

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to write with this week's newsletter. Thank you for making the time to read this information each week as it is a key part of our communication with you. This letter and previous versions can be found in the letters section of our website. As well as our weekly newsletter there is also plenty of school news shared throughout the week in the [News 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.

Policy Updates

Following the first meeting of the year of our local governing board we are pleased to share some of our key safeguarding policies which have been updated for 2025-2026. They are:

- Behaviour Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Child Protection Policy

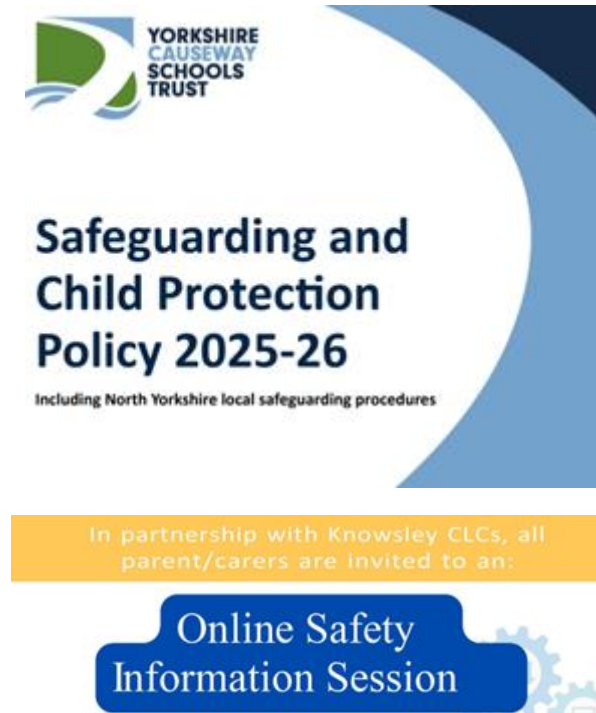
All these policies can be accessed via the [policies page](#) of our website.

Online Safety Parent Information Session - Save The Date

Wednesday 1st October 2025 4pm – 4.45pm

Focus: Online Safety Briefing - this session will cover all aspects of children's online lives and will cover the risks associated, the latest trends and data and guidance on how you can support their online lives.

Click [here](#) to access this meeting at 4.00pm Wednesday 1 October.



North Yorkshire Youth Directory

We are pleased to share a link to the brand new Youth Directories which can be accessed [here](#). Each of the seven localities across North Yorkshire now has its very own brand-new directory – redesigned to look better, be easier to use, and packed full of brilliant info on youth clubs, projects, events, support services and more!



Awards

SHINE AWARDS

Early Years and Key Stage One

Wrens – Ava & Arthur

Kingfishers – Noah & Howie

Sparrows – Finn & Oliver

Year 3/4

Owls – Rabia & Scarlett

Starlings – Luca & Mylo

Year 5/6

Herons – Alastair & Poppy

Ravens – Flora & Tom

Eagles – Ava & Henry



Golden Light Switch Award

The Golden Light Switch award is presented each week to the class who have earned the most eco points throughout the week. Points can be earned every day by switching off the lights and smartboard when classrooms are not in use. The winning class will keep the trophy in their classroom for the whole week.

WEEKLY WINNERS COMING SOON.....

Sharing Our Shine

Share Your Shine with Us

We love to hear about the activities children and families are involved within beyond school.

In this section we like to share the shine of our children and families from beyond school life. It might be an individual or team sporting achievement, musical group, a new hobby or a family adventure. Just let us know your news with any photos and we could be featuring you here next week.

If you would like to share some news for this section, please email it to admin@stpeters.ycst.co.uk



Diary Dates - All diary dates are now on the Arbor Parent Portal

The term dates for 2025-2026 are published on our website and can be accessed [here](#). Please check when planning any holidays or appointments.

