

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

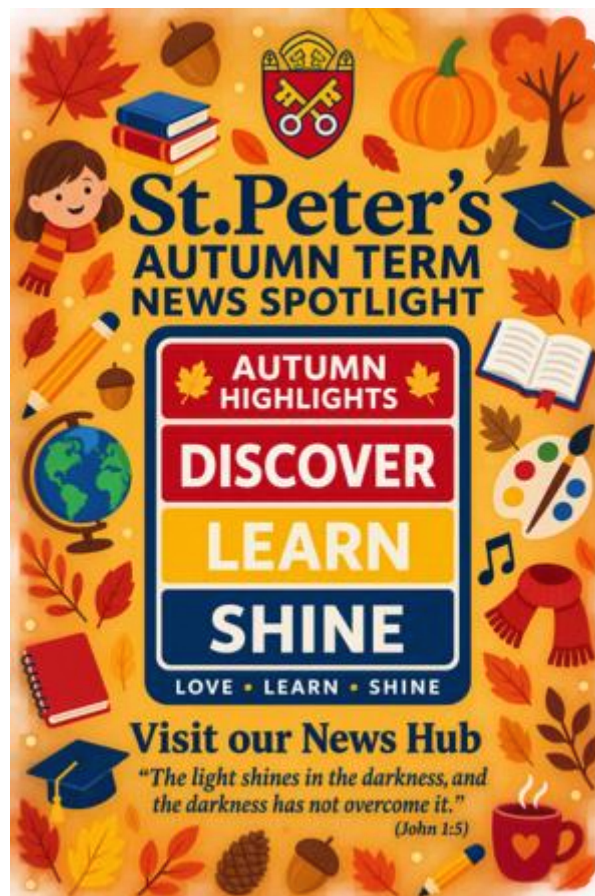
I am pleased to write with this week's newsletter. This letter and previous versions can be found in the [letters section](#) of our website. Thank you for making the time to read this information each week as it is a key part of our communication with you. This letter and previous versions can be found in the [letters section](#) of our website.

Latest News - Website News Feed

Welcome Back

It has been wonderful to see St Peter's full of life again, with the sound of children learning, laughing and being together after the summer break. I hope all our families enjoyed a restful summer. Children have settled back into school exceptionally well, getting to know their new teachers, reconnecting with friends and quickly returning to the routines of school life. This week, classes have been exploring [We Can Make a Difference](#), a thought-provoking book that encourages children to recognise how their actions, however small, can have a positive impact on others and the world around them. Children have produced some fantastic writing and creative artwork inspired by its themes of kindness, responsibility and making positive choices. It was also a joy to come together for our first Shine Worship of the year on Friday, where we celebrated birthdays and presented our Shine Awards, with two children from each class recognised for their positive start to the term. As Headteacher, it has been a real privilege to welcome children on the gates, visit classes and see how smartly and confidently everyone has returned after the long summer break. I am incredibly proud of the positive start we have made and look forward to another wonderful week ahead. For all this and much more 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

Mr Griffiths



Main Entrance Repairs Update for Families

Parents may be aware of the accidental damage caused earlier this year to one of the stone pillars at our main entrance when it was struck by a bin lorry. Following discussions with insurers and the completion of the necessary permissions, we are pleased to confirm that funding is now in place and repair works are scheduled to begin next week. To ensure the long-term safety and appearance of the entrance, the damaged pillar will need to be completely removed and replaced. As the entrance gates are attached to the pillar, they will also need to be temporarily taken down while these works are carried out. We would like to reassure all families that the school site will remain safe and secure throughout the project. Temporary gates and appropriate security measures will be installed to maintain a secure perimeter and ensure children can continue to access the school safely. You may notice some changes to the appearance of the front of the school while the work is underway, and we appreciate your patience and understanding during this period. Every effort will be made to complete the repairs as quickly as possible and with minimal disruption to daily school life. As always, the safety and wellbeing of our children remains our highest priority. We will keep parents updated with any significant developments and thank you for your continued support. At St Peter's, we take pride in caring for our school environment so that our children can continue to **Love, Learn and Shine** in a safe and welcoming setting. 🌟

