



BRINSCALL ST JOHN'S C/E METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL
Web Site:- www.brinscall.lancs.sch.uk Telephone:- 01254 830700
Email:- head@brinscall.lancs.sch.uk
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18 October 2024

Hello everyone,

I can hardly believe that we have reached the halfway point of the term already! What a delightful experience it has been to spend my first half term as Headteacher here at our wonderful school. Time has truly flown by, and I am filled with gratitude for the warm welcome I have received from children, families and staff alike.

I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the lovely harvest worship we had today. The Year 3 children were absolutely amazing! Their enthusiasm and dedication shone through, making the occasion truly special. I would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you for your generous donations. Your support has made a significant difference, and I am so appreciative of your contributions to our school community.

As we head into the half-term break, I encourage you all to take some time to relax and enjoy precious moments with family and friends. This is a wonderful opportunity to recharge and prepare for what promises to be an exciting second half of the term.

Once again, thank you for all your support and involvement in our school. Have a safe and restful half term, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

Warm regards,

Mrs Joanna Owen

NEWS



PLEASE SIGN UP TO ASDA REWARDS THROUGH THE APP. IT IS FREE TO SIGN UP, AND IT DOES NOT AFFECT YOUR PERSONAL REWARDS, EVEN IF YOU DO NOT SHOP IN ASDA WE EARN £1 FOR EACH PERSON THAT SIGNS UP.

Asda reward system is in place now until November 30th 2024. Asda will donate 0.5% of your total spend to us! All you have to do is go on the app, select Brinscall St John's CE & Methodist Primary School and we will start to earn rewards.

You will be able to view in the app how much money school is earning throughout the scheme. Any money we can earn, will be used to support our school family.

We have currently raised £215, Let's keep it going!



JOIN US
FLUX DANCE ACADEMY ARE RECRUITING
NEW MEMBERS FOR THE 2024/2025
SEASON
Are you aged 3-50+? Do you want to learn a new skill? Do you want to be part of a competitive dance team? Need a new hobby? Want to spend time with like minded people?
EMAIL: CONTACT@FLUXDANCEACADEMY.CO.UK
PHONE: 07752009661
WEBSITE: FLUXDANCEACADEMY.CO.UK

BRINSCALL ST JOHN'S PTFA - UPCOMING EVENTS

PTFA MEETING

6:00pm- Staffroom

New attendees welcome-
we especially need Rec
and Y1 parent
representatives.

OCT
30

PANTO- JACK & THE BEANSTALK

1:00- Blackburn Empire
Theatre

No extra volunteers
needed.

NOV
30

INFANT DISCO

5:45-6:45pm

JUNIOR DISCO

7:00-8:00pm

Volunteers needed prior to
event to fill goody bags.

NOV
13

EARN TEMPO TIME CREDITS

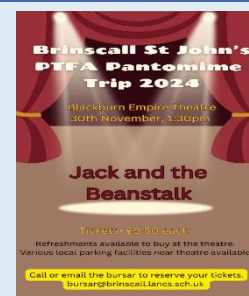
Attend a meeting or volunteer to
help and you can earn Time
Credits which can be used to pay
for activities and days out

Speak to a PTFA member or email the
school office for more information

Would you like to take your family to a pantomime and sit with other families from our school? If so, please let Mrs Pullin know by via email with the number of tickets you require. Tickets will cost £9.50 each. We will add you to Parent Pay when you reply.

There are **only 32 places left** and this is always a popular event so don't miss out and reply as soon as you can!

Families will need to find their own way to the pantomime. There is plenty of parking nearby



**Brinscall St John's
PTFA Pantomime
Trip 2024**
Blackburn Empire Theatre
30th November, 1:30pm
**Jack and the
Beanstalk**
Tickets: £9.50 each
Refreshments available to buy at the theatre.
Various local parking facilities near theatre available.
Call or email the bursar to reserve your tickets.
bursar@brinscall.lancs.sch.uk

CHILDREN IN NEED – FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER NON-UNIFORM DAY

We will be celebrating Children in Need again this year. Children can come to school in non-uniform or are welcome to wear 'spots' if they choose.



