



Headteacher Message



Good afternoon,

We have finally made it to the end of a very busy term. The children have really worked hard on their performances and learning. As we have gone through the week, we have seen very tired children who are ready for a rest.

This week we must applaud our Y6 children who performed a beautiful Carol Concert with readings and prayers at St Peter's Church. It was a lovely evening and the children demonstrated great confidence and positivity.

We also need to mention our wonderful Reception children. They have had the most amazing start to school life. Their independence, resiliency and confidence continue to flourish. They also performed for the first time at St Peter's, retelling the Christmas story through actions and songs. It was truly spectacular.

On behalf of the whole staff team, we want to say a huge thank you for your continued support and kindness during the term and to all The Friends who have helped with the visit from Santa this week, the gifts and party boxes for each class. It is really appreciated!

When we start the new year, you will find out more exciting news about how our school curriculum continues to go from strength to strength. I look forward to sharing this with you and there will continue to be opportunities for you to come and see your child's learning, take part in workshops, events, and celebrations.

Have a wonderful Christmas and we wish you all the best for the new year!

Take Care,

Mrs Dodd and the Team at St Peter's

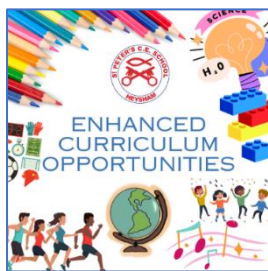
Our school worship and Christian characteristics

As we are in the third week of advent, we lit our third candle on the advent wreath and reflected on joy. We explored how life is different for people across the world. The children considered how the birth of Jesus brought joy to everyone. During our worship we also considered how Christians around the world celebrate Christmas and what bring us Joy at this special time of year.

Reverend Mark led a very exciting worship on Wednesday. The children heard the Christmas story with amazing props of chocolate and humour. It was lively and fun! We also want to say a huge thank you to Reverend Mark for his continued support. The children and staff value his role within our school and community.



Clubs and developing your child's interests



We want our enhanced after school clubs to provide opportunities for children to learn beyond the curriculum. To ensure fairness and consistency in allocating spaces, every club allocation is selected at random and is not on a first come, first served basis. All those who are not selected for a club's first offering will automatically be placed a 'reserves' list, and parents will be communicated to as priority, should the club's offering be extended into another term and future opportunities be created.

As we progress into the Spring term, we will be providing the following clubs:

- **Young Voices** - continues on Tuesdays from 3.15 - 4.15pm until the February performance at the AO Arena in Manchester. We will then also arrange for Young Voices to perform for extended family members who may not have been able to make it to the AO Arena at a date and time TBC following the concert.
- **Lil Beats Dance Club for EYFS / Y1** on Thursdays from 3.15 - 4pm. Communication has already been sent out for those who have and have not been allocated a space.
- **History Club for Y1** (concentrating on the History of Transport) on Thursdays from 3.15 - 4.15pm. Places have now been confirmed via text message.
- **Y5 Cricket Club – Monday 3:15 – 4pm** Letters have been sent out to confirm places.
- **Ball Skills with Morecambe Football Club for Y3** on Fridays from 3.15 - 4pm. Places have now been allocated and an email sent. Please ensure you can commit to the full number of sessions provided.
- There may be additional clubs which will be communicated in the New Year and we will also have the sports partnership events to take place in.

Do we have any aspiring journalists?

The Guardian are looking for more budding young journalists to write about their winter wildlife adventures. This would make a wonderful Christmas holiday project!

How your child can take part

First of all, they are looking for children age 8 to 14, so we will need your permission, as parent or guardian. Then here's what the child needs to do:

Step 1 – Go out one day to where there is some nature. It could be their local woods or beach, their garden, a farm, or simply the nearest park.

Step 2 – Write an article of 200-250 words telling us what they saw and what happened.

Step 3 – Send the article to us using the form below. We ask that you fill in the form yourself rather than the child.



Photos / drawings – these are helpful (especially landscape rather than portrait) but they are not a condition of entry. If you have some, please tell us in the "more information" field, as there's no way to attach them to the form.

More details and the entry form can be found at:

[C' mon kids! Here's your chance to get published in the Guardian | Wildlife | The Guardian](#)

Skylarks crafting supplies request

As we prepare for the New Year, we are eager to build our crafting supplies from items at home that are no longer needed. During your new year clearout, if you have any craft items including; buttons, coloured paper, paper straws etc. we would very much appreciate them! We would also appreciate Christmas items in prep for next year, including old Christmas cards, wrapping paper, small gift bags and boxes, ribbon etc. Thank you in advance from Mrs Daly and the Skylarks Team!

General reminders and notices

Final Call for Lost Property

WE HAVE LOTS OF LOST PROPERTY! HATS, SCARVES AND LUNCH BOX CONTAINERS TOO.

