Newsletter 18th September 2025

Learning for life in all its fullness. John 10:10

Head Teacher's Welcome - issue 28

May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else.

1 Thessalonians 3:12

Dear Parents, Carers and extended school community,

Welcome back to a brand-new school term at Braunston Primary School! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break and are returning refreshed and ready for the exciting term ahead.

As we begin the new academic year, I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all our new students and families joining us for the first time. Whether you're starting in Reception, transferring from another school, or joining a different year group, we are delighted to have you as part of our community. We also welcome back our staff, who bring with them fresh enthusiasm, expertise, and commitment to our school's values.

Our Focus for This Term

This term, our value is relationships and what it means to be kind. We are also focusing on building positive learning habits, boosting reading and arithmetic skills, and promoting wellbeing across the school. We will also continue to encourage a love of learning, curiosity, and resilience in all our pupils.

We remain committed to providing high-quality education in a supportive and inclusive environment. Our staff have been working hard in preparation for the term, and classrooms are already buzzing with activity and enthusiasm. We cannot believe that we are in week 3 already!

Key Dates & Events

We have a busy and exciting term ahead! Some key dates to be aware of:

- **1st October** – School Photographs
- **6th October** – Flu vaccinations - **Please consent by 30th September**
- **Week Commencing 20th October** – Parent-Teacher Meetings
- **15th October** –Harvest Festival

A Positive Start

It has been wonderful to see pupils returning with such positive attitudes and smart appearances—thank you for your continued support in upholding our uniform and behaviour expectations. A strong partnership between school and home is key to every child's success, and we truly value your involvement in school life.

Let's make this term a successful, enjoyable, and productive one for all.

Communication

We will continue to communicate regularly via our school newsletter, website, and ARBOR. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's teacher or the school office if you have any questions or concerns.

School Office – bursar@braunston.pdet.org.uk

office@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Reception - H.Longthorn@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Year 1 – A.Jorgensen@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Year 2 – H.Lawson@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Year 3 - C.Kalym@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Year 4 - A.Phipps@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Year 5 - S.Carter@braunston.pdet.org.uk

K.Oliver@brausnton.pdet.org.uk

Year 6 - T.Fisher@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Best wishes

Lianna Willis

Headteacher

Reception - Inkpen

Wow! Our new Reception children have settled into school life brilliantly. They are already learning the routines and showing our school values, and are beginning to build lovely relationships with their classmates and the grown-ups around the school.

We've had a lovely time getting to know each other. The children have been sharing their *All About Me* bags, giving their friends a little snippet into the things they like. They've also been busy exploring the classroom, we've even made an ambulance to help all of the poorly people!

"The tower is longer than my train." - Struan

Class 1 - Donaldson

We have had a brilliant start to Year 1! The children have come to school showing positivity and resilience, trying their best in all lessons. In English, we are learning to construct simple sentences, using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We are practising counting on from 10 in maths and exploring ways to make 6 using Numicon.

In science, we are learning to name parts of the face and body. We are looking forward to using our senses to taste, smell, feel, look at and listen to a selection of objects. We are looking forward to a successful year - well done Year 1, off to a great start!

I am so excited to be in Year 1! - Barneyee! What can you see? - Isaac

We use our noses to smell with - Amelia

Class 2 - Ahlberg

Welcome to Year 2 - the 'Ahlbergs' are settling beautifully into their new classroom and getting to know the rules and routines of Year 2 really well. In history, we have been learning all about William the Conqueror's invasion of Britain a thousand years ago by looking at the Bayeux Tapestry to find out information. It turns out Year 2 are an amazing team of mini historians.

In English, we have been reading 'George and the Dragon' and plan to write a description of the dragon for our first longer written piece. I can't wait to see what they come up with!

Well done to all the children for a superb return to school.

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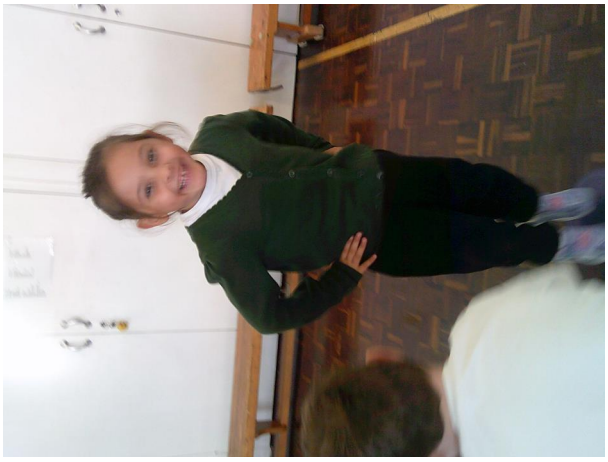


Orianna: The dragon looks scary because of his angry eyes.

