



St Lawrence's C of E Primary School

Heslington Road, York, YO10 5BW

Tel: 01904 806486 Email: office@stl.pmat.academy

Friday 23rd 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

It has been a lovely autumnal week at St Lawrence's. We have enjoyed our fabulous Harvest Festival, where we celebrated the food we eat and gave thanks to the people who work hard to produce and provide it. It is always lovely to hear the children singing, and although we were unable to hold our service in St Lawrence's Church this year, we still enjoyed a beautiful service together as a school community.

We cannot believe that it is half term already! The weeks have flown by, and the children have completed so much learning since returning to school in September. Our new Year 1 Badgers have settled into school really well and are doing us proud, whilst Foxes Class are really showing us just how sensible and mature they can be. Across school, it has been wonderful to see the children growing in confidence, developing their independence and embracing the challenges of their learning.

It has also been lovely to see everyone looking so smart in their school uniform and wearing the correct PE kits. It would be great to keep this going as we move into the second half of the autumn term, as it helps to show what a great team St Lawrence's is. Thank you for your support in making sure the children come to school looking smart and ready to learn.

As I look back over the first half term, I feel incredibly proud of the children and all that they have achieved. And how well they have settled back in to the school routine. There have been so many lovely moments, from children sharing their learning with me to seeing them work together, show kindness to their friends and put our school values of being Caring, Considerate and Courageous into action. These everyday moments are just as important as the learning that takes place in our classrooms. Thank you to all our families for your continued support this half term.

I hope you all enjoy a restful and enjoyable half-term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for Autumn 2, ready for another exciting half term of learning and new experiences!

Miss Hammond

Harvest Service

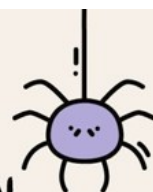
We're so grateful to everyone who attended the Harvest Service this week, it was a lovely service and the children sang and read beautifully.

Because of your wonderful support, we were able to

collect a fantastic amount of food donations to help out the York Food Bank. That will do directly to help local individuals and families in need.



SEND YOUTH FORUM SPOOKY CRAFTS SESSION



JOIN US FOR SOME FREE HALLOWEEN-THEMED CRAFT ACTIVITIES AND GAMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 7+ WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS AND/OR DISABILITIES (SEND) WHO LIVE OR STUDY IN YORK.

THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER 10AM – MIDDAY
SEND CENTRAL, YO30 6JA

EMAIL SENDCENTRAL@YORK.GOV.UK
TO RESERVE A PLACE





Diary Dates

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
5th January	Back to School

Attendance from this Year!

Owls - 92.5%

Badgers - 88.6%

Hedgehogs - 99.6%

Foxes - 86.8%

Whole School - 91.35



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?

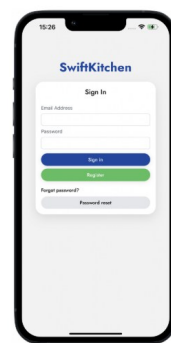
Pathfinder Multi Academy Trust regularly has a range of vacancies across our schools and central team, from teaching and support roles to leadership and professional services positions.

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

Your child has been busy creating their own Christmas design, which can be professionally printed as personalised Christmas Cards, Gift Labels, Wrapping Paper, Spiral Books, Playing Cards, and/or Mugs.

Included with your child's design is a Pupil Order Form. Each form contains a unique code that links directly to your child's artwork. To place an order, please go online and enter this unique code when prompted. All orders and payments must be completed online.

All orders must be placed and artwork forms returned to school by: Friday 6th November 2026 ready for collection by the Cauliflower Group.

WE ARE TAKING PART IN THE
CAULIFLOWER CARDS **2026**
CHRISTMAS PROJECT
RAISING MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL!

Wrapping Paper

Spiral Bound Books

Mugs

Custom Card Greetings

Cards

Gift Labels

Playing Cards

NEW GAMES FOR 2026

Your artwork on the back of every card

Different card games to choose from!



Time Out For Dads!

5 FREE ONLINE PARENTING WORKSHOPS

Starting Tuesday 3rd November 2026

7 - 9pm (via Zoom)



SIGN UP!

