



Kirkstall St Stephen's

Newsletter 9th October 2026

Diary Dates and Forthcoming PTA Events	Date
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 Deadline to pay on School Gateway Monday 19 October	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
Parent's Evening (phone calls throughout week as well) PTA used uniform sale from 3.30pm	Wednesday 11 November 3.45-7.00pm
Tempest Individual photographs (on role children only)	Wednesday 18 November AM in school

Class with best attendance this week	Year 1 99.6%
Overall school attendance	95.8%

Correct Procedure for Reporting Absence

Just a reminder of the correct route to report your child's absence (for any reason) so the information goes to the right person. This includes appointments and requests for leave of absence.

A Ring the school office on 01133821960 and leave a message.

B Email via the school email contactus@kirkstallss.net or contact Mrs Wren on nicola.wren@kirkstallss.net

C Message Mrs Wren via School Gateway.

Please do not use Class Dojo or message other members of staff.

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 are open 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.

Deadline to book and pay is Monday 19 October.

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.

Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival is on Wednesday 14th October at 2.30pm at church. We are joining St Stephen's Church to give food to PAFRAS and the Local Food Project.

PAFRAS is a charity which works with asylum seekers and refugees in Leeds, offering support, drop in sessions and giving out food. The local Community Pantry meets in the Church Hall and gives the opportunity to buy groceries and fresh produce at an affordable price.

Please can you bring in sealed packets of dried food products/ tins or unused toiletries to your child's class teacher by Wednesday 14th October AM and we will take them over to church for the service.

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**