



**Braunton
Academy**

Braunton Academy Newsletter:

18th September 2026

Dear Families,

We hope you have had a good week. This ends the second week of school with students having completed their first cycle of the two-week timetable. We have had positive feedback from staff on how all year groups have settled into the new term but in particular, how well the new Year 7 have got used to secondary school routines.

It was a pleasure to welcome Year 7 parents last night to meet the tutor evening and get your initial feedback on the first two weeks. We will send out a survey to Year 7 parents in two weeks' time when they have had a few more weeks in school to get your feedback on what has gone well and anything we could improve on.

I would also like to thank all the Year 11 parents and students that attended the 'Countdown to GCSE' evening last night, again there was a very high level of attendance. We appreciate it was a lot of information to take in, the presentation is being shared with you to refer to. Just a reminder to Year 10 families that the 'Welcome to GCSE' evening is on Wednesday 30th September starting at 6pm.

Next week we welcome prospective Year 5 and 6 families to the school with our Open Evening on Thursday 24th September. Thank you to all the students and parents that are supporting us on that night.

Student Sporting Successes

We are delighted to announce that our Year 11 Football Team has reached the North Devon Final for the fifth consecutive year. This

**Key Dates for
September:**

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

remarkable achievement reflects the consistency, commitment and resilience shown by the players and coaching staff over a sustained period. The final will be played at Mill Road, Barnstaple Town FC, with the date to be confirmed. We wish the team the very best of luck as they aim to continue their impressive run of success.

Alongside this team achievement, we are delighted to celebrate the outstanding sporting accomplishments of several students who have represented themselves, their clubs and their disciplines with distinction over the summer.

Ash B (Year 11) achieved remarkable success at the European Martial Arts Games in Berlin, earning a gold medal in Kumite (fighting) alongside bronze medals in both Kata and Weapons Forms. Competing against talented athletes from across Europe, Ash demonstrated exceptional skill, determination and composure, showcasing the rewards of his hard work and dedication to martial arts.

Kitty C (Year 9) enjoyed an exceptional summer at the Surf Life Saving GB National Nipper Championships held at Holywell Bay. As Club Captain of Woolacombe Surf Life Saving Club, Kitty became UK National Champion in all three individual sea events she entered: the Surf Race, Board Race and Golden Nipper. Across the championships, she achieved five podium finishes from six individual events and scored 110 points, making her the highest-scoring competitor across all age groups. Kitty's performances played a key role in helping Woolacombe Surf Life Saving Club secure the overall National Nipper Championship title. Having been involved with the club since the age of six, her success reflects years of commitment, training and leadership.

Henry S (Year 9) spent the break at the prestigious Great British Wake Camp at Luna Cable Park in Spain, an invitation-only training camp for the country's most promising young wakeboarders. Henry earned this opportunity through a series of consistent podium finishes at the last three national championships. During the week, he trained alongside some of the UK's top young riders, further developing both his technical skills and understanding of the demands of elite-level wakeboarding. Henry is set to compete in a number of national and international events this year as he works towards his goal of being selected for the Team GB Cable Wakeboarding Team.

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.



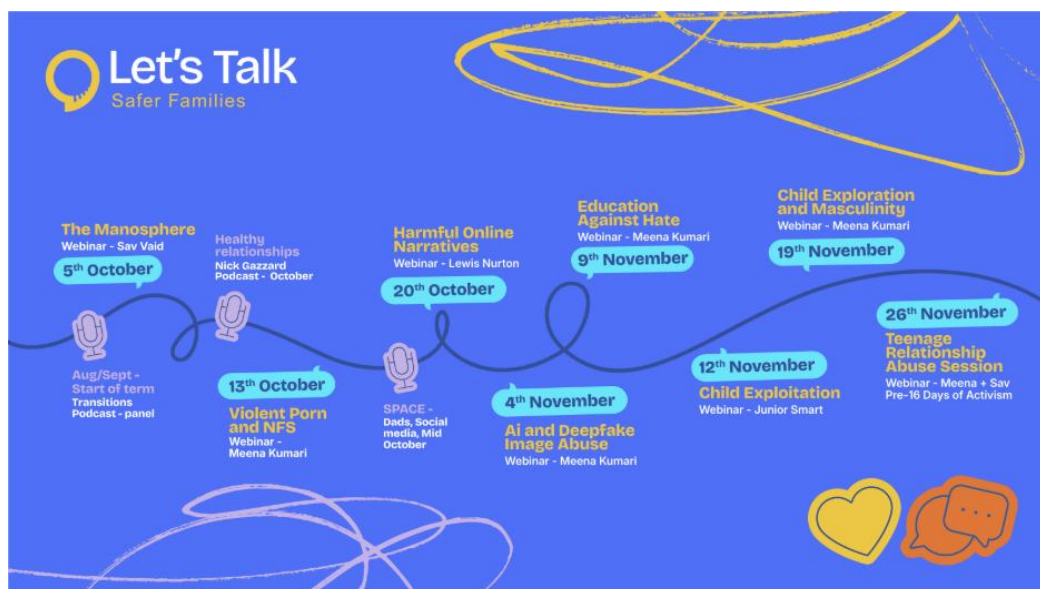


Let's Talk Safer Families

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!

