**Braunton Academy**

***Aspire & Achieve***

# Braunton Academy Newsletter:

# 13th February 2026

Dear Families

I hope you have had an enjoyable final week of this half term. It has been another busy week, with Kings College University researchers visiting, the Bletchley Park Visit, the valentine's day fund raiser and the unexpected road closure! Thank you to all the parents that have supported us with the emergency road closure. We hope that they will have completed the work during the half term holiday, but in case they have not please continue to drop your child off away from school on the first day back in case the situation has not been resolved. Drop off and pick up for students catching the school buses will continue from Exeter Road while the road works continue.

I would also like to thank all the KS3 parents who shared their thoughts on homework, your feedback was reviewed at last week's senior team meeting along with students and staff voice. Although there was a lot of positive feedback of what we do in school form a parent perspective there were issues raised about homework extending over the expected time, the logistics of some homework programmes and screen time. This information is now going to be shared with Heads of Department after half term as we look at how we improve this area of our provision. Once this is completed

Key Dates for February:

16th February to 20th February- HALF TERM

23rd to 25th February – Year 11 Food Tech GCSE Practical Exams

26th February- Year 9 Pathways Evening 5pm to 6.30pm

Key Dates for March:

5th March - World Book Day

we will write to you again to share any changes we are making. We really appreciate your time in completing the survey as it has been very valuable in allowing us to evaluate our current practice.

School reopens on Monday 23rd February at 8:45am as usual. We look forward to seeing all Year 9 parents at the pathways evening on Thursday 26th February, information in the Year 9 section of the newsletter. Also a reminder to Year 11 parents that there are the Food GCSE practical exams during the first week back, this is their formal GCSE assessment. The following week Year 11 students participate in their second round of Mock exams so although we wish them a restful weeks holiday please make sure there is also plenty of revision going on!

Have a lovely half term break.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs F Bowler**
**Principal**

# Whole School Messages

## Tour of the Academy

It was raised at the Coffee and Chat morning this week, that **current** parents would like to be able to have a tour of the Academy during the school day. If you are interested, we are offering an initial tour on **Tuesday 24th February at 8.45am**. There will a limit of 10 places but if there is more interest we will offer more future dates. Please email ewoodhead@braunton.academy if you would like to take up this offer.

## Head Lice

There has been a case of head lice within the school. Headlice and nits are very common in young children and their families. They are not caused by dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact. Head lice can make your head feel itchy. The only way to be sure someone has head lice is by finding live lice. You can do this by combing their hair with a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb). You can buy these online or at pharmacies. Treat head lice as soon as you spot them. You can treat head lice without seeing a GP. Check everyone you live with, or have close contact with, and start treating anyone who has head lice on the same day. There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice. You do not need to wash your laundry on a hot wash. Please could all parents check their child's hair before they return to school after term to keep cases at a minimum.

## Basketball Club

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 Spring Term.

We are therefore offering your son/daughter the opportunity to book a place in our upcoming Basketball Academy during the Spring term, See below all details.

**Mondays - Year 7,8 and 9 from 3.30 till 4.45**
Start date - Monday 23rd Feb
End date - Monday 30th March
(No session on 2nd March)
**5 sessions at £4 per session - £20**

**Fridays - Year 10 and 11 from 3.30 till 4.45**
Start date - Friday 13th March
End Date - Friday 27th March
(No session on 27th Feb, 6th Mar)
**3 sessions at £4 per session - £12**

**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

# Clubs and Activities

**All clubs and activities are now on the website.**

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

# PE Fixtures

**Rugby**

**Training times:**

Year 7, 8 and 9 – Wednesday after school (when there is no game in the week)

Year 10 – Thursday after school (when there is no game in the week)

| Date | Year(s) | Venue | Opposition | Staff | Comp | Result |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tues 10th Feb | 7 & 8 | Ilfracombe | Ilfracombe | LO, DL | ND | |
| Weds 11th Feb | 10 | Braunton | Ilfracombe | LO | ND | |
| Tues 3rd March | 8, 9, 10 | WBS | | LO, DL, OG | Nd 7s | |
| Weds 4th March | 10 | Braunton | Uffculme | LO | Devon Plate | |
| Tues 10th March | 7 | Park School | Waterfall tournament | KP | | |
| Tues 10th March | 11 | West Buckland | ND 7s | LO, OM | ND 7s | |
| Thurs 12th March | 8 | Park School | Waterfall tournament | DL, LO | | |
| Thurs 19th March | 8, 9, 10 | West Buckland | ND 7s | LO, OM, +1 | ND 7s | |

## Netball

**Training times:**

Year 7 and 8 – Tuesday after school (when there is no game in the week)

Year 9 and 10 – Thursday after school (when there is no game in the week)

| Date | Year(s) | Venue | Opposition | Comp | Return to Braunton |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tuesday 24th February | 7,8,9 B | Park | N.Devon Schools | League | 5.45pm |
| Thursday 26th February | 10 | Park | N.Devon Schools | Tournament | 5.45pm |
| Tuesday 10th March | 7 A&B | Park | N.Devon Schools | Tournament | 5.45pm |
| Wednesday 11th March | 8 A&B | Braunton | WBS | Match | 4.30pm |
| Thursday 19th March | 10 A&B | Braunton | WBS | | 4.30pm |
| | | | | | |

## Girls Football

**Training times:**

Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 – Wednesday after school (When there is no game in the week)

| Date | Year(s) | Venue | Opposition | Staff | Comp | Result |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25/2/26 | U13 DC Tournament 9 a side | Bideford - Return 5.45 | TBC | AS,OM | Devon County tournament | |
| 4/3/26 | U15 DC Tournament 9 a side | Bideford - Return 5.45 | TBC | AS,OM | Devon County tournament | |
| 26/3/26 | U13 and U15 County Semi Final | Newton Abbot | TBC | AS,OM | Devon County | |
| 23/4/26 | U13 and U15 County Final | Newton Abbot | TBC | AS,OM | Devon County | |
| | | | | | | |

# Year 11 News

## Careers Update

North Devon College – February Newsletter February Newsletter 26

# Year 10 News

No news this week.

# 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**

# Year 8 News

The immunisation team are due to visit Braunton Academy on **11th May 2026.** You will need to enter the unique code for your child's school. The code is DV138041
Please submit your form by **9am on 8th May 2026** to ensure your child receives their vaccination.

How to Consent To provide consent, please follow the link and code below.
Link: https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/HPV.aspx

# 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**

| | Monday – | Tuesday – | Wednesday – | Thursday – | Friday – |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 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 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 with garlic bread |
| Grab & go Break | 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 |