St. Peter's
Church of England Primary School
Love Learn Shine

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 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

🌟 Headteacher's Weekly Round-Up 🌟

It has been another fantastic week at St Peter's, with children enjoying a range of experiences that have brought learning to life both inside and beyond the classroom.

One particular highlight has been our involvement in the Into Film Festival. Children across the school enjoyed visits to the cinema, giving them the opportunity to experience storytelling on the big screen alongside their friends. These visits were about much more than simply watching a film; they helped develop children's communication, critical thinking and literacy skills while creating lasting memories. We are incredibly fortunate to have such excellent local opportunities on our doorstep, and experiences like these help children make connections between the stories they encounter in school and the wider world around them.

Across the curriculum, children have continued to produce some excellent work. Sparrows have been developing their research skills as they became owl experts in the making, gathering information from books and child-friendly websites. In Years 5 and 6, children have been inspired by our wonderful local surroundings, using visits to The Stray to support both their artwork and writing, while Year 4 Starlings have been producing imaginative writing inspired by Leon and the Place Between.

It was also lovely to welcome Reverend Karin Shaw back into school to lead worship this week. Through the story of David and Goliath, she encouraged children to think about the pebbles David used to overcome his challenge and what their own "pebbles" might be when facing difficulties. Children suggested thoughtful ideas including asking trusted adults for help, talking to friends, showing perseverance, praying, staying positive, believing in themselves and using the skills they have already learned. It was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on resilience and the ways we can all overcome challenges.

Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who supported our second Walk to School Day of the year. It was fantastic to see so many children and families join our Walking Bus from The Stray before school on Friday morning. The route was filled with conversation, smiles and a real sense of community. We hope everyone enjoyed the opportunity to walk to school together with friends and family members. It was a wonderful way to start the day and highlighted the many benefits of active travel for both physical wellbeing and social connection.

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. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mr Griffiths

Headteacher

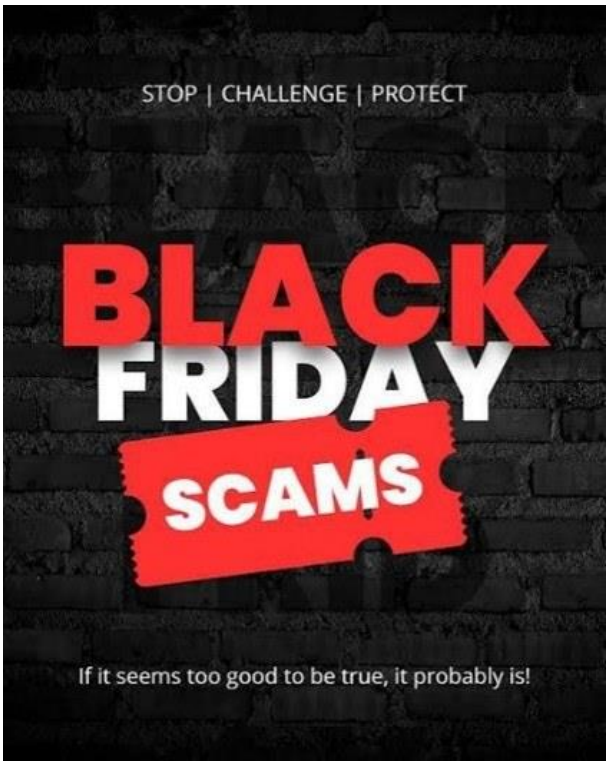


Safeguarding, Welfare & Wellbeing

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.

Black Friday Scams

With Black Friday and Cyber Monday approaching, it is a good time to remind families to stay alert online. Fraudsters often use fake sales, giveaways and limited-time offers to trick people into sharing personal information or making payments for items that do not exist. Children may also encounter scams through gaming platforms, social media or online marketplaces.Please encourage children to talk to a trusted adult before clicking on links, entering payment details or responding to unexpected messages. It is also worth reminding grandparents and other family members to be cautious, as criminals are increasingly targeting older adults through fake calls claiming to be from well-known companies such as Amazon.Suspicious emails can be reported to: report@phishing.gov.uk. Staying vigilant helps keep everyone safer online. Further information: Black Friday warning (NCSC)



Awards

✨ **This Week's SHINE Award Winners Are…**

⭐ **Early Years and Key Stage One**

Wrens - Elliott & Sophia

Kingfishers - Arthur & Cleo

Sparrows - Billy & Roxie

⭐ **Year 3/4**

Owls - Evie & Zi

Starlings - Lyra & Riccardo

⭐Year 5/6

Herons - Mylo & Tanya

Ravens - Dinuli & Yeva

Eagles - Alicia & Elodie

☆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 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

Friday 11 December 12pm- Whole School Visit to Panto- Sleeping Beauty- All classes. Early lunch for all in classrooms.

