



Dear Parents and Carers

**SHIRE OAK**  
C of E (VC) Primary School

Well done to **Y1** for a lovely and lively class **assembly** this morning – we particularly liked your forceful questioning, hearing about your philosophy work and your very creative energy saving draught excluders made from reused tights and other reclaimed materials. Y2 would like to make some too next week and would therefore welcome any old woolly tights you can send in – holey ones are fine – thanks!

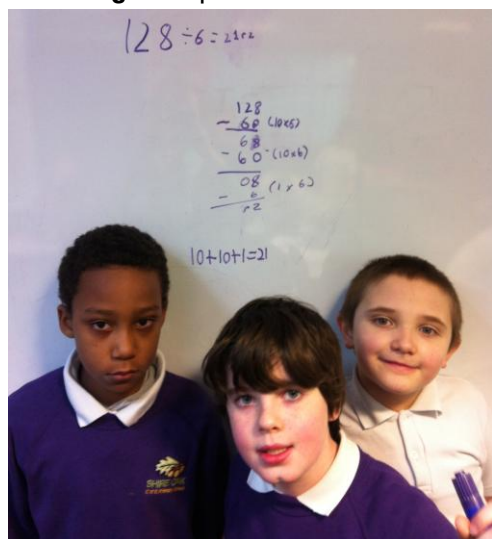


Our parents, carers and friends groups, **FOSOPS**, will be meeting on Tuesday morning. They will be planning how to make our Shrove Tuesday pancake event even better as well as continuing with their other plans for the year. Please, do consider joining them if you are free, or see any of the group if you can offer help but can't stay for the meeting on Tuesday.



**Y6** have been busy practising their **steel pans**, djembes, glockenspiels, etc. to play a couple of numbers along with children from other local schools. They had a big rehearsal at City of Leeds school on Thursday afternoon and are all invited to take part in the **Music for Youth Day** in Harrogate on the 10<sup>th</sup> March. We are proud that they are becoming such keen and accomplished musicians. We were also very proud of Y6 this week when they visited **LMU Garden** again and demonstrated good behaviour and great learning – a good act for Y5 to follow when they visit soon.

**Y4** have been proudly telling me about the new method many of them have been learning to do division. Called **'chunking'** it helps them to break down the numbers they are trying to divide and really understand the principles involved, before going onto the tricks of short and long division methods.



What is really fantastic is how much they are enjoying their maths and enjoying explaining it. Lynne Taggart, our **specialist Numbers Count teacher** has been working with them to develop their multi sensory maths this half term. This means that they use equipment to make sure they really understand the concepts they are learning before they switch to a purely written method – using models is what the most advanced mathematicians do and is so worthwhile.



On **Thursday** we will be supporting our neighbour, Wheatfields Hospice, with their **Febru-hairy** fundraising. Children may wear a wig, create an interesting hairstyle, copy a book character's hairstyle, or leave it as messy as they like for the day. If you are able to, please consider sending in a donation that we will pass on to Sue Ryder Care. Thank you – we try to limit our fundraising to things that are linked to our community, children and education, things we are learning about or for extras at our own school. We hope you never feel pressurised into contributing and know that children can always join in with these sorts of activities whether they have brought in money or not.

**Febru-hairy**



This week all the children have been visited by d:side. This Leeds organisation have been working in schools for many years now to help educate children in an age appropriate way about the risks associated with medicines, smoking, alcohol and drugs. The sessions are sensitively handled, but we would really appreciate it if you could follow up these sessions with a chat at home to make sure that children are clear about what they have learned and know to come to talk to you and/ or us if there are any questions and worries they have about these topics. **d:side**



Thanks very much to **PC Jamie Wilkinson**, our Safer Schools Police Officer, who joined us on Wednesday morning. He talked to us in assembly about our topic **Going for Goals** and gave some good examples from his own life about working for an aim and keeping going even if you fail at first and then have to keep working at it for a long time. He also answered questions in some classes and listened to readers in KS1 – many of our more reluctant readers were suddenly very eager to go and grab their book bags!

Finally, for anyone who will miss our lovely new library over the half term break there is a flyer attached from **Headingley Library**, who have also had a recent refurbishment and are celebrating with a special programme of events.

Yours sincerely

*Jane Astrid Devane*

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Headteacher

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**HEADINGLEY  
LIBRARY**

**Love your Library**

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, Rachel Powell or Liz Craven. If you have any concerns or questions regarding **child protection** issues, please speak to Jane Astrid Devane or Hilary Whitehead.

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, Janie Percy-Smith [janieps@aol.com](mailto:janieps@aol.com) (Janie is also in school most Monday afternoons if you would like to talk to her.)



# SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

## DIARY DATES

Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	FOSOPS meeting – all welcome, 9am Kidzone
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Rhinos World Club Challenge day – for a group of 10 Y6 children
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Febru-hairy day in aid of Wheatfields Hospice
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Y5/6 rugby friendly at Alwoodley Primary, 3.45 pm kick off
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February *	Castles dressing up day in Reception
FEBRUARY HALF TERM (13 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup> February)	
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Lineham Farm Residential for Year 4
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day event (FOSOPS)
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February *	First karate lesson for Y5 PE
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception Class assembly, 9am
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception Class bun sale after school
Wk. commencing 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Homework celebration assembly will be this week & new homework will given out
27 <sup>th</sup> February to 9 <sup>th</sup> March *	Fairtrade Fortnight
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> March *	The Big Brew Fairtrade Coffee morning at 9am in the hall
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Feb & Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Parents and Carers Consultation Evenings
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book or character
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Y4 Class assembly, 9am
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Roundhay Music Concerts Day
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Y1/2 trip to Meanwood Valley Farm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Y3 Class assembly, 9am
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> March *	Music for Youth – Y6 will be playing steel drums and other instruments with children from other local schools at this prestigious event which will be held at St Aidans in Harrogate.
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Climate Week
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March *	Visit from the UK Polar Network.
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March *	Green Day – travel survey, wear something green or recycled/reused and other activities
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> March *	Visit from PC Wilkinson
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March *	Book club trip to see Swallows and Amazons at the West Yorkshire Playhouse
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Y6 Class assembly, 9am
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Maths Across the Curriculum Week with after school event on Wednesday
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter assembly, 9am
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 2 bun sale after school
EASTER HOLIDAY (2 <sup>nd</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> April)	
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3 bun sale after school
14 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	KS2 SATs
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Car Boot Sale/ Table Top Sale
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Y4 bun sale after school
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	TRAINING DAY
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Headingley Music Festival Youth Day at Shire Oak (t.b.c.)
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5 bun sale after school
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	TRAINING DAY

New items are marked with\*

