

Dear Parents

I am pleased to write with this week's newsletter. This letter and previous versions can be found in the [letters section](#) of our website.

Safeguarding, Welfare & Wellbeing

Safeguarding and Welfare will always be our very highest priority in helping us achieve our vision of [Love Learn Shine](#). We will use this section of the newsletter each week to keep families up to date with a range of key safeguarding and welfare information.

Emergency Evacuation

As you are probably aware on Tuesday we quickly responded to advice from the police and evacuated all children, staff and visitors to St Peter's Church. Everyone remained safe and happy throughout the process.

As a staff team we would like to say how thoroughly impressed and proud we were with every single child who calmly, maturely and sensibly did everything that was asked of them and helped to look after each other so well. They were a credit to themselves, their families and our school. Very well done. Thank you also to the wonderful staff team and parents for their calmness, understanding and support in dealing with the events of today. Thank you to everyone who has sent kind messages of support with regard to the management of the situation. These messages exemplify the kindness and thoughtfulness of our school community.

Monthly Online Safety Newsletter – January

We are pleased to have published our month dedicated online Safety newsletter which can be accessed [here](#).

It can be found alongside previous editions of the online safety page of our website which we hope families find helpful in supporting them to help keep their children safe as they navigate the use of the wide range of technologies available.

Digital Diet - Keeping safe online.

The way in which we use technology can have an impact on our energy levels, mood, and social engagement. Many reports are highlighting the potential negative impact on our mental health and general well-being of overusing screens and having an unbalanced digital diet.

A Digital Diet refers to the balance of online content you consume, similar to how we watch our food intake. It's about being aware of how the things we see and do online affect our mental and physical health.

Being mindful of what we consume online, whether it's positive or negative, and how we use certain apps is increasingly important. Just as a balanced diet includes different types of food for our body's well-being, a balanced digital diet is crucial for overall well-being.

Find out more at [Social Switch](#).



Digital diet plate

Fruits and Vegetables: Health and Well-being apps such as *Calm* and *Headspace*.

Protein: Productivity apps such as *email* and *WhatsApp*.
Sweets and Treats: Consumer apps such as *TikTok* and *Facebook*.

Carbohydrates: Entertainment apps such as *SoundCloud* and *Netflix*, and *games*.

Diary Dates



Important Diary Dates

The term dates for both 2023-2024 and 2024 -2025 are published on our website and can be accessed [here](#). Please check when planning any holidays or appointments.

Date	Activity	Year Group(s)
Monday 8 January 2023	Spring Term Begins – INSET Staff Training Day – School closed to children.	Staff only.
Tuesday 9 January	School reopens to children for the start of the Spring Term.	All classes
Tuesday 16 January 5.30pm in school	FOSP meeting	All welcome
Wednesday 17 January 2024	Meet the Teacher Event with Miss Hewson – Finches Class	Finches class – children and parents
Half Term		
Tuesday 27 February 3.30pm – 5.00pm	Parent Consultation meetings	All classes
Thursday 29 February 4.30pm – 7.00pm	Parent Consultation meetings	
Tuesday 5 March 4.30pm – 7.00pm	Parent Consultation meetings	All classes
Thursday 7 March 3.30pm – 5.00pm	Parent Consultation meetings	
Thursday 21 March 9.30am	Easter Service in St Peter’s Church.	All classes.
Thursday 21 March	Decorated egg and bonnet competition.	All classes
Friday 22 March	School closes (3.15pm) for end of spring term.	All classes
Easter Holiday		

Shine Awards

Early Years and Key Stage One	Year 3/4	Year 5/6
Wrens Oliver and Jaxx Kingfishers Rabia and Jonathan Finches Lilly-Dot and Mylo Sparrows Yahya and Sebastian A	Owls Phoebe and Daniel Starlings Michelle and Ibbie	Herons Ava and Connie Ravens Jemima and Idris Eagles Layla and Miles

Whole School

Warm Welcome

We would like to wish everyone a warm welcome back to the Spring Term. We hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful holiday. It is lovely to be back together as a school family.

