Wednesday 7 th to Friday 16 th April https://www.artcampuk.com/ Discounts for Shire Oakers!
Tuesday 20 th April *	Year 3 due to start weekly swimming lessons at Kirkstall Leisure Centre
Wednesday 21 st April *	Y2 due to start Wednesday, Thursday & Friday swimming lessons at Armley Leisure Centre
Wednesday 19 th May *	Year 6 Woodland Session (Countryside live) all day trip
Mon 24 th - Fri 28 th May*	Bikeability Training for Year 6. The more they practise in advance of this date, the better!
Wednesday 16 th June	TRAINING DAY
Tues 6 th & Wed 7 th July *	Lawnswood transition days
Wednesday 7 th July	Shire Oak transition day
Monday 26 th and Tuesday 27 th 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.

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar> term dates

* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change. All visits and visitors are subject to being permitted under the COVID regulations and guidelines at the time. At present it looks like we might be able to get out and about locally from the 29th March. It is possible that residentials may be permitted from either the 17th May or 21st June depending on national rates, decisions by government, acquiring COVID Charters, etc. We are keeping a close eye on the updates!

