



# St. Peter's

Church of England Primary School

*Love Learn Shine*

## NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 23 JANUARY 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

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. 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.

### Latest News - Website News Feed

#### **Your Insight into Life at St Peter's Each Week**

As we move into the third week of the spring term, there's lots to celebrate across school. Our children's artwork now has a new home on display in the Upper Hall, complete with learning panels that explain the creative process and introduce the artist behind the work. This is a fantastic way for children to deepen their understanding of art and design.

In Early Years, winter investigations have sparked curiosity and discussions, while across the school, RE learning has been a focus, helping children explore and reflect on important themes. These posts - and more- are available on our website and social media, so do take a look to see what your children have been learning and enjoying this week.

Take a peek at the photos and stories that capture the energy and enthusiasm of life at St Peter's visit the [News Section](#) today.

*Follow us on [Instagram](#) also*

Latest News



Exploring Winter Wonders: From Slime to Snow Habitats

[Read this story](#)

[See all news](#)

## 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.

### Road Safety Reminders

As children grow older and start walking or cycling to school independently or with friends, it's vital to keep road safety front of mind. Please remind them to avoid distractions such as looking at phones while crossing roads. Encourage the use of designated crossings wherever possible - these are the safest places to cross. Building these habits now helps children make sensible choices and stay safe on their journeys. Families can find practical tips and resources on the [Brake website](#), which offers guidance on walking and cycling safely. Let's work together to ensure every child arrives at school safely and confidently.

👉 Click [here](#) for Brake - The Road Safety Charity



Walking with children

Walking is a great way to spend time with children and talk about important road safety issues

## Awards

⭐ This Week's SHINE Award Winners Are...

### ⭐ Early Years and Key Stage One

**Wrens** – Matilda & Kai

**Kingfishers** – Alessandro & Sophie

**Sparrows** - Alice & Ottolie

### ⭐ Year 3/4

**Owls** – Hetty & Rabia

**Starlings** – Olivia & William

### ⭐ Year 5/6

**Herons** – Ayah & Kai

**Ravens** – Isabelle & Noah

**Eagles** - Daniel & Rabia



1 - ⭐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 - All classes joint winners! The Trophy will go on a class tour during the week! 🏆**

## ☆ Sharing Our Shine ☆

### Share Your Shine with Us

We love celebrating the amazing things our children and families achieve outside of school! This is your chance to share successes, achievements and endeavours that make you proud. This section is dedicated to showcasing these wonderful stories and inspiring others. If you would like to feature here, please email us at [admin@stpeters.ycst.co.uk](mailto:admin@stpeters.ycst.co.uk) with a short description and any photos you'd like to include. Let's celebrate the fantastic things happening beyond the classroom together!



### 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.

- **Friday 30 January** - Year 6 to see Adam's Family at Harrogate Theatre - 1:00pm
- **Week Beginning Monday 2 February** - Parent meetings for children with Individual Learning Plans (ILP's)
- **Monday 2 February** - Year 1 Trip to Tropical World
- **Tuesday 3 – Friday 6 February** - Scholastic Book Fair in School - All classes
- **Friday 6 February** - 8.30am - Walking to School Day – Walking Bus from The Stray - All Classes

- **Wednesday 11 February** - 9.45am – 11.30am - Lower School Choir Music Event at St Aidan's School - Lower School Choir Members – Volunteers welcome please see Miss Corrigan
- **Wednesday 11 February** - Midday – 11.00pm (approx.) Young Voices Concert Sheffield - Upper School Choir
- **Friday 13 February** - School Closes for Half term - All classes

February Half Term Holiday

- **Monday 23 February** - School opens for second half of spring term - All classes
- **Thursday 5 March** - World Book Day - All classes
- **Tuesday 17 – Friday 20 March** - Prayer Spaces Event in School – The Snug - Classes TBC.
- **Thursday 26 March** - 9.30am - St Peter's Church - Easter Service - All classes & all families welcome
- **Thursday 26 March** – 3.15pm - School closes for Easter Holiday - All classes
- **Friday 27 March** - INSET Training Day – Staff Training School closed to children

Easter Holiday

- **Monday 13 April** - School opens for start of summer term - All classes

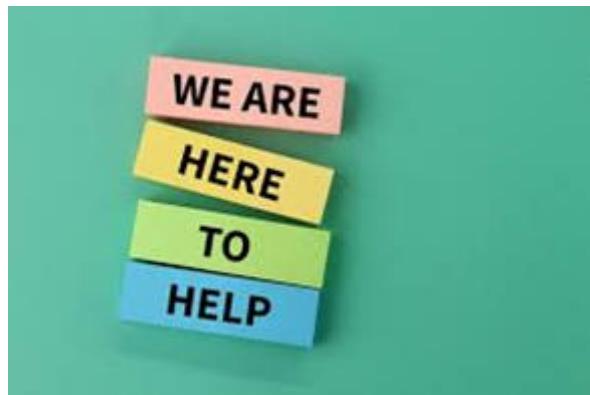
## General News & Key Messages

### Parent Consultations - Here When You Need Us

Thank you to all parents who attended our recent consultations. We truly appreciate your time and understand that the dates and times are not always convenient for everyone. Please remember that staff are always happy to meet with parents throughout the year if needed. Appointments can be arranged by emailing [admin@stpeters.ybst.co.uk](mailto:admin@stpeters.ybst.co.uk) .

You will receive another written report regarding how your child is progressing at the end of the spring term, followed by further parent consultations at the start of the summer term during the week beginning 20 April. Later in the term, we will also hold an Open Classrooms event where children can proudly share their work with you.