Attendance Matters- Update & News

Attendance Matters –Start as You Mean to Go On

A huge well done to all our children and families for a fantastic start to the new school year. We are delighted with the excellent attendance across our first four days back. Seeing classrooms full of enthusiastic children, ready to learn and reconnect with friends, has helped everyone settle quickly into school life. As we look ahead, we would love every child to aim for 100% attendance throughout September. A strong start to the year provides a great foundation for future success. Children who attend every day are able to build positive routines, develop friendships, take part in all learning opportunities and make the very best progress. Every day counts at St Peter's, and together we can give our children the strongest possible start to the year. Thank you for your continued support..



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.

Designated Trained Safeguarding Leaders

If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of children or adults, please contact the school office via admin@stpeters.ycst.co.uk or 01423 569684 who will direct you to one of the designated safeguarding leaders. If you have a concern about the dealing of a safeguarding issue by any of the trained safeguarding staff you should contact the safeguarding governor.



Online Safety Monthly Newsletter –

This month's Online Safety Newsletter highlights a number of important issues for parents, including new guidance about AI-manipulated images, YouTube safety, parental controls and supporting children with their digital lives. Families are encouraged to think carefully before sharing photos online, review privacy settings and have regular conversations with children about staying safe online. The newsletter also includes useful resources from organisations such as Childline, the NSPCC and Internet Matters, alongside guidance on YouTube, WhatsApp usernames and age-appropriate parental controls.

We strongly encourage all parents and carers to read the full newsletter, which is available in the dedicated [Online Safety](#) section of our website. It contains practical advice and helpful links to support children in developing safe and responsible online habits



Awards

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

★ Early Years and Key Stage One

Wrens - All of Wrens for a brilliant first week at St Peters

Kingfishers - Nina & Ted

Sparrows - Flynn & Violet

★ Year 3/4

Owls - Kiril & Liberty

Starlings - Luca & Morgan

★ Year 5/6

Hérons - George & Sasha

Ravens - Alastair & Parvi

Eagles - Emily K & Margot

☆ Sharing Our Shine ☆

Share Your Shine with Us

We love celebrating the amazing things our children and families achieve outside of school! Whether it's a sporting triumph, a creative project, a community event, or a personal milestone, we want to hear all about it. This is your chance to share successes, achievements and endeavours that make you proud. Our "Share Your Shine" 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 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 and 2026-2027 are published on our website and can be accessed [here](#). Please check when planning any holidays or appointments. Please note school are expected to process statutory penalty notices for unauthorised absences of 5 or more days.

Thursday 17 September - Individual School Photos – Full school uniform please.- All

Tuesday 22 September - Parent Phonics Information Evening and Story Night - Early Years , Year 1 and Year 2

Sunday 27 September 9.00am - St Peter's Junior Parkrun Takeover- All welcome to take part and parent volunteers very welcome - <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/harrogate-juniors/>

Thursday 1 October 9.30am - Harvest Festival in St Peter's Church- All Year Groups, everyone welcome

Wednesday 7 October - External Adviser Visit - Visits to all classes

Tuesday 13 – Friday 16 October - Year 6 Residential Bewerley Park - Year 6

Thursday 22 October 3.15pm - School Closes for end of Autumn first half term - All Year Groups

Friday 23 October - INSET Day - School closed - All Year Groups

October Half Term

Monday 2 November - School Starts for Second Half of Autumn Term - All Year Groups

Thursday 17 December 9.30am - Christmas Service in St Peter's Church- All Year Groups, everyone welcome

Friday 18 December 1.30pm - Carols at the Alms Houses - All Year Groups, everyone welcome

Friday 18 December 2.00pm - School closes for end of Autumn term - All Year Groups

