St Lawrence's C of E Primary School
Heslington Road, York, YO10 5BW
Tel: 01904 806486 Email: office@stl.pmat.academy
Friday 2nd October 2026

Caring, Considerate, Courageous

As I have loved you, so you must love one another. (John 13:34-35)

A Message from Miss Hammond

What a rainy day it has been today! We were very thankful that the rain stopped just in time for both breaktime and lunchtime, allowing the children to get outside, enjoy some fresh air and have a chance to play with their friends. It is always lovely when the children can make the most of their outdoor time, even when the weather is not quite on our side!

Last Friday, a group of children from Foxes Class visited the STEM Centre to take part in some exciting explorer-themed activities. These experiences provide wonderful opportunities for children to develop their curiosity, problem-solving skills and teamwork while exploring new ideas and learning in a different environment. I look forward to hearing more about what they discovered during their visit.

A quick reminder that Tuesday is pupil photograph day. If you require any further information about the photographs, please contact the school office, who will be happy to help.
We have also included some important information about school site safety in this week's newsletter. Please do take the time to read through it carefully. Keeping our children, families and staff safe is incredibly important to us, and we really appreciate your support in following our school safety procedures.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and cooperation. Despite the wet weather, it has been another positive week at St Lawrence's, and it has been lovely to see the children continuing to learn, play and enjoy their time together.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Miss Hammond

Smiles at the Ready!

On **Tuesday 13th October**, we are welcoming The School Photography Company into school to take individual photographs of the children.

Each child will bring home an individual card with a QR code which can be scanned on your phone. This will take you straight to The Photography Company's website where you will need to enter your email address before being able to view the photographs taken of your child/ren and place your order online. All sibling photos will be linked to the order of your eldest child. The photos will then be delivered to your home if you choose that option or delivered back to school for free.

We will arrange photographs with siblings in school on the day.

If you have any younger pre-school children we are able to offer family groups at 8.30am. Please come to the school hall.

We are sure everyone will have a smart uniform and looking well dressed as usual!

School Site Safety Reminders

Pedestrian Gate: Please do not leave the pedestrian gate open or wedge it open at any time. For the safety and security of all children, the gate is only wedged open at specific times by a member of school staff.

No Vaping On Site: Please remember that vaping (and smoking) is strictly forbidden anywhere on school premises.

Behaviour Policy & Protocol: Please note that our updated Behaviour Policy and Parent Protocol will be sent today. Please check your inbox and take a moment to read these.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in keeping our school safe and supportive for everyone.

Diary Dates

13th October	Individual School Photos
23rd October	Break up for Half Term
31st October	Secondary School Application 2027 Deadline
2nd November	Back to School
10th November	Book Fair in School
10th November	Parents Meeting from 2.00pm
11th November	Parents Meeting from 2.00pm
12th November	Flu Vaccinations – Reception to Year 6
16th - 20th November	Anti-Bullying Week 2026: Break the Silence
16th November	Odd Socks Day 2026 for Anti-Bullying week
18th November	Year 1/2, Year 3/4, Y5/6 - Cinema Trip
20th November	Children in Need - information to follow
27th November	Training Day - School Closed for the children
30th November	Christmas Tree Decorating Day
2nd December	Y3/4 The Christmas Journey @ York Community Church
11th December	Christmas Jumper and Lunch Day
17th December	Break Up for Christmas
18th December	Training Day - School Closed
4th January	Training Day - School Closed for the children

Attendance from this Year!

Owls - 87.3%

Badgers - 94.3%

Hedgehogs - 93.6%

Foxes - 86.6%

Whole School - 90.9%

Flu Immunisation Programme:

Reception to Year 6

The Flu Vaccine is being offered to all children in Reception, Y1,Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 on **Thursday 12th November.**

In the previous years, parents has a link from school to complete the consent forms but this year, and going forwards, the consent link and reminders will come from an NHS address to you email.

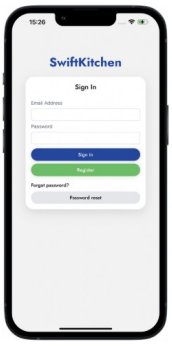
Please look out for this email to consent to your child/ren having the Flu Immunisation

Work with Pathfinder

Are you looking for a new opportunity in education?
Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust regularly has a range of vacancies across our schools and central team, from teaching and support roles to leadership and professional services positions.

If you, or someone you know, would like to find out more about working for Pathfinder, visit our **vacancies page** to see the latest opportunities.

School Meals Ordering



A reminder to please order your child's school lunch in advance on the Swift Kitchen app for the week ahead.

You can order for a week, month or a term at a time so you can be organised!

Once you have chosen the lunch choice for your child and added to the basket, please don't forget to checkout so the order is confirmed.
The cut off for ordering meals for any day is 8.30am.

Any problems, please don't hesitate to contact the School Office.

CAULIFLOWER CARDS

Over the coming weeks, all children will be designing a Christmas card in their class .
They will then bring their artwork home for you to see and then you are able to place an order for cards, mugs, notebooks and various other gifts, by completing an order.
Please then send your order form back to school so we can send the artwork and orders together.

