



Newsletter 22nd September 2026

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

Head Teacher's Welcome - issue 41

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour ... A cord of three strands is not broken quickly!"

Dear Parents, Carers and extended school community,

Welcome to a new school year. It has been wonderful to see our children return with such enthusiasm and to welcome so many families to our recent Year Group Workshops. Thank you for your support. The fantastic turnout reflects the strength of our school community and the positive relationships we value so highly.

This term, our whole school focus is on **Relationships**. We know that children thrive when school and home work together, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with you throughout the year.

Reading remains a key priority. Please continue to listen to your child read regularly and talk with them about what they have read. We are encouraging children to use the **PEE** approach:

- **Point** – make your answer.
- **Evidence** – find proof to support it.
- **Explain** – explain how the evidence supports your point.

We are using this strategy across many areas of the curriculum and would love your support at home. By encouraging children to explain their thinking, we can help them develop greater confidence, clearer communication and a richer vocabulary.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Together, we can make this a successful and rewarding year for every child.

Best wishes

Lianna Willis

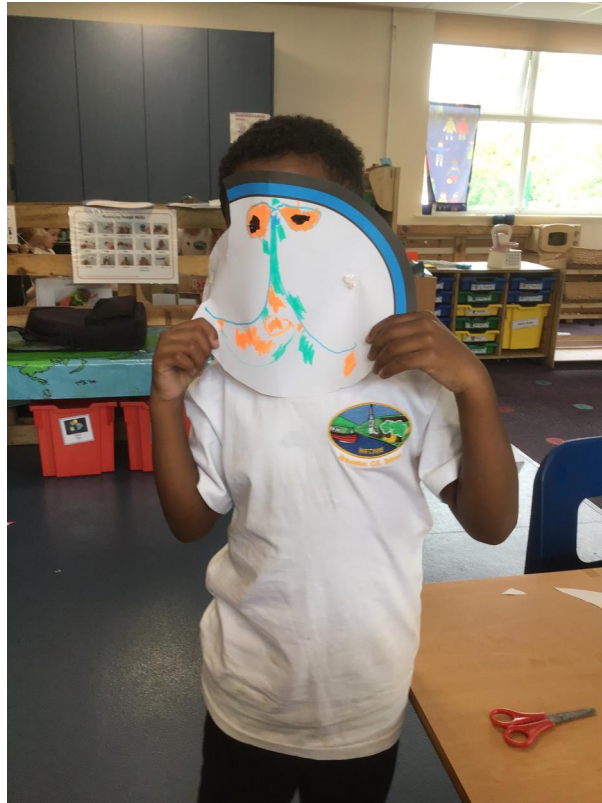
Headteacher

Reception - Inkpen

Wow, our new Reception children have settled beautifully into school life and have made a fantastic start to their learning journey. They are already becoming familiar with the routines and rules of the school day, showing great enthusiasm and independence as they explore their new environment. We are so proud of how well they have adapted and are very much looking forward to watching them blossom into happy, confident learners throughout the year.

Over the past weeks, we have enjoyed getting to know one another through our wonderful *All About Me* bags. The children have loved sharing special items, talking about their families, interests and experiences, whilst learning more about their new friends. We have also spent time listening to a variety of stories and singing lots of nursery rhymes together. It has been a joy to see the children building friendships, growing in confidence and embracing every

new experience with smiles and excitement. We are looking forward to many more wonderful learning adventures together this term.







"I'm going to sunny Spain, would you like to come."

Class 1 - Donaldson

What a super start our children have had to Year 1! We have been working hard with learning our classroom expectations and routines, as well as building positive relationships with each other. We have been really busy in class working hard with correctly forming our letters and numerals and writing simple sentences using a capital letter, finger spaces and a full stop. In maths we have been sorting and counting out objects, recognising larger and smaller quantities.

We have been loving our discovery time in the afternoons! We have been exploring wheels and axels and trying to build our own moveable vehicles. Some super construction models have been made. The children have been fantastic and settled into Year 1 really well. We can't wait to see what they achieve throughout the year!





Eva-Mae: I really love PE! I can side-step.

Ernie: I built a car and it moves.

Class 2 - Ahlberg

Year 2 have come back raring to go for a jam-packed and exciting term ahead of us. We are starting our year with our first topic, Castles. We have had some stunning drawings and paintings of dragons; have explored a variety of drawing techniques and had a go at drawing a castle before we move onto making our own compositions based on Paul Klee's 'Castle and the Sun.' We can't wait to see our children's creations!

We have been learning lots of skills in English and practising / refining our handwriting from Year 1. The children have done a great job at remembering their brave and scared monkey letters. In English, we are learning to write expanded noun phrases about a dragon and use the conjunction 'and'. We have been blown away by all their effort! Last week in history, we learnt about The Bayeux Tapestry. The children were fascinated about the history

surrounding the Bayeux Tapestry and asked amazing questions. What a bunch of super historians!





