



**Braunton
Academy**

**Aspire &
Achieve**

Braunton Academy Newsletter:

13th March 2026

Dear Families,

I hope you are all well and have had an enjoyable week. This week was a little bit more eventful than we had planned in school with the partial lockdown on Tuesday morning. We had a gas leak from a pipe in the technology workshop. This was acted on immediately by the staff and we were able to evacuate the key rooms and ventilate the classrooms quickly. The students were fantastic. Those in the top half of the building just carried on with lessons while those that we had to evacuate responded quickly and within 25 minutes were back in class continuing with their learning. This is one of the scenarios we had practiced last year, and we are pleased that everything went to plan.

Next week Year 11 Drama students have their practical exam and students in technology are putting the finishing touches to their non examined coursework projects. Year 8 parents evening is on Thursday 26th March, the information on booking appointments is in this week's newsletter. As we near the end of term please note we finish on Thursday 2nd April 2026 at 1:05pm.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs F Bowler'.

**Mrs F Bowler
Principal**

18th March- Coffee and Chat at Wrafton Hall with Police

25th March- Easter Egg Decorating Competition

26th March- Year 8 Parents Evening (4:00pm-7:00pm)

30th March- PE House Competitions (All Week)

31st March- GCSE PE Moderation Day

2nd April @ 1.05pm- End of Term

3rd to 17th April – EASTER HOLIDAY



Whole School Messages

Send Parents Evening

We will be holding a SEND Parents Evening on **Tuesday 17th March from 4.00pm - 5.30pm** in the drama hall. The theme for this meeting will be support for the parents of SEND students and you will also have an opportunity to talk to the SEND team.

Parent Partnership Questionnaire

We have been taking part in the Leading Parent Partnership Award for some months and hope you have seen some changes within the Academy. We would be grateful if you would complete the following questionnaire to help evaluate the progress so far and work towards future developments.

[Parent Partnership Award Questionnaire – Collaboration](#)

Future Dates: SEND Parents Evening Tuesday 17th March 4-5pm Drama Hall, Coffee and Chat Wednesday 18th March 9-10.30am Wrafton Hall, Parent Partnership meeting Wednesday 1st April 5.30-7pm Conference Room, Current Parent Tour Wednesday 29th April 8.45-9.45am Reception, Afghan Parent Morning Friday 27th March 8.45-9.45am Conference Room

Medication in School

If parents or carers would like their child to have medication available in school, this can be arranged. 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.

Year 5 Taster Day

We are pleased to be offering Year 5 students from our local primaries the opportunity to attend an exciting Taster Day on **Thursday 16th July 2026**. Letters have been sent to our local primaries, however if you would like your Year 5 child to attend, please register using the link on our website.

Notice to Parents and Carers: KS3 Homework Update

Following extensive consultation with students, staff and families, we have decided to reduce the time required for Sparx homework in Science, Maths and English (Reader) from 60 minutes to 30 minutes each week in Year 7, 40 minutes each week in Year 8 and 50 minutes each week in Year 9. We are also reviewing homework expectations across other Key Stage 3 subjects to ensure



students steadily develop the independence, resilience and study habits that will give them the strongest foundations as they progress into Key Stage 4. This change is designed to ease pressure on families while ensuring that homework remains purposeful and impactful. This change will come in over the next few weeks.

Why Homework Matters:

Research shows that well-structured homework helps students consolidate knowledge, strengthen long-term memory and develop essential independent study habits that prepare them for future learning. Our curriculum is built on developing **a love of learning, independence, reflection and resilience**, all of which are strengthened through regular, manageable independent practice at home.

How This Reflects Our Values:

At Braunton Academy, our motto “**Aspire and Achieve**” underpins everything we do. We aim to equip students with the skills and character traits—such as independence, resilience and self-management—that will support their long-term success. The curriculum intentionally promotes personal, learning and thinking skills that enable students to thrive both now and in the future, and well-designed homework is one way we reinforce these habits.

How You Can Support

We ask for your continued support in:

- Encouraging your child to complete their homework each week.
- Checking Class Charts for set tasks.
- Helping them establish positive routines that build independence and confidence.

Thank you for working with us to ensure every student can flourish—both academically and personally.

Safeguarding support- Online Safety

Use this resource to build your toolkit to get free, personalised online safety advice, giving you everything you need to keep your child safe.

- Get age-specific advice and tips to support your children online—early years to teens
- Learn about popular apps and platforms your children use

- Get information about how to deal with any online safety concerns
- Get recommendations for digital tools to support their interests and wellbeing

[My Family's Digital Toolkit - online safety advice | Internet Matters](#)

Easter Holiday Tennis Camps

Please see attached flyer for Easter Holiday Tennis Camps run by Devonshire Tennis Academy.