Thank you for your continued support in working together for the benefit of all our children.



Thank you to everyone who has already completed our survey on end of term reports and parent consultations, your input is greatly appreciated. We'd love to hear from more families about your experience of the recent parent consultations and the new end-of-term reports. Your views will help us improve communication and make these processes even more helpful for you and your children.

Please take a few minutes to complete the short survey, which you can access [here](#). It will remain open until midnight on Sunday 25 January 2026. This is the final weekend before we review all responses to guide our next steps. All comments will remain confidential and will be carefully considered by the leadership team. Thank you for partnering with us in your children's education.



#### **Photo Consent Update**

Thank you to everyone who has already updated their consent. If you have not yet completed this, it is quick and easy to do so. Please do take a moment this weekend to update your child's consent in Arbor.



## Curriculum & Extra-Curricular Spotlight

Curriculum News  Learning Updates Made Easy for Families.

 Curriculum News Now Online!  Explore School Life at Your Leisure

Simply click [here](#) to access all articles in the news section.

To make it easier for everyone to access regular content about school life and curriculum learning, we've now moved the Curriculum News section from the weekly newsletter to the [News section](#) of our website.

This change means families can now scroll through updates at their own pace, exploring the articles that interest them most—whether it's a peek into classroom learning, a celebration of pupil achievements, or a spotlight on special events.

We hope this makes staying connected with your child's learning journey even more enjoyable and accessible. It's all part of our commitment to helping every child Love, Learn, Shine.

## Community News

Some recommendations of helpful parent info from our colleagues at the Early Help Team.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/articles/zfy8jsg>



Get free resources and sign up to the CBeebies ...  
Get access to free resources for early years practitioners, SLTs, midwives, and healthcare workers by signing up to t...  
[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people](http://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people)



Tiny Happy People  
Tiny Happy People is here to help you develop your child's language skills, with simple activities and play ideas to hel...  
[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

# Join the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch 2026!



Let's make nature count together!

This January, we're inviting all our families to take part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch—the UK's biggest wildlife survey. It's a fantastic way to connect with nature, help protect our birds, and enjoy quality time outdoors.

## Why take part?

- It's simple and fun: just spend one hour counting the birds you see in your garden, balcony, or local park.
- Your observations help the RSPB track how our feathered friends are doing and protect them for the future.
- Children love spotting and identifying different species—it's a great learning opportunity!



Choose your hour and start counting!

Submit your results online—it's quick and easy.

Let's see how many robins, blue tits, and blackbirds we can spot!



Share your photos and stories with us—we'd love to feature them in our next newsletter.

Together, we can make a difference for wildlife. Will you take the challenge?

## HAMPSTHWAITE Youth Hub

YOUR SPACE . YOUR FRIENDS . YOUR HUB



When?

Thursdays 4 - 6 pm  
Hampsthwaite Memorial hall  
£3.00 + Tuc shop

CONTACT US

Lee McArthur - 07359355962



February Half Term Climbing

# FEBRUARY ROCK CLIMBING



Our holiday climbing sessions are an ideal way for kids to get enjoying a new sport and meeting new people during the holidays. Activities including climbing and bouldering, it is an action-packed day.

**Holiday Session - £62.50 (7-17 years old)**

**Climbing Hub, Bradford:** Tues-Fri, 10:00-16:30

**The Big Depot, Leeds:** Mon, Thurs & Fri, 9:30-16:00

**Live for Today, Harrogate:** Mon-Wed, 10:00-16:30

Childcare Vouchers accepted



Book online or contact us via email



🌐 [WWW.MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM](http://WWW.MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM) 📩 [INFO@MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM](mailto:INFO@MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM)



## North Yorkshire County Music Service

### Instrumental Lessons



See website for details and discounts available

[www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk](http://www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk)

Supported using public funding by



ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND



We teach in 91% of secondary schools and  
95% of primary schools in North Yorkshire

**The County Music Service provides tuition  
in a wide variety of instruments:**

**Brass:** cornet, trumpet, trombone, horn, euphonium, tuba; **Woodwind:** clarinet, flute, oboe, saxophone, bassoon; **Strings:** violin, viola, cello, double bass; **Guitars:** classical, acoustic, electric; **Percussion:** tuned percussion and kit; **Voice and Keyboard/piano**

Up to **32 lessons per year** are offered to pupils in small group or individual lessons. These take place mostly during the school day and are available to pupils attending schools throughout North Yorkshire. Lessons are sometimes available beyond the end of the school day or on Saturdays at music centres. **Rotating Timetables** allow for minimal disruption to the school day. **Regular contact** through **Practice Diaries** and **Termly Reports** ensure that parents are in contact with the Teacher and can support their child's practice at home.

**Instruments are available to hire or can be bought using our assisted purchase scheme – see website for more details.**

We also run six Saturday morning music centres across North Yorkshire.

To register interest and to find out more details visit:  
**[www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk](http://www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk)**

#### Contact us

County Music Service, CYPs Business Support,  
County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE

Tel: 01609 532 783

Email: [MusicServiceTuitionRequests@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:MusicServiceTuitionRequests@northyorks.gov.uk)

Or visit our website at: [www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk](http://www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk)

If you would like this information in another language or format please ask us.  
Tel: 01609 780 780 email: [customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk)



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](#).**

A screenshot of the Smartphone Free Childhood website. The top section features the "SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD" logo. Below it is a green banner with the text "OUR STORY" and a large, bold, dark blue title "An accidental movement". The bottom section shows a table with a "Sort by:" dropdown menu, a "Leaderboard" button, and a "School name" button. The table has two columns: "School" and "Pacts". The data is as follows:

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