Christmas Holiday

Monday 4 January - INSET Day - School closed - All Year Groups

Tuesday 5 January - School Opens for Spring Term - All Year Groups

General News & Key Messages

Medical Awareness Additional Letter

Please look out for an additional letter sent today regarding an important health matter affecting a member of our school community. We are asking all parents and carers to read the letter carefully, as it contains important information about measles, chicken pox and shingles, including what you should do if your child develops symptoms or if someone in your household is affected. Thank you for your support and cooperation in helping us protect a vulnerable child and ensure their safe return to school. Please take a few moments to read the full letter and contact the school if you have any questions.



PE & Swimming Days

Children should wear their PE kit to school on PE and Swimming days.

Wrens – Reception - Monday & Friday

Kingfishers – Year 1- Tuesday & Friday

Sparrows – Year 2- Tuesday & Thursday

Owls – Year 3- Monday & Wednesday

Starlings – Year 4 - Wednesday (swimming) & Thursday (PE)

Hérons – Year 5&6- Wednesday & Friday

Ravens - Year 5&6- Wednesday & Friday

Eagles - Year 5&6- Wednesday & Thursday



PE Kit

- St Peter's blue PE round neck t-shirt with logo. It is our strong preference all children have this t-shirt for PE. If this is not possible a plain white round neck t-shirt is an acceptable alternative.
- Plain navy shorts, 'skort', navy jogging bottoms or leggings.
- St Peter's navy PE top, PE hoodie or usual school jumper / cardigan or a completely plain navy hoodie (**no logo, picture or branding**).
- St Peter's long sleeve PE top.
- Plain black trainers.
- No Football shirts, shorts or socks please.

Behaviour Expectations - Kindness Counts

As we begin the new school year, we have taken the opportunity to remind children about our behaviour expectations and the important role they play in creating a positive learning environment. We want to share these expectations with families too, as we greatly value the

close partnership between home and school in helping every child thrive. Our focus is on kindness, respect and making positive choices so that everyone can learn well together. Children are encouraged to demonstrate our school values every day and are rewarded through our merit system for showing positive behaviour, effort and a commitment to learning. As merits accumulate, children can achieve milestone merit awards and receive certificates to celebrate their success. Parents and carers can view merits earned through Arbor. Please visit the [Behaviour section](#) of our website for full details of our behaviour expectations and recognition systems.



Lost Property

We aim to minimise the amount of lost property by always returning named items directly to parents or children. This can be achieved very easily where all uniform, coats, lunchboxes, snack boxes and any other items are clearly labelled with the child's name (not just their initials). Where items are found to be lost with no clearly identifiable name they will be placed in one of two locations for up to the remainder of the term and will then be responsibly disposed of. Unnamed clothing items will be in our uniform store in the medical room. Unnamed lunch and snack boxes will be placed in the boxes at the back of the meeting room.



Individual School Photos

We have booked the individual school photos to be taken on the morning of Thursday 17 September. Children should wear full school uniform on this day. If it is a PE day they should

bring PE kit in a bag. This photo is for internal school use (to identify children via a picture on our Management Information System – Arbor) and for parents to purchase should they wish. These photos are not published. Consent from parents is required and without consent given on Arbor under “Photograph student” the external photographer is not permitted to take a photo of your child. There is not time on the day to chase parents who have not completed the consents on Arbor. A ‘nil’ response will be taken as no consent, and the photo will not be taken. The photographer will not return for individual photos until next academic year.



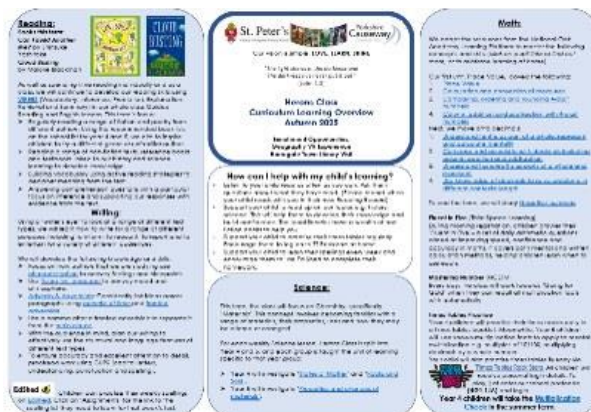
KS1 Pyjamas & Story Night: A Great Evening for Children and Parents!

