



**Braunton
Academy**

**Aspire &
Achieve**

Braunton Academy Newsletter:

17th July 2026

Dear Families,

The final full week of the year has been another warm, fun packed five days, with lots of events where we have had the pleasure of welcoming you into the Academy to celebrate the work of students over the year.

Tuesday evening was the turn of the music department to celebrate the hard work this year with a range of performances at our summer concert, with students from Years 7-10 taking part. The standard was extremely high, and it was wonderful to see how the Year 9 and 10 students have developed since their first performances in Year 7. Thank you to Mr Thomas, Mr Vickery, and our Peri teachers for their ongoing support with music opportunities at the school. Also, a big thank you and to all the families who attended and who supported their child in their musical development week.



Key Dates for July:

Monday 20th July:

End of KS3 Y9
Graduation
Afternoon 2pm

The Traitors Reward
Day for 400 Merits

Group 1 8.50am -
10.50am

Group 2 11.10am -
1.10pm

Tuesday 21st July:

Whole School
Assembly

Half Day Closing-
END OF TERM

Key Dates for
September:

3rd & 4th September:

Inset Days

7th September:

First Day of Term

Yesterday we ran our first ever Year 5 transition day. This is an event we have been discussing with our Primary school partners for some time as a way of enhancing our transition arrangements. Currently most of the transition activities focus on Year 6 when students are already busy with SATs preparation. We believe giving the students the opportunity to visit Branton at an earlier stage before they enter Year 6, will help build their confidence and help them visualise what they are working towards throughout Year 6. Students meet with the tutor team for the Class of 2032, as well as experiencing a range of lessons. Thank you to all the families who attended the assembly at the end of the day, where we were able to share pictures of what the students had done throughout the day. There is a feedback survey for parents to help us fine tune the day before it is offered to Year 5 next year.

Congratulations to Matida who won the illustration competition and to Temecula who was the runner up. Students were tasked with creating a 12-page, fully illustrated picture book. Miss Reed said the standard of all students that entered the completion was very good. Well done to everyone who got involved.



This week lots of students in KS3 have been involved in Junior Lifeguarding events, and this afternoon we have the rewards assembly for all students that have achieved over 350 merits for the year. The celebrations continue next week with the Year 9 Key stage 3 graduation on Monday afternoon, all families are invited to attend and then the students have their final celebration assembly as a full school on Tuesday where we celebrate all their achievements throughout the year. **School finishes at 1:05pm on Tuesday.**



As this is my last newsletter of the year, I would like to thank all our families for their support and remind you that school opens to staff on Thursday 3rd September. The school email addresses are not regularly checked during the holidays; staff will respond to anything that comes in over the summer at their first available time.

Students return to school on Monday 7th September. This is a staggered start with:

Year 7 arriving at 8:45

Year 8&9 at 9:15am

Year 10&11 at 9:45.

All students should report to Isaac Hall for assembly before going to tutor rooms. Formal lessons will begin after morning break. Any students catching the school bus in Years 8-11 will be supervised in the school Library until their time for assembly.

On behalf of all the staff at the Academy I wish you and your families a lovely summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Bowler'.

**Mrs F Bowler,
Principal**



Whole School Messages

Medication in School

We are noticing an increase in children coming to first aid requesting pain relief. Whilst we do have school spares, 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

As we move into the busy summer period, we would like to gently remind parents/carers and students to stay extra vigilant around vehicles. Please take a moment to reinforce with your child the importance of not approaching or getting into any car or vehicle driven by someone they do not know, even if the person appears friendly or familiar. A quick conversation at home can help keep this message fresh and ensure everyone stays safe.

Summer HAF

Bookings are now open for the Devon Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme this summer. With over 170 locations across Devon, children and young people can enjoy a wide range of fun, safe and engaging activities, including sports, creative arts, outdoor pursuits and more.

The programme offers inclusive provision, with support for SEND pupils, and many clubs provide extended hours to support working families. Subsidised and paid places are also available.

To find out more and secure a place, visit: <https://eequ.org/devonhaf> or scan the QR code on the poster.

Summer HAF programme (open to students across North Devon in year 7-11) with the families of children who receive Free school meals please. The programme is based in Ilfracombe for some of the week, and a minibus will be provided for any days out of the Town. This is the link to the website where parents/guardians can book on. [ECCT North Devon Secondary HAF with Exeter City CommunityTrust · Eequ](#) The programme is free, each child will get a healthy lunch each day, plus we have some great days out planned... including The Wake Park, Milky Way, Kayaking, Pinkery!



Summer HAF

BOOKING NOW OPEN!

With more than 170 locations across Devon, exciting Holiday Clubs will be offering fun, safe and engaging activities for children and young people!

WHAT'S ON OFFER?