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

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

💡



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.

IN THE SURF MUSEUM, GREEN ROOM, BRAUNTON

BRAUNTON YOUTH CLUB

OPENING TIMES
SEPTEMBER 2026

NEW EVERY MONDAY! 6:30-8:30
YEARS 7-9: SEPTEMBER 7TH & 21ST
YEARS 10&11: SEPTEMBER 14TH & 28TH

TUESDAYS:
YEARS 5&6 - TIMES AND DATES
COMING SOON

A PLACE TO HANG WITH FRIENDS
ART
MUSIC
COOKERY
TABLE TENNIS
FOOTBALL
GAMING STATION
YOUR CLUB YOUR WAY
WORKSHOPS
TIME TO YOURSELF!






Local Armed Forces Community Support

DMWS is an independent military charity supporting serving personnel, veterans, reservists, family members/carers, the military bereaved, and members of the Merchant Navy.



Craft & Chat sessions

Our weekly Craft & Chat sessions offer a relaxed opportunity to meet others, enjoy a brew, and connect with support. Some people come along regularly, while others simply drop in for information or advice.

Every Friday at 10.00am-12.00pm at
RMB Chivenor Church, EX31 4AZ



Individual support

For those who prefer not to attend a group, DMWS also provides individual support tailored to your circumstances.

How to join

Call Melinda on 07483 569888 or email mstanford@dmws.org.uk
Find us on Facebook at DMWS - North Devon Community



**THE ARMED FORCES
COVENANT FUND TRUST**
Funded by HM Government

Refreshments and materials provided

This support is made possible by The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, St John and Red Cross Defence Medical Welfare Service (DMWS) is a registered charity 1000100 England & Wales and SC040460 Scotland.

Ecoclub

Ecoclub is starting back up Tuesday lunchtimes in room 25. The first one will be Tuesday 29th September. Bring your lunch or collect from the canteen first. Our first job this year is to plant 320 spring bulbs! Come and see what we're up to – new members are welcome!

Free School Meals

All free school meal student are entitled to £2.50. This is loaded up on to the account automatically and if they do not use all their allowance, it is not carried over to the following day. Please encourage your child to access their fsm. Student can use them at both break time and dinner time you can also top up your FSM account if you wish.

Student limits

All student accounts are set at £5.00 this is to stop students over spending even if it shows that they have money on their account if you would like to increase the allowance you must email the school .



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.

After-School Climbing Club Booking Now Open (All Years Welcome!)

We are delighted to announce that booking is now open for our upcoming after-school climbing club, hosted right here in the Braunton Academy Sports Hall! Led by qualified, professional instructors, this block offers structured,

