



**Braunton
Academy**

**Aspire &
Achieve**

Braunton Academy Newsletter:

11th September 2026

Dear Families,

It is great to be writing to you after a busy and fun first week back. We have been very impressed with how students have returned to school. I have enjoyed watching students in their lessons this week, settling into the first activities well. Year 7 are doing amazingly well finding their way around school and adapting to the new school day. Similarly, it has been lovely to see our new Year 10 students in their first examination lessons focusing on work, that they know they may be examined on in the next two years!

In the newsletter over the next couple of weeks there will be lots of extra-curricular opportunities advertised. This is a strength of the Academy, and we encourage all students to get involved, we know that these activities develop our students' character, leadership and employability skills but also have a positive impact on GCSE results. A few important dates coming up in the next couple of weeks:

Thursday 17th of September:

3:15-5:45pm is opportunity for Year 7 parents to meet the tutors, booking will open at the start of next week.

6pm-7pm - Countdown to GCSE briefing for all Year 11 parents and students. This session will run through key dates for the year, important revision information and the post-16 options process.

**Key Dates for
September:**

Thursday 17th: Year
11 Countdown to
GCSE evening **6-
7pm**

Thursday 24th: Open
evening **5-7:30pm**

Wednesday 30th:
Year 10 Welcome to
GCSE evening **6pm-
7pm**

**Key Dates for
October:**

Wednesday 7th: Year
11 post 16
pathways evening
6pm-7:30pm

Thursday 15th-Friday
16th: Year 10 St Ives
Trip

Monday 19th:
Aerospace Trip Day
1

Tuesday 20th:
Aerospace Trip Day
2

HALF TERM:
Monday 26th- Friday
30th

Thursday 24th September

5pm-7:30pm- Year 5&6 Open Evening.

As usual many of our students get involved to support the school on that night. If your child is supporting, you will receive an online form to sign to give permission for them to attend.

Wednesday 20th September

6pm-7pm - Countdown to GCSE briefing for all Year 11 parents and students. This session will run through key dates for the year, important revision information and the post-16 options process.

Have a lovely weekend,

Best wishes,



**Mrs F Bowler,
Principal**



Whole School Messages

Medication in School

Whilst we do have school spares of pain relief medicine, we are asking if parents/carers can provide their own for their child, especially if they require a specific type e.g. liquid or dissolvable tablets. Please bring the medication to Reception, where you will be asked to complete a short form for non-prescribed medication. Once this is done, the medication will be stored safely in First Aid and can be given to your child if they need it during the school day. If you have any queries, please contact:

medical@braunton.academy

First Tech Challenge

Please encourage your child to sign up for the First Tech challenge. See Mrs Duthuit for details.

FIRST® Tech Challenge is an accredited, robotics-based, industry-linked, STEM enrichment programme for young people aged 12-18. From September to March, teams design, build, code, and compete with robots to earn industry-judged awards. By participating, young people develop essential life and technical skills, empowering them to make positive educational and career choices.



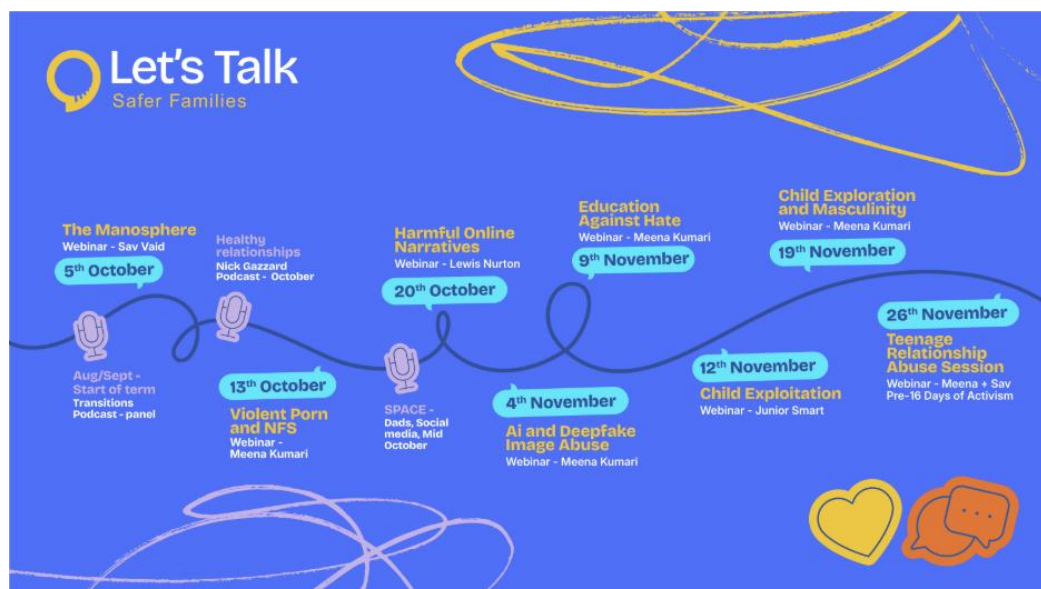


Let's Talk Safer Families

We free online sessions offer practical strategies, up-to-date guidance, and useful resources to help parents and carers support their children through every stage of development, from primary school through to adolescence.