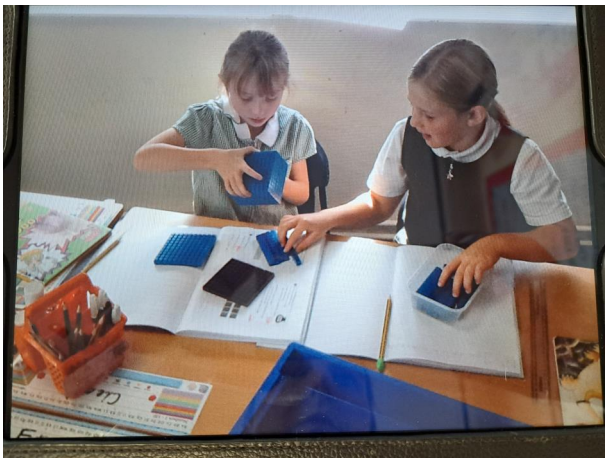
Class 3 - Dahl

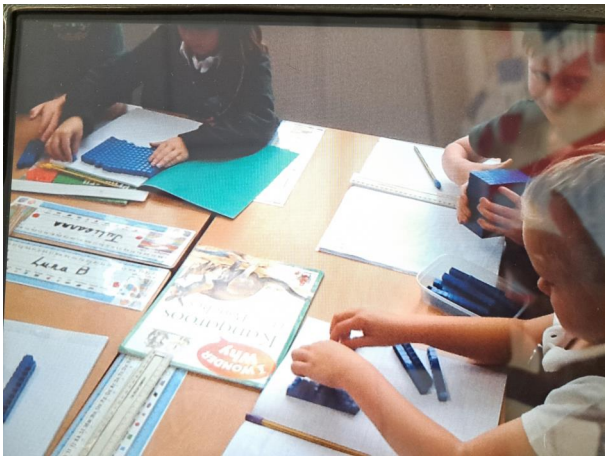
We have had a brilliant start to Year 3! The children are all settling brilliantly into class and learning the new rules and routines that come with now being in KS2!

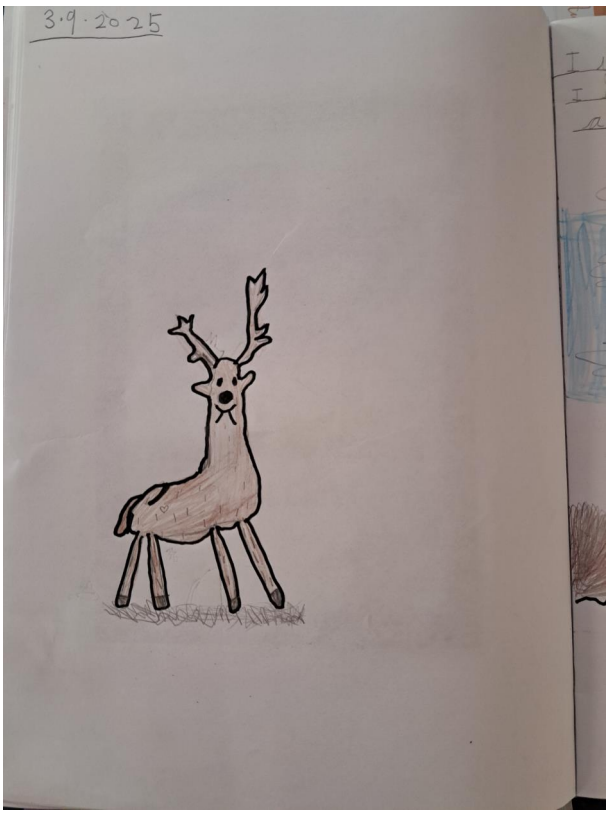
In English, we have started our class text - "The Great Storm" by Terry Deary. They are really enjoying the text and have been trying really hard with their handwriting and presentation. Soon, we will be writing a description about one of the characters from the book.

