



**Braunton
Academy**

**Aspire &
Achieve**

Braunton Academy Newsletter:

10th July 2026

Dear Families,

We hope you have had a good week, as the weather heats up again, we have adapted the school uniform policy and are doing everything we can to keep students and staff cool in school. Luckily the temperatures are not hitting the heights of a couple of weeks ago, but we are monitoring classroom temperatures closely and adapting provision when required.

On Monday I had a delightful day working with our new student leadership team, our 44 prefects spent a morning focusing on leadership and management which started with a Keynote from Joe Sparks. Joe is a leadership thinker, former CEO and sought after keynote speaker who challenges organisations to rethink how they lead, innovate and build cultures where people truly thrive. He is also a Braunton resident and we would like to thank him for his continued support of the school by participating again in our student leadership day. Joe does this session for free, but we have again donated to his charity which is going to be used to provide students and teachers with much needed computer equipment. Joe wished to thank the students for their support of the charity. Later in the day students looked at managing a project and started creating action plans for the initiatives they plan to implement as part of their legacy to the school.

Key Dates for July:

W/C Monday 13th
July: PE House
Competitions all
week

Monday 13th July:
Summer Concert
Rehearsal

Tuesday 14th July:
Summer Concert

Thursday 16th July:
Year 5 Taster Day

Friday 17th July:
Afternoon Buffet @
2:20pm for 350
merits

Tuesday 21st July:
Whole School
Assembly

Half Day Closing-
END OF TERM



On Tuesday the MFL team set off with a group of Year 8 and 9 students to Barcelona, so far, they have experienced a cable car trip, a tapas tour, the Sagrada Familia, the Aquarium and the Camp Nou. Mr Duthuit reports they are all having an amazing time.



In Technology this week students have been putting their final touches to their boomerangs and testing them up on Tweedies.



On Tuesday, our Year 7 cricketers travelled to Park School to compete in the North Devon Cricket Competition. Both teams represented the school brilliantly, with one team producing an outstanding performance to be crowned tournament champions, while our second team also competed extremely well and finished in an impressive 6th place. Congratulations to all of the players for their excellent effort, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the competition.

We are also delighted to announce the nominees for the 2026 Sports Personality of the Year Award, recognised for their outstanding sporting achievements throughout the year:

Year 10 - Danny L (Football)

Year 10 - Amelie B (Athletics & Netball)

Year 10 - Quentin S (Athletics)

Year 10 - Charlotte B (Boxing)

Year 9 - Henry S (Wakeboarding)

Year 10 - Annie N (Surfing)

Students can cast their vote for their winner via ClassCharts. Good luck to all of our nominees!

There has been a small change to the smartphone policy to add the new smart glasses into the list of prohibited devices allowed into school, the full policy is on the website. As we reach the end of the first year of the policy the six schools of the Branton Partnership and the parents represented by Smartphone Free Branton would like to thank everyone for their support and the positive impact the policy has had not just on the environment in school but also improving student wellbeing.

BRAUNTON LEARNING COOPERATIVE TRUST



ONE YEAR

SMARTPHONE FREE!

– ALL SCHOOLS IN BRAUNTON –

CELEBRATING A YEAR OF SUCCESS TOGETHER!

One year ago, all schools across the Branton Learning Cooperative Trust made the brave and positive decision to go smartphone free. Together, we are creating safer schools, stronger communities and brighter futures for our children.



5 BENEFITS WE'RE PROUD TO CELEBRATE

1		SAFER SCHOOLS Safeguarding instances linked to smartphones have significantly reduced, creating a safer environment for everyone.
2		BULLYING IS DOWN With fewer online conflicts and less exposure to harmful content, bullying – both online and offline – has decreased.
3		LESS PEER PRESSURE There is far less pressure to own a smartphone, helping children feel confident and included.
4		PARENTS HAVE CHOICE Parents now feel empowered to decide when their child is ready for a smartphone – on their terms.
5		LETTING CHILDREN BE CHILDREN More real world interaction and play, stronger friendships, and happier, healthier childhoods.