- **Thursday 2 October 9.30am** - Harvest Festival in St Peter's Church - All welcome
- **30 September – 8 October** - Year 6 Cycle Training Sessions – see group lists and letters - Year 6 in groups – see letter
- **Thursday 9 October** - VR Geography Experience - Key Stage Two – Please see letter
- **Sunday 12 October** - Applications open for Reception starters 2026 - Any families with children due to start in Reception in September 2026
- **Wednesday 15 October** - YCST School Improvement Adviser Visit - Visit to classrooms to talk with Children
- **Friday 17 October** - Walk to school day - Walking Bus - All families encouraged to walk some or all of the way to school
- **Monday 20 October** - Early Years Autumn Stay and Play - 1.30pm – 3.15pm - Families with children in Wrens class

- **Week beginning Monday 20 October 2025** - Autumn Term Individual Learning Plan (ILP) meetings for parents with children who have an ILP - Parents with children with an ILP
- **Wednesday 22 October** - Decorated pumpkin competition judging – all entries to the front playground by 9.00am and taken home at the end of the day or after the disco - 9.00am - All welcome to enter, phase group prizes
- **Thursday 23 October** - FOSP Halloween Disco - All welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult throughout this event - 6.00 – 8.00pm
- **Friday 24 October** - INSET Training Day - School closed to children - All classes

OCTOBER HALF TERM

- **Monday 3 November** - School opens for start of second half of the autumn term - All Classes
- **Thursday 6 November** - Open Classrooms - 3.30 – 5.00 - All classes, all welcome
- **Tuesday 11 – Friday 14 November** - Year 6 Residential to Bewerley Park - Year 6 children
- **Monday 17 November** - Nasal Flu Vaccine
- **Tuesday 18 November** - 1.30pm - St Aidan's Trust Performance of FAME - Year Groups attending TBC.
- **Thursday 20 November** - Likely KS2 Movie Night - 3.15 – 5.30 - Children in Key Stage Two (Years 3 – 6)
- **Friday 28 November** - Walk to School Day – Walking Bus - All welcome
- **Saturday 29 November** - FOSP School Christmas Fare - All Welcome - 12.00 – 2.00pm
- **Tuesday 9 December** - 2:00pm - Nativity Dress Rehearsal - EY and KS1 All families welcome - St Paul's Church (Next to school)
- **Tuesday 9 December** - 5:00pm - Nativity Evening Performance - EY and KS1 All families welcome - St Paul's Church (Next to school)
- **Wednesday 10 December** - 2:00pm - Nativity Day Time Performance - EY and KS1 All families welcome - St Paul's Church (Next to school)
- **Friday 12 December** - Whole School Pantomime Trip – Harrogate Theatre - All classes
- **Thursday 18 December** - 9.30am - St Peter's Church - Christmas Church Service - All welcome

- **Friday 19 December** - 1.15pm - Carols at the Alms Houses - All classes & families welcome
- **Friday 19 December** - 2.00pm - School closed for Christmas Holidays - All classes

CHRISTMAS

- **Monday 5 January** - INSET Training Day – School closed to children - All classes
- **Tuesday 6 January** - School reopens for the start of the spring term - All Classes
- **Tuesday 13 and Thursday 15 January** - Parent Consultation - Appointments for parents of children booked via Arbor - 3.45 – 8.15pm

General News



Attendance

We are pleased to provide an update to all families regarding some changes that have recently been outlined by our regulating bodies (Department of Education & Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust) regarding children's attendance, absence requests and medical appointments.

It is widely acknowledged that persistent school absence significantly harms students' academic, social, and long-term prospects, leading to lower exam results, reduced future earnings, and increased risks of social exclusion and poor mental health. Attendance levels falling below 90% are classified as a Persistent Absence issue which can incur fines. To

support positive attendance patterns there are now stricter guidelines around the criteria for approving absences.

With the aim of providing clarity to families we are pleased to outline below when absence can and cannot be permitted.

Absences **can be authorised** for bereavement, external exams, school visits (open days & transition days), awards, and are classed as 'exceptional circumstances'. Absences **cannot be authorised for** holidays, birthdays, concerts, during term time. Consideration will be given for pre-approved elite sporting activities.

