

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 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.

Coats

As we head well into autumn please ensure children come to school with a coat every day. We will try to access outdoor play each day even if it is a little cold and damp but can only do so if children have an appropriate coat to wear.

Please do ensure coats are also clearly labelled with your child's full name. Thank you in helping us to get out into the fresh air each day for our break times.



Safeguarding Alert

We have been made aware that several titles in the Spy Dogs, Spy Pup, and Spy Cat series by Andrew Cope contain a weblink at the back of the book that no longer directs people to information about the books. Instead, the link now leads to inappropriate and unsafe adult content.

We would like to reassure families we have checked and removed copies of the book from our school library and classroom book corners. If you have a school copy of this book, please return to school immediately handing it directly to a member of staff.



1 - If your child has any Spy Dog, Spy Cat or Spy Pups books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.

It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.

Awards

This weeks SHINE AWARD winners are.....

Early Years and Key Stage One

Wrens – Mercie & Oliver

Kingfishers – Olivia T & Ashton

Sparrows – Stanley & Zi

Year 3/4

Owls – Eva & Faye

Starlings – Felicity & George G

Year 5/6

Herons – Duncan & Layla-Rose

Ravens – Layla & Emily P

Eagles – Archie & Sophie



2 - 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.

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



3 - Could it be you featured here next week?

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.

- **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** - In person online safety session from YCST Safeguarding Lead Keri Standen - 2.30pm – 3.15pm in the Main School Hall (All parents welcome and encouraged to attend this or the same session at 5.00pm)
- **Thursday 6 November** - Open Classrooms - 3.30 – 5.00 - All classes, all welcome
- **Thursday 6 November** - In person online safety session from YCST Safeguarding Lead Keri Standen - 5:00pm - 5:45pm in the Main School Hall (All parents welcome and encouraged to attend this or the same session at 2:30pm)
- **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
- **Monday 1 December 2025** - Advent Music Concert – Choirs and Recorder Groups - 4.30pm – 5.15pm (All welcome to attend – Venue TBC)
- **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

In Person Online Safety Workshops - Save the Date

We are frequently asked for advice regarding supporting families with online safety. In addition to the dedicated section of our website as well as our dedicated monthly newsletter we are pleased to have arranged two in person parent sessions led by our trust Safeguarding Lead Keri Standen. Keri is a mother of two children as well as being an accredited CEOP internet safety trainer. She has a wealth of expertise in this area both professional and as a parent. She will deliver the same session at 2.30 – 3.15 and 5.00 – 5.45 on Thursday 6 November when hopefully many families are visiting for our open classrooms event. The content of these sessions is directed and targeted for parents and it is requested that parents are not accompanied by children.



CLICK CEOP
Internet Safety

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



Togetherness: Supporting Families in North Yorkshire

What is Togetherness?

Togetherness is the new name for *In Our Place* in North Yorkshire — a fresh identity that reflects our commitment to building stronger, more connected families and communities. Developed by the **Solihull Approach**, a not-for-profit NHS service, Togetherness offers a wide range of **free online courses** designed to support emotional health, parenting, and relationships for families across the county.

Why the Change?

The rebranding to *Togetherness* represents:

- A **more inclusive and relatable identity** for families in North Yorkshire.
- A focus on **connection, support, and shared learning**.
- A clearer message that these resources are available to **everyone**, regardless of background or level of need.

How Do People Use Togetherness?

Togetherness courses are:

- **Completely free** for North Yorkshire residents and professionals.
- **Accessible anytime, anywhere** — courses are delivered online and can be followed at your own pace.
- **Modular and flexible** — short modules fit easily around busy family life.
- **Universal** — available to all families, not just those receiving support.
- **Accessible** – easy to translate in to many different languages

Getting Started

To access the courses, residents and professionals simply need:

- Their **postcode**, or
- The **access code: NYfamilies**

They can register for **as many courses as they like**.

How Professionals Can Use Togetherness

Professionals working with families are encouraged to:

- **Signpost** families to Togetherness courses as part of their support.
- **Use the courses in one-to-one sessions** with parents who may need help accessing digital content or who cannot attend group programmes.

Course Library Overview

Togetherness offers a wide range of courses tailored to different stages of life:

Antenatal

- Understanding pregnancy, labour, birth and your baby
- For women couples

Postnatal (0–6 months)

- Understanding your baby
- Understanding your preterm or sick baby (in hospital and at home)

Children & Young People (6 months–19+ years)

- Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager
- Understanding your child with additional needs
- Understanding your child's feelings
- Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing
- Understanding the impact of the pandemic on your child

Preteen to Teenager

- Understanding your teenager's brain
- Moving up to secondary school (for children with additional needs)
- Understanding the impact of the pandemic on your teenager

For Teenagers

- Understanding your brain

- Understanding your feelings

For Adults

- Understanding your relationships
- Understanding your own trauma

TOGETHERNESS

Bringing the Solihull Approach to the world

4 - Please find the link to the [Togetherness. Bringing the Solihull Approach to the world](#) power point.