In art, we have started creating some Stone Age Cave Paintings which links nicely with our history topic this half term, in which we are learning all about Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.

Well done to all the Year 3s for a super start!



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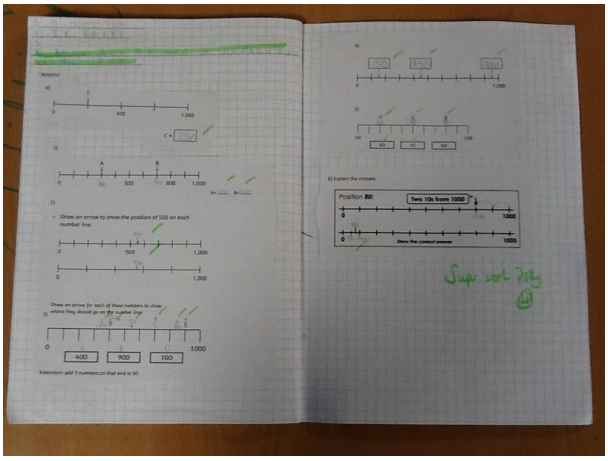
"People in the Stone Age didn't have paintbrushes or pencils - so how did they draw on cave walls?" - Willow

Class 4 - Morpurgo

Year 4 have had a great start to the school year. We have loved reading our class book this term, 'Gangsta Granny' by David Walliams and hearing all about Granny and her love of cabbage, Scrabble and, mysteriously, crime thrillers about gangsters! Our first hot write will be a character description of Granny. We are enjoying collecting some great ideas to use in our writing. Our geography unit this term is London. We have learnt the name of the major river that runs through London and used some super geography skills to find and label the counties surrounding London, using an atlas to help us. In maths, we have completed lots of work with number lines and finding their missing values. We have worked really hard, using our 'Steps to Success' to help us. We have started our big drive to know all our times tables up to 12x12. A couple of us have already achieved 25/25, which is fantastic! What a super start to the year!

