

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to write with this week's newsletter. This is the final newsletter of this half term as next Friday, 24 October, is an INSET day with school closed to children. We will keep families updated with any news from the week via the News Section of our website. 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 <u>Love Learn Shine</u>. 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.

WARN AND INFORM: Sickness in school

If you have not yet had the chance to do so, please read health warn and inform letter sent yesterday regarding the high number of cases of sickness amongst staff and children in school this week. We thank you in advance for your attention to this important information.

The letter can be accessed <u>here</u> and the NHS advice <u>here</u>.



Seasonal Flu Vaccine

Later in the term, on Monday 17 November, families will have the option for their children to receive a season flu immunisation. Please look out for letters from the NHS team with regard to consenting to this if you wish your child to access this.



Protecting your child against flu

Flu immunisation in England



1 - Access the full parent guide here.

In the past some families have requested authorised absence due to concerns regarding the perceived risk of viral shedding of the vaccine to those choosing not to receive the vaccine. Having considered Public Heath England (PHE) advice we are pleased to confirm that this does not represent a risk other than in very specific circumstances. All children are expected to attend and school will not authorise absence in this situation unless meeting specific criteria.

Shedding the virus and unvaccinated contacts - Summary of PHE Advice

Unvaccinated contacts are not at risk of catching flu from the vaccine, either through being in the same room where flu vaccine has been given or by being in contact with a recently vaccinated individual. Although vaccinated children are known to shed virus for a few days after vaccination, it is less able to spread from person-to-person than the natural infection. The amount of virus shed is normally below the levels needed to pass on infection to others and the virus does not survive for long outside of the body. This is in contrast to natural flu infection, which spreads easily during the flu season.

Excluding children from school during the period when the vaccine is being offered, or in the following weeks, is not necessary. The only exception to this would be the tiny number of children who are extremely immunocompromised (for example those who have just had a bone marrow transplant). These children are normally advised not to attend school anyway

because of the much higher risk of being in contact with other infections, including natural flu infection that spread in schools.

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 $2.30 \,\mathrm{pm} - 3.15 \,\mathrm{pm}$ and $5.00 \,\mathrm{pm} - 5.45 \,\mathrm{pm}$ 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.



Awards

This weeks SHINE AWARD winners are.....

Early Years and Key Stage One

Wrens - Rocco & Julietta

Kingfishers - Samuel & Ted

Sparrows – Seb & Phoebe

Year 3/4

Owls - Matvii & Jonathan

Starlings - Felix HM & Jamie

Year 5/6

Herons – Grace & Ralphie

Ravens - Will & Quinn

Eagles – Lola & Florence



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.

And the winners this week are.....

EY & KS1 - Kingfishers

KS2 - **Eagles**

Sharing Our Shine

Share Your Shine with Us

Last weekend, Reggie was awarded Player of the Match for an outstanding performance in Ripon Rugby Club's fixture against Malton. Now in his third season with the club, and first season of contact rugby, Reggie showed incredible skill, determination, and sportsmanship on the pitch.



In a true display of rugby spirit, Reggie even volunteered to play for the opposition when Malton couldn't field a full second team, ensuring the game could go ahead and everyone got a chance to play. That kind of generosity and love for the game is what makes sport so special.

Well done Reggie on your great sportsmanship, we are all very proud of you.

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.

- 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

CHIRISTMAS

- 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

Families with Children in Year 6 - Secondary School Applications

If you haven't yet submitted an application for your child's secondary school place for September 2026, please remember to do so by **31 October 2025**.

Applications can be made online at: <u>Starting secondary school | North Yorkshire Council</u>

Thank you for your attention to this important deadline.



Walk to School Days

We were delighted to host our first walking bus of the year from West Park stray this morning to support and celebrate the first of six walk to school days this year. It was lovely to see so many children and families, and even some four legged friends joining us to start the day with a walk. Extra shoutout to Bear for adding some extra tail-wagging charm to the event!



Walking is a great way to start the day providing both physical health benefits like increased exercise and mental health benefits, such as improved mood and concentration, and social advantages like time with friends and community connection. It also offers environmental benefits, including reduced traffic congestion and air pollution. We hope to welcome even more families in our future walking bus events on the dates below:



Further Walk to School Days:

- 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

Year Six Play Squad Spotlight

We would like to say a big well done and thank you to our new play squad members from Ravens and Eagles, who have begun their play squad support over playtimes and lunchtimes this half term. All our play squad volunteer to use some of their lunchtime to help with different roles across the main and Early Years playgrounds, as well as our dedicated lunchtime nurture space, 'The Nest'. They help run games and activities, look after the younger children as well as care for and organise our playtime equipment. They do a fantastic job and make a big contribution to making playtimes and lunchtimes an enjoyable experience.



Wraparound Care Receives Permanent Home with Newly Designed Hub

We are proud to be celebrating the creation of a newly designed, dedicated space for our wraparound care provision – giving our wonderful before and after school provision a permanent home within our school building.



Previously hosted across shared school facilities, Funclub now operates from a purposefully designed hub that offers a warm, welcoming environment for children to relax, play and continue learning outside of classroom hours. It runs 50 weeks a year, supporting busy families with flexible, high-quality care.

We understand the pressures working families face. Our wraparound care isn't just convenient – it's an extension of our nurturing environment, where children continue to

shine beyond the classroom. There are fantastic staff that work both in school and at Fun Club, ensuring pupils feel secure and happy while they are there.



