

Black History Month Spotlight

This year at St Peter's our overarching theme for Black History Month will be *'Celebrating our Sisters, Saluting our Sisters, Matriarchs of Movements'*. Children will be learning about the key role Black women have had in shaping history, inspiring change, and building communities. Each week, we will highlight some of the women children are studying.



EYFS – Mae Jemison

Doctor, engineer and NASA astronaut.

Mae Jemison began her career as a doctor for the Peace Corps, but then went on to become one of the first African American women to travel in space, in 1992. Mae has also been inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and the International Space Hall of Fame.



Books on Mae
Jemison's Life



Year 1 – Lillian Bader

Aircraftwoman

Lillian Bader was born in Liverpool, UK, but her father was from Barbados. During WWII, she initially went to work for the Navy and Air Force canteen, but was forced to leave because she was black. Later she volunteered for the WAAF and became an instrument repairer, later becoming one of the first black women to join the Royal Air Force.

She was enlisted with the Women's Auxiliary Air Force in 1941 and later became an Acting Corporal.



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Year 2 – Baroness Floella Benjamin

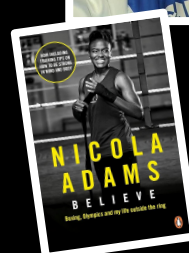
Baroness Floella Benjamin is a Trinidadian-British actress, author, television presenter, singer, businesswoman and politician.

She was born on the Caribbean island of Trinidad, in a small town called Pointe-a-Pierre on the 23rd September 1949. Currently, she is the Chair of the Windrush Commemoration Committee, where she shares the stories of first generation children who came with parents as they embarked on a new life in the UK. She has even written a book about her experience!

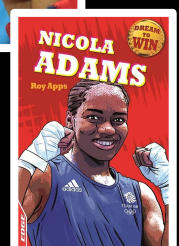
Year 3 – Nicola Adams

Olympic Boxing Champion

At the age of 13, Nicola entered a gym to 'get fit' and her life forever changed. She fell in love with the sport! After winning a few tournaments, it was at this age she decided she was going to win an Olympic medal and she did! She has won not one, but TWO Olympic gold medals!



Inspiring
books about
Nicola Adams!



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Year 4 – Cecile Nobrega

Teacher, writer, composer, poet and community activist.

Cecile Nobrega was born in Guyana and came over to England during the Windrush.

She was a community activist who created the 'Bronze Woman Project' which was named after her poem of the same title. With this project she raised funds to have the Bronze Woman monument raised in Stockwell. This was the first monument depicting a black woman in all of the UK.

Year 5 – Dr Shirley Thompson

Composer and conductor

Dr Shirley was born and raised (and still resides) in East London. A visionary artist and cultural activist, Thompson has pushed the boundaries of classical music composition and performance with ground-breaking productions that have attracted new audiences worldwide.



Year 6 – Baroness Amos

Baroness

She is the first Black woman member of the House of Lords, appointed on 27 September 1997, and the first Black woman in the Cabinet when she was made International Development Secretary in 2003.



The Baroness has added to The Gods Who Send Us Gifts, a book full of short African stories.