Children should attend school every day it is open, except for statutory reasons like illness or when approved in advance (see above). We appreciate many children suffer from coughs and colds daily however we must encourage children to continue to attend school with these minor ailments. However, any child who needs Calpol throughout the day is not considered well enough to attend school. When a child has sickness and/or diarrhoea they need to stay at home for 48-hours in the same way as previously.

Please schedule routine medical appointments with GPs and dentists outside of school hours, except in emergency situations. We are aware that for some of our children regular hospital appointments are unavoidable and will of course be authorised. Please keep the office team updated with any pre-planned appointments by emailing admin@stpeters.ycst.co.uk or by calling 01423 569684.

As a reminder, children must be in their class lines at 8.45am ready to start their day.

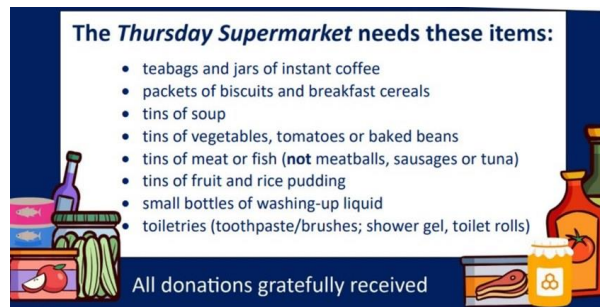
If children arrive after 9.00am, they will be recorded as late having missed morning registration. This is the responsibility of the family to ensure safe arrival on time, ready and prepared.

At St Peter's we want to work together with our pupils and families to build resilience within our children and encourage determination & self-belief, by promoting a positive culture in which they can independently learn and grow.

Harvest Festival

We are looking forward to our first school worship in St Peter's Church of 2025-2026, Thursday 2 October 2025 at 9.30am in St Peter's Church where we will celebrate Harvest Festival. Families are welcome to join us for this service and where possible are invited to help walk to church with us, meeting on the front playground at 9.10am.

As is a school tradition we use this opportunity to support St Peter's Church Thursday supermarket by helping to restock their shelves with our donations. If families are able to spare any of the items below to donate, we would be most grateful. Where possible it is most helpful if donations can be taken directly to church by families. Thank you.



Classroom Refurbishments

We are always striving to create warm, welcoming and calm learning environments for children and staff. Over the last four years we have completed multiple projects both inside and out to help us create the very best school environment for everyone. These include the transformation of our main and Early Years outdoor areas, creation of our nurture spaces the Nest and the Snug as well as our library space.

Over the summer we have created a brand new secure entrance area for Funclub as well as a dedicated Funclub room.

We have also been busy in our Early Years and Year 1 classrooms adding brand new flooring and new furniture focusing on more natural materials to create light bright calming spaces.



1 - For more pictures have a look at the [news page](#) of our website.

Reception Starters 2026 Sibling Survey

Thank you to everyone who has already responded to our sibling survey. As mentioned we are keen to hear from all families who already have children at St Peter's and have a **child or children due to start school next year.**

If you have a child **due to start primary school in September 2026** we would be most grateful if you could complete this short survey which can be accessed [here](#). If families would like to, we would also love to welcome you into school for a visit which can be arranged by booking direct via [Eventbrite](#) or calling the school office on 01423 569684.

Please remember that even if families have children at St Peter's already each individual place must be applied for. If you have a child starting school in September 2026 the admission round opens on 12 October 2025 and closes on **15 January 2026**. Places can be applied for via the North Yorkshire Admissions Portal which can be accessed [here](#).



Walk to School Days 2025-2026

We are pleased to share the walk to school dates for this school year. We hope to operate our walking bus from the Stray on each of these dates:

- Fri 17 Oct 2025
- Fri 28 Nov 2025
- Fri 6 Feb 2026 (Also Green Jumper Day 2026)
- Fri 13 Mar 2026
- Fri 8 May 2026
- Fri 19 Jun 2026



Curriculum & Extra-Curricular Spotlight

Communicating Children's Progress

We value enormously the close working relationships we have with parents. Following on from feedback given in the parents survey last year we have made some adjustment to the timings of our open classroom and consultation events for 2025-2026. We have written to parents in an additional letter along with the newsletter this week. Please do take a moment to read through this information within this letter so you are aware of our approach for this year. Thank you.



