



Kirkstall St Stephen's

Newsletter 25th September 2026

Diary Dates and Forthcoming PTA Events	Date
Training day school closed	Wednesday 30 September
School Nursing Team in school for Seasonal Flu Vaccine	Thursday 1 st October
Parent Equality Group meeting in Year 6 classroom	Thursday 1 st October 3.30-4.15pm
Open afternoon for Reception children September 2027	Wednesday 7 October 1.30-3.20pm
Harvest Festival in Church	Wednesday 14 October 2.30pm
Open morning for 2027 Reception children	Saturday 17 October 9.00-11.00am
Break up for half term holiday	Friday 23 October
Return to school	Monday 2 November
Open afternoon for 2027 Reception children	Wednesday 4 November

Class with best attendance this week	Year 1 99.55%
Overall school attendance	94.7%

Black History Month - Honouring Our Communities

At KSS, Black history is part of our curriculum throughout the year, but every October we also come together to celebrate Black History Month and explore important stories, people and communities in greater depth.

This year's theme is 'Honouring Our Communities'. We will be thinking about people and communities who have helped to make Britain what it is today, including those whose contributions may not always be famous or widely remembered.

We'll explore people who have helped their local communities, cared for others, created opportunities, challenged unfairness and contributed to British culture through music, art, writing, sport and more. We'll also look at the communities themselves and how Black people have built organisations, businesses, traditions and support networks in Britain.

Our whole-school question is - Who are the people who make our communities stronger?

Each year group will approach the question differently -

Reception: I belong to a community.

Year 1: People help us feel that we belong.

Year 2: One person can make a difference.

Year 3: People bring their culture and traditions to new communities.

Year 4: People can challenge unfairness and create change.

Year 5: People can create something that brings a community together.

Year 6: Some important community stories are not remembered enough.

We'll also celebrate the rich Black history of Leeds and West Yorkshire, including the people and communities who have helped shape our local area.

We want our children to understand that Black history is not just about famous people or events from the past and it certainly isn't just for October. It is part of our shared history and can be found in the people, places, cultures and communities around us every day.

We're looking forward to sharing our learning throughout the month!

Mrs Murray

We would like to congratulate Mrs Murray on the safe arrival of her baby boy! Both mum and baby are doing well.

Equality Group

Our parent equality group is an important part of school and an opportunity for parents to give their voice and support in crucial aspects of school life relating to equality and ensuring everyone is cherished at KSS.

We are aiming to meet each half term and the first meeting of the year is on **Thursday 1st October at 3.30-4.15pm in the Year 6 classroom** and there will be childcare available. Please come and meet at the Year 6 side door.

School Choir

Calling all singing enthusiasts! The Kirkstall St Stephens School Choir is starting again. Choir practice will be on Monday's after school from 3.30 4.25pm. Initially any child in years 3,4,5 and 6 are welcome. If your child is in Year 2 they can start from 2nd November after the half term. If your child would like to attend please let the school office know. As we give out a biscuit at the start please let us know if they have any allergies.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

**Phil Sheppard
Head Teacher**