Nell: Yes! It's Art!

Elliott: a sponge is flexible. It can change shape but a whiteboard can't so that's not flexible.

Class 3 - Dahl

Class Dahl have settled well moving up from key stage one to two. They have enjoyed playing on the equipment on the top playground during break and lunchtimes, as well as loving their learning. We have learnt about place value of 3 digit numbers in maths, and started reading our class text, *The Great Storm*, in English, from which we have enjoyed preparing some exciting writing. Related to this, we have been finding out about The Stone Age in history by completing timelines as well as researching about the a remarkable, stone-built Neolithic village, Skara Brae, located on the Orkney Islands of Scotland, dating back roughly 5,000 years. In science, we have begun learning about light sources and have been investigating which surfaces reflect light the best. As you can see, we have been very busy and we are only 3 weeks in!





"It was very interesting finding out about the Skara Brae," stated Jack.

Class 4 - Morpurgo

We have had a good start to the new school year in Year 4! The children have settled well into their new class and it has been wonderful to see children growing confidence and enthusiasm for learning across the curriculum.

A key focus during our first few weeks has been developing our learning behaviours and understanding what it means to be Ready, Respectful and Safe. The children are making positive progress and are beginning to establish good routines and habits for learning.

Our learning has kicked off in earnest across the curriculum! In maths, we have been focusing on place value up to 10,000. The children have been learning to read, write, partition and compare numbers, and are becoming increasingly confident in explaining their mathematical thinking. Our geography topic asks the question, "Why is London important?" The children have thoroughly enjoyed discovering how London has changed over time and comparing historical and modern-day London. Their curiosity, discussions and questions have shown a real interest in the topic. In science, the children have carried out some excellent investigations with Mrs Carter. They have enjoyed observing changes, conducting practical experiments and recording their findings carefully. It has been wonderful to see them developing their scientific enquiry skills.

One of the highlights of the term so far has undoubtedly been our first drumming lesson. The children loved learning the songs and rhythms and showed great enthusiasm throughout the session. They are already excited about continuing their musical journey and are looking forward to performing for parents at the Christmas concert later in the year!





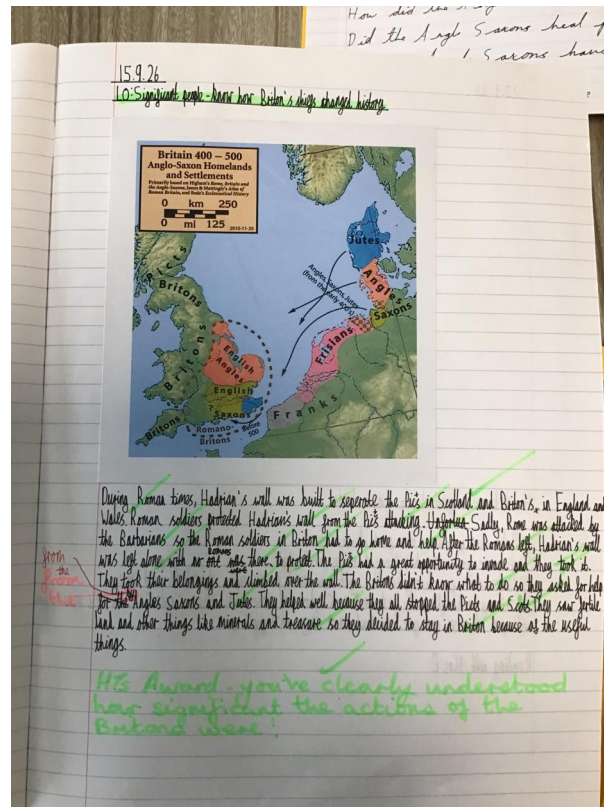


The bridges in London in the past had buildings across them. I didn't know that! - Caden

