



BRINSCALL ST JOHN'S C/E METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL
Website: www.brinscall.lancs.sch.uk Telephone: 01254 830700
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Follow us on Facebook: Brinscall St John's CE/Methodist Primary School



Shine with the light of Jesus – Matthew 5:14-16. You are the light of the world.

19TH December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a truly fantastic first term, I am filled with pride as I reflect on a term that has been overflowing with love, success and wonderful memories. What an incredible start to the year it has been for our whole school community.

We kicked off the year with our special Day of Love, setting the tone for kindness and care, before welcoming grandparents into school to celebrate Grandparents' Day with a joyful brunch. Our children showed immense compassion through our cake sale to sponsor a child's hospital bay and continued to spread kindness beyond our school gates by sharing thoughtful messages around the village on World Kindness Day. We have also taken time to acknowledge and embrace our differences, particularly during Friendship Week, celebrating what makes us all unique. Throughout the term, we have enjoyed a wide range of enriching experiences including class worships, a friendship disco, the Year 6 residential, two absolutely fantastic Nativity performances and a brilliant Rocksteady concert. All of this has taken place alongside the children committing themselves wholeheartedly to their new year groups, working incredibly hard in every single lesson and learning new things each and every day.

At this special time of year, we pause to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. It is a season rooted in faith, hope and love, reminding us of the importance of compassion, generosity and community. Through our celebrations, worship and shared experiences, the children have been encouraged to think about how they can live out these values, caring for one another and those around them. Christmas offers us a precious opportunity to come together as a school family, give thanks for all we have and look ahead with hope and joy.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say how immensely proud I am to be Headteacher of such a wonderful school. Our children continue to impress me every day with their kindness, enthusiasm and determination to do their very best. I am equally proud of our dedicated staff, whose commitment, care and passion ensure that every child is supported and encouraged to thrive. Together with our supportive families, you make our school a truly special community, and it is a privilege to lead it.

As we look ahead to the New Year, we do so with great excitement and anticipation for all that it will bring. The spring term promises many new opportunities for learning, growth and celebration, and we are already looking forward to the experiences and events that lie ahead. Diary dates for the spring term can be found on the next page; these are events that we already have in the diary to help you plan and prepare. Please do keep checking back to the diary dates, as further information or additional details may be added as we receive them.

Also included within this week's newsletter is a "You Asked, So We Did" section. As you know, a few weeks ago we held our annual parental questionnaire. Feedback is incredibly important to us, so we have included some changes that will take place in the New Year as a result of your thoughtful comments and suggestions.

Thank you for your continued support. I wish you all a peaceful, joyful and blessed Christmas and look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year.

Kind regards,

Mrs Owen



This Week's Prayer by Year R...

Every week, each class takes a turn to write a prayer for us all to reflect upon in worship. We wish to share this with you so that you may use this as part of your reflection time at home.



Dear God,

Thank you for my friends and family. Thank you for the new year.
Bless the world you have created, And the birds that sing,
Help us to start the new year fit and healthy.

Amen

NEWS

DIARY DATES

Monday 5th January	School reopens at 8.45am
Friday 9th January	Sportshall athletics Y3 & Y4 @ 4pm - more information to follow
Friday 23rd January	Boccia KS2 Sport event - more information to follow
Wednesday 4th February	Y4 Swimming begins and runs until the end of the summer term
Wednesday 4th February	Reception stay and play @ 2pm
Sunday 8th February	Messy Church - 10am-12noon
Monday 9th February	Mental Health week
Friday 13th February	Breakfast showcase - more information to follow
Friday 13th February	Reception balance bikes competition
Friday 13th February	School closes for the half term break at 3.20pm/3.25pm
Monday 23rd February	School reopens at 8.45am
Thursday 26th February	Y6 SATs meeting at 6pm
Monday 2nd March -	Travelling science show in school all day
Wednesday 4th March	Book fair arrives
Thursday 5th March	World book day - Children can dress up as a book character
Thursday 5th March	Glow in the dark dodgeball Y3 & Y4 @ 4pm
Friday 6th March	International women's day afternoon tea for Y5 & Y6 at 2pm
Monday 9th- Friday 13th March	Science week
Wednesday 11th March	Science fair 3.30pm-4.30pm
Wednesday 18th March	Parents evening 3.30pm-6pm
Thursday 19th March	Parents evening 3.30pm-6pm
Friday 20th March	Non-uniform day for Chocolate donations
Saturday 21st March	KS2 Cross country - 9am-12noon - more information to follow
Wednesday 25th March	Easter chocolate bingo at 6pm
Thursday 26th March	Reception stay and play at 2pm
Friday 27th March	Worship at St Paul's Church @ 9.30am
Friday 27th March	School closes for Easter at 2pm



You asked... so we did...

We are excited to share the changes that will be implemented from January 2026, all thanks to the valuable feedback we received from our autumn questionnaires. These questionnaires are an essential tool for us to understand the needs and concerns of our school community, and we are committed to acting on your insights to enhance our school environment.