We would like to formally welcome Miss Vicky Hewson who will be teaching Finches class. She has very much enjoyed her first week working with us all. I am sure you will make her feel very welcome. Miss Hewson will host a meet the teacher event on Wednesday 17 January 3.15 – 4.15 for parents and children to pop into Finches class to say hello and meet her in person.



Attendance Matters- Every Day Counts

As we begin the new term we would like to celebrate the attendance achievements of last term and remind everyone how we are here to support children and families.

Very well done to the 107 children who achieved 98%+ attendance last term. Of these 107 children 57 achieved 100% attendance which is superb. Very well done. We have written to each family individually where these milestones have been achieved.

Families can access live up to date information regarding their child's attendance via the [Arbor App](#). Also if you have We are often asked 'How do I know if my child is too ill to come to school'. We are pleased to share this helpful NHS guide on this subject to support families. The guide can be accessed [here](#).



Parent Consultations – Save the Dates

We are pleased to share in advance dates of our parent consultations for the spring term.

Tuesday 27 February 3.30pm – 5.00pm
Thursday 29 February 4.30pm – 7.00pm

Tuesday 5 March 4.30pm – 7.00pm
Thursday 7 March 3.30pm – 5.00pm

Following feedback and looking at the uptake of online appointments last time all sessions this term will be in person.

Appointments can be booked via Arbor from 6.00pm
Thursday 8 February 2024.



Winter Weather

Please ensure children have suitable warm coats at this time.

We have updated our bad weather contingency arrangements and shared these via a letter which can be accessed [here](#). We very much hope the winter weather causes no disruption however wish parents to be informed should any of our contingency plans be required.



Reading Book Amnesty

We have noticed our reading book stocks are lower than usual at present.

Please can families have a really good look around at home and return any reading books that may have not been returned. Thank you.



Library Upgrade Progress

Following a successful grant application by the school alongside generous a contribution made via FOSP we secured sufficient funding to update our library at the end of last term.

The installation team have made good progress this week installing the new units, seating areas and shelving.

Over the coming weeks we will be adding the essential ingredients of every great library, a wide range of wonderful books and children to read and share them. We look forward to sharing further pictures of our fully stocked library in full use in the coming weeks. Thanks again to the FOSP team and to everyone who supported FOSP events. Your contributions have helped make this improvement possible.





Curriculum & Extra-Curricular Spotlight

Curriculum Overviews Spring Term

We are pleased to have written and published curriculum overviews to support families in knowing what their children are learning each term. These can be found via the relevant class pages of our website.

If you have any questions about aspects of the curriculum your child is learning please do not hesitate to get in touch, in the first instance, with your child's class teacher.

<p>English</p> <p>This term our key texts will be 'The Lion Inside' by Rachel Bright and Jim Field and 'The Curious Case of the Missing Moonmole' by Ella Hicke and Karl James Mountford.</p> <p>The focus of our writing for the first half term will be to create our own story about a small animal who believes a large animal in the African Savannah. We will be thinking about joining words and clauses using 'and' and using the prefix -un.</p> <p>The focus of our writing for the second half term will be to write a story based on the structure of 'The Curious Case of the Missing Moonmole' with a change of character. Our writing will help us to think about how we punctuate our sentences correctly and use suffixes.</p> <p>Phonics</p> <p>Children Year 1 will undertake a 30 minute phonics session every day. The children will learn new sounds, with the opportunity to re-visit and put their learning into practice throughout the week.</p> <p>Children in Year 1 will continue to learn new phase 5 GPC's as well as continuing to revisit and review previously learnt graphemes.</p>	<p>St. Peter's Catholic Primary</p> <p>Our vision is simple. We want everyone to SHINE. "Do not fight a stamp and crowd it with a beast or put it under the bed, instead they put it on a lampstand, so that people will see the light as they come in." Luke 8:16</p> <p>Kingfishers Curriculum Learning Overview – Spring 2023</p> <p>Enrichment Opportunities: Stay PE sessions, Local area walks and fieldwork, visitors from the community.</p>	<p>Mathematics Year 1</p> <p>Number, Place Value and Addition and Subtraction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The composition and decomposition of numbers 6-10 Additive structures Addition and subtraction facts within 10 Numbers 0-20 <p>Mastering Number</p> <p>We also participate in a scheme from the NCEM called 'Mastering Number'. The aim of this scheme is that over time, children will leave Key Stage 1 with fluency in calculations, a confidence and a flexibility with number.</p> <p>The focus over the course of the year will be subitising, cardinality, ordinality, counting, composition, comparison and number facts.</p>
<p>Religious Education</p> <p>Big Questions:</p> <p>Who is Jewish and what do they believe?</p>		

