



Dear Parents and Carers

SHIRE OAK

C of E (VC) Primary School

It may only be the second week in Advent but there is a distinctively festive feeling in school after watching the wonderful performances on Wednesday. The **Nativity Play** by Reception was charming and so well performed by



children who have only been in school for 3 months. Year 1 and Year 2 put on **Stargazing** and told a story of the Magi (Wise Men) and their journey to see Jesus. All the children have worked hard learning the songs and the stories and enjoyed the chance to pose for photos afterwards in their costumes. Thank you to all the supportive members of the audience, parents/ carers who have helped with costumes



and learning lines and all the staff who have put in such a lot of effort to make the plays a fun and learning rich experience for the children. A big thank you too to Artemiy in Y3's parents who staged

the **photo shoot for FOSOPS**. There will be folders of the shots that were taken on show and prints or digital copies can be ordered from members of FOSOPS before school and at the disco next week.

Yesterday we were pleased to welcome David and Tim from **St Michael's Church** to our KS2 assembly. They gave the children an informative and entertaining overview of choir singing and helped them understand the role it plays in worship for many people. They have invited any Shire Oak child who wants to join their **choir** to their next rehearsal on Friday evening next week. Flyers have been given out to KS2 and there are posters in school about this great opportunity for any budding singers. We will all be going to St Michael's on Thursday next week for our annual **Carol Service**. For many people this is the real start of Christmas for them and you are all very welcome to join us and welcome to bring friends, family and neighbours too.

In order to remember others who may not have such a good Christmas the KS2 Community, Charity and Citizenship Team have asked me to include the following message: Once again we are taking part in the **Christmas Hamper Appeal for the Elderly**. We are appealing for gifts of food, biscuits, chocolate and tinned items that can make up Christmas hampers. If you like, you and your family can make up a small hamper and bring it into school. Please place the items in the box in the classroom, or give them to Mrs Whitehead. The last day of the appeal is Monday 12th December. The hampers will be given to older people in the community before Christmas.





Jill Dickinson says thank you very much to everyone who brought in Morrisons **Let's Grow** vouchers. We collected over 3000 this year and she has ordered wooden compost bins, another potato barrel and new knives for cooking.

She would also like to thank everyone who sent in **Christmas shoeboxes**, or items for them, to send to needy children. We sent about 30 off and I am sure they will be gratefully received.

Finally I need to tell you that we are about to have some **remodelling work** start in school. We are making a new and more secure entrance with room to meet and talk to the Learning Mentor nearer the front door. We are also moving the library into a larger area so that it can be used in more ways. Unfortunately this means some short term to disruption in school. We will make sure any no go areas are clearly marked and ask for your patience as we work through the plans. It is unlikely that classes will be able to swap their books at the library this week, sorry, but I am sure there will be plenty of other things for them to read, such as Christmas cards. Children who would like to send cards to their friends are encouraged to put them in the special **Christmas postbox** near the front entrance. So that they can be delivered accurately please remind children to put the class on as well as the name, including a surname of initial where children have the same name.

Yours sincerely

Jane Astrid Devane

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Headteacher

devaneja01@leedslearning.net

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 (Janie is also in school most Monday afternoons if you would like to talk to her.)

DIARY DATES

Monday 12 th December	Choir singing for Meanwood older people (West Indian Centre) 12:45pm
Tuesday 13 th December	Christmas Disco. Pre-School to KS1 4:15-5:15 KS2 5:30-6:30
Tuesday 13 th December *	Y1 and Y2 Christmas party
Tues 13 th & Thurs 15 th December	Carol singing at Wheatfields Hospice
Wednesday 14 th December	School Christmas dinner
Wednesday 14 th December *	Y3 and Y4 Christmas party
Thursday 15 th December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church 10:45 am.
Thursday 15 th Decemeber *	Y5 and Y6 Christmas party
Friday 16 th December	Homework and attendance celebration assembly in school
Friday 16 th December	Suitcase Circus performer in school, afternoon
Friday 16 th December *	Reception Class Christmas party
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	
Tuesday 3 rd January	TRAINING DAY. School closed to children whilst staff work on EAL
Wednesday 4 th January	Back to school day for children
Friday 6 th January	10:30 – 11:30 Y4 football (and 23 rd)
Tuesday 10 th January	FOSOPS meeting in Kidzone, 9am (Younger children welcome to stay and play)
Monday 23 rd January	Special Chinese New Year school lunch
FEBRUARY HALF TERM (13 th to 17 th February)	
14 th – 22 nd May	KS2 SATs
Saturday 16 th June	Headingley Music Festival Youth Day at Shire Oak (t.b.c.)
Friday 1 st June	TRAINING DAY
Monday 23 rd July	TRAINING DAY

New items are marked with *