

Braunton Academy

Aspire & Achieve

Braunton Academy Newsletter:

6th November 2026

Dear Families,

I hope you are well; we have had a very good first week back in school particularly on the sporting front, with success across netball, cross country, and rugby. Year 11 students have come back really focused ready for the full Pre-Public Examinations. Students have been using tutor time to support their revision, and we hope the next two weeks help students prepare for the real things in a couple of months' time.

Our Year 11 Girls' Netball Team delivered an outstanding performance at the North Devon Netball Tournament, finishing as runners-up to West Buckland. The girls played exceptionally well throughout the competition and have now secured qualification for the County Tournament in Exeter, which takes place in the coming weeks. We wish them the very best of luck as they continue their journey.

On Tuesday, we also took over 35 students to compete in the North Devon Cross Country Championships. All runners represented the school with determination and resilience, producing some excellent performances. Special congratulations go to Kush B, Carys W, Ashton R, Mahi B, Lani C, Kitty C and Iggy V, who were among a number of students selected to represent the North Devon Team at the County Championships later this year.

Finally, our Year 9 Rugby Team competed in the quarter-final of the North Devon Tournament against West Buckland. The boys were outstanding from start to finish, producing a dominant display to secure a 48-0 victory. The win sees them progress to the semi-finals, and we look forward to following their continued success.



Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Mrs F Bowler, Principal

Key Dates for November:

Wednesday 11th November:
Armistice Day

Friday 13th November:
Flu vaccinations for Years 7 to 11

Year 11 PPEs:

Monday 9th November:
English Language (am)
Ethics (pm)
Tuesday 10th November:
Biology (am)
PE (pm)
Wednesday 11th November:
English Literature (am)
Maths (pm)
Thursday 12th November:
French Reading (am)
Maths (pm)
Friday 13th November:
Chemistry (am)
Computer Science (pm)

Whole School Messages

Whole School Messages - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve

Admissions policy for 2028-29: Annual Consultation
Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2028-29. The Local Authority is also consulting on its arrangements – the admissions schemes through which you can apply. You are invited to look at the proposed new policies and to have your say on them.

Our proposed policy is on our admission page of our website along with our determined policies for 2026 and 2027, and you can see all policies at http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy
Further information is here: www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements
The consultation runs between 13th November 2026 and 16th January 2027.

Braunton Together Inclusivity Poster Competition



Well done to winner Amelie in Year 8 and runner up Amelia in Year 7 in the 'Braunton Together' Inclusivity Poster competition. Amelie won a pair of headphones and Amelia won a gift bag of sweets kindly donated by Tesco. There were so many entries that it took 45minutes to judge but we want to thank and congratulate those who took the time to create such great posters. You will see the chosen posters being displayed around
Braunton as part of a wider project of making the village feel more inclusive.



Lost Property – Last Call
We currently have lots of unnamed lost property in Reception from last half term, including lots of coats! This is the last call before these are passed on to charity. Thank you!

Your Child's Annual Nasal Flu Vaccination
School Age Immunisation Service will be delivering the annual nasal flu vaccination in school for years 7 to 11 on Friday 13th November.

To give consent, please follow the link: Flu Vaccination Consent Form

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 5.30 pm and finish at 7.00 pm and are held in the Conference Room at the Academy.

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 still a few tickets available; please email trips@braunton.academy if you're interested in your child going and you haven't already made the payment.

Competitions/Fixtures

Tuesday 10th November
Netball League matches for Years 8-10 at Park School. Leave school 2.45 pm, return approx. 5.30 pm

Rugby - Year 11 tournament @ West Buckland School. Leave school 2.30 pm, return approx. 4.30 pm. Mini bus provided.

Tuesday 17th November - U16 County netball tournament at Exeter University. Times to be confirmed.



Clubs and Activities

Clubs & Activities - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve

No Football Club due to fixtures
No Netball Club on Tuesday 10th November due to fixtures

Year 11 News

Year 11 Leavers' Prom 2027
We are delighted to confirm that the Year 11 Leavers' Prom will take place on Friday 25th June 2027.

This is always a special occasion and a wonderful opportunity for students to celebrate the end of their GCSE exams and their time at school with their peers.

Further information regarding the venue, timings, tickets, and arrangements will be shared with parents and carers later in the academic year. Please keep an eye on future newsletters and school communications for updates.

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

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



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

Year 9 News

No Football Club due to fixtures
No Netball Club Thursday 5th November due to fixtures

Year 8 News

No Football Club Due to Fixtures
No Netball Club Tuesday 10th November to fixtures

Year 7 News

From Thursday 10th December for 6 weeks, each Year 7 Learning Group will have one workshop with the Mental Health Support Team. This is what they will be covering:
Resilience & Dealing with Change Workshop

This workshop introduces students to the Mental Health Support Team (MHST). It explores resilience, the value of positive relationships and connections, and helps students understand the difference between things they can and cannot control. Students will also learn about growth mindsets and practical strategies for maintaining their wellbeing during times of change, including the '10 a Day' approach.

No Football Club Due to Fixtures
No Netball Club Tuesday 10th November 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 chips, peas & 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