Tuesday 15 December- School Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day- All classes. Usual uniform with Christmas Jumper as optional extra.

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

Parent Governor Election

Thank you to all parents who showed an interest in becoming a Parent Governor and to those who engaged in discussions about the role. We were delighted to receive three nominations, which means an election will now take place.

Further details about the candidates, voting arrangements and eligibility were shared in a letter sent earlier this week. Please take a few moments to review this information and cast your vote. Where possible, we would encourage families to vote electronically, as this helps make the process quicker, more efficient and a better use of school resources.

We appreciate your involvement in this important process, which helps ensure parents have a voice in the governance of our school. We will keep families updated and share the outcome of the election in due course.



Updated Term Dates 2026-2027

We are pleased to confirm that the school term dates and INSET days for the 2027-2028 academic year are now available on our website.There has been one small amendment to the previously proposed INSET programme. The autumn term INSET day will now take place on Monday 1 November 2027.We encourage all families to take a look at the published calendar and make a note of the key dates. The full list of term dates, holidays and INSET days can be found on the school website.Before booking holidays, family trips or routine appointments, please check the calendar carefully. Doing so helps ensure children are able to make the most of their learning time and avoids unnecessary absence from school. We appreciate your support and forward planning.



End of Term Reports and Parent Consultations

Following the successful introduction of this approach last year, we will once again be providing families with a written end-of-term report for all children in Years 1 to 6.

We will write to families with further information on Friday 11 December, and reports will be shared with parents on Thursday 17 December. The reports will provide an overview of your child's progress, attainment and engagement in school during the autumn term.

Individual parent consultations will then take place during the first few weeks of January, giving families an opportunity to discuss their child's report and next steps with their class teacher. We will confirm the consultation dates and booking arrangements as soon as possible. As was the case last year, appointment booking will be completed through Arbor.

We hope that sharing reports ahead of consultations continues to support productive and meaningful conversations about children's learning and development.



Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) News





FOSP Christmas Fair

We are looking forward to a festive afternoon on Saturday 5th December, from 1-3pm

We'd be so grateful for your support in helping to make the fair a success.

Please see attached the details of the donations we need, along with the information about raffle tickets.

Community News





Venue	Location	Dates	Total Energy	HAF Places	Swim Dates
Archbishop Holgate's Secondary	York	21-23 Dec	✓	✓	21,22 & 23 Dec
Aspin Park Academy	Knaresborough	21-23 Dec	✓	✓	
Bramhope Primary	Leeds	21-23 Dec	✓		
Duchy College	Harrogate	14-23 Dec	✓	✓	14, 16, 18, 21, 22, 23
Huntington Secondary	York	21-23 Dec	✓	✓	
Manor CE Academy Total Energy & Football	York	21-23 Dec	✓		
Pocklington School	Pocklington	21-23 Dec	✓	✓	21,22 & 23 Dec
Queen Elizabeth's	Wakefield	17-23 Dec	✓		17, 18, 21, 22, 23
Wigginton Primary	York	21-23 Dec	✓		

BEGINNER GIRLS TAG RUGBY

Harrogate and Knaresborough School Games have teamed up with Harrogate RUFC to introduce more girls to rugby, the club and the fantastic community surrounding team sport.

We would like to invite girls from Harrogate and Knaresborough to take part in a series of beginner sessions throughout the year where students will learn basic passing, attacking, defending skills from community coaches and build their confidence in something new.

We will run three training sessions and two fun, low pressure tournaments.

TIME
1-3pm

VENUE
Harrogate Rugby Club, Rudding Ln, HG3 1DQ

DATES

Training session 1: Thurs 26th November 2026
Training session 2: Thurs 21st January 2027
Training session 3: Thurs 18th March 2027
Six Nations Themed Tournament: Thurs 20th May 2027
Summer Celebration: Thurs 1st July 2027

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

- Intro to basic passing skills
- Fun, small sided games
- Develop defensive skills and tagging skills
- Have fun, meet other students and coaches

No matter your experience level, come along, play, learn and have fun!

SCHOOL GAMES North Yorkshire Sport.