Please find attached a Gift Voucher which you can use for any event to raise funds for your school. The value is equivalent to £45 and please note it is one voucher per school.

Coffee and Chat

We had a fab time last month at our coffee morning, chatting over the issues parents are facing and providing peer and school support. Our March coffee morning will be supported by PC Adam Sinclair. He will be available to chat you through some issues that affect young people and signpost you to support your young person. The discussions and questions are parent led at the coffee mornings but may include topics such as sexting, online safety or vaping, for example. There is time to chat as a group, to speak to PC Sinclair or school staff on an individual basis. We hope to see you there!

BRAUNTON ACADEMY
ASPIRE & ACHIEVE

COFFEE AND CHAT

No need to book- just pop in, grab a cuppa and join the conversation!

9:00am-10:30am

Wednesday 11th February - FIT
 Wednesday 18th March - Police
 Wednesday 29th April - YSMART
 Wednesday 3rd June - Transition Support
 Wednesday 15th July - School Nurse

Contact Us
 01271 812221
 www.braunton.academy

Wrafton Hall
 Braunton EX33 2DE



Competitions

Easter Egg Decorating Competition

Parent Mail is open for entries to our annual Easter Egg decorating competition. Tickets are £4.00 per student, and the poster provides more information.

Date – Wednesday 25th March 2026 during period 6 – the event will finish at 15.15

Venue – Isaac Hall – please come straight to the hall after Period 5 and register at the event

- You will have 30 mins to decorate/dress your egg
- Eggs are the medium sized eggs - roughly 14cm high and 30cm at the widest diameter
- Each student will be given one egg
- Themes are either Spring or Pop singer/bands
- Please bring with you everything you need to decorate your egg
- Prizes for each house will be awarded
- All students are welcome to enter

Braunton Academy Student Competition

Easter Egg Decorating

LOCATION: ISAAC HALL
COST: £4 PER STUDENT - TICKETS IN ADVANCE ONLY
PRIZES: AWARDED FOR EACH HOUSE - ONE EASTER EGG PROVIDED PER STUDENT
DETAILS: YOU WILL HAVE 30 MINUTES TO DECORATE YOUR MEDIUM CHOCOLATE EGG USING YOUR OWN DECORATIONS.
THIS YEAR'S THEMES ARE: SPRING OR POP SINGER/BAND
TICKETS: AVAILABLE VIA PARENTMAIL

PERIOD 6 WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH 2026

LOCATION:
Isaac Hall - Period 6

Closing date to buy your ticket
Wednesday 18th March 2026



Clubs and Activities

All clubs and activities are now on the website.

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

PE Fixtures

Date	Year(s)	Venue	Opposition	Staff	Comp	Result
Tues 13 th Jan	8 & 9	GTS	GTS	LO, DL	ND	8s won 4-0 9s lost W/O
Thurs 15 th Jan	7 & 10	Braunton	GTS	LO, ED	ND	Postponed
Thurs 22 nd Jan	8	Park	Park	DL	ND	Postponed
Tues 27 th Jan	7 & 9	Braunton	Park	LO, ED	ND	Postponed
Tues 3 rd Feb	8 & 9	Braunton	Pilton	ED, DL	ND	8s drew 4-4 9s won 46-27 7s won 7-5
Wed 4 th Feb	7	Braunton	Pilton	LO	ND	7s won 7-5
Tues 10 th Feb	7 & 8	Ilfracombe	Ilfracombe	LO, DL	ND	Postponed
Weds 11 th Feb	10	Braunton	Ilfracombe	LO	ND	Postponed
Weds 25 th Feb	11	Plymouth College	Devon 7s	LO	Devon	Plate Winners
Weds 4 th March	10	Braunton	Uffculme	LO	Devon Plate	22-45
Tues 10 th March	11	West Buckland	ND 7s	LO, OM	ND 7s	
Fri 13 th March	8, 9, 10	West Buckland	ND 7s	LO, ML, +1	ND 7s	
Tues 17 th March	7	Park School	Waterfall tournament	LO	ND	
Thurs 19 th March	9 & 10	Blundell's School	Devon 7s	LO	Devon	
Tues 24 th March	8	Park School	Waterfall tournament	DL, LO	ND	
Thurs 26 th March	9 & 10	Bideford RFC	ND Final	ED, LO	ND	
Weds 1 st April	10	Ilfracombe	Braunton	LO	ND	

Netball

Training times:

Year 7 and 8 – Tuesday after school (when there is no game in the week)

Year 9 and 10 – Thursday after school (when there is no game in the week)