No webcam or microphone is required, and all sessions include opportunities to access further support and resources.

Please use the following link to book onto a session. [Events - Let's Talk Safer Families](#).





Join Our PTFA

Join Our PTFA

We are setting up a new PTFA. This will help us raise money to go towards school rewards, play equipment, computers... the list goes on!

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."

If you would like to join or register your interest please contact Mrs E Woodhead at:
ewoodhead@braunton.academy



Matilda Jnr Cast Meeting

Thursday 13 September 2026 - Drama Studio • Lunchtime

All cast members must attend. Students may bring their lunch. You can munch while we chat! A short but important meeting covering:

- Rehearsal plans
- Costumes
- Open Evening Performances

PLEASE NOTE: REHEARSALS AFTER SCHOOL COMMENCE NEXT WEEK ON THURSDAY 17TH IN THE ISSAC HALL UNTIL 5PM

Chill North Devon

FREE 8-week Chill Course 11-16yr olds Saunton Beach, Devon 1hr a week @ 11am starting 19/9/26.

Is your child stressed out, anxious or depressed? - then this course could be for them. It's totally FREE and our evaluation of a previous Chill course shows a reduction of 40% in anxiety and depression - They need to be able to swim 25m in a pool and walk a mile.

[Chill North Devon - Chill CIC - Cold Water Sessions](#)

Celebrating Success

We love hearing about our students' achievements both in and out of school and would like to celebrate their successes with our wider community.

Whether it's sporting achievements, music and dance exams, fundraising, community involvement, awards, or any other accomplishment, we'd love to hear about it. Please send details, photos, and any relevant information to:

media@braunton.academy, and we may feature your child's achievements on our school social media channels.



Inclusivity Poster competition

Please encourage your child to create an entry for the Braunton Together Poster competition. Braunton Together is a community initiative and advocacy group in Braunton, Devon, dedicated to eliminating discrimination and promoting inclusion. The group works to ensure Braunton remains a safe, welcoming, and prejudice-free place for all residents and visitors, regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or religion. This competition is also open to the Braunton Learning Co-operative primary schools too. Prizes are being donated by Tesco's. Please encourage your child to hand their entry to Mrs Woodhead by the **EXTENDED** deadline, Monday 14th September.

BRAUNTON TOGETHER
Actively embracing ALL discrimination in Braunton, Heanton and the surrounding area

Braunton Learning Cooperative Trust
Working Together

POSTER COMPETITION: INCLUSIVE BRAUNTON

CELEBRATING BEING A WELCOMING,
INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE VILLAGE.

WHO IS IT FOR?
All students in the
Braunton Learning Co-operative

WHY?
To be displayed in businesses
around the village celebrating
being a welcoming, inclusive
and diverse village.

PRIZES!
There will be prizes provided
by Tesco's for each Key stage winner.

Key Stage 1 and 2
SWEETS

Key Stage 3 and 4
HEADPHONES

WHEN IS THE DEADLINE?
Your A4 poster needs to be handed in by
MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER
to your school's headteacher

LET'S SHOW HOW AMAZING
OUR VILLAGE IS TOGETHER!



Clubs and Activities

All clubs and activities are now on the website.

<https://www.braunton.academy/key-information/whole-school-messages>

New club: replacing our German music club, we will now begin a Latin club! Thursday lunchtime in room 43, open to all year groups and staff alike!

French penfriends club continues, Friday lunchtime room 43, and we still have a few French students sharing an English penfriend for lack of members on our side so come fill the ranks!

True Colours – LGBT+ club, Monday lunchtime, Room 21. Bring your lunch.

September 2026/2027 Basketball Club

Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to confirm that we have once again managed to secure the services of Basketball coach, David Roper, a Level 3 advanced Basketball coach, former England Player and qualified Physical Education teacher, to support the coaching of our students for the duration of the Autumn term. We are therefore offering your son/daughter the opportunity to book a place in our upcoming Basketball Academy during the Autumn term, See below all details.

