

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER 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

A Busy Week of Learning, Community and Growth

As Headteacher, one of the greatest pleasures of my role is spending time with the children and sharing key moments of the week together. I always enjoy beginning the week with worship and then gathering again on Friday for our SHINE worship, where we celebrate the achievements, successes and kindness shown by children across school.

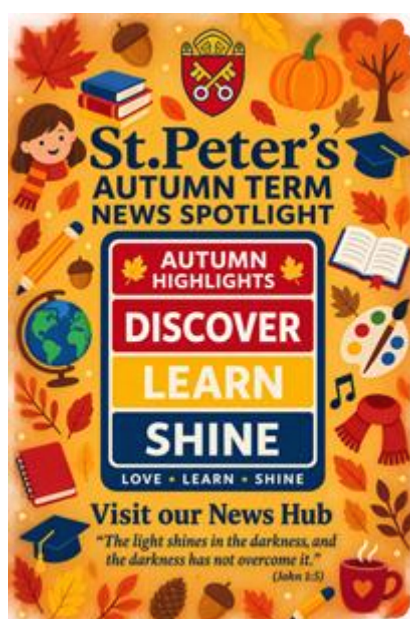
On Monday, we reflected on how we can help others feel that they belong through our actions. We explored inspiring examples from history, including Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole, alongside more recent role models such as Marcus Rashford and his work supporting food banks. This linked beautifully to our values of love and belonging, while also reminding us that October is Black History Month, an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the contributions and influence of people whose stories have not always been given equal prominence.

In between these special moments, there has been plenty happening across school. Year 6 enjoyed a fantastic four-day residential at Bewerley Park, where outdoor learning helped children develop confidence, resilience and teamwork while making memories that will last a lifetime. We were also delighted to welcome Kate Caine from the Trust, who was in school capturing photographs and video content for our new website, which we look forward to sharing later this year.

Finally, it was wonderful to see so many families taking part in our first Walk to School Day. Whether children arrived on two feet, two wheels or four wheels, it was a fantastic way to start the day. If you missed this one, don't worry, there are five more opportunities later in the year. We would love to see you there. 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

Headteacher



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.

AI and Photos

A recent BBC News article highlighted concerns about parents uploading school photographs to artificial intelligence (AI) tools, including to remove watermarks or edit images. While this raises copyright issues, it also highlights an important safeguarding consideration.

When photographs are uploaded to AI platforms, images of other children in the picture may be shared without the knowledge or consent of their families. In some cases, AI has even been used to alter group photographs by adding children who were not present when the original photo was taken.

We encourage all families to think carefully before uploading or editing photographs of children using AI tools. You can read the BBC article for more information via the link [here](#).



Awards

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

★ Early Years and Key Stage One

Wrens - Andrew & Hamish

Kingfishers - Charlie & Theodora

Sparrows - Amelie & Ashton

★ Year 3/4

Owls - Ralf & Rosie

Starlings - Isabelle & Wilf

★ Year 5/6

Hérons - Grace G & Yahya

Ravens - Ishika & William

Eagles - Florence & Nathaniel

★ 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.

Tuesday 20 October & Thursday 22 October - Individual Parent Consultations for Early Years- Families with children in Early Years

Tuesday 20 October 3.30-5pm - Open classroom 1-6- Families with children in years 1-6

Thursday 22 October 9am- Front Playground- Decorated Pumpkin Competition- All Year Groups welcome to enter £1 entry fee

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

Thursday 22 October 6-8pm - FOSP Halloween Disco- All welcome

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

Monday 9 November - Flu Vaccinations- All Year Groups

Friday 20 November 8.25am- Walk to School Day – Walking Bus from West Park Stray - All Years Groups Everyone welcome

Thursday 3 December- Advent Music Concert in St Paul's Church- Everyone Welcome

Saturday 5 December 1-3pm- FOSP Christmas Fair- St Peters School- Everyone Welcome

Tuesday 8 December 2pm- Nativity Dress Rehearsal- in St Pauls- EY&KS1 Performing - KS2 watching, space for any family members unable to come to either of the other 2 performances.