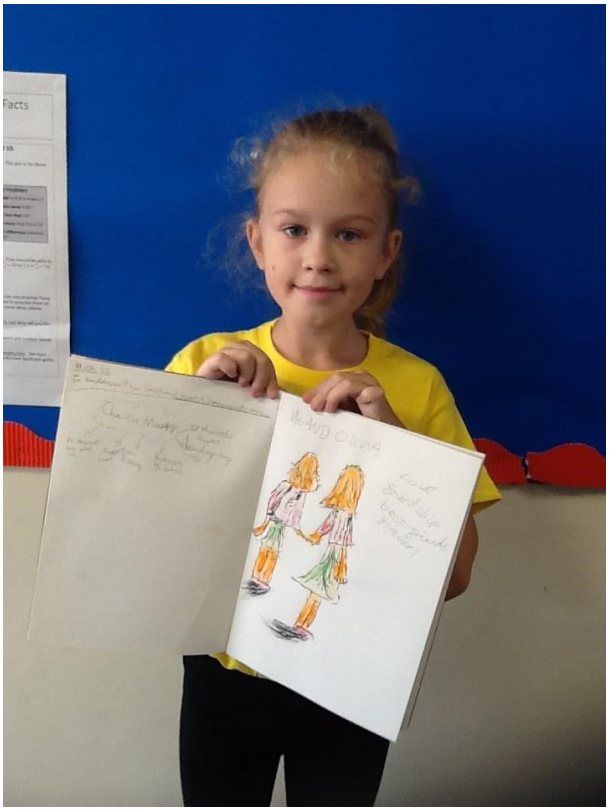


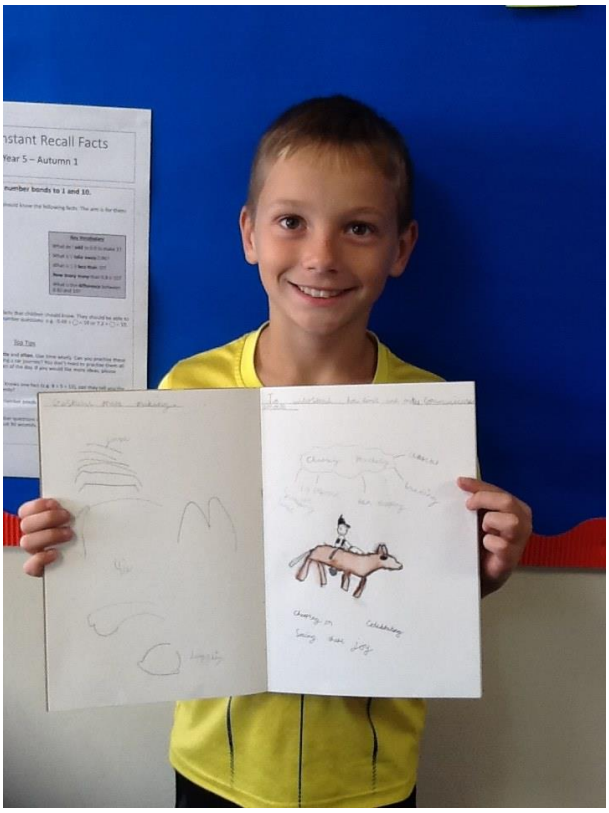
I want to know what Granny's secret is! - William

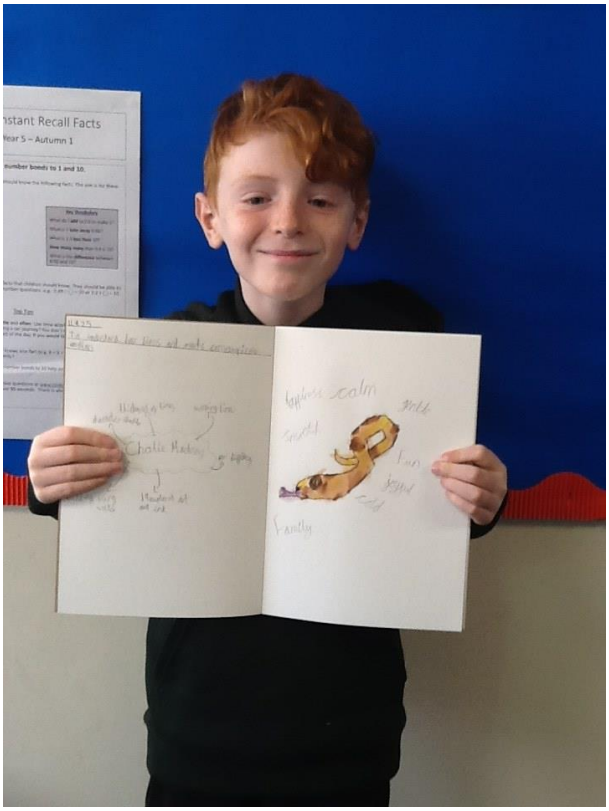
Class 5 - Rowling

The children in class Rowling have settled superbly into the routines of Year 5. Mrs Oliver and Mrs Carter have been so impressed with their mature attitude and enthusiasm towards their learning. In maths, we have refreshed our memory on place value. The children have been exploring numbers up to 1,000,000 - wow! During our maths meetings, the children have been exploring adding and subtracting decimals to make 1. This is a tricky skill so we will be working on this over the term.

This term, we are looking at the book 'Beowolf'. The children have shown great excitement towards our new book and have been engrossed with the opening and dramatic introduction of the character 'Grendel'. This term, Year 5 are having a huge focus on presentation and handwriting. We can't wait to share our books with you on Parents' Evening!



