



Brindle St James' CE Primary School

What are we learning this term?

CLASS TWO (YEAR TWO, THREE AND FOUR) AUTUMN TWO 2025

ENGLISH

This half term, the children will be exploring **Fantasy Stories**, using *The Firework Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman as our core text. The children have enjoyed diving into imaginative worlds, developing characters, and creating their own fantasy narratives.

We will also work on **Explanation Texts**, learning how to write clear and detailed explanations using features such as headings, diagrams, and technical vocabulary.

MATHEMATICS

This term, the children will be developing their understanding of key mathematical concepts:

- **Year 2:**
 - **Addition and Subtraction** – using number bonds, mental strategies, and written methods.
 - **Properties of Shapes** – identifying and describing 2D and 3D shapes and their features.
- **Year 3:**
 - **Addition and Subtraction** – focusing on efficient strategies and problem-solving with larger numbers.
- **Year 4:**
 - **Addition and Subtraction** – applying written methods and reasoning skills.
 - **Area** – learning how to calculate the area of rectangles and composite shapes.

The children will enjoy practical activities and problem-solving challenges to deepen their understanding.

SCIENCE

This half term, our topic will be **Electricity**. The children will learn about:

***Circuits** – identifying components such as batteries, wires, bulbs, and switches.

*How to **build a simple circuit** and make predictions about whether it will work.

*The difference between **conductors and insulators**, and how materials affect the flow of electricity.



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The children will enjoy hands-on investigations, creating their own circuits and testing different materials to see which conduct electricity.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)

This term, we will focus on **festivals and celebrations**. The children will explore:

***Christmas – Light of the World**

Understanding the Christian belief that Jesus is the Light of the World and how this is celebrated during Christmas. We will discuss symbols of light and their meaning in the nativity story.

***Judaism – Hanukkah**

Learning about the Jewish festival of Hanukkah, its origins, and traditions such as lighting the menorah, playing dreidel, and sharing special foods. The children will compare how light is used as a symbol in both Christmas and Hanukkah.

These lessons help children appreciate the significance of celebrations and the values they represent across different religions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)

PE days are **Wednesday and Friday**. Please ensure children attend school wearing their **PE kits** on these days.

Wednesday: The children will be focusing on **Gymnastics**, developing balance, flexibility, and coordination through a range of floor and apparatus activities.

Friday: The children will enjoy **Dodgeball** sessions led by **Coach Will** from the Chorley School Sports Partnership, working on teamwork, agility, and throwing skills.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND ECONOMIC EDUCATION (PSHE)

This term, our PSHE lessons will focus on the theme **“Valuing Differences.”** The children will be learning about:

***Being kind and helping others** – understanding how small acts of kindness can make a big difference.

***Celebrating difference** – recognising and respecting what makes each person unique.



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***People who help us** – exploring the roles of helpers in our community and why they are important.

***Listening skills** – practicing how to listen carefully and respond thoughtfully in conversations.

These lessons help children develop empathy, respect, and positive relationships with others.

MUSIC

This term, the children will start our exciting new creative music scheme.

Our first unit is called **"Questions and Answers."**

The children will be exploring:

***Songs** such as *Hello* and *Hey Friends*, using their voices expressively.

***Playing a variety of instruments** to create rhythms and melodies.

***Listening and responding** to music, identifying patterns and dynamics.

***Composing their own short pieces**, using call-and-response structures to develop creativity and confidence.

This unit encourages teamwork, musical expression, and a deeper understanding of how music can communicate ideas.

HISTORY

Our history topic this term, **"How has Brindle St James' Primary School changed over the years?"**

The children will be exploring:

***How the building and facilities have changed** over time.

***Photographs and maps from the past**, comparing them to the present day.

***Stories and memories** from people who attended the school years ago.

***Why schools change** and how this reflects changes in society and technology.

The children will act as historians—asking questions, examining evidence, and creating a presentation to show how the school's changed through the years.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY (DT)



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The children will be learning about **mechanisms**, focusing on **wheels and axles**. The children will explore:

- *How wheels and axles work together to make vehicles move.
- *Why wheels need to rotate freely and how axles help with this.
- *Different types of vehicles and how their designs use wheels and axles.

As part of the unit, the children will **design and make their own Christmas-themed vehicle**. They will:

- *Plan their design by choosing materials and decorations.
- *Build a simple chassis with wheels and axles.
- *Test their vehicle to make sure it moves smoothly.
- *Evaluate their finished product and suggest improvements.

This project combines creativity with practical skills and is a fun way to apply their learning about mechanisms.

FRENCH

This term, the children will continue with their learning from Autumn 1, to **describe themselves and others** in French:

Phonics:

- Sound-symbol correspondences: **[a], [o], [e], [i], [u]**
- Silent Final Consonants (**-t, -s, -d**) and Silent Final **e**
- Nasal sounds: **[an/en], [on]**
- Vowel patterns: **open/closed [eu], [au/eau/o/ô], [ou]**
- Consonant sounds: **[ch]**

Grammar:

- **Être** and **avoir** (singular forms)
- Regular adjective agreement (**-e**), including pronunciation changes
- Adjectives ending in **-eux/-euse** and those already ending in **-e**
- Singular indefinite articles (**un, une**)
- Intonation questions (including *quoi, où*)

The children will complete speaking activities, games, and short writing tasks to build confidence in using French to describe themselves and others.



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