Wednesday 9 December 2pm- Nativity Afternoon Performance in St Pauls Church- EY&KS1 Performing- Family & Friends welcome

Thursday 10 December 5pm- Nativity Evening Performance in St Pauls Church- EY&KS1 Performing- Family & Friends welcome

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

Friday 5 February 8.25am- Walk to School Day – Walking Bus from West Park Stray - All Years Groups Everyone welcome

February Half Term

Friday 12 March 8.25am- Walk to School Day – Walking Bus from West Park Stray - All Years Groups Everyone welcome

Thursday 18 March 9.30am- St Peters Church- Easter Service- All children and families welcome

Easter Holiday

Monday 10 - Thursday 13 May- Key Stage Two SATS Week- Year 6

Friday 21 March 8.25am- Walk to School Day – Walking Bus from West Park Stray - All Years Groups Everyone welcome

May Half Term

Monday 7 June- Friday 18 June- Year 4 Multiplication Check Window - Year 4

Monday 14 June- Friday 18 June- Phonics Screening Week - All Year 1 & Year 2 Rechecks

Friday 18 June 8.25am- Walk to School Day – Walking Bus from West Park Stray - All Years Groups Everyone welcome

Summer Holiday

General News & Key Messages

New Chair of Governors

We are delighted to share that Jessica Eaton, one of our Parent Governors, has recently taken on the role of Chair of Governors. The Chair leads the governing board, working closely with the Headteacher to help set the strategic direction of the school, provide support and challenge, and ensure the best possible outcomes for our children.

Jessica joined the governing board in 2023 and brings extensive experience in communications, safeguarding, data protection, HR and finance. As a parent at St Peter's, she is passionate about supporting our school community.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to Dr Garrow for his excellent leadership as Chair over recent years. We are pleased that he will continue to support the governing board in his role as Vice Chair, ensuring continuity and experience as Jessica begins her new position.



Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on the governing body and would like to encourage interested parents and carers to consider putting themselves forward. Parent Governors play an important role in supporting the strategic direction of the school and helping ensure the best possible outcomes for our children.

Further information explaining the role, responsibilities and nomination process has been sent out in an accompanying letter. If more nominations are received than there are vacancies, an election will be held.

If you would like to find out more before deciding whether to stand, please feel free to arrange a chat with Mr Griffiths, who can also put you in touch with existing governors to discuss the role and their experiences.

Closing date for nominations: Monday 9 November.



Getting Involved at St Peter's

There are lots of ways for parents and carers to get involved in life at St Peter's, whether you have a little time to offer or would like to take on a more active role. Opportunities include joining the Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) committee, volunteering at fundraising events, becoming a class rep, supporting families as a Parent and Carer Ambassador, or standing as a parent governor.

Every contribution helps strengthen our community and create additional opportunities for our children. We are incredibly grateful for the support families provide and always welcome new people to get involved.

Please take a few moments to read the full letter for more information about each role and how you can express your interest. We would love to hear from you.



Parent Ambassadors

There are many ways for parents and carers to become involved in the life of St Peter's, and our Parent and Carer Ambassador programme is just one of them. Ambassadors help prospective and new families feel welcomed, informed and connected to our school community by sharing their experiences and offering a friendly point of contact.

The role may involve chatting informally with families considering St Peter's, supporting occasional tours or events, helping new families settle in, or signposting useful school information. The commitment is entirely flexible, with no fixed time requirement. Our initial group of ambassadors is now getting started, but the programme remains open to anyone who would like to contribute. Please see the full letter outlining the range of opportunities available and contact the school if you would like to find out more.



Nativity Date Change

Please note the slight adjustment of Nativity dates for December. All performances have been moved on by one day due to a wedding at St Paul's Church on the afternoon of Monday 7 December. Updated dates are on the calendar above



Open Classrooms – Year 1 -6

Please save the date for our next Open Classroom on Tuesday 20 October, from 3.30pm to 5.00pm.

This is a wonderful opportunity for children to share their learning from the first half term with their families and celebrate all they have achieved since September. Staff will be available throughout the session for informal conversations, giving parents the chance to see classroom work, look through books and chat with teachers about how the term has started and what lies ahead next half term.

We hope as many families as possible can join us. There is no need to book, and you are welcome to drop in at any point during the session. You do not need to stay for the full time, just come along for whatever works best for your family.



Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) News





Community News

🌐 October Football Camp! 🌐

Looking for something active and fun for the kids this half term?