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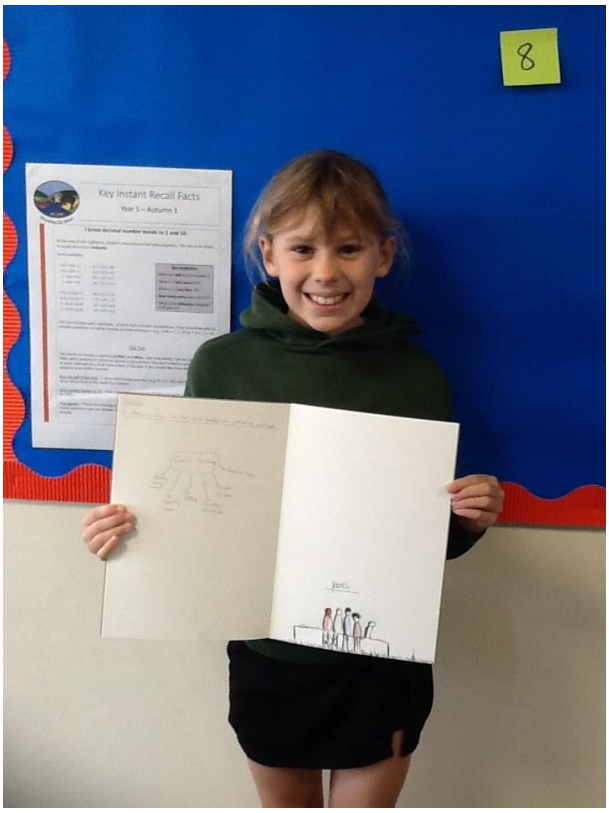
Year 5 – Autumn 1
Charlie Mackesy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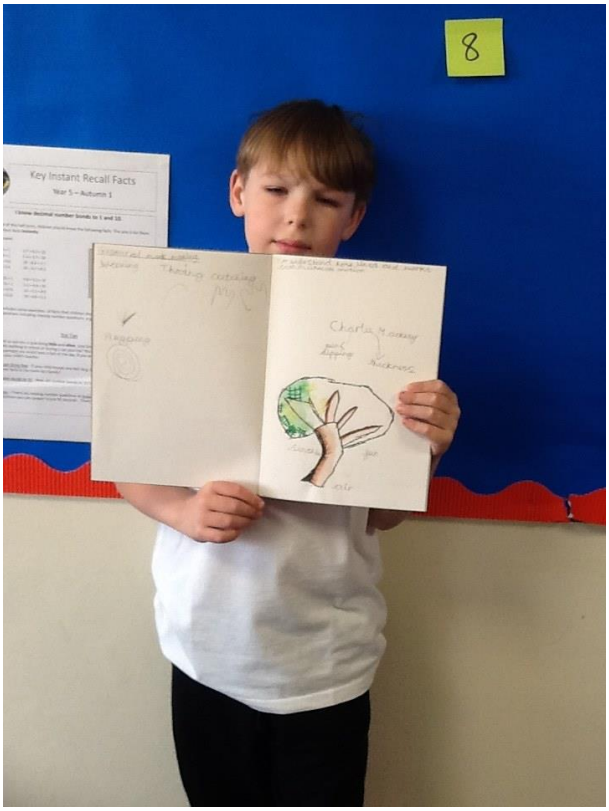
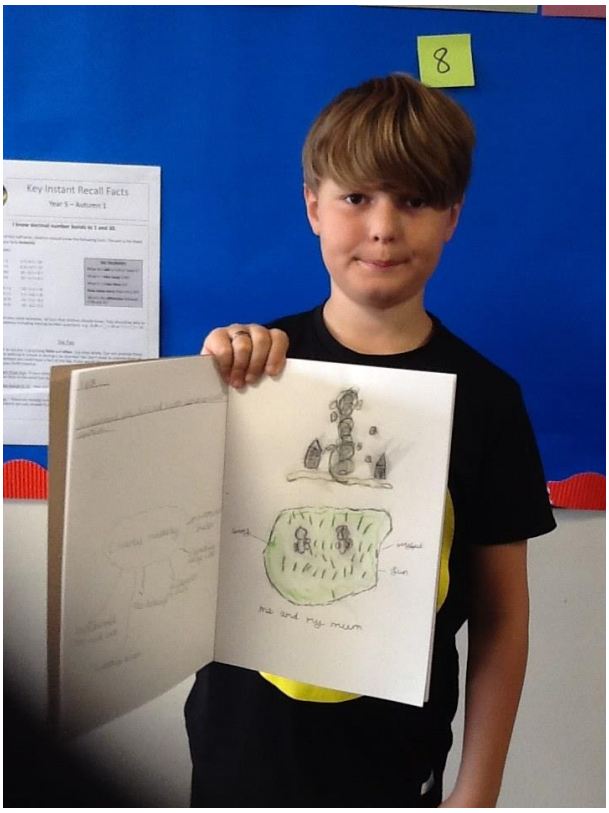
Key Instant Recall Facts
Year 5 – Autumn 1





"I really like blending the water and the felt tip pen. It makes it look like it is coming alive." - Stanley