5 - <https://youtu.be/GfH30EHkyFM>





Curriculum & Extra-Curricular Spotlight

Music

Children in Year five and six are studying and learning about Blues music.

The children are really enjoying the unit and are even going home and practicing the song that we have been learning.

At the end of the lessons we extended our learning by trying to play different pieces of music on the glockenspiels.



Early Years

This week the Wren's have been exploring the changing seasons. They went out on a nature walk to see if they could spot any signs of Autumn.

They found brightly coloured leaves, conkers and lots of conker shells on their walk. What a fantastic Autumnal afternoon!



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](#) that contains key dates. Please do take a moment to note down these dates for you diaries as they represent important points in the year when you can meet with staff about your child.



Early Years Stay and Play

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 1.30 – 3.15 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.



Reception New Starters

🌿 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!

FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S (FOSP)





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](#).

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

OUR STORY

An accidental movement

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 |



6 - 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



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
FESTIVALS
INTERNATIONAL

7 -  **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



RIPON
MUSEUMS

Courthouse Museum 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Daily: **Whodunnit?**
 25th October Use cryptic clues
 until to solve a crime mystery.
 2nd November Included in price of museum entry.

Prison & Police Museum 10:00am - 4:00pm

Daily: **Craft Your Own Scary Witch**
 25th October Included in price of museum entry.
 until
 2nd November

Workhouse Museum & Garden 10:00am - 4:00pm

Daily: **Spooky Story Cards**
 25th October Create a spooky story with
 until Halloween-themed cards.
 2nd November Included in price of museum entry.

**This
October
Half-Term
at Ripon
Museums**



Monday 27th October: **Autumn Storytime with Ripon Library**
 Booking essential via ripson.library@north-yorks.gov.uk **FREE**
 11:00am until 12:00 noon

Wednesday 29th October: **Ghastly Goo**
 Create your own ghost gunk. 10:30am - 12:30pm
 Included in price of museum entry. 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Friday 31st October: **Ghost Hunters!**
 Investigate haunted happenings, make your own ghost goo, listen to a spooky story and grab your torch for a ghost treasure hunt. 11:00am - 12:00pm
 £5 per child. Adults are free. 4:00pm - 5:00pm.

Saturday 1st November: **Bulb Planting**
 Plant up and take home heritage hyacinth bulbs 10:00am until 4:00pm
 Included in price of museum entry.

'All Hallows' at the Workhouse'
Theatre Performance
 Ripon Museums Theatre Group will perform
 Included in price of museum entry. 1:30pm and 3:30pm

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND TO BOOK GHOST HUNTERS, PLEASE VISIT WWW.RIPONMUSEUMS.CO.UK

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

A promotional poster for Duchy College Harrogate. The top section has a dark background with the text 'DUCHY COLLEGE HARROGATE' in large white letters, followed by 'A New Name for a New Co-ed Era at Harrogate Ladies' College' in smaller white text. Below this is a collage of four images: a girl in a blue sports jersey giving a thumbs up, two boys in lab coats working in a science lab, a boy in a cricket uniform batting, and a group of students in a dance or performance setting. The bottom section of the poster has a dark background with white text: 'Join us for the first ever Duchy College Year 7 Taster Day', 'Saturday 8 November, 9.30am-1.30pm', and 'Open to all pupils in Year 6 and Year 5 for co-ed entry September 2026 or September 2027'. At the very bottom, there is a QR code, the text 'Start Your Journey Today!', the website 'www.hlc.org.uk/tasterday', the email 'events@hlc.org.uk', the phone number '01423 537045', and the Harrogate Ladies' College crest.

Duchy College Year 7 Taster Day, Saturday 8th November 9:30am – 1:30pm

We're delighted to invite you to join us for our first ever Duchy College Year 7 Taster Day.

Our Year 7 Taster Day will take place on Saturday 8th November and is specially designed for pupils who are considering joining us in September 2026 or September 2027. We have a slightly different programme on the day for each year group.

For pupils, Taster Day is an opportunity to have a real taste of life at college and take part in activities run by our teachers. ***For parents***, it's an opportunity to hear more detailed information about Entrance Exams, Scholarship applications, the curriculum, uniform, and school transport. You will also enjoy a delicious lunch, made by our talented chefs!

To register, please email events@hlc.org.uk or visit [Year 7 Taster Day](#) for more information.