Premier Coaching are running 2 days of football and sports locally, with both full-day and half-day options available. 🌐

A great opportunity to keep the kids active, have fun and enjoy plenty of football during the October break!

📅 October Half Term

📅 Full-day & half-day options available

👉 Book your place here:

<https://bookwhen.com/feesptc/e/ev-s0rmt-20261026090000>

Please book directly using the link above.

TERM TIME CLASSES



HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS



October Half Term Holiday Workshops

FOR AGES 5-12

Magic and Mischief

St Andrew's Church £27/Class
High St, £49/Day
Harrogate £90/Week
HG2 7JE

07426095886 | HARROGATE@CYGNETSARTSCHOOL.COM
WWW.CYGNETSARTSCHOOL.COM/HARROGATE

Cygnets teaches traditional drawing, painting, and sculpture, combined with unique projects, experienced teachers & professional quality materials.

We run two holiday workshops per day, so students can attend individual classes, or bring a packed lunch and stay for both!



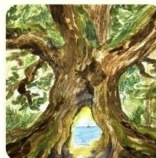
Monday 26th October

10:30 - 12PM 'The Floating Carnival' with Soft Pastels

12:30 - 2PM 'The Coyote Who Stole The Moon' with Gouache

Tuesday 27th October

10:30 - 12PM Potion Bottle with Acrylic
Design Your Own Magical Portal with Watercolour & Watercolour Pencils



Lots of different projects to choose from:

✉ harrogate@cygnetsartschool.com



🌐 cygnetsartschool.com/harrogate

HARROGATE RAILWAY JUNIORS

U6s

=(RECEPTION & YEAR 1)=

COME AND JOIN US!





FUN & FRIENDLY



LEARN NEW SKILLS



MAKE NEW FRIENDS

ST AIDANS INDOORS
ON A SATURDAY MORNING
9:30 - 10:30AM

TO CONFIRM YOUR PLACE
Message Kiera: 07368587771
or James: 07341885699

OCTOBER HALF TERM **totalsports** BOOK NOW

FOR CHILDREN IN RECEPTION – YEAR 8

THE ULTIMATE HOLIDAY CLUB EXPERIENCE

* RECENT OFSTED RATINGS "STRONG IN ALL AREAS"

TOTAL ENERGY CLUB

A NEW CHOICE EVERY HOUR - YOUR DAY, YOUR CHOICE!



ARTS & CRAFTS OR DODGEBALL



THIS OR THAT?



DEN BUILDING OR ARCHERY





WOW ACTIVITY OR FREE PLAY





PARACHUTE OR FOOTBALL



Total Energy runs at all venues.  Swimming days included (Tuesdays and Thursdays).  Football venue.

DUCHY COLLEGE
Coleridge Drive, Harrogate HG2 2QG

Limited open spaces - Book early

ROSSETT SPORTS CENTRE
Parriat Ash Rd, Harrogate HG2 8PH

Popular - Book early

ASPIN PARK ACADEMY
Wetherby Road, Knaresborough HG5 8LQ

HARROGATE & KNARESBOROUGH

10% EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT!

OFFER ENDS 4TH OCTOBER



- ✓ 50+ ACTIVITIES WEEKLY
- ✓ OFSTED REGISTERED
- ✓ CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

*Based on all recent inspections at other Total Sports venues.

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totalsports

KEY INFORMATION



Open to ALL children from Reception to Year 8



DAILY TIMES

	Early Drop-off	8:00 - 8:45
	Standard Day	8:45 - 4:00
	Extended Day	4:00 - 5:00
	Super Extended	4:00 - 5:30

Flexible Drop-Off Window (8:45 - 9:15am)
Children can arrive at any time within this window

Use your Government Tax free Childcare Vouchers (saves you 20%)



OPEN DAILY
8:00 - 5:30pm

Venues Across:

York
Knaresborough
Harrogate
Leeds
Castleford
Wakefield
East Riding

Limited space available -
booking early is recommended

OUR EXTRA "WOW" EQUIPMENT

(Moves around venues - subject to dates - see website for whereabouts)



Inflatable
Sausage Dog



Nerf
Battles



Bouncy
Castles



Silent
Disco



Water
Park



Football
Darts



Archery
(Child friendly)