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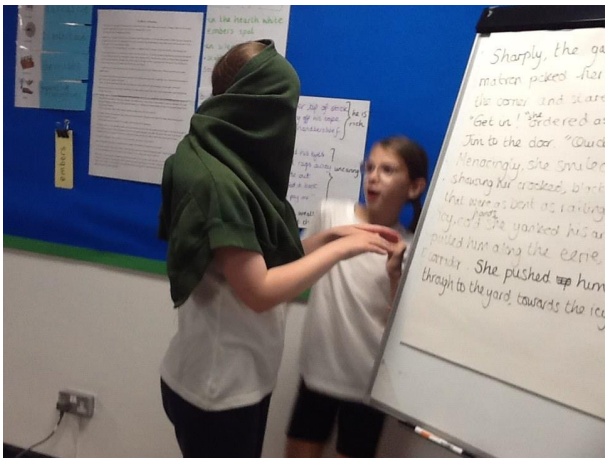
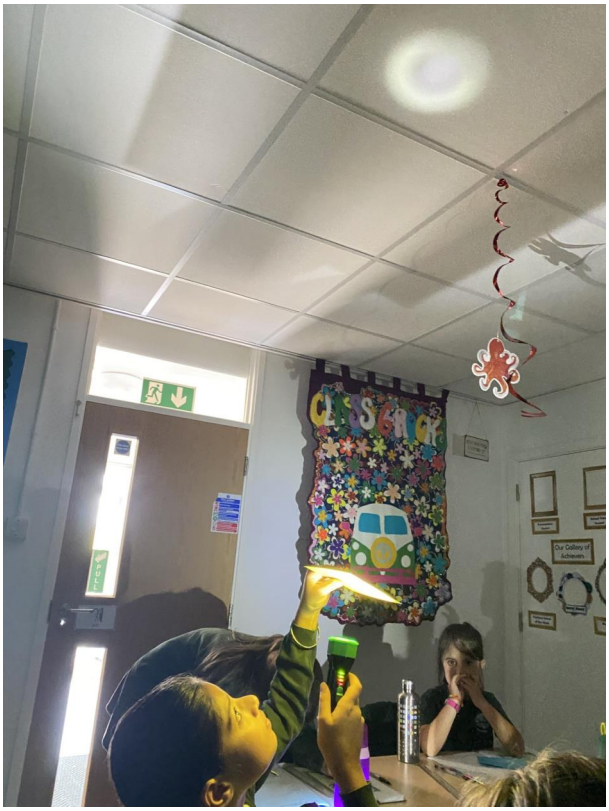
Class 6 - Horowitz

We have settled well into our newly refurbished classroom, with drawers under our tables, smart new chairs, a swanky kitchen area and smart floor. The pressure is on to keep it tidy! Our high quality work has been mirroring our high quality classroom too. In English, we are immersing ourselves into our book 'Street Child' and have produced some very descriptive pieces of writing in response. Our investigative skills helped us to find out how light travels as we explored with torches and card in science; and in history we have started to find out about crime and punishment, focusing to begin with in The Victorian era, making links with Jim from Street Child.



Be the 'I' in KIND



"I thought light bent round things - now I know it travels in straight lines," explained Jacob.

Focus on sport

PE and Sport is really important to us here at Braunston: PE lessons are in full swing, ranging from football to balancing on gym apparatus; play leaders are getting ready to set up playground challenges for house points; clubs, including those with Pacesetters, have begun. We have lots of exciting opportunities in the upcoming few weeks so watch this space to see what our super sports stars get up to...

Forest School

We are looking forward to commencing Forest School sessions during the last week of October with Year 3. The Autumn Term gives us so many resources with falling leaves, conkers, acorns, elderberries and blackberries. We hope to utilise all that we can find to create some amazing artwork. Watch this space!

Church and Community

Strengthening Links with the Church

We are proud of our close ties with **All Saints'Church,** which continue to enrich the spiritual and community life of our school. This term, Reverend Kathryn will be visiting regularly to lead collective worship and engage with the children on topics of faith, friendship, and thankfulness. We're also looking forward to our Harvest Festival service, which will be held at the church in early October. Families and friends are warmly invited – more details will follow soon.

We are excited for all that lies ahead this term – from learning projects and sports events to music, nature walks, and community celebrations. As always, we thank our families, the Church, and the wider village for your continued support in making Braunston Primary School a nurturing and vibrant place for our children to thrive.