Once again the amount of lost property is increasing. Please ensure you come into school and check for missing items at the end of the day. We have a range of lunch box items, containers, hats, ear muffs, coats, jumpers etc. With this in mind, please label your child's items so we can return them promptly.

ParentPay – Outstanding Balances

As this term draws to a close, please check your ParentPay accounts and clear any outstanding balances for school lunches and breakfast / afterschool clubs. We may not be able to offer these services next term for children who have payments that remain outstanding into the New Year. Thankyou

Elf Run Final Total

We have now closed the Elf Run sponsorship page and can confirm our final figure raised is an incredible £585! Thank you to all who donated to the activity, with all proceeds going to St John's Hospice.



Food Bank – Donations

Thank You for your continued support with your donations to Morecambe Bay Community Foodbank. We are very grateful for all your donations.

Rev. Mark has been collecting them weekly from school and delivering them to the Food Bank. There is no expectation to donate, so please only do so if you can.

We will continue this into the New Year with class collections listed below:

Class	Friday
Oystercatchers	12 th January
Turnstones	19 th January
Eider Ducks	26 th January
Curlews	2 nd February
Skylarks	9 th February

Dates for the Diary – Week Commencing Monday 8th January 2024

Monday 8th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Y4 swimming – starts w/c 15th January• Y6 Cricket sessions (pm) PE Kits needed• Y5 Cricket Club (3.15 – 4.15pm) – please bring kit
Tuesday 9th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y5/6 Football Qualifier (9.30am – approx.2pm) @ Heysham Mossgate Sports Facilities – please see letter for details• Young Voices (3.15 – 4.15pm)
Wednesday 10th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No JAM Club – starts w/c 15th January
Thursday 11th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• R/Y1 Dance Club with Lil Beatz (3.15 – 4.30pm) – please see letter for details
Friday 12th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Y3 Ball Skills (3.15 – 4pm) – please see letter for details• Y5 / 6 Rugby Training (3.15 – 4pm) – please see letter for details• Indoor Athletics (3.15 – 4.30pm) – please see email for details

January dates so far...

- **School Reopens on Monday 8th January 2024**
- **We have a lot of sports / afterschool activities taking place throughout January / February. Please ensure you retain your letter / email if your child has been allocated a space on these and check the weekly dates for your diary in the newsletters to follow**



RIPLEY ITT



Primary and Secondary Teacher Training

Based at Ripley St.Thomas CofE Academy, Ripley ITT offers Initial Teacher Training courses for both primary and secondary phases of education. If you already work in a school, you may be eligible for our Teacher Apprenticeship or our Assessment Only route. Alternatively, if you are changing or starting a new career, our School-Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) route might be for you.



Following our recent Outstanding OFSTED inspection and with government bursaries available for training in many subjects, there has never been a better time to get into teaching. Find out more by scanning the QR code below or email us at itt@ripley.lancs.sch.uk. Visit our Eventbrite page to see our upcoming information events <https://tinyurl.com/3zy28p2r>.

Need to know:

- Qualifications required: honours degree (typically 2:2 or above); GCSE grade 4/C in English and mathematics (primary also science)
- Duration: September-July
- Funding: SCITT route - funding available through student loans or apprenticeship scheme
- Bursaries: Between £10000 and £28000 available for some secondary subjects (SCITT route)



Scan code to visit our website www.ripleyitt.co.uk
Follow us on Twitter/X: @RipleyITT



www.lancsfirerescue.org.uk/batteries

Whether you're cruising around on an e-scooter or e-bike, it's no secret that it's an easy, fuss-free way to get from A to B. But before you can enjoy the ride, you need to know how to maintain your device safely.

Charge smart, stay safe

In the past three years we have seen a year-on-year increase of fires related to lithium-ion batteries (those used to power e-bikes and e-scooters) and over 70% of these fires occurred when charging.

- Avoid cheap or knock-off chargers
- Don't charge your e-bike or e-scooter when asleep or out
- Unplug your charger once it's finished charging
- Always use the manufacturer-approved charger



Don't block exits

- Never store or charge batteries near an escape route
- Plan your escape route in the event of a fire

Reduce the risk of overheating

- Batteries can get warm during their use. Allow them to cool down before attempting to re-charge
- Batteries should always be charged on hard flat surfaces where heat can dissipate
- They can also pose a risk if they have been damaged, so try to ensure they are not getting knocked around while in use
- Batteries should never be exposed to extreme temperatures

Get the message?
E-bikes and e-scooters can cause fires ⚠️

Scan here for tips on safe charging



Think it won't happen to you?

E-bikes and e-scooters can cause fires



"I have come in order that you might have life, life in all its fullness," John 10:10