



**Braunton
Academy**

**Aspire &
Achieve**

Braunton Academy Newsletter:

16th October 2026

Dear Families,

I know it has been a disrupted week for many of you with the traffic light issue in the village and then half the village having no water this morning. Hopefully both will be resolved quickly.

Thank you to all the Year 11 parents and students who attended the Post-16 information evening on Wednesday. We trust it was a helpful opportunity to discuss your child's next steps into post-16 education. There are still lots of events taking place in the area and we will continue to advertise them to you through the newsletter over the coming weeks.

Mrs Bateman has updated us that the Year 10 Art students have had a lovely first day on their visit to the Edan Project and St Ives as part of their GCSE course.

We would also like to congratulate Danny in Year 11 who will be on the bench for Plymouth Argyle's first team game on Saturday. We have 50 students taking part in Devon's cross-country competition today; we wish them all luck and will share the results next week.

Just a reminder that next Friday is the last day of this half term, thank you to all families for your support in making the first half term successful. Next Friday is one of our annual fundraising days with a non-uniform day for students. Further information on this can be found further down the newsletter.

Enjoy the sun over the weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs F Bowler
Principal



Key Dates for October:

Saturday 17th

October:

Year 11 'Get into
Dentistry'
Conference

Wednesday 21st

October:

Parent
Engagement
Group 5.30-7pm

Trip to Bristol
Aerospace
Museum
(selected
students)

Friday 23rd

October:

Whole-School
Non-Uniform Day

Half Term Break:
Monday 26th to
Friday 30th
October
inclusive

Whole School Messages

Whole School Messages - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 23rd October

Next Friday, 23rd October, the school will be having a non-school uniform day in order to raise money for JUST ONE Tree. JUST ONE Tree is a non-profit organisation working to reverse biodiversity loss and tackle climate change through global reforestation. JUST £1 plants 1 Tree. The school eco club and senior prefects wish to support this charity again this year - so far as a school we have planted over 2000 trees. An email with further details will be sent out early next week.

It is a £1 donation to wear non-school uniform which we will then donate to JUST ONE Tree.

Canteen Meal Prices

We would like to inform you that, due to ongoing increases in food, supplier, and operating costs, there will be a small increase in canteen meal prices from Monday 2nd November 2026.

We remain committed to providing our students with nutritious, high-quality meals and have worked hard to keep price increases to a minimum. This adjustment will help us continue to maintain the standard and variety of food available to pupils each day. We appreciate your understanding and continued support.

Raffle Prizes Wanted Please

The Year 11 Prom Committee are organising their annual Christmas Raffle to raise money for their Prom in June 2027. Tickets will be £1 each and will be sold online (after half term) via our Parent Mail SHOP and the draw will be made at 13.30 on Wednesday 16th December 2026.

We are looking for local businesses to donate prizes. If any parents/carers have contacts and could arrange a raffle prize, please contact Mrs Hayler in Finance at khayler@braunton.academy before the end of half term. We are very grateful for your support.

North Devon Action Sports Centre

North Devon ASC is at an early stage and is seeking constructive conversations with people and organisations who can help test the need, shape the concept and understand what successful delivery could require. This includes local riders and families, schools, clubs, coaches, community organisations, councils, governing bodies, potential delivery partners, businesses, funders and people with relevant professional experience.

For further information and to take part in the survey please click here: [North Devon ASC](#)
[| North Devon Action Sports Centre](#)

North Devon ASC is currently in its development and early-engagement phase. The proposed charitable structure, facilities, site and delivery programme remain subject to feasibility, stakeholder engagement, funding and approvals.



ND
NORTH DEVON
ACTION SPORTS CENTRE

RIDE • MOVE • CONNECT

**MORE PLACES.
MORE PEOPLE.**

SKATEPARKS | PUMP TRACKS |
INDOOR ACTION SPORTS |
COMMUNITY SPACES | AND BEYOND...

HELP SHAPE THE IDEA.
Have your say on what a future facility might look like.

**RIDE
MOVE
CONNECT**

HELP SHAPE THE IDEA.
Tell us what North Devon needs. Visit the website and complete the community survey.
northdevonasc.co.uk

A DEVELOPING PROPOSAL

SCAN TO VIEW + TAKE
THE COMMUNITY SURVEY
northdevonasc.co.uk

Medication in School – Prescribed and/Over the Counter (OTC)

Whilst we do have school spares of OTC 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 medication consent form. 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

Parent Engagement Group

Last year we launched the Braunton Academy Parent Engagement Group giving parents/ carers the opportunity to work with the leadership team to develop the school. Last year a homework audit was carried out from feedback from this group and changes to the policy were made. We also developed the format of this weekly newsletter from collaborative work.