We are delighted to be holding our KS1 (Reception to Year 2) Phonics Information evening and Story Night on Tuesday 22 September, from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. This event has been designed to benefit both children and parents. While children enjoy a fun-filled evening of stories, milk, biscuits and time with their friends (all whilst wearing their pyjamas and bringing along a favourite teddy!), parents will have the opportunity to hear important information about the year ahead, including phonics and curriculum updates. We know that attending parent information events can sometimes be challenging when childcare is needed. That's why we are so pleased to combine our parent information session with Story Night, allowing parents to attend knowing that their children are having a wonderful time with friends in a safe and familiar environment. The evening is also a fantastic opportunity to meet other parents, strengthen connections within our school community and gain practical information about how you can support your child's learning at home. There is a suggested donation of **£1 per child**, with all proceeds going to support the **Friends of St Peter's (FOSP)**. We would love to see as many families as possible there and encourage all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents to come along. We look forward to welcoming you for what promises to be an enjoyable and informative evening.



Curriculum Overviews

Each term we publish curriculum overviews which provide information to families regarding the areas of learning their children will be undertaking. These are designed to help families with supporting children with their learning. These are published via the respective class page of the website and will be available from next Friday 18 September.



School Stationery Reminder

School will continue to provide all the necessary stationery items for children to use in lessons. Children should not bring any stationery from home into school, and any items brought in will be kept safe and returned at the end of the day. This approach helps to reduce pressure on families to purchase items, keeps classrooms free from distraction, and allows staff to focus on learning rather than managing lost or damaged belongings. We hope this clarity supports families over the summer and helps avoid any unnecessary purchases. Thank you for your continued support.



Toys, Key Chains 'Fidget' / Fiddle Resources

We politely request and remind families that toys, and 'Key Chain' items/toys should not be brought into school, and that school does not accept any responsibility for loss or damages of items such as this brought into school. We appreciate some children like to accessorise their school bags and sometimes their lunch bags with these items. Any sensory equipment such as fidget 'toys' needed will be provided by school.



Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) News

Friends of St Peters School FOSP.

The Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) are a friendly and welcoming group of parents, carers, staff and supporters who work tirelessly to raise funds and organise events that enrich school life for all our children. Throughout the year, FOSP brings our community together through a range of fun events and fundraising activities. The money raised helps provide additional resources, experiences and opportunities that benefit every child at St Peter's. Whether you can spare a little time occasionally or would like to become more actively involved, FOSP always welcomes new volunteers and fresh ideas. Getting involved is a great way to meet other families, support the school and make a real difference to our children. Please keep an eye on the Diary Dates and FOSP section of the newsletter for upcoming events and opportunities to get involved. We are incredibly grateful for everything FOSP does and greatly value the time, energy and enthusiasm its volunteers give to our school community. To find out more about FOSP and how you can get involved, please visit the [FOSP page](#) on our website. Thank you to all our FOSP volunteers for their continued support of St Peter's. They truly make a difference. 🌟

We are delighted to invite all parents and carers to the Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) Coffee Morning on Tuesday 15th September at 9.00am at Café Marconi's. This informal gathering is a wonderful opportunity to meet other families, make new connections and learn more about the exciting work of FOSP in supporting our school community. Whether you are new to St Peter's or have been part of the school for many years, everyone is very welcome. Come along for a relaxed chat over a coffee and find out how you can get involved in events and fundraising activities that benefit all of our children. We look forward to welcoming you and helping you feel part of the St Peter's family. ☕