- ✓ A wide-ranging programme spanning sports, outdoor pursuits, creative arts, life skills and much more.
- ✓ SEND-inclusive universal support and Specialist provision.
- ✓ Reclaim the Parks outreach days.

Many clubs offer extended hours for working parents and paid places for friends who are not eligible for HAF provision.

Sign up now at <https://eequ.org/devonhaf> or scan the QR code below





Braunton Bus Pass Project

Following the success of our pilot, we are offering the Braunton Academy issue bus passes for autumn term 26. These are available to all students who do not qualify for free school transport and who do not wish to purchase weekly tickets on the bus (due to our no smart phone rule). The passes are for school days only and cost £4.71 per journey and can only be issued on a ½ termly basis for 5 days a week min at a cost of £47.10 per week.

Autumn term 1 from Mon 7th Sept to Fri 23rd Oct will be 7 weeks @ £329.70 which can be paid to the academy in weekly payments if preferred.

If you would like a pass you need to email finance@braunton.acadmey by 5pm Friday 17th July with the name of your child, bus route used, year group in Sept 26 and attach a recent head/shoulders photo for the pass. Passes will be issued before the end of term.



Great British Summer Savings

Rising prices can make life's little treats harder to afford, especially during the school holidays when costs build up for families. This Government is determined to help, and that is why last month the Chancellor announced the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme.

From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom.

As part of this campaign, we have launched an attraction finder website which allows families to type in their postcode and find participating venues near them to make the most of summer savings. To use the attraction finder, please visit <https://summersavings.gov.uk>.

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



North Devon Forum for Autism Spectrum conditions and ADHD



info@ndfautism.co.uk
facebook.com/groups/ndfarb
@northdevonforum

North Devon Forum for ASC and ADHD Announces Revitalisation and Expanded Support Across the Region

The North Devon Forum for Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC) and ADHD — a long-standing community charity supporting families and carers since 1992 — has announced a renewed period of growth and development following the recruitment of new Trustees.

Originally established over 30 years ago and registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in 2017, the Forum has played a vital role in supporting autistic people, individuals with ADHD, and their families across North Devon. Its core objectives include:

- Providing informal support for autistic people, those with ADHD, and their parents, carers, and close family members.
- Organising social events and activities that enable individuals to access everyday experiences that might otherwise be difficult or inaccessible.
- Maintaining strong links with professionals, ensuring families receive up to date, reliable information.
- Offering signposting and networking opportunities to connect families with relevant organisations and services.

Regular Activities Supporting Families Across North Devon

The Forum continues to deliver a growing programme of inclusive activities designed to reduce isolation and create safe, welcoming spaces for autistic people and their families. Current provision includes:

- **Regular coffee mornings in Barnstaple**, featuring guest speakers and access to a specialised lending library of autism related resources.
- **Free monthly swimming sessions in Northam**, enjoyed by families throughout the year in a calm, supportive environment.
- **Day trips to local attractions**, including Exmoor Zoo and The Big Sheep, providing opportunities for social connection and sensory considerate outings.



Call to Action

The Forum welcomes contact from families seeking support, professionals wishing to collaborate, and potential funders or trustees who would like to help shape the next chapter of this essential local charity.

Media Contact

Name: Elaine Gannon

Role: Trustee

Email: elaine.gannon@ndfautism.co.uk

Phone: 07830 213265 (not monitored 24/7)

A message from Miss Ronkier: Brave the Shave Challenge

I will be doing a brave the shave challenge on the **17th of July** on Tweedies, after school. I'll make my way over for 3.30pm and hopefully Alfie Myatt will be cutting my hair, if not I'm sure I'll find someone willing and able to wield the scissors and clippers!

This is in homage to H  lene, a girl who was at my primary school when I first joined it at around 8 years old, and who unfortunately passed away within a few months of my meeting her. I couldn't help her then but I can help others now by donating my hair to the Little Princess Trust and raising funds for Macmillan support!

I am signed up as Steph Ronckier (not St  phanie this time around, so the donation counter goes back to zero from 2018!) so if anyone wants to donate you can go to the Macmillan Brave The Shave website, "Donate to Shavers", and type "Steph Ronckier" to find me.

Here's the direct link if it's easier:

<https://bravetheshave.macmillan.org.uk/shavers/ae6bef1d-8f42-4fc5-b5e4-775668ca6b09>

Looking forward to a cooler head and thank you in advance for your support.

Safeguarding alert

Last week we were made aware of another scam targeting young boys to encourage them to send inappropriate images which once they send are used to blackmail them. Unfortunately, this is becoming more common with young men between the ages of 14-21 being specifically targeted as they are statistically less likely to share this information with their parents and school. It begins with simple messaging over social media, after some time chatting with someone they think is their age they are asked to download a private chat app and later the person encourages them into swapping inappropriate images. We regularly discuss this type



of danger with students in PD lessons and assemblies but unfortunately students still fall into this trap. We would encourage you to speak to your child about the risks and if they do have access to smartphone technology that you regularly check their social media and apps to make sure they do not fall victim to this type of crime.

Safeguarding during the summer holidays

During the school holidays, the Safeguarding Team only monitors their email address safeguarding@braunton.academy periodically. If a child is in immediate danger, call 999. For other serious or urgent issues, contact the Devon Children's Front Door team (previously MASH) directly on 0345 155 1071.

Children and young people can contact Childline free and confidentially on 0800 1111. The Braunton Academy Whisper account will not be monitored during the school holidays.

Parents and carers can contact the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000.

If a child or young person is struggling with their mental health, they can text YM to 85258 for free, 24/7 crisis support. Parents wanting advice can also contact the YoungMinds Parents Helpline on 0808 802 5544.

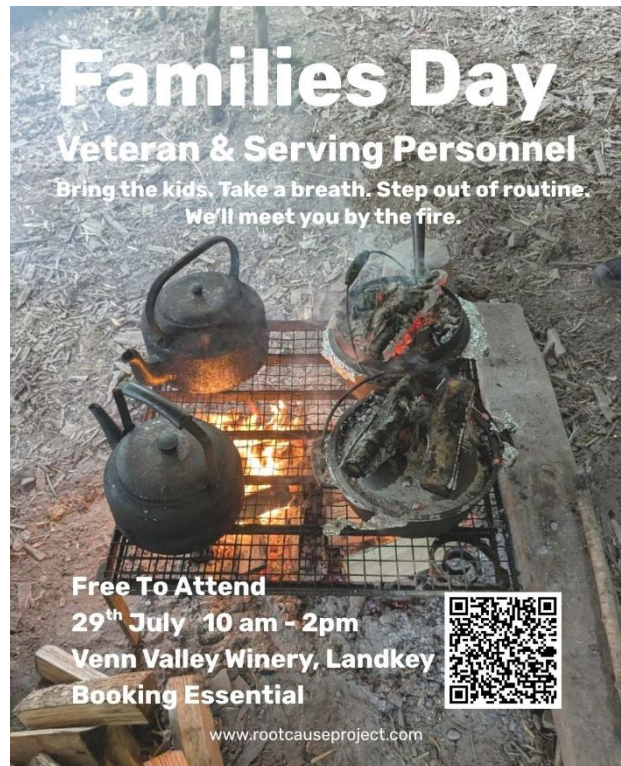
The National Emergency Briefing (NEB)

is an evidence-led public information campaign launched in the UK to bypass media polarization and deliver an unfiltered scientific briefing on the escalating climate and nature polycrisis. Spearheaded by climate funders Simon and Nick Oldridge, it began with a major summit in Westminster on 27 November 2025 where 10 leading scientists and experts addressed over 1,200 figures across politics, media, and business. The core goal is to pressure the UK Government into staging a prime-time, televised national emergency broadcast regarding environmental risks. As part of our whole school approach, we are transitioning towards a carbon zero goal by 2030, please take some time to listen to this broadcast. Select the link below to listen to the specialist.

<https://www.nebriefing.org/expert-briefings>



Forces Families Day



Surf Success

It's been a really successful time for our Braunton Academy surfers who have been competing in numerous national competitions recently. In particular, massive congratulations need to go to Jack Strutt who has been selected to represent England in the U16 ISA world junior surfing championships in El Salvador later this year. An absolutely huge achievement - well done Jack.

Jack also finished 3rd in the European Rip Curl gromsearch at the end of May in a really close final where he only missed out on first place by 0.2 points on his wave scores.





Clubs and Activities

All clubs and activities are now on the website.

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

Climbing Club

<https://radventuresoutdoors.setmore.com/classes/4adbf691-9b54-437b-88f1-02584a9a5f71>

DEVON HAF
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

FOOTBALL HOLIDAY CLUB

Join us this summer for fun filled days of football games, competitions & prizes
Girls & Boys / All abilities
Ages 5 - 11 years

28, 29, 30 July | 4, 5, 6 | 11, 12, 13 | 18, 19, 20 |
25, 26, 27 August
10am - 2pm

THE KINGSLEY SCHOOL, BIDEFORD

SUMMER FOOTBALL HOLIDAY CLUB
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

A SUMMER OF FOOTBALL. FUN. FRIENDS & FUTURE STARS!
SKILLS - MATCHES - TOURNAMENTS - CHALLENGES - PRIZES & MORE!

