



# Flourishing together

*'I have come that you may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10*

## St. Peter's Newsletter

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025



### Headteacher Message



Good afternoon,

Happy New Year! It has been wonderful to welcome all the children back to school this week and get back into the routine of school.

Despite the cold weather and ice, we have had a lovely week and the children have returned to school refreshed, positive and ready for a great half term!

Today we had a wonderful opportunity to meet our local MP, Lizzi Collinge. She carried out a short visit to school to discuss some of the current educational challenges and meet our Y5 and 6 student councillors. Our councillors had the opportunity to talk about how we are developing as a school and aiming to be more sustainable and more aware of climate change. It was a great opportunity and we can't wait to invite Lizzi back later in the year to see some of our developments in action.



As a school, we are committed to supporting the training of new teachers and ensuring those who come to us for training receive high quality experiences. As many of you may be aware, there is a national shortage of teachers and a high number of teachers leave the profession in the first three years. At St Peter's, we are part of the Ripley Initial Teacher Training Programme and offer training placements which are supervised by our highly experienced teachers and the team at Ripley. Next week we have Mr Side joining us. He will be based in the Year 5 class from January – July. Mrs Owens will continue to be the main point of contact for parents of Year 5. Over the next few months, Mr Side's teaching responsibilities will increase. We welcome him warmly to our school.

Mrs Dodd and the team at St Peter's

### Our School Worship and Christian Characteristics



The focus of this week's school worship was Epiphany and 'The King's Visit'.

On Monday we found out about how Epiphany is celebrated in different countries. We reflected on what had been our most special presents over Christmas (and not the physical ones). It was lovely to hear the children talk so positively about enjoying their time with their families and some of the family traditions you have to celebrate at Christmas.

It was lovely to welcome Rev. Mark back to school this week, where the children continued to learn about the visit to baby Jesus by The Kings.

### Curriculum Developments – Our English Curriculum using Literacy Tree

In September we started to trial a new scheme of learning for our English Curriculum. This has been extremely positive on standards of writing across the school!

This week our Oystercatchers class were intrigued by something strange happening on the school field. This was all part of their new English Learning around the text, Beegu. We will continue to share our exciting activities associated with our curriculum as time progresses.



### Year 5 Lakeside Information Evening

Mrs Owens will be holding a Lakeside information evening on Tuesday 11th February from 5pm 6pm.

Please feel free to come along to the Y5 classroom if your child will be attending the Lakeside trip - no booking required.

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### Star of the Week



It has been an amazing first week in school with lots of positivity and children showing how amazing they are. I know the teachers have found it tricky to choose because so many children have worked really hard.

Class	For
Skylark - Jack C	Being a very kind and considerate member of the class!
Sanderling - Hepsey	Always having a positive attitude, even when faced with a challenge.
Oystercatcher - Clara	Some excellent work in our literacy lessons about Beegu!
Eider Ducks - Scarlett W	Consistently striving for excellence in all that you do!
Turnstones - Joseph C	Brilliant ideas and a positive attitude to learning all week.
Dunlins - Lydia	Consistently showing a positive attitude towards all learning, well done!
Lapwings - Lily	Always showing such goodness of character. You are a wonderful member of the class.
Curlews - Jack	Some wonderful use of language in writing lessons this week! 😊

### Request from EYFS Team

This half term we will be learning about superheroes in our local community. It would be fantastic if we could have some visitors in to talk to the children about their job and how it helps us. The emergency services will be our focus over the next few weeks. If we have any paramedics, doctors, nurses, firefighters, police etc., who are willing to help us out, please get in contact with one of us. It would be very much appreciated!

### Request from Breakfast Club Team

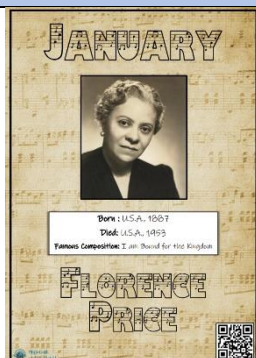
Breakfast Club is very busy this half term and whilst they have lots of games and activities that the children love to take part, they are getting a little bored with some of the old jigsaws and games. Therefore, we kindly request that if you have any jigsaws or games that are suitable for older children that you are willing to donate. They would be gratefully received.

### Gates and Late Arrivals

We know that it is always hard to get back into routines in the first week back in school and it can be tricky for children to make that transition, particularly when faced with very cold and icy weather! However, as we move forward, we need to, once again, remind all parents / carers that the gates must close and be locked by 8.45am prompt to ensure children can be in class in time for morning registration. We also kindly ask that parents come off the playground promptly for gates to be locked on time.

As we have now completed a full Autumn Term, we will begin making contact with parents of children who are persistently late or who have attendance that has started to trigger our first point of contact. We always aim to work collaboratively with parents, to ensure their child receives every opportunity to attend school where possible. We also have the support of a new attendance officer from the local authority, who will be working with us closely to ensure we can continually improve attendance at St Peter's.

### Musician of the Month



As part of our Music Development Plan and curriculum for Music we have introduced 'Musician of the Month.' This is part of allowing children to gain a greater knowledge and understanding of a wide range of musicians both nationally and internationally. Each month we explore the music of our focus musician and find out about their musical style / genre etc.

**This month our Musician of the Month is Florence Price.**  
Further information is outlined below.

### Music Lesson Opportunity

You will be aware that we provide the opportunity for children to learn a musical instrument within school and we are enjoying seeing the children progress as they have lessons at lunchtime and afterschool with Mr French. He has asked us to share with you that we now have 1 space available for a child to learn either the Ukulele or the Guitar on a Monday lunchtime. If you are interested in this space for your child, please email the school office and we will provide contact details for Mr French, who can share with you the costs and other details needed to get started.

