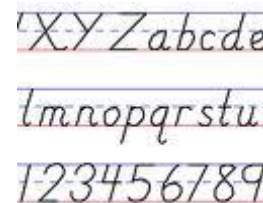




Dear Parents and Carers

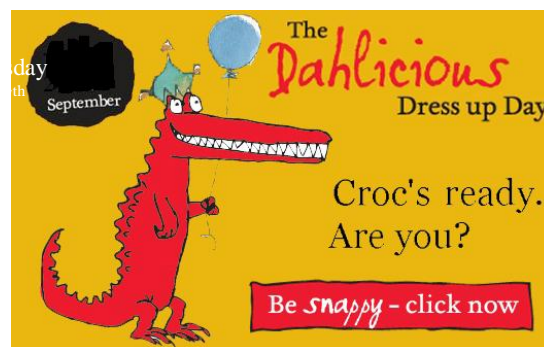
**SHIRE OAK**  
C of E (VC) Primary School

This week we have really settled into the swing of the new school year. More children are being sent to me with good work and it has been good to see work from across the curriculum done alone and collaboratively. This year we are trying to improve the **presentation** of our work and also the **handwriting** that children use. Although we still value the content more than what work looks like, we know that learning to present our thinking helps us to organise our thoughts. Learning an easy style of (eventually joined up) handwriting helps with making writing less of a chore as well as supporting spelling. Do encourage your child to tell you about how they present their work and praise them for the efforts they make with their handwriting. They may tell you proudly that they are moving on to using pen and I hope you will encourage them in this. We know that sometimes as children learn to join up or learn to use a pen their previously neat writing can seem to take a turn for the worse. A little perseverance usually gets us through that phase though to something that will be a useful life skill.



Mrs Koyuncu has asked me to let you know that for those people wishing to pay half termly, the charges for **school dinners** are £57:35 for Reception class, £62:90 for Years 1 to 4 and £64:60 for Years 5 and 6. At this stage in the year we know that Reception children might be swapping and changing a bit as families work out what the best arrangement is for lunches. Can we please remind families of older children, however, that orders are placed by the kitchen two weeks in advance, so as much notice as possible about any changes would help us to make sure there is enough food and not too much wastage either. Thank you for your help with this. Susan would also like me to remind you that milk money is now due for Reception, Y1 and Y2. We ask for a £5 contribution per term, £15 for the year. Thanks again.

On Tuesday we are holding our **Dahlicious Dress Up Day**. We know that dress up days can fill parents with dread, so we only hold them when we think there is a good reason. We hope that by really throwing ourselves into the characters from Roald Dahl stories we will help more children to get to know the books and enjoy reading. Please, please do not go and buy expensive costumes as we are treating this as a bit of fun (and it rather defeats the object of giving to charity if all the parents have been bankrupted from it!) The website has lots of ideas <http://tinyurl.com/dahlicious> including wearing Dahl's favourite colour yellow. A cowboy outfit would work for Mike Tevee in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory or a lot of purple for Violet Beauregarde. Revolting Rhymes and Dirty Beasts cover lots of animals and most fairy tales (including Cinderella and Little Red Riding Hood). Danny the Champion of the World wears outdoorsy clothes and George (from George's Marvellous Medicine) probably just needs a large spoon to complete his outfit.



**FOSOPS** (Friends of Shire Oak Primary School) held their first meeting of the year this week and it was good to see so many new people at it, as well as hear from others who couldn't be there but are happy to help. FOSOPS do need a new coordinator for this year (which could be a jobshare) but there are also lots of smaller jobs that need doing. They will be serving coffee on Friday before school to show examples of what they've done and talk to other parents and carers. As well as helping with the Open Morning they have planned a **Car Boot Sale** for Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October. People can buy a space outside for a car boot (or similar sized area) or for a table indoors. There will be the chance for children to practise their entrepreneurial skills and sell a few of their own items as well as the usual cakes, food and refreshments. Please see or phone Miss Craven (details in the diary) to book a slot. There are plenty of jobs for people who don't have their own things to sell and the very important job of spreading the word and putting the date in your diary.



Finally, I look forward to seeing some of you at the **Year 2 assembly** on Friday, our first class sharing assembly of the year and others at the meeting in the afternoon to talk about reading and writing in Reception class. We know that daytime events are not always easy for working parents to get to, and hope that you find it easy to stay in touch with us in other ways. We do try to offer some evening and weekend arrangements throughout the year and the parents' evenings which are just after half term always offer later appointments.

Yours sincerely

*Jane Astrid Devane*

Jane Astrid Devane

Headteacher

[devaneja01@leedslearning.net](mailto: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 Hillary Whitehead.

#### DIARY DATES

Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Y6 visit to Lawnswood School art exhibition and art activities, 9:30-12:15
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Roald Dahl Day – dress up as your favourite Roald Dahl character – human or otherwise. Donations for the Roald Dahl children's charity welcome.
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Individual and siblings photo day – see Jackie to arrange group family photos
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September *	FOSOPS will be serving tea and coffee and explaining more about what they do before school and the Y2 assembly (playground outside the library). (Setting up from 8am).
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Y2 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Reception parents' meeting to find out more about how we teach reading (including phonics) and writing
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> October *	FOSOPS meeting in Kidzone at 9am. Parents, carers and friends welcome. Small children can play in the room with us.
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	'No Pens' Day – a chance for lots of speaking & listening and other creative learning ideas
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Y4 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	Open Morning for our families and for parents of prospective Reception parents (2012 intake) 9:15 to 11:30 tbc.
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival, 9am. We will collect food for PAFRAS <a href="http://www.pafRAS.org.uk">http://www.pafRAS.org.uk</a>
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> October *	Car Boot Sale and Table Top Sale. 10 am – 2pm. Stalls can be booked with Liz Craven in school or on 07768 390695
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Divali assembly 9am.
<b>HALF TERM (24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> October)</b>	
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Eid-UI-Adha assembly 9am.
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti Bullying Fortnight
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Birthday of Guru Nanak assembly. 9am.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Y5 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Day – 2 minute silence
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	Provisional date for training day. THIS MAY HAVE TO CHANGE.
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Y6 Residential to Robinwood Dobroyd Castle
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Y1 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need day – Show your Spots
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Y5/6 Cricket in the Classroom at Headingley Carnegie Stadium
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Y6 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Y3 Class sharing assembly 9am. Family and friends very welcome.
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Christmas production, morning and afternoon
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Stay and Play in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December *	Christmas Disco. KS1 4:15-5:15 KS2 5:30-6:30 (to be confirmed)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Service at St Michael's Church 10:45 am.
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Homework and attendance celebration assembly in school

New items are marked with \*