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

NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 6TH 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 🌟

What a pleasure it has been to welcome everyone back after half term. I hope all our families enjoyed a restful and enjoyable break. School has quickly returned to its usual busy, vibrant atmosphere, and it has been lovely to see children settling straight back into their learning with such enthusiasm.

One of the highlights of my week has been spending time in classrooms across the school. I have particularly enjoyed seeing how our reflection and prayer spaces are being used. In both Owls and Eagles, I was privileged to read some incredibly thoughtful responses, reflections and prayers written. Our classroom reflection spaces have continued to support children's spiritual development, providing opportunities to pause, think deeply and share questions, prayers and reflections.

In Wrens, children explored Bonfire Night through a range of creative and practical activities, while Herons ventured outdoors to create typography artwork using natural materials, combining creativity, design and outdoor learning.

It has also been a busy week of personalised tours for prospective families considering St Peter's for September 2027. Showing visitors around our school is always a genuine pleasure, especially when I can introduce them to our wonderful children. Time and again, visitors

comment on how confidently, respectfully and articulately our children speak. This is a real credit to the excellent work taking place in classrooms every day, where staff consistently encourage children to explain their thinking, use full sentences and engage in meaningful discussion.

This week I have also enjoyed working with our new Play Squad members. We are delighted to have expanded the team to include our Year 5 children, creating additional Play Squad leaders across the main playground, EYFS area, Nest and dining room. These children play an important role in supporting younger children, helping games run smoothly and ensuring everyone feels included. They have risen brilliantly to the challenge and are already demonstrating excellent leadership.

There have been many exciting learning experiences taking place across school this week. Children enjoyed an immersive virtual reality experience with EduPeopleVR, bringing learning to life through curriculum-linked visits to habitats, volcanoes and other fascinating locations around the world.

Finally, I am very much looking forward to beginning the enjoyable task of reading this year's 500 Word story competition entries. I have already seen a small number of submissions and have been incredibly impressed by the creativity, imagination and effort shown. A huge thank you to every child who has entered. I look forward to sharing more about the competition and celebrating some of the fantastic writing in the coming weeks.

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.

Dark Nights Bonfire Safety

With just complete and Bonfire weekend approaching, we would like to remind families of a few simple ways to help keep children safe while they enjoy the celebrations. Organised firework displays are usually the safest option, and fireworks should only ever be handled by responsible adults. If children use sparklers, close supervision is essential, along with gloves and a bucket of water for safe disposal. When out trick-or-treating, children should stay with a trusted adult, wear bright or reflective clothing and only visit homes that welcome callers. Please also check costumes are safe, fit well and are kept away from naked flames. A little preparation can help everyone enjoy a fun and safe autumn season

Read the full letter here.

November Online Safety Newsletter

Our November Online Safety Newsletter contains important information to help families support children in navigating the online world safely. This month's edition highlights several current concerns, including online grooming, harmful online communities known as COM networks, WhatsApp channels, Spotify parental controls and the growing trend of "rage bait" content designed to provoke reactions online. The newsletter explains some of the risks children may encounter through gaming platforms, social media and messaging apps, whilst providing practical advice on privacy settings, parental controls and starting positive conversations at home. We encourage all parents and carers to take a few minutes to read the full Online Safety Newsletter here.



Awards

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

⭐ **Early Years and Key Stage One**

Wrens - Erin & Frankie

Kingfishers - Eadie-Lou & Matilda

Sparrows - Olivia T & Serena

⭐ **Year 3/4**

Owls - Matthew & Ottilie

Starlings - Eva & Kyler

⭐ **Year 5/6**

Herons - Dellen & Layla-Rose

Ravens - Aurora & Yeva

Eagles - Emmeleia & Lucy

☆ 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.

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

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

Remembrance

Next week, we will mark Remembrance through a range of special activities designed to help children reflect on the sacrifices made by others and the importance of service, peace and gratitude. Throughout the week, our Year 6 children will continue to sell Royal British Legion

Poppy Appeal items at breaktimes and lunchtimes. Children who wish to purchase an item may bring a donation, with poppies from 50p and other appeal items from £1.

On Wednesday, Dr Garrow from St Peter's Church and Mr Griffiths will lead a special Remembrance worship for all children and staff. This will include opportunities for reflection, learning and our two-minute silence. We will also remember two local Victoria Cross recipients, Second Lieutenant Donald Simpson Bell VC and Private Charles Hull VC, whose courage and service continue to inspire us today.



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.



Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) News



KS2 Movie Night

FOSP is excited to be hosting a film night for KS2 Children on Thursday 20th November, straight after school!

Please see the attached details. Consent forms will be emailed out by the office.



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





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

DISCOVER THE 'NEW'

THE SUNDAY TIMES
SCHOOLS GUIDE 2026
TOP 10 INDEPENDENT SCHOOL FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
NORTH

ASHVILLE



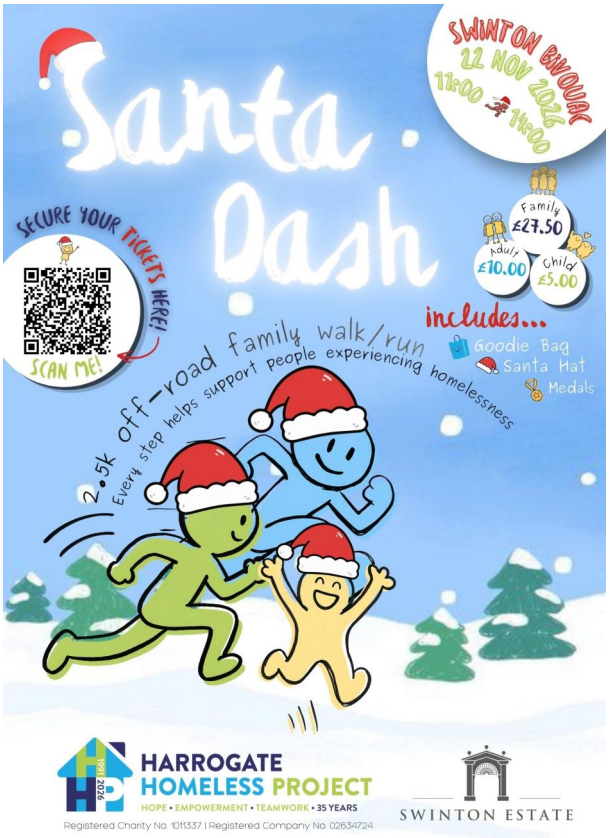
Year 7 Taster Morning

Saturday 14 November



Call 01423 800500

admissions@ashville.co.uk


Santa Dash
SWINTON BIVOUAC
12 NOV 2026
11:00 - 14:00
SECURE YOUR TICKETS HERE!
SCAN ME!
Family £27.50
Adult £10.00
Child £5.00
includes...
Goodie Bag
Santa Hat
Medals
2.5k off-road family walk/run
Every step helps support people experiencing homelessness
HARROGATE HOMELESS PROJECT
HOPE • EMPOWERMENT • TEAMWORK • 35 YEARS
1991 2026
Registered Charity No. 1011337 | Registered Company No. 02634724
SWINTON ESTATE