Mondays - Year 7,8 and 9 from 3.30 till 4.45

Start date - Monday 14th September

End date - Monday 19th October

6 sessions at £4 per session - £24

Fridays - Year 10 and 11 from 3.30 till 4.45

Start date - Friday 11th September

End Date - Friday 23rd October

7 sessions at £4 per session - £28

N.B. - Please note there may be changes if the hall is out due to mock exams. This year, all parents/carers MUST book their child's place directly with David Roper and NOT through Braunton Academy Parent Mail system. David would like to manage all booking and payments direct through him from now on. Therefore, apart from this email, all queries, questions etc must go directly through David Roper from now on. See details below.

Booking- Email David direct at davidropersports@gmail.com to book your child's place. Please copy and paste these details into your email and fill in the details for your child.

School: Braunton Academy

Name: Year Group Parents Name: Parents Contact Details:

Payment Details

Name - Mr D G Roper

HSBC 40-10-16

Account no. 21191160

Payment reference: BA Childs name and year group

Contact details : David Roper

Email: davidropersports@gmail.com

Facebook: North Devon bucks

Braunton Academy – Autumn 2026 Tennis Club

Dear Parents

We are delighted to announce that the Devonshire Tennis Academy will be continuing our after-school Tennis club at Braunton Academy in the Autumn Term. Tennis club develops crucial hand eye co-ordination. Teaching them techniques and rallying skills through fun games

Tuesday 8th September – Tuesday 8th December (excl. 27th October for half term) : 5-6pm Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 £78 (13-week course)

To book please email the following to:

bookings@devonshiretennisacademy.com - places will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

Player's Name: D.o.B: Year: Parent's Name(s): Contact tel N°: Alternative tel N°: Email Address: Medical conditions / allergies / additional information:

How to pay

Devonshire Tennis Academy SC 30-98-97 Account No. 57684068

(Please use your child's name & school as a reference)

www.devonshiretennisacademy.com

Volleyball Club

3:30-4:30 on Thursdays with Danny Mulford.

Price (£30 for 10 sessions)

Dates – starts Thursday 17th September and runs through to Christmas.

All levels and year groups are welcome, it's great for beginners and all those who regularly come will be able to play in the North Devon Schools competition in the spring term.

NO TRAINING 12th and 19th November due to exams in the hall.

Please book via the school portal.



Year 11 News

Bicton College

Below are the dates of the upcoming Open Days and Taster Days for Bicton College. All these events can be booked through the events page of their website – link below. Also, visit our Careers webpage for a poster regarding their upcoming events.

Open Days (10am – 12pm)

- 24th October 2026
- 23rd January 2027
- 17th April 2027

Taster Days (10am – 2:pm):

- 26th October 2026
- 15th February 2027
- 2nd June 2027

Events - Bicton College

Careers - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve



Year 10 News

No News This Week.

Year 9 News

Observatory for Mathematical Education

In association with the University of Nottingham and the Observatory for Mathematical Education, our year 9 students are participating in a research project about mathematical education in secondary schools. This survey is designed to help us understand students' feelings about maths, including how much they enjoy it and how they experience learning maths at school.

Below is a link to the Year 9 page where you can find the letter regarding this research. Should you wish to withdraw your child from the survey, please click on the link in the letter and complete the withdrawal form. Should you wish your child to take part, you do not need to do anything.

[Year 9 - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve](#)

Year 8 News

No News This Week.

Year 7 News

No News This Week.

Catering

This is a polite reminder that we are a **nut free school**. Please ensure your child does not bring nuts or food containing nuts as part of their lunch. Many thanks.

	<u>Monday –</u>	<u>Tuesday –</u>	<u>Wednesday –</u>	<u>Thursday –</u>	<u>Friday –</u>
Main Meal  	Chicken stir fry served with noodles & veg	Exmoor beef lasagne with garlic bread salad & coleslaw	Roast chicken served with roast potatoes seasonal veg Yorkshire pudding & gravy	Exmoor pork sausages served with mashed potatoes peas & gravy	Fishcakes served with hash brown bites peas or beans
Veggie	Vegetable stir fry served with noodles & veg	Quorn lasagne with garlic bread salad & coleslaw	Veggie cottage pie served with Yorkshire pudding seasonal veg & gravy	Veggie sausages served with mashed potatoes peas & gravy	Omelette served with hash brown bites peas or beans
Desserts  	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots
Grab & go Break &	Pasta Bolognese Veggie Bolognese Veggie option	Chicken pesto pasta with loaded veg Veggie option	Chicken rice & vegetable medley Veggie option	Pasta bolognese Veggie option	Thai green curry with rice & veg Veggie option
Grab & go Break	Cod fish finger bap served with iceberg Lettice & tartar sauce	Halloumi burger roasted peppers mayo sweet chilli sauce	Bagel with cream cheese bacon & chives Veggie option	Breakfast wrap Veggie option	Meat ball sub roll Veggie option
Deli Bar	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad  	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad  	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad  	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad  	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad  