



Braunton Academy Newsletter:

6th February 2026

Dear Families

I hope you have had a good week, thank you to all the Year 9 families that attended parent's evening last night. This is the start of the process of students making choices about their options next year, the next step is the pathways evening on Thursday 26th February.

Congratulations three of our Year 11 students, Ryley, Fin and Toby who won the North Devon heat of the Battle of the Bands, they are now through to the county final in Exeter.

Last week 60 students took part in the national maths challenge, we are pleased to share with you 38 of our students achieved either a bronze, silver or gold certificates. Six of our students have also been invited to the international round later this year.

Yours sincerely

Mrs F Bowler
Principal

Key Dates for February:

11th February-
Coffee & Chat at Wrafton Hall
(9:00am-10:30am)

16th February to 20th February- HALF TERM

26th February- Year 9 Pathway Evening

Key Dates for March:

5th March - World Book Day



Whole School Messages



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

| | |
|---|--|
| Chickenpox | at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over |
| Diarrhoea and Vomiting | 48 hours after their last episode |
| Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19) | they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19. |
| Impetigo | their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics |
| Measles | 4 days after the rash first appeared |
| Mumps | 5 days after the swelling started |
| Scabies | they've had their first treatment |
| Scarlet Fever | 24 hours after they started taking antibiotics |
| Whooping Cough | 48 hours after they started taking antibiotics |

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery
know about...

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Hand, foot and mouth | Glandular fever |
| Head lice | Tonsillitis |
| Threadworms | Slapped cheek |

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SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for
health protection in schools
or scan the QR code or visit
<https://qroo.de/minfec>.



Ramadan

This year, the holy month of Ramadan is due to start around 17th February. We are aware that the length of the fasting day will be 18 to 19 hours and that this may be difficult for some children. I know that you will have thought carefully about how or whether or not your child(ren) will be fasting, and the Academy will be respectful of your decision. If, however, a child shows signs of dehydration or exhaustion then they will be asked if they are fasting and advised to terminate the fast immediately by drinking some water. They will be reassured that in this situation Islamic rulings allow them to break their fast and make it up later. There is a prayer room available to all pupils as a quiet place to rest and pray during break and lunchtimes. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you Ramadan Mubarak and may every year find you in good health.

Kind regards, Mrs Woodhead

Safeguarding Alert

We have been made aware of a worrying new movement that is targeting teenagers and poses a significant risk. Please look at the following link and advice.

[Warning about the 764 movement online: What every parent needs to know - Teen Tips](#)

Year 11 Exams

March PPE timetable and the Year 11 Summer GCSE timetable are now on the school website [Exams Information](#)

Clubs and Activities

All clubs and activities are now on the website.

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



Forces Families

Free online parent seminars from the Royal Navy & Royal Marines Charity (RNRMC)

RNRMC fund the NCC and a valued partner in the Strengthening Families programme, offering these stand-alone sessions for parents of children with neurodivergence.

- Mon 2nd February 2026 — Oppositional behaviours
- Mon 23rd February 2026 — Understanding school anxiety
- Mon 2nd March 2026 — Masking and Burnout
- Wed 18th March 2026 — Parenting During the Deployment Cycle
- ⌚ All seminars run 7:30–9:00pm

✉ To book, email info@sftrust.org.uk



FREE ONLINE STAND-ALONE
SEMINARS

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Part of the Strengthening Families programme for all Royal Navy and Royal Marines families in the UK and abroad

www.sftrust.org.uk



Year 11 News



Royal Devon University Healthcare, Exeter, Apprenticeship Week Careers Fair

Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Wonford, are pleased to confirm the return of their annual Careers Fair as part of Apprenticeship Week.

It was great for them to see so many young people attend last year's event learning about the huge variety of careers available at the Royal Devon and in the NHS. With over 350 different career choices there really is something for everyone, their Estates and Facilities team include electricians, carpenters, HGV drivers, chefs and early years educators. In their clinical teams they have physiotherapists, pharmacists, operating department practitioners, orthoptists and therapeutic radiographers, plus so many more including well known careers in nursing, midwifery, medicine and dentistry.

Event details:

- Tuesday 10 February
- Drop in anytime between 5.00pm and 7.00pm
- RILD Building, Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (Wonford)

The Careers Fair is open to:

- School, college and university students
- Members of the public looking for a new challenge
- Return to practice professionals

Attendees will have the opportunity to:

- Speak with the Royal Devon Academy team for apprenticeships and training and development advice
- Meet representatives from the University of Exeter, University of Manchester, University of Plymouth, and Exeter and North Devon Colleges Group
- Visit department and professional stands to learn how different roles make a difference across the Royal Devon
- Join an application support session to gain top tips about applying for roles.

Visit their careers website for their full list of events: <https://www.royaldevon.nhs.uk/careers/careers-events/>

West Buckland Sixth Form Taster Sessions



Year 10 News



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What is involved?

- A comprehensive experience delivered virtually in February.
- Live Q&A sessions with STEM professionals in Net Zero futures, Digital AI futures, Health and Life Sciences, Engineering & Infrastructure and Manufacturing futures.
- CV, applications and interview support.
- Interactive panel Q&A sessions with universities & apprentices.
- Learn how to succeed in the workplace, including how to ask questions, network and write professional emails.
- Achieve the Bronze Industrial Cadet Award.

Dates

- 20 hours of study to complete flexibly over 5 days in February.
- Monday 16th – Friday 21st February.

Cost/Funding

- £50 (bursaries available, click [here](#) for bursary criteria and availability).

How to register or find out more

To register, please visit our website [here](#) or scan the QR code!





Year 9 News

Year 9 Pathways Information Evening

Thursday 26th February 2026, 5pm – 6.30pm in the Drama Hall and Isaac Hall

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to invite you to attend our **Year 9 Pathways Information Evening**. Year 9 students will soon be deciding which GCSEs and other qualifications to study next year. To support them, and you in this very important decision-making process, we would like to invite you and your child to our Information Evening on Thursday 26th February 2026, 5pm – 6.30pm.

At this event, you will be able to find out the answers to these questions:

- Which subjects are compulsory for students (the 'core' curriculum)?
- Which subjects are options? How many options are there?
- What academic and vocational courses are on offer?
- How do I submit my choices?
- **The Options Pathway Booklet**, which will guide you through your discussions and choices is available on our website under the 'Curriculum' section, where you can also watch videos from the Subject Leaders, explaining the courses we provide. We will also give a paper copy to Year 9 students at Pathways Evening.

On the evening, you will receive a welcome from Mrs Bowler and will then be taken through the Pathway choices by Mr Twohig, who will present our KS4 Curriculum. This will outline our guidance for ensuring that your child makes choices that will enable them to experience success in Year 10 and 11. Attendance is essential to discuss your child's options and to ensure your child is making the correct choices for their future.

The Assembly for parents will take place at these slots, dependent on your child's tutor (students do not need to attend as they will have received this information in school and can stay in the subject fair in the Isaac Hall).

Parent Information Assembly 1 - 5pm in Drama Hall

- Mr England's tutor group

- Mrs. Bateman's tutor group
- Mrs. Murphy's tutor group

Parent Information Assembly 2 - 5.40pm in Drama Hall

- Ms. William's tutor group
- Mrs. Pearce's tutor group
- Ms. Ronckier's tutor group

Mr Parsons will also speak to you about the careers support and guidance which we provide at the Academy, as well as Year 10 work experience opportunities. There will also be a number of colleges present who you can also speak with.

On the evening, you will be given the Options Form and have the opportunity to attend a subject fair, where you can speak to staff about the different courses on offer. This form will allow you to choose the subjects that your child will study in Years 10 and 11. **The deadline for this form to be completed is Friday 6th March.**

During tutor time and assemblies in forthcoming weeks, your child will also have the opportunity to engage in activities to provide information, advice and guidance around the choice of education pathways available. A selected group of our Year 9 students will also meet with key members of staff for additional guidance in the run up to the submission of their final choices.

We look forward to seeing you on **Thursday 26th February 2026, 5pm – 6.30pm.**

Best Wishes,

**Mr Twohig
Vice Principal**

Future Skills Programme



What is involved?

- A comprehensive experience delivered virtually in February.
- Live Q&A sessions with STEM professionals in Net Zero futures, Digital AI futures, Health and Life Sciences, Engineering & Infrastructure and Manufacturing futures.
- CV, applications and interview support.
- Interactive panel Q&A sessions with universities & apprentices.
- Learn how to succeed in the workplace, including how to ask questions, network and write professional emails.
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Dates

Cost/Funding

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Year 8 News

No news this week.

Year 7 News

No news this week.



Catering

WEEK A MENU

| Main Meal | | Monday - | Tuesday - | Wednesday - | Thursday - | Friday - |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| | | 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 |
| | | 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 & 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 |

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.