Key Information SCHOOL CALENDAR



WEBSITE CALENDAR

We are thrilled to introduce a new feature on our school website: a mobile-friendly calendar that you can subscribe to directly from your phone! This calendar will automatically save all upcoming events and send you reminders, making it easier than ever to stay engaged with school activities.

To get started, simply go to our school website www.brinscall.lancs.sch.uk scroll down the main home page until you get to the calendar and click view calendar. Once the calendar opens,

on the top line where it says the month you will see this icon:  Click that, and then click subscribe. We encourage you to take advantage of this feature, as it will help you plan your schedules around important school events, such as parent-teacher meetings and performances. By staying informed, you can actively participate in our school community.

NEWSLETTER – FRIDAY FLYER



Friday Flyer

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our newly renovated, mobile-friendly newsletter, the Friday Flyer! This will be your go-to source for all school news and upcoming events, distributed via ParentPay until February (and then from Arbor – see overleaf) and available on our school website. The Friday Flyer will ensure that you are always up-to-date with the latest happenings at Brinscall St John's. No other whole school news or updates will be shared during the week as they will all be collated into this weekly flyer.



SPOTLIGHT SUBJECT – CURRICULUM UPDATES

We are thrilled to introduce our Spotlight Subject initiative, aimed at keeping you informed about your child's curriculum. Each week, we will focus on a different subject, providing insights into what your child is learning. At the end of each half term, we will share a general overview of all areas of learning to keep you fully updated.

SCHOOL GATES

From Monday to Thursday, the gates will open at 3:05 pm, and on Fridays, they will open at 2:50 pm. These times are designed to ensure a smooth transition for students at the end of the school day and to help families plan their pick-up routines effectively.



FROM FEBRUARY 2026

ARBOR

We are pleased to announce that from 1st February we will no longer be using ParentPay, Seesaw or Tapestry. All school communications will be centralised through Arbor. All communication coming from one place is something lots of parents have requested.

This transition marks a significant step towards streamlining our communication processes, making it easier for parents and staff to stay connected. With Arbor, you will receive emails, newsletters, texts, and updates from staff all in one place, ensuring that you never miss an important message. You will also be able to contact staff through Arbor.

We have already begun the changeover process in school but nothing will change until 1st February. In the new year we will send out more information about how to register with Arbor, this will ensure you are ready when we move over in February.

We will also keep you updated on how to help you navigate this new system, we will provide step-by-step instructions on how to use Arbor and provide further support where needed. We believe that this change will greatly enhance your experience by providing real-time notifications and easier access to school events.



TEXT MESSAGES

As part of our commitment to keeping you informed, once we transition over to Arbor on the 1st February we will send text message reminders for whole school events, such as non-uniform days and trips the day before. If your child is receiving a certificate within celebration worship on Friday this information will also come via text message on a Thursday. Please ensure that we have your current mobile details to receive these important updates.

If you have changed your mobile number recently or would like to add an additional number to the text messaging service (max 2) please let the office know during January.



Finally, A heartfelt thank you for your continued support and collaboration. Our strong partnership with families is one of the greatest strengths of our school community.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January!





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**Come and join us at church
to discover the gift of Christmas**

Services at Hillside

Sunday 7th December 5.00 pm **Brinscall to Bethlehem**
Starts at St John's School, finishes at Hillside.

Sunday 14th December 6.00 pm **Traditional Carol Service**

Sunday 21st December 6.00 pm **All Age Christingle Service**
including the St John's choir

Christmas Eve Communion 6.00 pm
a quiet, reflective service

Christmas Day Family Worship 10.30 am

made with love **The Methodist Church**

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**St Barnabas, Heapey & St Paul's, Withnell
Christmas 2025**

Sunday	9.30am - Nativity (for all ages)	St Barnabas
14th December	9.30am - Jam n Toast (for all ages)	St Paul's
	11am - Traditional Holy Communion	St Paul's
	6pm - Traditional Carols	St Barnabas
Sunday	9.30am - Christmas Communion	St Barnabas
21st December	10am - Nativity (for all ages)	St Paul's
	6.30pm - Traditional Carols refreshments from 6pm	St Paul's
Christmas Eve	4pm - Carols round the tree	Kittiwake Estate
	11.15pm - Midnight Communion	St Paul's
Christmas Day	10am - All Age Celebration followed by optional Holy Communion	St Barnabas
Sunday	10am - All Age Celebration	St Paul's
28th December		

FREE
family event funded
by Chorley Council

**Jingle all the way to
School's Out's
Festive Family Fun Day!**

Join us for 90 minutes of festive fun, from partying with Santa's Elves to crafts & cookie decorating.

Brinscall St John's CE/Methodist Primary School

Sessions must be booked in advance.

Brinscall St John's CE/Methodist Primary School logo

Making it happen in Chorley

Monday 22 December

Sessions starting at: 10am, 12pm & 2pm

FREE mince pies & hot drinks for all grown ups

To book a session scan the QR code or email schoolsouthc@hotmail.com