Date	Year(s)	Venue	Opposition	Comp	Return to Braunton
Tuesday 24 th February	7,8,9 B	Park	N.Devon Schools	League	5.45pm
Thursday 26 th February	10	Park	N.Devon Schools	Tournament	5.45pm
Tuesday 10 th March	7 A&B	Park	N.Devon Schools	Tournament	5.45pm
Wednesday 11 th March	8 A&B	Braunton	WBS	Match	4.30pm
Thursday 19 th March	10 A&B	Braunton	WBS		4.30pm



Girls Football

Training times:

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 – Wednesday after school (When there is no game in the week)

Date	Year(s)	Venue	Opposition	Staff	Comp	Result
25/2/26	U13 DC Tournament 9 a side	Bideford - Return 5.45	TBC	AS,OM	Devon County tournament	
4/3/26	U15 DC Tournament 9 a side	Bideford - Return 5.45	TBC	AS,OM	Devon County tournament	
26/3/26	U13 and U15 County Semi Final	Newton Abbot	TBC	AS,OM	Devon County	
23/4/26	U13 and U15 County Final	Newton Abbot	TBC	AS,OM	Devon County	

Year 11 News

Year 11 Food Preparation & Nutrition Practical Exams

Our Year 11 Food Preparation and Nutrition students have given us every reason to feel incredibly proud following their recent 3-hour formal practical examination. Each student was challenged to produce three buffet-style dishes, showcasing not only their understanding of flavour, technique, and nutrition, but also their ability to work with precision under timed conditions. The results were nothing short of outstanding.

Throughout the session, students demonstrated high-level culinary skill, from advanced knife work and complex cooking methods to careful time management. What truly set their work apart, however, was their commitment to high-class presentation. Every dish was plated with the kind of attention to detail more often seen in professional kitchens than in a school setting.

We are absolutely delighted with the outcomes and incredibly impressed by the maturity, focus, and enthusiasm shown by the entire group.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all parents and carers for your ongoing support. Your encouragement plays a vital role in helping

students thrive, especially in practical subjects that require preparation and practice beyond the classroom.

And of course, to our Year 11 students: well done! You have truly done yourselves proud. We can't wait to see what you achieve next.



Year 10 News

Netball

Tuesday 17th March, netball league matches at Park school, leave school 2.45pm, return 5.45pm

Thursday 19th March, netball match vs WBS at Braunton, start 2.45pm, finish 4.20pm

Year 9 News

Tuesday 17th March, netball league matches at Park school, leave school 2.45pm, return 5.45pm

Thursday 19th March, netball match vs WBS at Braunton. Start 2.45pm, finish 4.20pm. This is a mixed year 9/10 fixtures.



Year 8 News

Year 8 Parents' Evening Thursday 26th March – Important Booking Information

Our booking system has been updated to ensure that all families have a fair opportunity to make appointments. When booking first opens, each family will be able to book up to 6 appointments. After 7 days, if further slots are still available, you will then be able to make additional bookings.

Bookings for the Year 8 Parents' Evening will go live on Friday 13th March at 6pm. Please log in via [SchoolCloud - Braunton Academy](#) to reserve your appointments.

The Parents' Evening itself will take place on Thursday 26th March.

Netball

Tuesday 17th March, netball league matches at Park school, leave school 2.45pm, return 5.45pm

No netball club due to matches

Year 7 News

Netball

Tuesday 17th March, netball league matches at Park school, leave school 2.45pm, return 5.45pm

No netball club due to matches

Robot Club

Wednesday 18th March – Robot Club attending the robotics comp in Barnstaple. Leave school with Mrs Britton at 3.30pm and return by approximately 6.15pm. Parents please be waiting to collect your young one on our return.

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.

WEEK A MENU

	Monday –	Tuesday –	Wednesday –	Thursday –	Friday –
Main Meal  	Macaroni cheese topped with bacon served with peas, garlic bread	Exmoor beef lasagne with garlic bread salad & coleslaw	Roast gammon served with roast potatoes, Yorkshire puddings seasonal veg & gravy	Chicken curry served with rice naan bread & veg	Breaded white fish served with hash brown bites peas & tartar sauce
Veggie	Macaroni cheese with broccoli served with garlic bread	Quorn lasagne with garlic bread, salad & coleslaw	Veggie cottage pie served with Yorkshire pudding, seasonal veg & gravy	Cauliflower & butternut squash curry served with naan bread	Homemade fish pie topped with cheesy mash served with crusty bread
Desserts  	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots			
Grab & go Break & Dinner	Pasta Bolognese Veggie Bolognese	Cheesy pasta bake with garlic bread	Pasta Bolognese Veggie Bolognese	Chilli rice & nachos Veggie chilli & rice	Chorizo pasta bake Veggie pasta bake
Grab & go Break	Hot BLT wrap with hash brown Veggie option	Spicy wedges topped with bacon & cheese	Hoisin duck wrap 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  