FLU IMMUNISATIONS

Just a reminder, if you completed the form to consent for your child to have the flu immunisations, the nurses will be in school on **Tuesday 5th November**

TIMESTABLE ROCKSTARS Tuesday 29th October

Reminder we are launching timetable rockstars by dressing as a rockstar for the day on our return to school after half term.



NEW CLUB: CHOIR

After half term, Mr. Gibbins will be starting a KS2 choir group. This will be after school every Monday 3.25pm - 4.15 pm, starting on 4th November.

Children who have shown an interest in this will have brought a letter home.

Please complete and return this to school by **Friday 1st November** in order to ensure a place for your child. Thank you

NEW CLUB: FILM CLUB

Monday 4th November – Monday 9th December

After half term, Mr Lewis will be running a film club for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

This will be every Monday, from the end of school until 4.10. The children will watch clips of U-rated films, talk about what they like and don't like and complete short activities and games based on what they've seen. If you think your child would be interested in joining, please click the link and add your details.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=amZrHib_pEWO7AMKOG2c4qIF-BE5TERGkhOpqnTxHb9UMUNQMVBWRWUxSkw3MFZKVTVDNjiXVFU2Ti4u

There will be limited space, so if there are too many children, places will be allocated based on a first-come, first-serve basis.



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FRIENDSHIP WEEK – Monday 11th- Friday 15th November

We're excited to announce that we will be celebrating Friendship Week at school! This special week provides us with the perfect opportunity to focus on building strong relationships and demonstrating our Christian values. Throughout the week, we'll have a variety of fun activities aimed at promoting friendship and kindness among our pupils.

To kick off the week we invite all children to participate with Odd Socks Day on Monday 11th! This is a fantastic way for everyone to express themselves and celebrate individuality, while also highlighting the importance of acceptance and inclusion. On Wednesday, we'll be hosting a PTFA Friendship Disco that promises to be an energetic evening filled with music, dancing, and community spirit. (Tickets will go on sale on Friday 1st November)

As the week draws to a close, on Friday, we will host our second Parent Showcase where children can share all their fantastic learning from the week. We know some of our parents may be unable to attend, so please be assured that staff can share this learning with you via seesaw.

We encourage everyone to take part and make this week a memorable one. Watch out for more details in the newsletter after half term

ST JOHN'S SUPERSTAR AWARD WINNERS

YEAR 6: Tessa
YEAR 5: Lucy
YEAR 4: Olivia
YEAR 3: Robyn
YEAR 2: Arthur
YEAR 1: Arthur
YEAR R: Harrison



WELFARE AWARD

YEAR 6: Finn
YEAR 5: Hazel
YEAR 4: James
YEAR 3: Piper
YEAR 2: Alex
YEAR 1: Ava
YEAR R: Edith

LIVING OUT THE VALUES AWARD

YEAR 6: Matthew
YEAR 5: Freya
YEAR 4: Lizzie
YEAR 3: Scarlett
YEAR 2: Felicity
YEAR 1: Jude
YEAR R: Lily



OCTOBER HALF TERM

We finish for the October half term today, Friday 18th October at the usual time. School will **re-open on Tuesday 29th October.**



CHRISTMAS FAMILY FRIDAY EVENTS

Following the hugely successful grandparents' coffee and cake gathering! To make sure everyone can join in the festive fun, we're scheduling the family event on different dates during the last two weeks of term. If you have siblings in other year groups, please pick just one date, and all your children will attend together. We want to make this as easy and enjoyable as possible for everyone!

As the time approaches, we'll be sending home letters with more details, but for now, keep an eye on the diary dates below for the specific dates and times. We can't wait to celebrate the festive season with you and your family, making lovely memories together.