LETS DO SPORTS CLUB

Est. 1841 | YORK ST JOHN UNIVERSITY

Play - Learn - Make friends

October Half Term- Monday 26 - Friday 30 October

Run by YSJ 3rd-year sports students, our camp gives pupils the chance to have fun, make friends and try a range of sports including:

Football
Basketball
Tennis
Dodgeball
Fun Games
And so much more!

LETS DO SPORTS CLUB

Est. 1841 | YORK ST JOHN UNIVERSITY

Play - Learn - Make friends

Monday 26 - Friday 30 October 2026

8.30am - 4pm every day

York St John University, Haxby Road Sports Campus, Haxby Road, York, YO31 7EX

Free to attend

Year 5 children

Packed lunch required

How to book

Scan the QR code to secure your place.
Applications close 9 October 2026.

WELLBEING IN MIND TEAM

If you have any questions prior or issues logging on to the webinar, please contact tewv.wimtwsa@nhs.net

RESILIENCE WEBINAR

MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER - 4PM TO 5PM

This webinar is aimed at young people and parents needing support and advice around supporting resilience.

WEBINAR FOCUS

- To understand what we mean by resilience.
- Explore Negative Automatic Thoughts.
- How to build resilience.
- The cycle of avoidance.
- Positive affirmations.

@wellbeinginmind.mhst

SCAN HERE

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS

To join our webinar please scan the QR code and follow the instructions to join using **Microsoft Teams.** You can also join using the following details:

Meeting ID: 380 925 120 827 591
Passcode: Re7bz3Mx

ignite
SPORTS COACHING

OCTOBER HALF TERM
MULTI-SPORT CLUB

ACOMB	MONDAY 26TH - FRIDAY 30TH
ST GEORGE'S (CENTRAL YORK)	WEDNESDAY 28TH
HEMPLAND (EAST YORK)	THURSDAY 29TH

Ofsted
Registered

£30 PER DAY!

25% SIBLING DISCOUNT

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED!

SCAN QR CODE TO BOOK!

VISIT IGNITESPORTSCOACHING.CO.UK FOR MORE INFO!

Top Tips for Educators

PUPIL WELLBEING CONVERSATIONS

It can feel difficult to know how to start a conversation with a pupil about their wellbeing, either because you do not feel equipped with the information you think you need, or because you do not feel confident opening it up. You do not need to be a specialist. This guide covers how to start, what to say about confidentiality, and what to do with what you hear.

1 NURTURE WARM, TRUSTING, & KIND RELATIONSHIPS

When pupils have a consistent, emotionally available adult who shows they care and who holds them in mind, they thrive. They are also far more willing to open up and seek support. Positive, trusting relationships are an important part of supporting pupil wellbeing and complement more formal wellbeing programmes or sessions.

2 KEEP CALM, EVEN IF YOU'RE WORRIED

When a pupil discloses, stay calm while showing that you take it seriously. Panic can raise their anxiety and teach them that telling an adult makes things worse. Your steadiness can help them to keep calm and give them enough space to say the rest. Calm does not mean unmoved, and it is fine to tell them that what they have said is important and will be heard.

3 HAVE SIDE-BY-SIDE CONVERSATIONS

Many pupils find it easier to talk when a conversation does not require them to sit face to face with an adult. For example, conversations might take place while walking, tidying the classroom, or taking part in a lunchtime club. Sitting alongside someone removes the demand of eye contact, allows longer thinking time and lowers the intensity of the exchange. This can be particularly true for neurodivergent pupils, and for anyone who needs a moment before answering.

4 THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU ARE

Consider whether the pupil can speak without being overheard or interrupted. If a pupil has already started talking, avoid unnecessarily disrupting the conversation by moving elsewhere. Where a more appropriate location is needed, explain why you need to move and give the pupil the opportunity to continue what they were saying.

5 BE HONEST ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY

Never promise to keep information to yourself. Schools have a legal duty to share information relevant to a pupil's safety or welfare. Tell them at the start that you may need to pass something on, and who to. Then involve them in what happens next, as far as their age and understanding allow. Ask what they want to happen, what they want to say, and who they want to be told. Be honest that some things will need to happen whether they agree or not. A pupil who helped shape next steps is far more likely to tell someone again.

6 CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Provide a classroom free from belittling and shame-based behaviour management. Pupils who expect to be humiliated will not disclose. Where they feel listened to and see that difficulties are acted upon, they share worries earlier and whilst those worries are still small. If pupils hear adults belittling or talking about other pupils openly, it damages trust and they are likely to assume their worries will also be handled this way.

7 DO NOT CARRY IT ON YOUR OWN

Hearing something difficult can stay with you. When informing your designated safeguarding lead, share with them how it left you feeling and whether you feel you need further support. Your role as a trusted adult is what makes all of the above possible, and just as you have a responsibility to protect pupils' welfare, your school has a responsibility to protect yours.

HELPFUL OPENERS

- I've noticed you've been quieter. How's your week been?
- You don't seem your usual self, when might be a good time to catch up today?
- Sometimes it's hard to know what to say, but I'd like to understand?
- You don't have to talk now. I'll check in with you later?

Meet Our Expert

Anna Bateman is a mental health and wellbeing specialist with nearly thirty years in education. She is a multi-academy trust director, special adviser, and a former adviser to the Department for Education on its mental health green paper.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Useful resources for your website