Fun Club was praised by Ofsted (October 2024) for its inclusive atmosphere and strong relationships between staff and children. Whether families need an early start or a late pickup, they can rely on a setting where children feel safe, engaged and happy.

School Kitchen Update

We are delighted to update families that our school kitchen will reopen on Monday next week, two weeks ahead of schedule. Following emergency structural repairs to the floor, as outlined in my previous communications from Monday, our wonderful school meals will return to be freshly prepared in our kitchen.

We would like to thank parents for their kind words of support and offers of help over the last few weeks with this situation. These messages exemplify the kindness and thoughtfulness of our community. Thank you also to Beardmore Construction who have worked incredibly long days seven days a week to complete these works as quickly as possible and to the highest standard.

A final huge thank you to Aspens and in particular our amazing kitchen staff who have been cooking off site and bringing hot meals to school throughout the kitchen closure period.



Curriculum & Extra-Curricular Spotlight

Virtual Reality Bringing Curriculum to Life for Key Stage Two Children

We were delighted to welcome former Headteacher and now educational Virtual Reality (VR) expert Justin Peoples into school at the end of last week to lead a series of workshops for children in Key Stage Two.

Justin wrote bespoke workshops for children in Starlings, Herons, Ravens and Eagles based around two key Geography objectives of:

- Understand and explain the difference between climate zones and biomes (Biomes)
- Understand how plants and animals have adapted to live in different biomes (Adaptation)

Through the power of VR the children were transported to fascinating and awe-inspiring destinations exploring different climates and learning how plants and animals have adapted to different climates.

While the children embarked on their virtual adventures, teachers gained valuable professional development opportunities, discovering innovative ways to incorporate immersive technology and oracy strategies into lessons.

We really enjoyed welcoming Justin to school and from his comments below he clearly loved working with our wonderful team of staff and children.

'Thank you for everything today. You really made me feel at home. '

'The sessions went just as planned because the staff were so supportive and helpful. I really did have a brilliant day. I was so impressed with the pupils' manners and how engaged and appreciative they were. I felt quite honoured!'

Justin Peoples

You can learn more about the experience and hear directly from Justin via the link here.







3 - For more pictures lease visit the <u>News Section</u> of our website.

Key Stage Two Girls Share their Sporting Shine

We were delighted to take a team of Key Stage Two girls to represent St Peter's at the Sporting Influence competition series this week. Led superbly by our two year 6 members the team played superbly well showing great communication and team work skills. They played three matches in all narrowly loosing their first two games but showing great determination to keep working hard which resulted in a 3-0 win in the final game.

A huge well done to all the girls for representing St Peter's so well and a special mention to Violet R for receiving the Sporting Influence wrist band for determination. Thank you to

parents for their support with transport and Mrs Oldfield for her supervision and support for the team during their matches.



Pet Plants Arrive in Classes

Last week our Key Stage Two Climate Crew had their first meeting where they planted and delivered a spider 'pet' plant for every class in school. There are many benefits to having plants in the classroom including: fresher air, improved wellbeing, connecting children to the environment, use as a lesson subject and they encourage responsibility. The spider plants will eventually sprout baby plants which the children may find exciting and are welcome to take home and have their very own pet plant! The classes will collectively be responsible for looking after their pet plant and nurturing it. We believe they all have names too!

Mrs Williams and the Climate Crew



FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S (FOSP)





Community News



Founded in February 2024 after one WhatsApp group went viral, <u>Smartphone Free</u> <u>Childhood</u> 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.





| London, West ≥ | 790 |
|--------------------|------|
| Manchester / | 2928 |
| Merseyside ≥ | 1914 |
| Norfolk / | 1493 |
| North Yorkshire > | 2216 |
| Northamptonshire > | 798 |
| Northern Ireland ∠ | 2883 |
| Northumberland > | 569 |
| Nottinghamshire > | 1598 |
| Oxfordshire > | 4291 |



4 - All ages are welcome



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.





5 - **? 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



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 |
| I SAN ALIAN CONTRACTOR | |
| 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 |
| San | |
| 9.30 - 10.45 | Harrogate Youth Jazz Orchestra session 1 |
| 11:15 - 12.30 | Harrogate Youth Jazz Orchestra session 2 |
| HYJO rehersals take place over the whole morning. Students are advised to attend both, but alternative solutions can be arranged on a case-by-case basis. | |
| | |
| 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
 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.

- Team spirt: 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









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



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 <u>events@hlc.org.uk</u> or visit <u>Year 7 Taster Day</u> for more information.



Henshaws Charity Festive Showcase, a joyful evening of music, performance and community celebration at Ripon Cathedral. It's always such a special event, filled with warmth, laughter and festive spirit and we'd love for the local community to be part of it. It's a lovely opportunity for an evening out together in the run-up to Christmas, and a chance to see the creativity and talent of the people we support here at Henshaws. Please see further details below.

Date: Monday 24th November 2025

Venue: Ripon Cathedral

Time: Doors open at 6.45pm, performance begins at 7.00pm

You can find full details and book tickets via our website here: Henshaws Festive Showcase

We'd be so pleased to welcome you. Every ticket purchased helps us continue supporting people with sight loss and disabilities.



6 - **Subject:** Unlocking courses for parents

Please follow the link below for elearning courses available to parents.

<u>Unlocking Courses For Parents | NYES Info</u>



