

## NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 16 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**

The busy Start to 2026 continues. Our [News Section](#) is full of updates that showcase children's creativity, curiosity, and learning. Our second week back has been full of energy and learning. We said a warm farewell to Rev Chris, thanking him for his kindness and inspiring worship over the years. This half term's new worship theme encourages reflection and community spirit, which children have embraced beautifully. In Key Stage 2, wonderful writing has taken centre stage, showcasing creativity and rich vocabulary. Early Years have been busy exploring winter wonders and diving into exciting dinosaur adventures through play and investigation

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



## 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.

### Children's Commissioner Advice & Support

👉 Click here for - [Digital Parenting Guide](#)

Parenting in today's world can feel overwhelming, especially when children's lives are so connected to technology. The Children's Commissioner has created a helpful guide called ["What I wish my parents or carers knew..."](#) to support families in managing children's digital experiences. It offers practical tips for starting conversations about online safety, social media, and screen time, helping you feel more confident in guiding your child. There's also an activity pack designed to make these discussions fun and engaging for children. Together, these resources aim to build trust and understanding, ensuring your child feels supported in a fast-changing digital world.



## Awards

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

★ Early Years and Key Stage One

**Wrens** – Lola & Fiametta

**Kingfishers** – Ben & Kit

**Sparrows** - Elias & Kayleigh

★ Year 3/4

**Owls** – Kit and Olivia

**Starlings** – Leon & Lilly-Dot

★ Year 5/6

**Hérons** – Nell & Hugo C

**Ravens** – Xyla & Amelia

**Eagles** - Lola & Lucy



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 - Owls*

## ☆ 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.

- **Thursday 22 January** - FOSP AGM - 6pm at school - All welcome!
- **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

### Share Your Views on Parent Consultations & End of Term Reports

Thank you to everyone who attended parent consultations this week. We really value working together to support your children's learning. To help us improve communication and the experience for families, please complete this short survey about the consultations and the new end-of-term reports. The survey can be accessed [here](#). It is open now and will close at midnight on Sunday 25 January 2026.

All responses will be reviewed by the leadership team to guide our next steps, and individual comments will remain confidential. Thank you for your time and for partnering with us in your children's education.



## Curriculum Overviews & Welcome Back Letters

We're delighted to share our termly curriculum overviews alongside the class-specific Welcome Back letters. These resources give families a clear picture of the learning planned for the term ahead, as well as practical and organisational details for each class. From exciting science topics to creative art projects, you'll see what children will be exploring and how you can support their progress at home.



Both the curriculum overviews and Welcome Back letters are available on your child's class page of the school website and have also been emailed to you.

Please take a moment to read them today and join us in making this term a positive and engaging learning journey for every child.



## Photo Consent Update

Before Christmas we wrote to parents about changes to photo consent. If you have not yet had the chance to do so please read the full letter which can be accessed [here](#).

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.



### **Admissions Consultation**

Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust, the admissions authority for St Aidan's School, is consulting on its proposed admissions arrangements for the 2027/2028 academic year. The consultation runs from 8.12.2025 until 19 January 2026. Full details, including how to share your views, are available on the Admissions page of the St Aidan's website via the link:

[Admission Arrangements Consultation 2027/28.](#)

If you need alternative access to the consultation documents, please contact the Admissions Team at St Aidan's on 01423 885814 (option 3) or email [admissions@staidans.co.uk](mailto:admissions@staidans.co.uk).

Parents, carers, schools, neighbouring authorities and other interested parties are encouraged to take part.



### **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.

### **Friends of St Peters (FOSP) needs you!**

As many of our current committee prepare to step down with their children leaving at the end of this year, it's time to welcome a new team of parents to FOSP. If you're passionate about making school life even better—whether through fundraising, events, or simply bringing fresh ideas—we'd love for you to get involved. Big or small, every contribution makes a difference! Next meeting is at 6pm on 20 January at School. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you are unable to make the meeting - please feel free to join the meeting by teams!

### **🌟 Microsoft Teams meeting**

**Join:** <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/34828181047436?p=s1Rmaa0TmYGAtwbtuP>

Meeting ID: 348 281 810 474 36

Passcode: PY9Wp6Cg

[Need help?](#) | [System reference](#)

### **Dial in by phone**

[+44 20 3321 5208,,71472536#](tel:+44203321520871472536) United Kingdom, City of London

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 714 725 36#

For organisers: [Meeting options](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)



## **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)

home instead | FULL CIRCLE | Renew HG1

# Kindness Festival 2026

FIND WHAT'S KIND IN HARROGATE

Discover the organisations that can help you and your family in Harrogate.  
Speak to 40+ local organisations, charities and businesses and learn more about your community.  
Free games, crafts and activities for children, as well as healthy food available for your family.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH, 11AM - 3PM  
ST AIDAN'S SCHOOL, 32 OATLANDS DRIVE  
FREE ENTRY

What: KINCK - Kindness Festival  
Where: St Aidan's School, 32 Oatlands Drive, Harrogate  
When: Saturday, January 17th, 11am - 3pm  
Who: All families in Harrogate and the surrounding area  
What you can expect: Free games, crafts and activities for children, as well as healthy food available for your family.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SCAN THE QR CODE

# 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!



**How to join:**

1. Sign up at [rspb.org.uk/birdwatch](https://rspb.org.uk/birdwatch) for your free guide.

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?**




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	

TIME FOR FUN

GET INTO SCOUTING



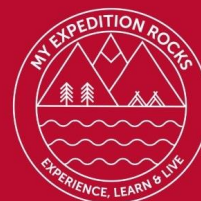
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### 3RD HARROGATE SCOUT GROUP

E: [3rdharrogategs@gmail.com](mailto:3rdharrogategs@gmail.com)



# 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)