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CLASS NEWS

RECEPTION

During our 'Diversity week' we continued to focus on the word 'unique'. This is a word we have learnt a lot about this half term during our 'All About Me' topic. We know it's good to be unique. Everyone of us is different with our own set of skills and attributes that makes it good to be who we are. This week we had a wonderfully muddy Autumn walk round our school grounds. We really did try to jump in muddy puddles just like Peppa Pig, however some of us got a little stuck in the mud and needed a helping hand! We had so much fun! We found many signs of Autumn and especially enjoyed collecting all the different coloured leaves which we used to produce leaf rubbings. During our Autumn walk we found out that some trees lose their leaves in Autumn and we learnt these are called deciduous trees and we learnt that some stay green all year and the name for these is evergreen. The children have amazed me this half term with how much progress they have made. Many of our YR children are now reading their own books that contain the graphemes learnt during our phonic sessions. Their writing is taking off too now as they are showing me how they can segment simple cvc words using their phonic fingers and write the correct graphemes to form a word. I am so proud of how well they have been learning to form their letters using lead ins and lead outs. They have blown me away! Our Maths learning is coming on nicely. We've been doing lots of subitising and we're getting really good at it. We've been focussing on finding 1 more and 1 less than a number to 5 and again, the children have flown with their learning in this area. We've had an amazing first half term of school and I cannot wait to share all the exciting things the next half term will bring with your gorgeous children.

YEAR 1

Year 1 have worked hard this half term to transition between the EYFS framework and the National Curriculum content and have shown themselves to be 'ready to learn'. We have still run aspects of provision within the school day to allow the children the opportunity to lead their learning through play and consolidation tasks. We have taken our learning outside in Math, English, Science and RE this half term and will continue to take every opportunity to access the great outdoors as we head in Autumn 2. There have been huge improvements in handwriting as our daily practice is paying off. Year 1 are to be commended for adapting to a new scheme and I am proud of their efforts, we even got to do our writing on 'snazzy' paper to show off! CSSP have worked with the children every Tuesday morning and it has been joyful to see their fundamental skills improving, these will underpin much of their learning in Physical Education across the year. In class worships have proved thoughtful responses to questions such as 'what gifts are there that mean so much as cost absolutely nothing?' and we have enjoyed learning about our special people and our own PSHE superpowers this half-term. All of this learning linked beautifully to our Diversity Week and the children embraced learning through literacy as 'Acceptance is our Superpower'. Our artwork has linked to our Great Fire of London topic as we have sketched skylines and created paintings in the style of Jackson Pollock, making for an amazing collage opportunity. Pupils have developed the skills of splatting, flicking and dripping paint as well as using graphite and charcoal. Have a great half term break Year 1 – you have earned it!

YEAR 2

We have had a very busy and exciting first half term in Year 2 and are all ready for a restful week! All the children have thoroughly enjoyed creating land art and replicating the patterns of Andy Goldsworthy. They have used a range of natural materials found in the school grounds to create wonderful pieces that they have designed. We have been interested in studying local history and exploring Houghton Tower. We have compared the different time periods, explored the changes and researched why it has become a tourist attraction today. We found it fascinating to learn about the knighting of the beef and the legend of 'Sir Loin'. All children have made fantastic efforts to improve their individual letter formation and begin to learn and use horizontal and vertical joins in their independent writing. We have written a great twisted fairy tale based on the Big Bad Pig and the Three Little Wolves and a non-chronological report on Pirates. We have looked at the place value of two-digit numbers in detail in maths, explored counting in threes and used number facts to solve and answer word problems. We have investigated our number bonds to 100 and looked at how we can use these facts to support solving number sentences. We have made some great progress in our hockey lessons this half term. We have developed our passing, travelling and shooting techniques. We even managed to play games of 5 vs 5 and they were able to demonstrate their individual skills and their cooperation as part of a team. The children have thoroughly enjoyed reading our class text of 'The Man Who Wears All the Clothes' and have used the text to answer comprehension questions, make predictions and reimagine parts of the story. Thank you to all of year two for their super efforts and parental support this half term.