EARLY BIRD OFFER! **BOOK BEFORE 26 JULY →**

LOCATION	DATES	TIME	EARLY BIRD (18.07 - 26.07)	NORMAL DAY RATE (27.07 - 31.07)	BOOK ALL 3 DAYS WITHIN THE SAME WEEK FOR
TARKA LEISURE CENTRE BARNSTAPLE 3G PITCH	28, 29, 30 Jul 4, 5, 6 August 11, 12, 13 August 18, 19, 20 August 25, 26, 27 August	9:00am - 4:00pm	£25	£30	£60
THE KINGSLEY SCHOOL BIDEFORD 3G PITCH	28, 29, 30 Jul 4, 5, 6 August 11, 12, 13 August 18, 19, 20 August 25, 26, 27 August	10:00am - 3:00pm	£22.50	£25	£52.50
GIRLS ONLY FOOTBALL SESSIONS TARKA LEISURE CENTRE BARNSTAPLE 3G PITCH TUESDAY 11 AUGUST 10:00AM - 1:00PM THE KINGSLEY SCHOOL BIDEFORD 3G PITCH WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST 10:00AM - 1:00PM	11 AUGUST 12 AUGUST	10:00AM - 1:00PM	£12.50	£15	£20
ILFRACOMBE ACADEMY 3G PITCH Monday 3 & 17 August 10:00AM - 2:00PM	3 & 17 August	10:00AM - 2:00PM	£20 PER DAY	£30	£30

★ QUALITY COACHING ★ SKILLS & DEVELOPMENT ★ MAKE NEW FRIENDS ★ GAMES, TOURNAMENTS & PRIZES

LIMITED SPACES
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID MISSING OUT!

BOOK NOW! →
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT

<https://devon.ferdinandcollective.com/football/fc-events>



Year 11 News

Your voice

Your future

Your community

Are you 16-24 years old?

Do you live in North Devon or Torridge?

Do you want to earn up to £375?

Kailo is a research and design programme that has spent 4 years listening to, and working with, young people to understand what needs to change to better support young people into employment.

We are looking for 10 young people (aged 16-24) to join us for the next stage- no experience needed!

What will you do?

- **Work with a group of 16-24 year olds** to share what actually matters to young people
- **Design workshops and events** that you will help deliver to organisations.
- **Be in the room with organisations** and tell them, what needs to change.

What's in it for you?

- **Paid £13.45/hr** (Real Living Wage) + travel and food.
- **Build skills and experience for your CV** in facilitation, design, public speaking
- **Work with a supportive, team** who will help you share your expertise.
- **Influence organisations** making decisions about your future.

What's the commitment?

Around 12 two hours sessions from July/August- October, held in Northern Devon.

Interested? We'd love to hear from you!

Message Katie saying you're interested by email: Katie.potter@dartington.org.uk or WhatsApp on 07879590585

Deadline: Monday 13th July, 5pm

Kailo



Year 10 News

Well done to both Year 10 Food groups on completing your final food practical, Afternoon tea!

What an incredible display of effort, creativity, and skill from every one of you. It has been wonderful to watch your confidence grow throughout the year as you have developed new techniques, tackled challenges, and expanded your knowledge of food preparation and cooking.

Cooking is about much more than simply following a recipe. It requires problem-solving, time management, attention to detail, and creativity – all qualities that you have shown this year.

Well done, Year 10!



Year 9 News

No News This Week.

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.

WEEK B MENU

	<u>Monday –</u>	<u>Tuesday –</u>	<u>Wednesday –</u>	<u>Thursday –</u>	<u>Friday –</u>
Main Meal  	Devon Pork sausages served with mashed potatoes, peas & gravy	Cottage pie served with savoy cabbage, carrots & gravy	Roast Chicken served with roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding seasonal veg & gravy	Chicken Fajita wraps served with potato wedges & coleslaw	Breaded white fish served with hash brown bites, peas & tartar sauce
Veggie	Quorn sausages served with mashed potatoes, peas & gravy	Cauliflower & broccoli bake Served with savoy cabbage & gravy	Veggie cottage pie served with roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding veg & gravy	Halloumi & roasted pepper wraps served with potato wedges & coleslaw	Homemade veggie quiche served with hash brown bites & mixed leaf salad
Desserts  	Traybakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Traybakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Traybakes Fresh fruit fruit pots	Traybakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Traybakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots
Grab & go <u>Break & Dinner</u>	Pasta Bolognese Veggie Bolognese	Cheesy pasta <u>bake</u> with garlic bread	Pasta Bolognese Veggie Bolognese	Chilli rice & nachos Veggie chilli & rice	Chorizo pasta <u>bake</u> with garlic bread
Grab & go <u>Break</u>	Hot BLT wrap with hash brown Veggie option	Spicy wedges topped with cheese & bacon	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  