We would love for you to join us for all or even just some of the sessions this year on the following dates. The meetings start at 5.30pm and finish at 7pm and are held in the Conference room at the Academy.

Wednesday 21st October 2026
Wednesday 9th December 2026
Wednesday 10th February 2027
Wednesday 24th March 2027
Wednesday 26th May 2027
Wednesday 7th July 2027

Trips

Exeter Chiefs – Sunday 13th December 2026. There are eight tickets available; please email trips@braunton.academy if you're interested in your child going and you haven't already made the payment.

Friday 23rd October, 9.00 am - Deadline for Expression of Interest for the **Bletchley Park** trip (selected students).

Clubs and Activities

All clubs and activities are now on the website
[Clubs & Activities - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve](#)

All Year Groups: No football training this week due to fixtures

Year 11 News

PPE Timetable November 2026

Please find below a link to the Year 11 PPE timetable for November 2026.

[Year-11-November-2026-PPE-timetable.pdf](#)

Medic Mentor

We have some exciting new opportunities from **Medic Mentor for aspiring healthcare students**. These include new Virtual Work Experience programmes for students interested in **Medicine and Dentistry**.

These programmes give students another way to build their understanding of their chosen profession, gain valuable experience and develop reflections that can support their future university applications.

NEW: Medicine and Dentistry Virtual Work Experience

Students can now access Medic Mentor's new **Medicine and Dentistry Virtual Work Experience** programmes through Medic Mentor and Dental Mentor.

Students just need to register for one of Medic Mentor's upcoming **FREE 'Get Into Medicine' or 'Get Into Dentistry Conferences'**.

Once registered, they will be able to access the relevant Virtual Work Experience programme and begin building their experience alongside the application guidance and opportunities available through Mentorverse.

Get Into Dentistry Conference

Medic Mentor's next **FREE 'Get Into Dentistry Conference'** takes place on **Saturday 17th October**. The conference helps aspiring dentists understand the complete dental application journey, from preparing for the UCAT and choosing dental schools to work experience, UCAS preparation and interviews.

By signing up, students will also be able to access their new **Dentistry Virtual Work Experience** programme.

Register for **FREE** at:

<https://dental-mentor.org/get-into-dentistry-conference-sign-up/>

Get Into Medicine Conference

Medic Mentor's **FREE 'Get Into Medicine Conference'** provides aspiring doctors and their parents with comprehensive guidance on preparing for medical school.

Upcoming conferences: **Saturday 24th October** and **Sunday 25th October**

Students will learn about medical school applications, UCAT preparation, university choices, work experience, UCAS and personal statements, interviews and the wider opportunities available through Medic Mentor.

Students who sign up will also gain access to their new Medicine Virtual Work Experience programme.

Register for **FREE**:

https://medicmentor.org/get-into_medicine_conference_signup/

Allied Healthcare Virtual Work Experience

For students exploring careers across the wider healthcare professions, Medic Mentor's next Allied Healthcare Virtual Work Experience Programme takes place on **Sunday 1st November**.

Students can explore a wide range of healthcare careers while following patient cases and developing their understanding of multidisciplinary working within healthcare.

The programme is particularly valuable for students who are still deciding which healthcare profession is right for them, as well as those who already have a particular career in mind.

Register here:

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/>

University of Plymouth – Biomedical Science Masterclass

This October, students can experience university-level learning through interactive, subject-specific masterclasses!

As part of Unifrog's Virtual Skills Academy event, the University of Plymouth are excited to be delivering the Biomedical Science Masterclass, 'Making life-saving decisions: identify and treat disease as a biomedical scientist.'

Location: Online

Date: Tuesday 27th October 2026

Time: 12.30 pm – 1.30 pm

You'll develop your diagnostic skills by learning how biomedical scientists decide on the right course of antibiotics for injured patients. Starting with the patient swab, you'll follow its journey from isolating the correct bacteria, all the way through to identifying which are the most appropriate antibiotics.

At the end of the session, you'll be given a case to diagnose yourself! Will you identify the right pathogen, and prescribe the right medication?

Students will receive a certificate for attending, plus enter a £100 voucher prize draw when they join live!

Please contact the University of Plymouth direct for more information.