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YEAR 3

This half term, Year 3 have made the step up into KS2 look easy and have quickly learnt the structure, routines and behaviour expectations, ensuring they are working at their best. They have built on their Year 2 learning, developing in English the understanding of and using complex sentences, prepositions, adverb starters and inverted commas. In maths, they have embedded their understanding of place value to hundreds and used this to add and subtract more complex numbers, including bridging through 10s and 100s. The children know all about the human skeleton and why we have one, and they can explain how our muscles work together in pairs to help us move. In RE, they have developed their understanding of the harvest festival and showed what they have learnt in their wonderful Harvest Worship, including why we have a harvest, how it has changed and what it means to Christians. We travelled back to the Stone Age in history and Year 3 developed their understanding of chronology and how life changed from the Stone Age into the Bronze Age and Iron Age, making links to the emerging technological developments and their impact on human life. It was the sound of African drumming in music as the children worked on their rhythm skills based on African music. For our art, the children enhanced their sketching skills and used their creativity to experiment with different media, selecting their preferred one to complete a portrait. Year 3 enjoyed working with the CSSP coach to learn new skills in rugby, and we learnt a range of throws in our athletics unit, but most impressive was the children being able to do the triple jump, showing great coordination and movement skills. We discussed healthy eating/lifestyles and dental hygiene in PSHE, and the children demonstrated a mature understanding of both, including how to improve them. And we began our Spanish journey, learning words and phrase to say hello and goodbye and ask and respond to 'How are you?'. Included this half term was Diversity Week where we used our curriculum to get a better understanding of what diversity means and how we should be tolerant of each other's difference. Again, Year 3 were great with their maturity when discussing this, and could give wonderful examples and reasons to help us all get on better.

YEAR 4

What a fantastic start to the year we have had in Year 4! We have hit the ground running and made lots of progress in our learning. With the importance of times tables, we have been learning and practicing our 2s, 3s, 4s, 5s, 6s, 8s and 10s which means we haven't got many more to learn! We have very much enjoyed practicing these through different games in class and the 'Hit the Button' challenge at home which has had lots of engagement. Continuing with Maths, we have finished our place value unit and addition and subtraction. WE have worked hard to tackle tricky concepts and have really enjoyed buddying up with different people to impart our knowledge. In English, we have written a story and a news paper report. We loved the story of Feast and we created some of our very own hero animal stories. Writing about a witch having visited our classroom was also fun for our newspaper report. In art, we have finished out modern day, love, peace and hope brochures after lots of perseverance and resilience. We hope you enjoyed seeing our final product! During our PE lessons, we have worked on our teamwork and communication skills. There has been lots of improvement in the way we communicate things to others and this has been applied out of our PE lessons and in every day life. We have also explored the game of basketball with CSSP and used our teamwork skills in this too. In Science, we have thoroughly enjoyed our animals including humans unit where we have explored different types of animals and their teeth. Although there were some gruesome photos involved, we have learnt lots about the different types of teeth and how to keep our own teeth healthy. To finish our unit this half term, we carried out an interesting investigation into our own teeth brushing skills which left us with some very blue mouths!