**This 5 week course is run by Dads!
For ALL Dads, Stepdads & Paternal
carers, to help you....**

Engage with your children

Strengthen your relationship

Boost your skills & confidence as a parent

Learn tools to support your parenting

Website: www.fmy.org.uk

Email: jenwootten@fmy.org.uk



FREE FAMILY SUPPORT COURSE:

HANDLING ANGER IN THE FAMILY



**ALL families experience anger and
conflict. It's normal!**

But how often do we talk about it?

Join our **FREE** course to find out more
about anger and its impact on our family
relationships. Learn simple strategies to
manage strong emotions and
communicate better.

5 FREE SESSIONS

Starting Monday 9th November 2026

7.15 - 9.15pm

**@ Gateway Centre, Front St, Acomb,
York YO24 3BZ**

Tackling subjects like:
anger triggers, stress and anger,
anger responses, warning signs,
calming strategies, better
communication.

SIGN UP →



Kindly funded by the Feoffees of St Michael's Spurriergate, York



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

DEEPPFAKES

A deepfake is a piece of artificial intelligence (AI) trickery designed to make you believe that a person has said or done something they haven't. AI models are able to use audio, video and photos of a subject to produce misleading mimics. Initially unsophisticated and easy to spot, deepfakes are improving every day. And with the spread of user-friendly AI, it's easier than ever for children to make their own, or be the unsuspecting target of them.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A BULLYING RISK

AI has got easier to use and more widespread, making it a "gift" to bullies. Children can generate fake audio of peers saying damaging things, or pictures of them doing something embarrassing. More disturbingly, Metro recently highlighted cases where fake sexualised images of teens are spread through social media. Mainstream apps don't allow this usage, but with AI becoming widespread, easy-to-use sites without guardrails keep emerging for darker uses.

FAKE FAMILY SCAMS

With a few seconds of audio — from an Instagram reel or TikTok — scammers can clone a person's voice. They can then use this to scam relatives with phone calls asking for money or assistance. This is a widespread tactic for scammers, with the FBI reporting 22,000 such cases in 2025, defrauding victims out of \$893 million that year alone.

FAKED CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

With the technology getting easier to use and public figures having lots of clips for training, celebrities are a frequent target. According to McAfee, the most deep faked celebrities are Taylor Swift, Scarlett Johansson, Jenna Ortega, Sydney Sweeney and Sabrina Carpenter, and their AI dopelgangers are usually pushing scams. Even YouTuber MrBeast has been deepfaked by scammers on TikTok. It can be used for propaganda too, making politicians appear to do or say things to improve or harm their reputation.

EXTORTION RISK

You might not be the one being tricked by a deepfake — you could also be the star of it. Blackmail videos are as old as film itself, but with deepfake technology you don't have to have done anything wrong to be a target. A deepfake video showing a person in an uncompromising position could make the victim pay up, even when the content never happened.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP PROFILES PRIVATE

To make a convincing deepfake, you need a supply of images, audio or video of the subject. That means that most non-celebrity victims are targeted via social media where there's a ready-made repository of media to train a deepfake from. Most social media companies have privacy settings to prevent unauthorised access. Enable these to keep strangers and bullies away.

USE RESEARCH AND COMMON SENSE

Even perfect deep fakes rely on trust, so think critically. If it's someone you know claiming to need help, then ask them to prove they're who they say they are with an inside joke. For public figures, try Googling the person along with a bit of the contentious speech in quotation marks. Also question why you're seeing the video. If it's a paid promotion, then ask yourself who's paying and why. If someone is sharing the clip, do they dislike the target?

KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR

While deepfakes are getting harder to spot, there are still telltale signs to look out for. Deepfake creation can leave blurry edges and flickering textures, especially around hair and teeth. It can also look too sleek, with models often trained on professional video. Make sure the mouth shapes match the spoken words, too. As for audio, listen out for mispronounced phrases and a slightly unusual, robotic rhythm of speech.

TALK TO YOUR CHILDREN

As well as emphasising the need for privacy and to not trust everything they see online, it's important to ensure children realise why deepfakes are problematic in the first place. With deepfake technology getting more accessible and easy to use, children can start using the technology to make deepfakes of schoolmates, teachers or other adults. Ensure they're aware of the serious trouble the technology can cause, and the ethical problems of manipulating someone's image without consent.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of The Guardian, The Telegraph, The i, Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College