North Devon College – School Leavers' Course Guide

This Guide details everything students need to know about college life and the varied study options they have to offer. Please click on the link below for further information:

[School Leavers' Course Guide - North Devon College](#)

North Devon College - Key Dates

December Open Event: Tuesday 1st December 2026

March Open Event: Wednesday 3rd March 2027

Bideford College Sixth Form Information Evening

Please follow the link below to details of the Bideford College Sixth Form Information Evening to be held on Thursday 26th November from 4.30pm – 7.00 pm.

[Bideford College Sixth Form Information Evening](#)

T-LEVELS
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Amazing Apprenticeships

Parent & Carer Webinar

Understanding T Levels

20th October 2026
6:30–7:15pm

REGISTER NOW

amapps.uk/t-level-parent-carer-webinar

QR code linking to the webinar registration page.

Please follow this link to our Careers webpage for details of all upcoming Open Events:

[Careers - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve](#)

Year 10 News

Charter Vets Work Experience

Charter Vets we are keen to support students who are looking to develop a career within the Veterinary Industry. Following the success of their work experience application process last year, they are keen to continue working with the local secondary schools in North Devon, to provide work experience.

As the number of individual student requests are high, they cannot, unfortunately, fulfil all of them.

Charter Vets are asking that interested students complete an application form. A link to the application form can be found below. If you cannot print this yourself, please see Mrs Martin in the Finance Office in the Quad who will print it for you.

Students then need to return the completed application form by the deadline, which is Monday 23rd November 2026, to Mrs Martin. All the application forms received will then be forwarded to the Head Nurse at Charter Vets.

Any application forms not received by the school by the deadline will not be considered.

Applications will be reviewed by selected staff members at Charter Vets and students shortlisted.

Those students selected for a placement will be notified via the Work Experience Administrator, Mrs Martin, sometime during the week commencing Monday 7th December.

Any students contacting Charter Vets on an individual basis outside this arrangement will be referred back to school.

If you have any questions about this process, please speak to Mrs Martin or Mr Parsons.

[Work-Experience-Application-Form-Y10-Y11-20180615-1.docx](#)

NHS Work Experience Opportunity 2027

We have received information from the NHS Foundation Trust regarding work experience at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple. The work experience week will run from Monday 5th – Friday 9th July 2027.

If your child is interested in a career in healthcare, please ask them to email their completed form to Karen McKenzie at karen.mckenzie11@nhs.net by Friday 27th November 2026. There is a link to the application form below. Karen would prefer to receive the application in a Word or PDF format. If your child needs their application to be scanned and sent, please speak to Mrs Martin in the Finance Office in the Quad who will do this for you. We would like students to write their own personal statements, with little or no assistance from AI, as the NHS would prefer to receive a genuine, thought-out application about why your child thinks a place on the programme would benefit them and why they think they are a suitable candidate.

[1.-Royal-Devon-Student-application-form-v4-Sep-2024-002.docx](#)

As this programme is always oversubscribed the forms will be shortlisted, so please take time and complete all of the application form before submitting it. Interviews are scheduled to take place in the week commencing Monday 11th January 2027 but the exact date and time will be sent out nearer the time.

If you need any advice on completing the application form, or have any questions about this work experience, please ask your son/daughter to see me or email me at aparsons@braunton.academy

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amapps.uk/t-level-parent-carer-webinar

Year 9 News

No Netball Club due to the tournament
No football training this week due to fixtures

Year 8 News

No football training this week due to fixtures

Year 7 News

No football training this week due to fixtures

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.

	Monday –	Tuesday –	Wednesday –	Thursday –	Friday –
Main Meal  	Exmoor beef chilli & rice served with cheese nachos & green salad	Macaroni cheese topped with bacon lardons, broccoli & garlic bread	Gammon served with roast potatoes, seasonal veg, Yorkshire pudding & gravy	Chicken Fajitas served with flavoured rice & side salad	Breaded white fish served with <u>chips</u> , <u>peas</u> & curry sauce
Veggie	Vegetarian chilli & rice served with cheese nachos & green salad	Macaroni cheese served with broccoli & garlic bread	Veggie plait with roast potatoes, seasonal veg, Yorkshire pudding & gravy	Sweet potato & veg medley topped with savoury crumble & side salad	Veggie burger served with chips, peas & curry sauce
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 Break &	Pasta Bolognese Veggie Bolognese	Chicken pesto pasta with loaded veg Veggie option	Chicken rice & vegetable medley Veggie option	Pasta bolognese Veggie option	Thai green curry served with rice & veg
Grab & go Break	Cod fish finger bap served with iceberg lettuce & 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  