### Parking Reminder

Please remember to park responsibly and courteously, to keep our families and neighbours safe. Regular visits will be taking place from the police to monitor parking in the area.

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## Enhanced Curriculum Opportunities

We have a wide range of clubs on offer this half term. Parents will have been contacted via email at the end of last term to notify them whether their child has a place.

We kindly request that parents are prompt at collecting their child from clubs from the blue gate and ensure they are aware of the finish times as specified in the letter or with the tutor. Please see below our list of clubs running (which may have different end dates) this term;

Tuesdays: 1:1 Music Lessons, Y2 Art Club with Mrs Longdon (3.15 - 4.15pm)

Wednesdays: JAM Club (3.15 - 4.15pm) and Spanish Club (3.15 - 4.15pm)

Thursdays: Y1 Lil Beatz Dance Club (3.15 - 4.15pm) and Y4/5 MFC Ball Skills (3.15 - 4.15pm)



## Packed Lunches and Meals

All children in EYFS – Y2 are entitled to have a universal free school meal daily. We would strongly recommend parents in these year groups to encourage your child to try a school meal. There is a variety of warm, healthy food on offer daily and it saves the cost and hassle of making a packed lunch.

We also need parents to be mindful about what they are putting in packed lunches. A packed lunch should still be healthy. Prior to Christmas we noticed a high number of packed lunches with lots of sugary items (including biscuits and chocolate bars). Children should have a healthy packed lunch which includes fruit / vegetables. One small treat can be included e.g. biscuit, we recommend that crisps are limited throughout the week, no fizzy drinks.



Chocolate spread is not allowed due to the high sugar intake and some spreads contain nuts. Juices should be low sugar.

## Pupil Premium Funding

St Peter's is a small school and we rely on any funding we can get to provide the best education outcomes for all children. Schools receive additional funds for children who are eligible for Pupil Premium Funding. This is approx. £1,800 per year per child eligible for the school. It helps to fund the additional support staff we have in place and purchase new resources to ensure all children have the best opportunities. If your circumstances have changed please consider letting us know and completing the eligibility form.

Those eligible for the Pupil Premium are; any child who has received Free School Meals over the past 6 years, children who are cared for or those adopted from care and children whose parents are in the armed forces.

We may have families / children in EYFS – Y2 who are currently receiving free school meals via the universal meals, however we may be missing out additional funding if there are any families / children within these year groups that may fit the criteria above. All information is confidential. You may also be eligible for meal vouchers during the holiday periods. We would not want any family / child to be missing out on support. Please do not hesitate to contact Miss Walker to discuss further.

## Up and Coming Events

Over the next few weeks there will be further correspondence in relation to...

- Sporting Events
- Parents Evenings - 4<sup>th</sup> March and 5<sup>th</sup> March
- World Book Day - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March. The theme will be "Books at Bedtime" and children will be able to attend school in their PJ's.
- Mother's Day - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April. We will be celebrating and inviting Mothers or significant people to a stay and play session with your child from 1.30pm onwards. Please put the date in your diary!



## Food Bank – Donations

### Urgently needed items

Nappies Size 5+

Nappies Size 6

Nappies Size 6+



Thank You to all the parents and families that donated during the Autumn Term. As a school we continue to be committed to support our community and live out our Christian Vision of having a positive impact on the world around us we ask for donations. Please only donate where you can.

Date	Class – Food Bank Friday
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Dunlins (Y4)
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Eider Ducks (Y2)
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Turnstones (Y3)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Skylarks (YR)
No Donations as we will organise a collection from the Foodbank for this week. School Closes for Half Term on Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	

## Dates for the Diary – Week Commencing Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y4 Swimming (AM) – please ensure swimming kits are in school</li> <li>• Y5 / 6 Athletics Qualifier (during the school day). Please refer to the letter regarding pickup times from school.</li> <li>• Y2 Art Club (3.15 – 4.15pm). Places have been confirmed via email.</li> </ul>
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JAM Club (3.15 – 4.15pm)</li> <li>• Spanish Club (3.15 – 4.15pm)</li> <li>• Y6 Dodgeball Tournament @ BLA (3.45 – 6pm approx). Please refer to the letter sent home.</li> </ul>
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y1 Lil Beatz Club (3.15 – 4.15pm)</li> <li>• Y4 / 5 Ball Games Club (3.15 – 4.15pm)</li> </ul>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	*Please can all Oystercatchers consent, payment and other details be completed via ParentPay for the Judges Lodgings Trip by the end of today*

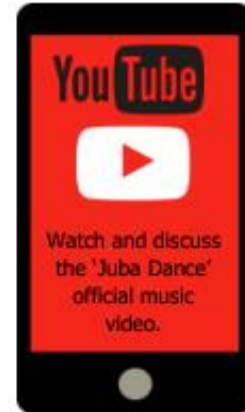


# HOME INFORMATION



## January's Musician of the Month

# Florence Price



**About:** Florence Beatrice Price (1887 – 1953) was an American classical composer, pianist, organist and music teacher. Price is noted as the first African-American woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer, and the first to have a composition played by a major orchestra. In 2009, a substantial collection of her works and papers was found in her abandoned summer home.

**Genres:** Classical

**Active from:** 1927 - 1953

**Origin:** Arkansas, U.S.A.

Books to read...



If you like Florence Price, try...

- William Grant Still
- Shirley Thompson
- Errollyn Wallen