Wellbeing

Welcome back to the new school year, it is so lovely to see all the children enjoying being back with their friends and engaged in their learning. A special hello to all our new Reception children too!

The start of a new term can be a little overwhelming for some children, particularly those that are with teachers they may not be so familiar with or have just started their journey with us at Braunston. I wanted to reassure you that we have strategies in place to help your children throughout the school day, and our Pastoral Team are always on hand for guidance and support.

The Zones of Regulation

All children have access to quiet zones within their classroom where they can go if they need a calm space. Children are encouraged to share how they are feeling and are supported in building strategies to cope with and manage their emotions.

Worry Boxes

Every class across the school has it's own Worry Box, where children can post a worry for the teacher to read. A member of staff will then talk to the child about their worry and work at helping them resolve it.

Playground Buddies

We have recruited some of our Year 6 children to be playground buddies – working on both playgrounds during lunchtimes to ensure that all children are included in play. They will be leading games and operating a friendship stop for those children that need some quiet time.

The Cabin

We provide a nurture group every lunchtime for all year groups across the school. We build relationships through playing games, jigsaw puzzles, creating artwork and lots more. Children are invited by their class teachers and lunchtime supervisors, or they can choose to come along themselves.

Quiet Zone

We run a 'quiet zone' club in the library every Monday lunchtime. Children are encouraged to bring along and read their favourite book, or they can sit in a calm, quiet space and draw or colour pictures. Children can choose to come along themselves, or are invited by their class teachers.

The Hub

Available to our key stage 2 children on the top playground, the Hub is run by some of our Year 6 pupils. Children can come together in our outside classroom to spend time chatting, play games, read or draw.

Hamish

Hamish is our pets-as-therapy dog and visits us once a week. Children are invited to come and share a book with him – he loves to listen to their favourite stories!

We encourage all children to be honest and open about their feelings, and share any worries they may have with us. The best thing we can do for our children's wellbeing is encourage them to speak out and share their feelings and build their emotional literacy. Please encourage your child to 'speak out' to their trusted adults in school if they have any worries during the school day.

In addition, if you have any concerns regarding your child's wellbeing, or would like more information on support we can offer, please do speak to a member of the Pastoral team.

We use a holistic approach to wellbeing and work with you as a whole family to support with any concerns you may have. We can also assist with referrals to the following agencies:

The School Nursing Team Children's 0-19 Services | NHFT

Northamptonshire Mental Health Support Team (MHST) Mental Health Support Team (Children and Young People) - NHFT | West Northamptonshire Council (westnorthants.gov.uk)

Please contact any of the following staff members for further information:

Becky Craig – Pastoral Lead - r.craig@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Hayley Smith – Pastoral Support - h.smith@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Nikki Sawyer (SENCO) n.sawyer@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Certificates of The Week

Pupil of the Week		
	W/C 1.9.25	W/C 8.9.25
Inkpen	x	N/A
Donaldson	x	Arlo
Ahlberg	x	Grayson
Dahl	x	Theo
Morpurgo	x	William
Rowling	x	Lincoln
Horowitz	x	Archie

Our School Value Resilience – Relationships – Reconciliation – Responsibility – Respect & Reverence - Reflection		
	W/C 1.9.25	W/C 8.9.25
Inkpen	x	N/A
Donaldson	x	Alice
Ahlberg	x	Hallie
Dahl	x	Luna M
Morpurgo	x	Leah
Rowling	x	Harvey-Jack
Horowitz	x	George W

Attendance

Attendance		
	01.09.25	08.09.25
Inkpen	50%	96.3%
Donaldson	99.4%	99%
Ahlberg	98.3%	97%
Dahl	96.7%	96%
Morpurgo	98.6%	99.2%
Rowling	94.6%	91.8%
Horowitz	98.3%	96.9%
WHOLE SCHOOL	90.5%	96.6%

Contact Us

Tel :- 01788 890494

Website :- Website

Email :- bursar@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Headteacher :- head@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Chair of Governors :- r.morgan@braunston.pdet.org.uk

If you have a safeguarding concern click HERE

ARBOR -

- **Please see our Arbor app for all school communication**
- **Report an illness via the app.**

***Link to calendar of events** Click Here For Calendar*

***Request term time absence** Click Here For The Form*