THANK YOU, BRAUNTON!

To our schools, staff, parents, governors and wider community – thank you for working together to protect childhood and support our young people. We are proud of what we've achieved together.



ONE COMMUNITY ♥ ONE GOAL ♥ BETTER FUTURES

This week we want to celebrate one of our new alumni Freddie who left school this summer. Freddie became very passionate about writing war poetry before he left and, in particular, was inspired by the First World War poet Wilfred Owen. He wrote a fabulous poem commemorating Owen that we printed in EX33 last term.

We laminated a copy for him and at the end of June he took the copy to place on Owen's grave in Ors, France. He said the following:

Yesterday, me and my Mum drove to commemorate Wilfred Owen at his grave in Ors (a really small village in the French countryside). I laid my poem on his grave- I do sometimes wonder if he'd appreciate a gesture like that.



Next week we are looking forward to a week of music with the summer concert on Tuesday and our students joining the Braunton Primary schools at the Landmark theatre for the music festival on Wednesday, all families are welcome to join us. We have the junior lifeguarding days for Year 7-9 on Wednesday and Thursday, the afternoon buffet for students and parents to celebrate the students that have achieved 350+ merits this year on Friday and the Year 5 taster day on Thursday.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'F 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 Community Trust · 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





Saunton Surf Club – After School Sessions

Saunton Surf Club is offering exciting weekly surf sessions for young people aged 8–16. Taking place every Thursday from 4–6pm during term time, these sessions are open to all abilities and provide a fun, safe and supportive introduction to surfing. Led by experienced and qualified coaches, participants will learn ocean safety, surf skills and etiquette, all within small group sizes. All equipment is provided.

For more information or to book a place, please contact Walking on Waves directly.



SURFING ENGLAND

WALKING ON WAVES

SAUNTON SURF CLUB



Ages 8-16

£16 Per Session

All Abilities Welcome

During School Terms

4-6pm Every Thursday

What to Expect

- ✓ Ocean Safety
- ✓ Fun & Inclusive For All
- ✓ Experienced & Qualified Coaches
- ✓ Surf Etiquette
- ✓ 6:1 Max Group Ratio
- ✓ Equipment Included

CONTACT US

07578 595140
contact@walking-on-waves.com





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.academy 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.

Meet our new Mental Health Ambassadors!

Over the past few months, this fantastic group of students has completed a series of training sessions designed to equip them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to support positive mental health and wellbeing across our school community.

They have already shown incredible enthusiasm and commitment, working together to create a presentation about mental health that will be shared with Year 7 tutor groups next week. Their willingness to put themselves forward for this important role demonstrates both courage and compassion, and they should be extremely proud of what they have achieved so far.

The ambassadors will play a key role in helping to promote kindness, connection and positive wellbeing throughout the school. During the Autumn Term, they will be involved in several exciting initiatives, including trialling a lunchtime support group, supporting awareness campaigns, and



buddying up with some of our new Year 6 students to help them feel welcomed and supported as they begin their transition to secondary school. We look forward to seeing the positive difference they make and would like to thank them for their dedication to supporting their peers and helping to create a school environment where everyone feels valued, heard and supported.



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>



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

BOOK BOTH DAYS FOR

★ 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

No News This Week.

Year 9 News

Tuesday 14th July Cricket competition at Park school, during the school day, letter have gone out via parentmail.

Tuesday 14th July - No rounders club.

Year 8 News

Tuesday 14th July Cricket competition at Park school, during the school day, letter have gone out via parentmail.

Tuesday 14th July - No rounders club.

Year 7 News

Tuesday 14th July - No rounders club.

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

	<u>Monday –</u>	<u>Tuesday –</u>	<u>Wednesday –</u>	<u>Thursday –</u>	<u>Friday –</u>
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	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 <u>bake</u> 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  