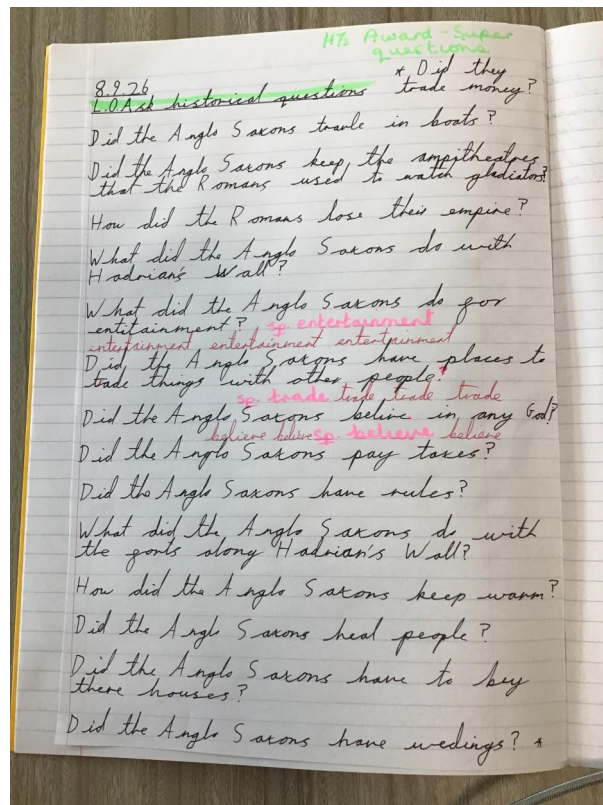
Class 5 - Rowling

Class Rowling has had an action-packed start to the academic year. We've begun learning about the Anglo-Saxons and have lots of historical questions we would like to discover the answers to. One of the questions we wanted answering was 'How did the Anglo-Saxon's manage to take over Britain when the Roman army was so mighty?' The Year 5 team were impressed with our knowledge of the 'Story of Britain' and this question showed what we'd learnt about the Roman army last year. To answer the question we acted out how the 'Story of Britain' continued considering how the decision of Britain's Chiefs changed the course of

history - no expense was spared with props with benches (Hadrian's Wall), rulers (swords) and pencil cases (treasure). There were some very dramatic deaths - watch this space for the future cast of Horrible Histories! Linked to our work on the Anglo-Saxons, we're enjoying reading 'Beowulf' by Michael Morpurgo and have planned our character and setting description, which should be really dramatic. We can't wait to share them with you!



1 - One of our amazing recounts.

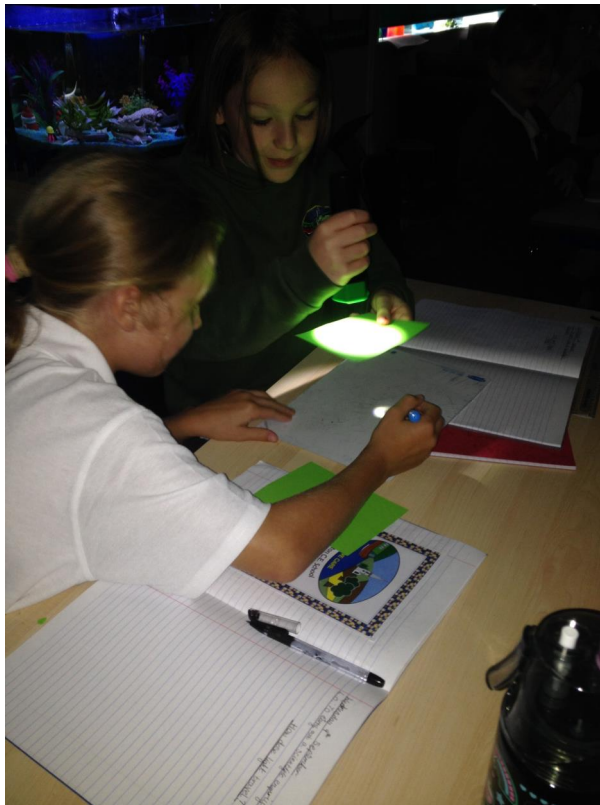


2 - Some of our super questions.

"It was fun recreating the fights between the Scots and the Picts and the British tribes. "
Nicky

Class 6 - Horowitz

Year 6 have settled really well into their new classroom for the start of their last year here at Braunston. They all did incredibly well to read their speeches, they had written, to the younger members of their house to vote for house captains, vice captains and sports captains. Well done to all. In science, we have begun researching light and found out using torches that light travels in a straight line and have also started to understand how our eyes then see these images. In history, we have begun to look at crime and punishment through the eras, starting with the Victorians. After applying for roles to be police constables, all the children then reversed roles and become prisoners in a Victorian prison – most wished they had never been caught pick-pocketing or being a vagrant!





"It was fun but hard work doing the prison punishments," stated a year 6 pupil. "I would have preferred to have been a policeman stopping the pick-pocketers."

Focus on sport

All the classes have enjoyed being active in their PE lessons but there has also been a lot of active learning happening; active treasure hunts to find out about topic areas in classes,

science hunts and brain breaks. Miss Jemma, from Pacesetters sports, has begun all of her clubs and watch this space for flyers with regard to the popular Basketball club for KS2. Taster sessions are very soon and the children will come home with a flyer. Cross-country is also re-starting on Wednesday lunchtimes; an Arbor message should have been sent to all of KS2.



Forest School



Year 3 Forest School: Exploring the Environment

This term, Year 3 have thoroughly enjoyed their Forest School sessions, developing their curiosity and appreciation for the natural world. Through hands-on exploration, pupils investigated local habitats, identified a variety of plants and trees, and observed changes in the environment as the seasons begin to change.