🌿 A Little Oasis of Joy in the Heart of Harrogate! 🌿

Our Reception children have been having the most wonderful time in their very own little oasis right here at St Peter's Primary School. From exploring nature to imaginative play, it's a joy to see their smiles, laughter, and curiosity blossom each day in such a nurturing and inspiring environment. ❤️

See what makes St Peter's so special 😊 [Watch](#) the video here!

Early Years Stay and Play – Save the Date

We are pleased to have set the date for the first Early Years Stay and Play event of the year. This will take place from 1.30pm – 3.15pm on Monday 20 October 2025. Families with children in Early Years are invited to come and spend some time playing and learning alongside their children during this afternoon. Families can come for the whole session or just part to suit their schedule. No booking is required. Simply turn up and sign in at the school office from 1.30pm onwards on the day.



Maths in Early Years

We're Going on a Shape Hunt.....

This week the Wrens have learnt all about Numberblock 1's favourite shape - a circle! They have been on circle hunts around school, created art work with circles and sorted shapes too.

Why not try shape hunting at home, how many circles or other shapes can you find?



Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) News

FOSP Meeting

We are blessed with an amazing FOSP team who are our equivalent to a Parent Teacher Association (PTA). They do an amazing job planning and hosting events throughout the year that provide great experiences for children and families as well as raising money to support projects in school such as subsidising school trips and contributing towards improvement projects such as the outdoor play equipment, the library and the nest.

This week they held their first planning meeting of the year. Thank you to everyone who attended. They focused on the three main events of the term ahead, Halloween Disco, Key Stage Two Movie Night and Christmas Fare. The dates of all these events are in the calendar above. If you are able to help with supporting these events please get in touch with your class rep or email admin@stpeters.ycst.co.uk thank you.

Please do follow the **Facebook & Instagram FOSP pages**. There's lots of information about events and things happening in school, as well as updates, which are regularly posted on these two pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1BjUrvQQT/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_st_peters?igsh=MW9rbzUzOXdxHJldg%3D%3D&utm_source=qr



Community News



Founded in February 2024 after one WhatsApp group went viral, [Smartphone Free Childhood](#) is now a community of over 350,000 parents working together to stand up for healthier, happier childhoods.

We've made it our mission to provide solidarity, support and solutions to parents who are struggling with what's become one of the defining parenting challenges of our time.

And we're using the voice of our community to push for more support from the government in the battle to reclaim childhood from Big Tech's addictive algorithms.

Sign the pact [here](#).



Sort by:	Leaderboard	School name
School	Pacts	
Pannal Primary School ↗	172	
Poppleton Ousebank Primary School ↗	76	
Oatlands Community Junior School ↗	70	
Monk Fryston Church of England Primary School ↗	64	
St Peter's Church of England Primary School ↗	62	
Rossett Acre Primary School ↗	56	

London, West ↗	790
Manchester ↗	2928
Merseyside ↗	1914
Norfolk ↗	1493
North Yorkshire ↗	2216
Northamptonshire ↗	798
Northern Ireland ↗	2883
Northumberland ↗	569
Nottinghamshire ↗	1598
Oxfordshire ↗	4291




Enchantica's Afterschool Clubs

Rising Stars
 Location: Enchantica's Studio
 Day: Mondays
 Time: 3:45 - 4:30pm
 Ages: 4-8

Musical Theatre
 Location: Enchantica's Studio
 Day: Mondays
 Time: 4:30pm - 5:15pm
 Ages: 4-8

Yoga Adventurers
 Location: Enchantica's Studio
 Day: Thursdays
 Time: 6pm - 6:45pm
 Ages: 7-11

Starting W/C
8th Sep



See reverse for class info >>>

Class information

Rising Stars

Rising Stars is a magical mix of drama, storytelling, singing, yoga, and mindfulness, designed to build confidence, creativity, and emotional well-being. Through role-play, songs, and calming practices, children explore emotions, build resilience, and express themselves with joy.

