



Kirkstall St Stephen's

Newsletter 2nd October 2026

Diary Dates and Forthcoming PTA Events	Date
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
Light Party – this includes a “silent disco”, games, crafts and food	Wednesday 21 October KS1 3.30-4.45pm KS2 4.45-6.00pm
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 2 with 98 %
Overall school attendance	94.7%

PTA Light Party

On the 21st October after school the PTA will be hosting a “Light Party”

This consists of a “silent disco” but there will also be games and craft making. Key Stage 1 will be from 3.30 till 4.45pm, and Key Stage 2 will be 4.45 until 6.00pm.

Children can come in bright coloured clothes and there will be food and drinks for them.

If you would like your child to come, payment options will be open from Monday on School Gateway for you to book and pay. The cost is £4.50 per child and you will be able to book up to 2 days before. We cannot accept bookings on the day. This is to enable the PTA to be able to get an idea of numbers to cater for.

There is a comment box for you to indicate if your child requires the vegetarian/halal hot dogs. You can also indicate if you give consent to temporary tattoos or face painting for your child.

October 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!

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

**Phil Sheppard
Head Teacher**