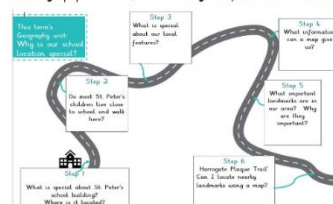
Key Stage 1 Geography Newsletter

To compliment curriculum overviews, we are looking at the potential benefits of subject specific newsletters. We will trial this over the coming terms and seek feedback. We have started this with a Key Stage 1 Geography newsletter which can be accessed via the [Geography page](#) of our website.

Key Stage 1 Geography Curriculum Newsletter

Dear families of St Peter's

In Geography this term, we are asking: 'Why is our school location special?'



Year 5 & 6 - RE Topic

This term we will be exploring "What do religions say to us when life gets hard". This topic focuses on life after death, and what different religions believe happens when someone dies.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this forthcoming topic we would ask that in the first instance you speak with your child's class teacher.



PE Days

Eagles – Tuesday and Friday

Ravens – Tuesday and Thursday

Hérons – Wednesday and Thursday

Owls – Tuesday and Thursday

Starlings – Tuesday and Wednesday swimming

Sparrows, Finches, Kingfishers & Wrens - Wednesday and Friday

PE – Gymnastics

Children in Ravens and Herons will be completing a sequence of learning in PE on gymnastics this term. As usual children will need PE kit on these days. If they wish children can also have a pair of gym socks which have grips on the bottom as used in trampoline parks.



Clubs Spring Term 2024

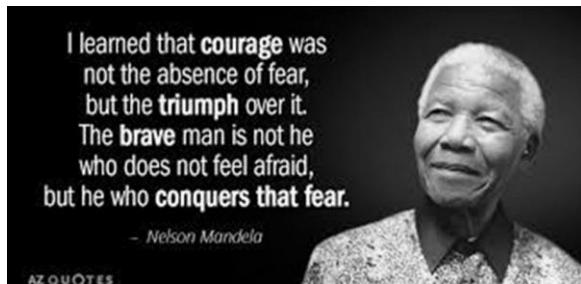
If you would like to sign up for any of our extra curricular clubs, the sign up form is open until Sunday 14th January and can be accessed [here](#).



Collective Worship

As we begin a new half term we begin to explore a new theme which this half term is, Courage.

This week we talked about courage being the quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty.



Christians believe that in times of difficulty they can pray to God for encouragement and strength. They, as do many others, believe it is important to offer help and encouragement to others facing difficulty.

FOSP News

FOSP Planning Meeting

There will be a FOSP planning meeting next week on Tuesday 16 January. It will take place in school at 5.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend to help with planning out events for the term and discussing fundraising priorities.



Time For Fun

Get into Scouting

For fun, friendship and activities that get you doing as well as thinking.



BEAVERS

For children aged 6-8
Places available at
3rd Harrogate Scout Group,
from January 2024

commanche3rdharrogate@outlook.com



Parent Carer Group

for families of neurodivergent or disabled children and adults, including those awaiting assessment

second **Thursday** Upcoming 2024 dates:
of each month **6.30-9.00pm**

Location:

Time Together
Unit 10
Provincial Works
Laundry Road
Starbeck HG1 4QE

11th January,
8th February,
14th March,
11th April,
9th May,
13th June

Free to attend



registered charity number: 1050035

supporting disabled & autistic people to **live life well**

For more information contact office@time-together.org / 01423 883992