



St Paul's C of E Primary School

St Paul's C of E Primary School,
York. A place to belong.

Our school is a family where
everyone feels safe, happy, and
valued and is supported to
achieve their full potential.

Issue 1 – Friday 18 September 2026

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to a brand-new school year! The children have settled in brilliantly, and we are especially thrilled to welcome our new Reception class alongside new students joining us across other year groups. It's already been an action-packed start to the term, with fantastic workshops and visitors bringing our new learning topics to life and filling the school with excitement and fun! You may have also noticed our exciting new Studio on the playground- this fantastic space is being transformed into our new school library, which we hope to open for children during breaktimes and lunchtimes once work is completed around October half term. Watch this space!

Grandparents Afternoon Tea

Thanks to all who joined Year 1 last Friday, we had a lovely time letting you see our classroom. Your stories from your childhood were very entertaining!



Macmillan Cake Sale

As the Friends of St Paul's Sausage Sizzle is next Friday, 25th September, it falls on the same day as Macmillan Cake fundraiser, a charity we support each year. Therefore, instead of a Coffee Morning, we will have a Macmillan Cake Stall at the Sausage Sizzle – we would be very grateful for donations or homemade or bought goods, to be brought into school next Friday morning.

We appreciate many of you expert home bakers already helpfully highlight allergens or list ingredients for us, but now, our new allergy policies stipulate that **all bakes must be labelled with a full list of ingredients**. Many thanks for your support with this.

School Photographs

Our school photographer, Nicole, from Tempest, will be with us on Wednesday 7th October.

Please can ALL children come to school in their school uniform, no PE kit required. PE will be activities that can be done in uniform for one day.

During the morning Nicole will take all individual and siblings in school photographs. Within a few days you will receive a link by email, this will be sent to the **primary contact only** for all pupils. For any parents who wish to also receive the link, please contact the school office to arrange this. If you would like to place an order, you usually have up to 2 weeks in which to select the option of FREE postage to school.

Flu Vaccinations – Whole School

Vaccination UK is attending our school for flu vaccinations on Wednesday 10th November. Vaccination UK will contact the primary contact for each child in school directly for consent.



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School Council Elections

Elections for this year's School Council will take place in classrooms during the week of 28th September.

If your child would like to run for School Councillor, they will need to prepare a short speech to share with their class. When writing their speech, they might want to consider:

- Why they want to represent their class
- What qualities make a great School Councillor
- Their ideas for making our school an even better place this year

Each class will hold speeches and vote democratically for their representatives. Our new School Councillors will be officially announced during Stars Assembly on Friday, 2nd October.

The School Council's first mission will be to brighten up our playground by planting spring bulbs. To help us get started, we are kindly asking for donations of spring flower bulbs, plant pots and bags of compost. We are also looking for any green-thumbed volunteers to join us on Friday, 9th October from 1:30pm to help the children with planting.

If you can donate materials or lend a hand on the day, please let the school office know.

New Website

You may have seen the email earlier this week - we are delighted to announce that we have launched a brand-new website for our school!

You can find us at the exact same web address [here](#)

While the layout remains familiar so you can still find everything easily, the updated site offers a cleaner design, faster access to information, and a much smoother experience on mobile phones and tablets.

Email: stpauls.primary@york.gov.uk

Instagram: [@stpaulsprimaryyork](https://www.instagram.com/stpaulsprimaryyork)

Website: www.stpaulsprimaryyork.com

Exciting News

We are delighted to share some wonderful news with you. Mrs Gardiner (formerly Miss Mercer) is expecting her second child!

Baby Gardiner is due at the end of February, and we know you will all join us in sending her and her family our warmest congratulations as they prepare to welcome this new addition.

Mrs Gardiner will continue in her role as normal as we head through the Autumn term. We are currently finalising the staffing plan to ensure a seamless transition for the children, and we will share these details with you closer to the time.

Thank you for your continued support, and please join us in wishing Mrs Gardiner all the very best!

Changes to Free School Meals

As you may know there has been a government change affecting all families who are currently in receipt of FSM, thank you to all those who reapplied prior to the summer holiday. You should have been advised if your child qualifies for either:

- **Expanded FSM – Just meals**
- **Targeted FSM – Meals and additional funding towards trips and activities**

Please contact Mrs King in the school office with any questions about how the new rules affect funding for your child if you are unsure.

Class Reception & In-Year Starters

Thank you to all those who have activated their child's ParentPay account, if you haven't already done this, please do so as soon as you are able. We use ParentPay to communicate about all school trips and activities. Even if your child is in



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receipt of additional funding, please still sign up for communications.

Finally, by adding a mobile number we can contact you by text for any minor head bumps.

Breakfast & After School Club

Please remember children are welcome in the paid Breakfast &/or After School Club (up to 35 places) or FREE DfE breakfast scheme club from **8:20am**, to book a place in any of the above, please contact Childcare Bookings on 01444 523335 or email stpauls@cbfs.uk



Meet the teacher/Topic Information

Thank you to those who attended our Meet the teacher event, we hope you found it useful. If you were unable to attend, class teachers will have posted the slides on their Google Classrooms. You will also find your class's current topic information and homework grids for the term.

Friends of St Paul's Community Update

We hope you all had a good summer break! We're starting off the new school year with a packed weekend from Friday 25th September, and look forward to seeing lots of you there as we welcome all our new Reception families to St Paul's. Please see QR code to the Friends of St Paul's WhatsApp group below and read on for events and information.