Perfect for imaginative young minds, each session helps kids develop life skills in a playful, supportive space – where learning feels like magic and every voice matters.

Musical Theatre

In this lively musical theatre class, kids learn to tell stories through music, dance, and drama while building coordination, confidence, and performance skills. With fun routines and group storytelling, children connect with their characters and express themselves in a supportive, creative space. Whether new or experienced, every child leaves feeling more confident, inspired, and stage-ready!

Yoga Adventurers

Join Suzie for a fun, creative hour of yoga, mindfulness, and imagination! Each session blends storytelling, breathwork, and movement to help kids build strength, balance, focus, and confidence – all in a calm and supportive space.

No experience needed – just bring comfy clothes, a curious mind, and a big smile!

Next term now booking:

<https://bookwhen.com/enchanticaworkshop>



CRAFTY LLAMAS ARTS & CRAFTS

FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS
AGED 10-15 YRS OLD

EVERY MONDAY

4 - 5 PM

ARTIZAN CAFE &
CREATIVE SPACE

CAMBRIDGE RD, HARROGATE
(NEXT TO MCDONALDS)

BOOK YOUR PLACE TODAY
CALL 01423 509251 OR EMAIL
LIZ.CLUDERAY@ARTIZANINTERNATIONAL.ORG

 NORTH
YORKSHIRE
COUNCIL  ARTIZAN

2 - All ages are welcome

- Weekly lessons
- Small class sizes
- Experienced teachers
- Fun structured approach
- Learn core aquatic skills, water safety and swimming strokes
- Take part in exciting activities including water polo, snorkelling and artistic swimming

Swim strong and **stay safe** with **Swimvincible**

The fun, exciting swimming programme for children aged 4+ building water confidence and teaching independent swimming - skills for life!

Every lesson will teach your child to swim strong, and stay safe, as their skills grow at their own unique pace.



Email: littlefish@waterbabies.co.uk
Socials: Water Babies Yorkshire North
Call: 01423 457 000

swimvincible
learn for life®

Our Venues:

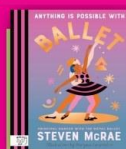
Birdforth Hall, YO61 4NW
Cundall Manor School, YO61 2RW
Ripon Grammar School, HG4 2DG
Queen Ethelburga's, YO26 9SS
Robert Wilkinson School, YO32 5UH
Henshaws College, HG1 4ED
The Mount, Malton



Raworth's
HARROGATE
LITERATURE
FESTIVAL

Childrens Festival

Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 October
The Crown Hotel | Harrogate



Ballet Joy

Age 5-11
Royal Ballet star Steven McRae shows why ballet is for everyone. Interactive and inspiring.



Dino Fun

Age 4+
Creativity and palaeontology meet to inspire curious kids and their grown ups



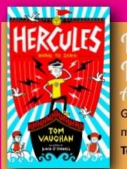
Panto Queen

Age 3+
Songs, stories and plenty of dancing with storyteller, panto queen and star of Britain's Got Talent's Mama G. A celebration of being who you want and loving who you are. Dancing and giggles galore!



Badgers Are Go!

Age 6-10
Mischievous storytelling and playful activities for families



Hercules Hero

Age 8+
Greek myths meet modern mayhem with author Tom Vaughan

BOOK NOW

Box Office | 01423 562 303
Harrogateinternationalfestivals.com



HARROGATE
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVALS

3 - **Venue:** The Crown Hotel, Harrogate

Tickets: £7

 **Recommended Ages: 3–11**

Saturday 18 October

- Steve McRae – **Anything is Possible with Ballet** | 10:00am
- Anne & Steve Brusatte – **My Grandparents Were Dinosaurs** | 11:30am
 - Mama G (Panto Dame) – **Oh Yes I Am!** | 1:00pm

Sunday 19 October

- Susannah Lloyd – **Badgers are Go!** | 10:00am
- Tom Vaughan – **Hercules – Hero to Zero** | 11:30am

You can find full details and book tickets on our website:  [Raworths Harrogate Literature Festival](#)

FREE TRIAL for the 1st half-term of ensemble tuition for new students!