The children enthusiastically took part in nature hunts, worked collaboratively, and learned how to assess risks safely when exploring outdoors. They also developed important problem-solving and teamwork skills while using natural materials to create artwork and structures.

A particular highlight was learning about the different wildlife that shares our outdoor spaces. Pupils carefully searched for signs of animals and insects, discussing how we can protect and care for the environment. Their respect for nature and growing confidence outdoors has been wonderful to see.

Forest School continues to provide valuable opportunities for learning beyond the classroom, helping children develop resilience, independence, and a deeper connection with the natural world. We are incredibly proud of Year 3's enthusiasm, teamwork, and adventurous spirit throughout their outdoor learning experiences and look forward to continuing with Forest School this term.

Church and Community

Mutual Respect and British Values

This week in assembly, we explored the British Value of **Mutual Respect**. We discussed how treating others with kindness, listening carefully and valuing different opinions helps make our school a welcoming place where everyone belongs.

How can families support this at home?

- Model polite and respectful language.
- Encourage children to listen when others are speaking.
- Talk positively about people who may have different backgrounds, beliefs or experiences.
- Help children resolve disagreements calmly and kindly.
- Praise acts of kindness, empathy and good manners.

Family conversation starters:

- What does respect look like in our family?
- How can we show respect when we disagree?
- Who showed you respect today?

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children grow into kind, respectful and responsible members of our community.

All Saints Church Braunston News

Click [HERE](#) for all the latest news from All Saints Church

Wellbeing



Helping Every Child to Thrive

At Braunston, we are committed to supporting the social and emotional wellbeing of every child. As part of this commitment, we are developing our work through the Thrive Approach.

The Thrive Approach is based on the understanding that children's emotional development is just as important as their academic development. It recognises that children communicate their emotions and needs in different ways and that, at times, they may need additional support to feel safe, settled and ready to learn.

Through Thrive, we focus on building positive relationships, emotional resilience, confidence and self-esteem. We provide opportunities for children to talk about their feelings, develop their emotional vocabulary, build friendships and learn strategies that help them manage different emotions and experiences.

Our approach is centred around the belief that every child can thrive when they feel understood, supported and connected. We work closely with children, families and staff to understand individual needs and provide the right support at the right time.

If you have any concerns about your child, whether this relates to friendships, emotions, behaviour, confidence, anxiety or their general wellbeing, please speak to a member of our Pastoral Team. We are always happy to listen and work with you to support your child.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We are delighted to invite you to our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September at 10.00am. We hope you will be able to join us for a coffee, a chat and a chance to come together as a school community while supporting Macmillan Cancer Support.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Upcoming Events

Thursday 24th September - Hotshots taster sessions

Friday 25th September - Macmillan coffee morning - 10am - 11am - All welcome

Wednesday 30th September and Thursday 1st October - Pre-loved Uniform and lost property available to collect FREE in the hall @ 3.15pm

Monday 28th September - Year 6 Bikeability

Friday 9th October - Flu Vaccinations

Friends of Braunston School

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our recent AGM and for your continued support of the FOBS. It was wonderful to reflect on the success of last year's fundraising events and how the money raised has benefited all of our children. We know that Mrs Willis will share some photographs of the Year 3 and Year 5 classrooms soon.

We are excited to be planning a range of new activities and fundraising opportunities for this year and look forward to sharing more details soon. As always, new members are very welcome. Whether you can help regularly or occasionally, we would love to have you involved.

A reminder that school disco forms should be returned as soon as possible to secure your child's place at this popular event.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we can continue to make a positive difference for our school community.

Certificates of The Week

Pupil of the Week		
	W/C 7.9.26	W/C 14.9.26
Inkpen	x	x
Donaldson	Orla	Henry
Ahlberg	Olivia B	Megan
Dahl	Jayden	Jonatanas
Morpurgo	Eloise	Lucy
Rowling	Dillon	Dexter
Horowitz	Harvey	Jasmine

Our School Value		
Resilience – Relationships – Reconciliation – Responsibility – Respect & Reverence - Reflection		
	W/C 7.9.26	W/C 14.9.26
Inkpen	x	x
Donaldson	Jesse	Jahnise
Ahlberg	Alice	Xander
Dahl	Pippa	Poppy
Morpurgo	Aubrey	Izabella
Rowling	Noah	Finlay
Horowitz	Alex	Lincoln

Contact Us

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If you have a safeguarding concern click [HERE](#)

ARBOR -

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- Please see our Arbor app for all school communication
 - Report an illness via the app.
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Link to calendar of events [Click Here For Calendar](#)

Request term time absence [Click Here For The Form](#)