TRUST & BOOKING

- OFSTED Registered
- Tax-Free Childcare Accepted
- Flexible Booking
- Book Individual Days or Full Weeks
- Children in reception accepted (limited spaces)

WEEKLY OVERVIEW

MYSTERIOUS MONDAY
KIDS CHOOSE THEIR FAVORITE CLIMB

TEAM TUESDAY
CAMP & CHALLENGES

WICKED WEDNESDAY
WEEK-END WOODSCHOOL ACTIVITIES

TERRIFYING THURSDAY
TRENCH TREAT CHALLENGES

FANCY DRESS FRIDAY
DRESS UP & JOIN US FOR HALLOWEEN RECEPTIONS

BOOKING & TIMETABLES



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 totalsportsltd
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10% EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT

AVAILABLE UNTIL 4th OCTOBER (PRICE ALREADY DISCOUNTED ONLINE)

www.totalsportslimited.co.uk

Climb Harrogate

Powered by My Expedition Rocks



Our fun, structured sessions teach young climbers everything from knot tying and belaying to lead climbing in a supportive environment. Growing a lifelong hobby and interest in climbing.

• Sundays

10:00-13:00

Live for Today
Climbing Centre,
HG2 8QT



7+ years old



8th November 2026



£180.00 (6-week block)



Klarna, Childcare Vouchers



All equipment supplied

What's covered?

- Knot tying
- Belaying
- Coaching
- Lead climbing
- Confidence
- Teamwork

OFSTED REGISTERED - ROCK CLIMBING 6



WWW.MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM

INFO@MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM



OCTOBER HOLIDAY ROCK CLIMBING



Holiday climbing sessions are an ideal way for kids to get out and enjoy the great outdoors at Ilkley. The other option is climbing indoors and receive an amazing introduction to such an awesome sport. Activities include climbing, abseiling and weaselling. An action packed day they'll remember.

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

Ilkley Cow & Calf: 26th, 28th, 30th October 2027

Big Depot Leeds: 27th-29th October 2027

Childcare Vouchers accepted



Book online or contact us via email



WWW.MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM INFO@MYEXPEDITIONROCKS.COM

*Sporting Influence have now opened their bookings for **Play2EmpowHER Bridging Academy** on Monday, 5-6pm at Rossett Acre Primary School. This is for girls and will be FREE of cost! Parents can book this via the Sporting Influence website - www.sportinginfluence.com.*

As places are limited, it is recommended you express your interest early to secure your booking.



**ALL NEW
SATURDAY SESSION
CRAFTY LLAMAS
ARTS & CRAFTS**

A RELAXED AND WELCOMING CREATIVE
SESSION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE **AGED 10-15**
WITH SEND (NO DIAGNOSIS REQUIRED)

EVERY SATURDAY
10-11AM

ARTIZAN CREATIVE SPACE
OXFORD STREET, HARROGATE
(ABOVE THE ARTIZAN SHOP)

FULLY ACCESSIBLE & FREE TO ATTEND
DROP IN - NO BOOKING REQUIRED
QUESTIONS? CALL 01423 509251

ARTIZAN
INTERNATIONAL



Oakdale

Festive wreath making workshop.

Join us for a relaxed morning of festive wreath making.
All profits go to the Oakdale Charitable Fund, helping to provide low-fee counselling and psychotherapy for people in our community who might otherwise be unable to access the support they need.

WHEN
Saturday 28 November
10am – 12.30pm

WHERE
St Wilfrid's Church Hall
Duchy Rd, Harrogate
HG1 2EY

PRICE
£40 per wreath
Ages 16+, one person per wreath.
All materials provided.

Book your place.
Places are limited and booking is essential.
In aid of the Oakdale Charitable Fund



With thanks to Spofforth Golf Club, Harrogate Golf Club and Oakdale Golf Club for their kind donations of foliage.

www.oakdalegroup.org



Santa Dash

SWINTON BOUNDARY
12 NOV 2025
11:00 - 14:00

SECURE YOUR TICKETS HERE!



SCAN ME!

2.5k off-road family walk/run
 Every step helps support people experiencing homelessness

includes...

- Goodie Bag
- Santa Hat
- Medals

Family £27.50

Adults £10.00

Child £5.00





HARROGATE HOMELESS PROJECT
 HOPE • EMPOWERMENT • TEAMWORK • 35 YEARS
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SWINTON ESTATE