YEAR 5

Year 5 have enjoyed diversity week, trying new games, learning about different parts of the world and trying some food. They enjoyed playing Kabaddi (which we turned into a version of tig), Ounch Neetch (tig but with gym equipment), and other children's games from other countries, including a version of hide-and-seek (but with hidden items) and duck-duck-goose (but with a hanky). The children researched a country of their choice before sharing some information about it, and as a one-off, instead of French we had a lesson in Hungarian, which Miss Pack kindly provided. I tried to deliver a lesson entirely in German, and the children were very good at picking up meaning and managed to work out quite a bit of vocabulary. They tried some traditional German foods – sausage (which they liked), smoked cheese (also popular), pretzels (not the proper ones, sadly, but still very popular) and sauerkraut (not quite as popular, even though it was the nice version with carrot in). This week, we are attempting to make masks in art. We have based these on traditional African masks, and we are constructing a wire frame before using Modroc to build the mask, then painting it. These will make their way home after the holidays – in time for Halloween, possibly! We've also been reading 'The Highwayman', a classic narrative poem. The children have very much enjoyed acting this out and are working on writing their own versions, which has shown their flair for the dramatic. In maths, we have been working on using our super times tables knowledge to help us with factors, multiples and primes and developing our ability to work logically and efficiently. There's lots coming up to look forward to after half-term – more themed weeks, chances to share our work with family and of course, that thing that happens near the end of December that the children all get very excited about!

YEAR 6

This half term has been a fantastic start to Year 6, with everyone in class stepping up to take on the extra responsibility that comes with being the oldest children in school. Everyone in class immediately took on various roles and jobs throughout school and have all also become 'buddies' to our new members to the school family in EYFS. Across the curriculum, we have built on all the things we have learned throughout the past 6 years. In English, we have looked at Letters from The Lighthouse as a focus text and this allowed us to write a recount from the perspective of a Jewish refugee during WWII. This linked nicely to our History unit, where we also looked at The Battle of Britain, and our art work where we have created our own stained-glass windows with a focus on poppies and remembrance. Also within English, we have done lots of work on our handwriting and using and applying lots of different grammar and punctuation skills that we will be focusing on throughout this year. We have also completed a unit looking at narrative poetry where we focused on the changing world's impact on the peppered-moth. Our first focus of maths this year has been around place value and using the four operations. We have focused on understanding numbers up to 10 million and we have looked at how to use and apply different methods to solve problems containing addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In science we have looked at living things and their habitats, whilst in RE we have looked at life being a journey. Elsewhere during this busy half term, we have completed Level 2 of Bikeability and completed our next unit of Debt Aware too. We have also had PALS training through CSSP so we are able to lead fun activities during playtimes for our younger children in school.

DIARY DATES UPDATE

Further to the diary dates sent out at the start of September, here is an updated list of events happening during Autumn 2 so that you can keep your diary updated. I will send update lists at the end of each half term for the following half term so that everyone is clear about all the exciting events happening in school.

Tuesday 29th October	Return to school Dress as a rockstar for the day
Wednesday 30th October	Open evening for new families at 5.30pm
Tuesday 5th November	Flu Immunisations
Monday 11th November	Y6 Remembrance day worship at 9am Friendship week – All children can come into school in odd socks
Wednesday 13th November	Friendship disco Reception, Y1 and Y2: 5.45-6.45 Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6: 7-8pm (Tickets will go on sale on Friday 1 st November)
Friday 15th November	Children in need – Non-Uniform day Parent showcase Parents/families are welcome to come into school between 3.30-4pm to see the work children have completed throughout friendship work, this can also be shared via seesaw if preferred.
Wednesday 20th November	Book fair open
Wednesday 27th November	School nurse – Y5 and Y6 heights/weights
Friday 29th November	Y4 Advent worship at 9am
Tuesday 3rd December	Reception class trip – more information to follow
Sunday 8th December	Brinscall to Bethlehem
Monday 9th December – Wednesday 11th December	Y6 Robinwood
Tuesday 10th December	R/Y1/Y2 Nativity afternoon performance at 2pm
Wednesday 11th December	R/Y1/Y2 Nativity evening performance at 6pm
Friday 13th December	Christmas Family Friday for Y1 and Y2 at 2.30pm
Monday 16th December	Reception Christmas stay and play event
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas family event for Y3 and Y4 at 2.30pm
Wednesday 18th December	EYFS/KS1 Christmas Party
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Family event for Y5 and Y6 at 2.30pm Brinscall's Got Talent event – more info to follow
Friday 20th December	Christmas worship in church at 9am School closes at 2pm