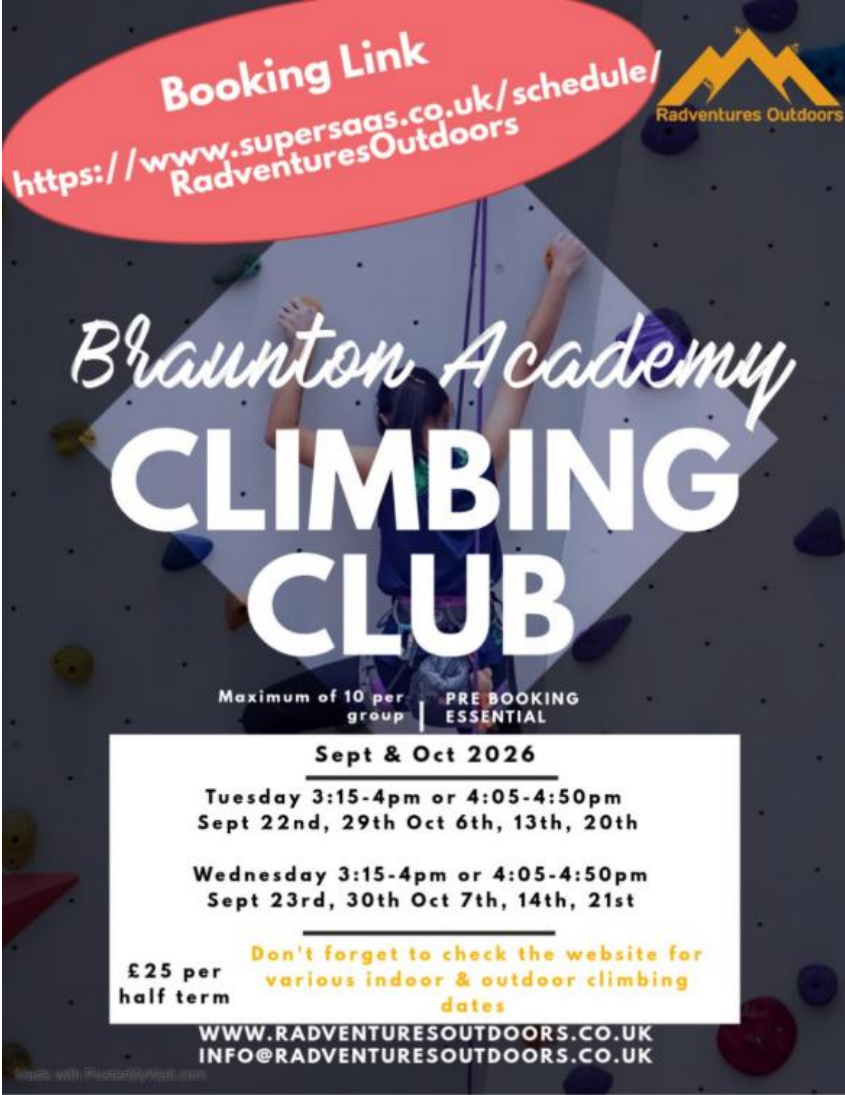
progressive coaching designed to build confidence, agility, and safety awareness. The first session starts on Tuesday 22 September.

Who: Open to all year groups.

Kit Required: Students should wear their PE kit (or sportswear that fully covers harness points) and clean, lace-up trainers. All technical safety equipment is provided.

How to Book: Spaces are strictly limited and pre booking is essential. Bookings are as a full block commitment. Secure your child's spot via our new, secure online portal

here: <https://www.supersaas.co.uk/schedule/RadventuresOutdoors>

A poster for the Braunton Academy Climbing Club. The background is a dark grey climbing wall with various colored holds. A person is seen climbing in the center. At the top, a red oval contains the booking link. The title 'Braunton Academy CLIMBING CLUB' is prominently displayed in the center. Below the title, it states 'Maximum of 10 per group' and 'PRE BOOKING ESSENTIAL'. A white box contains the schedule for September and October 2026, listing sessions on Tuesdays and Wednesdays with specific dates and times. At the bottom, it mentions the cost of £25 per half term and provides the website and email address. The Radventures Outdoors logo is in the top right corner.

Booking Link
<https://www.supersaas.co.uk/schedule/RadventuresOutdoors>

Braunton Academy
CLIMBING CLUB

Maximum of 10 per group | PRE BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Sept & Oct 2026

Tuesday 3:15-4pm or 4:05-4:50pm
Sept 22nd, 29th Oct 6th, 13th, 20th

Wednesday 3:15-4pm or 4:05-4:50pm
Sept 23rd, 30th Oct 7th, 14th, 21st

£25 per half term

Don't forget to check the website for various indoor & outdoor climbing dates

WWW.RADVENTURESOUTDOORS.CO.UK
INFO@RADVENTURESOUTDOORS.CO.UK

Logo with Photo: Radventures Outdoors



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](#)

Exeter Maths School

Exeter Maths School have contacted us to let us know that their application form to join Year 12 in September 2027, is now open.

They are a free state-funded Maths Specialist Sixth Form for students across the South West of England. Further details below:

- Everyone one studies Maths and Further Maths.
- You can choose from Physics or Computer Science for your third A Level.
- There is the option to study a fourth course of your choice with Exeter Maths School or at Exeter College (or stick to three).
- Exeter Maths Certificate projects will build your research and presentation skills.
- There is Monday to Friday accommodation for students who live further away, with a generous bursary scheme. There is additional support in the admissions process for students who are entitled to Free School Meals - including travel bursaries and mock interviews.



- Book yourself onto a Taster Day for a talk, tour and sample lessons - events on 3rd October, 7th November and 12th December.

[Exeter Maths School Admissions Process / Apply for 2027 Entry / Book a Taster Day](#)

NHS Discover Diagnostics Careers Event

Please follow the link below to our Careers webpage for further details, and to book a place, on the Discover Diagnostics Careers Event being held by the NHS at South West Imaging Training Academy on Saturday 14th November.

[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 you 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  