 **Sausage Sizzle, Friday 25th September, 3.30-5.30pm at Holgate Dock**

Join us on Holgate Dock for food, drinks and games! A lovely chilled event and a chance to welcome the new reception families to our community. This year we're trying something new - **£3 entry per child** with all games and bouncy castle included in the price. Bring along cash or card for food and drinks. We'll also be celebrating the start of this year's scarecrow trail and will be selling maps for £2. If you can help on the day - either setting up or clearing away, or by doing a slot on the barbecue, bar or bouncy castle, we'd be hugely grateful! Please get in touch through your class WhatsApp



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groups or the Friends of St Paul's WhatsApp community using the QR code.

♥ Please bring cash along to the Sausage Sizzle as school will be running a cake stall to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support too!

🏠 St Paul's Community Scarecrow Trail, Friday 25th-Sunday 27th September

The Scarecrow Trail is back for another year and this time we're joining in some very special celebrations! St Paul's Church is turning 175 this year and so we're combining our trail with church's weekend of community events. Our theme this year is 'Through the Decades' and we'd love you to spot the scarecrows round Holgate and join us for some cake! Trail maps will be on sale in the playground soon, as well as at the Sausage Sizzle on Friday 25th. The scarecrows will appear on the Friday afternoon and disappear again on Sunday evening. Bring your completed maps to our Trail Cafe at St Paul's Church on Saturday 26th, 1-4pm, or to Monday morning drop off, for a small prize!

🍰 Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to make or bring treats for the Saturday cafe! If anyone else is able to donate cakes or treats to sell, please do get in touch! Shop bought or homemade are all welcome!

🇬🇧 FOSP Community Meet-up, Thursday 1st October

We'll be gathering for an informal chat on at The Fox pub, Thursday 1st October, from 7.45pm.

Please keep the date free and come along! We'd love to see you.

🎄 Christmas Fair, Friday 27th November

whisper Yes, we are starting to think about the Christmas Fair which will be coming up at the end of November - please save the date and watch this space for more information!

Diary Dates

School Meals

We will be on **Week 3** of the school dinner menu next week.

September

Wednesday 23rd – Year 5 & 6 Food Festival
Thursday 24th – Year 3 & 4 Food Festival
Thursday 24th – Year 4/5 Residential Information Evening 4-5pm on Zoom
Friday 25th – Sausage Sizzle
Friday 25th - 27th – Scarecrow Trail

October

Wednesday 7th – Individual & Sibling Photographs (**all children in school uniform**)
Friday 23rd – Harvest Festival at St Paul's Church 1:30pm

November

Wednesday 10th – Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 17th – Parent Consultation Meetings
Wednesday 18th – Parent Consultation Meetings
Monday 23rd – Christmas Craft Afternoon
Friday 27th – Friends of St Paul's Christmas Fair



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Stars of the Week, 18 September 2026



Class Reception – Arnie, for showing great listening on the carpet and always being ready to learn 😊 Well done!

Class 1 – Ami, for being an excellent role model in class, always trying her hardest and having a fantastic start to Year 1! Well done.

Class 2 – Mae, for persevering through all of your learning and being a superstar in class (even with a broken elbow)!

Class 3 – Reuben, for taking great care when producing an amazing 'cave' drawing and showing such pride. Well done!

Class 4 – Eleanor, for demonstrating incredible drama skills during our workshop this week. Well done!

Class 5 – Ariel, for always taking pride in your work and trying your best in lessons – you created a great shaded dragon, some wonderful ribbon dance moves, and are making great progress in Maths too! Well done.

Class 6 – Erik, for always trying his hardest, listening well, joining in beautifully and being a splendid role model!

Class Reception





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Class 1



Class 2





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Class 3



Class 4





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Class 5



Class 6





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Notices

Froggy Legs
Swim School

**NEURO-DIVERSITY
FRIENDLY LESSONS**

New sessions starting
WEEK COMMENCING 7/9/2026

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.FROGGYLEGS.CO.UK
OR EMAIL US AT:
FROGGYLEGSSWIMSCHOOL.YORK@GMAIL.COM

SMALL CLASSES
Only private one to ones
at this time in the pool

**CALM & SUPPORTIVE
ENVIRONMENT**

**FOCUS ON
INDIVIDUAL NEEDS**

RICHARD SHEPHARD
MUSIC
FOUNDATION

Join our Celebration Choir!

In 2026 we're celebrating 5 years of the Richard Shephard Music Foundation! To celebrate this milestone, we're looking for children aged 7-11 to come together and sing at events.

Rehearsals will take place in York, outside of school hours, and it's totally FREE to take part.

For more information, and to sign up, please scan the QR code below or visit www.rsmf.org.uk/choir

**YORK BOARD GAMES
CONVENTION**

St Peter's School, YO30 6AB
23rd - 25th Oct 2026

YBGC.CO.UK

Exhibitors
Bring & Buy
The Forge RPGs
Games library
Giant Games
Clocktower

supported by
hachette
BOOKS
HUGO



Start music lessons this September
Would your child like to learn an instrument?
York Music Education welcomes new learners
this term. Visit www.yorkmusiced.org.uk to
explore the options and join the waiting list.
Joining the waiting list is simply the first step in
arranging lessons. Places may be available
straight away, and the team will contact you
with the next steps.
Thank you for helping us bring music making to
more children. If you would like to discuss
music provision in your school, please get in
touch.