Music Centre Ensembles & Times

9.30 - 10.05	Musical Munchkins. For children ages 2-4
10.15 - 10.50	Sound Explorers. For children ages 5-7
9.30 - 10.45	Blast Off!
9.30 - 10.45	Harrogate Youth Percussion Ensemble (HYPE)
9.30 - 10.45	Concert Orchestra
9.30 - 10.45	Strumming Strings
9.30 - 10.45	Harrogate Youth Jazz Orchestra session 1
11:15 - 12.30	Harrogate Youth Jazz Orchestra session 2
<small>HYJO rehearsals take place over the whole morning. Students are advised to attend both, but alternative solutions can be arranged on a case-by-case basis.</small>	
11.15 - 12.30	Youth Choir
11.15 - 12.30	String Ensemble
11.15 - 12.30	Concert Band
11.15 - 12.30	Adult Ukuleles (Adult Ensemble)
11.15 - 12.30	Parental Guidance (Adult Wind Band)

We also offer tuition in the following disciplines:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| • Bowed Strings | • Woodwind |
| • Brass | • Guitar & Bass Guitar |

For more information about our ensembles or to enquire about lesson availability, please visit harrogatemusiccentre.org.uk or contact martin.berger@northyorks.gov.uk

Facebook: Harrogate Music Centre

Website: harrogatemusiccentre.org.uk



Girls, get your boots on!

Pannal Ash JFC U11 Girls, the Tigers, and Sharks are looking for new players who are currently in year 6.



Why join us:

- **Fun & fitness:** Enjoy weekly sessions focussed on football skills and staying active.
- **Team spirit:** Make new friends and be part of a supportive team.
- **Learn and grow:** Develop both technical and life skills like teamwork and communication in a fun, supportive, and inclusive environment.
- **Confidence Building:** Football is a fantastic way to boost self-esteem, build resilience, and develop leadership qualities.
- **Physical & Mental Health:** Improve fitness, coordination, and enjoy the positive mental health benefits of regular exercise and team interaction.
- **Be Part of the Growth:** Women's and girls' football is booming! Join a club that is passionate about nurturing the next generation of players.

Our coaches are enhanced DBS checked, and qualified to coach football. We are looking for all types of players including budding Goalkeepers.

Training takes place:

- Wednesday evenings 6-7pm,
- Saturday mornings 9-10am.
- Matches are generally held on Saturday mornings.

For more information or to register your interest, please contact:

Email: Lilirobinson@hotmail.co.uk
Phone: Liam mob 07590 296354

Thank you,



'Guides is the most adventurous thing... It gives you the opportunity to meet people and see things you wouldn't normally see, and it's just an amazing experience'

Bryony

Guides

10th Harrogate Tuesday 7.15pm
10thharrogateguides@gmail.com

Girls laugh, learn and expand their horizons

for ages 10 to 14

At Guides, all girls are welcome to enjoy our fun-filled space, where she'll make good friends, learn to be herself, explore what she loves and do stuff she's never done before!



Girlguiding

Registered charity number: Exempted from registration

Join a local Guides group girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

10th Harrogate Guides have places for new starters this term - register directly with the Girl Guiding / join us link or for more information please email Sue at 10th Harrogate Guides.
Thank you

www.netball4all.com

★ **HARROGATE** ★

QUALITY JUNIOR COACHING

Our Junior Hub has been a huge success so far & we are excited to be able to release more spaces & a new session, so more children can get involved. Contact us to register for a **FREE TASTER SESSION !!**

 St John Fishers School
Wednesday, 5-6pm
Years 3 to 5

Ashville Sports Centre
Thursdays, 6-7pm
Years 6+

 **NETBALL 4 ALL**

