



Branston Bulletin

18.09.2026

Branston Junior Academy 5Rs – Resilience, Reflection, Responsibility, Respect, Relationships

Welcome this week's Branston Bulletin!

It has been a very busy week in school! The learning and classroom atmospheres have been lovely but we did arrive on Monday morning to something unexpected, a flood! Just wanted to say a big thank you to Mr Houlden, our caretaker, and the staff for managing this situation so fantastically and making school ready to be open to children in such a short space of time!

Our School Week

Our week began with an assembly on Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year festival. Across the school year we will learn about other many religion's major festivals, helping our children to understand the world around them. This supports growing tolerant, understanding and empathetic young people.

Children in school have continued to settle into their new routines and their new classes. They have also been enjoying their English, Maths, PE, Science and Computing lessons across this week. Our topic, learning about Branston during the war, has captivated so many children into not only learning about the subject but also into enjoying gaining an insight into the history of where they live! Look for some Branston history walks taking place soon.

The children also undertook their first Fire Drill this week which I am pleased to report went very smoothly and all the children were fantastically mature in their approach to this.

Clubs

We are very excited to be launching our after-school clubs very soon. Information about the after-school clubs will come out via email next week so do keep your eyes peeled. During lunchtime school clubs have already started and groups of children are already enjoying clubs such as Music, Gardening and the school choir!



Medical Forms and Information

Here at BJA the welfare of your children is of the utmost priority. If you are yet to tell us about a medical condition your child may have or you need to provide information or indeed inhalers/medication to the school office, please do this at your earliest convenience.

Open Evening 30th September

We may only be a few days into the start of the new school year but we are already thinking about the children who may be joining us next year. This year I have made a change. As a parent myself I know how important it is to see your child's potential new school before you apply. Therefore we are holding an open evening for any parent who is interested in sending their child to BJA. Please do pass this information on to any parents you may know who might be interested.



Support Your Child with their Learning Event

Some advanced notice of a fantastic event which is held annually here at BJA. From straight after school until 4.45pm the staff of the school will be available in the school hall. Here you will be able to look, see, learn and ask any questions you might have regarding how to support your child with their learning. This is invaluable as your child begins a new year group and you can 'get ahead' with what their learning and some of the methods we use to teach them.

Our Pupil Voice

Each week I capture the children's voice. What have they enjoyed? What do they think about what is important to them? This week we hear from our children in Y3/4.

Ella Y4 – 'Mr Thornton can I tell you something. This is the best school ever!'

Loki Y5 – 'Going swimming this week was really good.'

Mia Y4 – 'I have really enjoyed learning about numbers and division in Maths'

Tommy Y6 – 'I really enjoyed doing Maths and learning about numbers up to 10 million.'

Scarlett Y6 'I really enjoyed our activity where we were learning about the war and we had to pick different countries to represent and we learned how they viewed the war.'

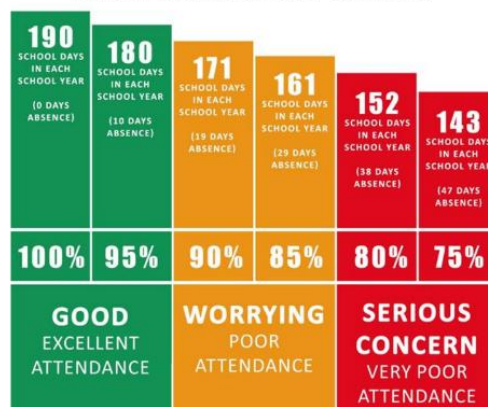
Lovely to see our Year 3 children reconnecting with their friends in other year groups.

Swimming has started this week and it was good to hear so many of our children really enjoyed it.

Attendance

A new school year brings a fresh start for your child's attendance in school. It is now well researched that the attendance of your child at school directly impacts upon their achievement. In short the more your child is in school the greater your child's chances of success. This is not just in the short term but in the long term too ultimately impacting upon performance at GCSE's. If you feel there is a barrier to your child's good attendance then please do let us know and we can work with you to support best attendance. ([Responsibility](#), [Resilience](#), [Respect](#), [Relationships](#))

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS



School Dates

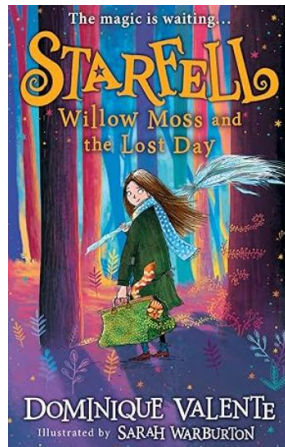
This is a reminder to families that after our consultation with the community Branston Junior Academy will be having a two week half term break in October. Please see the dates below.

Last day of school Autumn Term 1 – **Friday 16th October**

First day back Autumn Term 2 – **Monday 2nd November**

Mr Thornton's Book Corner

In my book corner we recommend books that may be appropriate for children in our school. They are a handy guide to what children in our school may be interested in.



Willow Moss, the youngest and least powerful sister in a family of witches, has a magical ability for finding lost things – like keys, or socks, or spectacles. Useful, but not exactly exciting...

Then the most powerful witch in the world of Starfell turns up at Willow's door and asks for her help. A whole day – last Tuesday to be precise – has gone missing. Completely. And without it the whole universe could unravel.

Now Willow holds the fate of Starfell in her rather unremarkable hands... Can she save the day – by finding the lost one?

Barry Thornton
Headteacher
Branston Junior Academy

Diary dates 2025-2026:

- **Monday 28th Sept** – After School Clubs Start
- **Wednesday 30th Sept** – Yr 2 Open Event
- **Tuesday 6th Oct** – Helping your children with their learning parent sessions (15:30 to 16:45)
- **Monday 12th Oct** – Flu Immunisation
- **Tuesday 13th Oct** – Year 3 Parent drop in session
- **Wednesday 14th Oct** - Halloween Film (Information to follow)
- **Thursday 15th Oct** – Harvest Festival (Information to follow)
- **Friday 16th Oct** – Autumn Term 1 Ends
- **Monday 2nd Nov** – Autumn Term 2 Starts

Please do look on our website and scroll down to the 'Calendar' section <https://www.branstonjunioracademy.co.uk/parents/calendar/> to find dates of all events.

Useful information on our website

Please go to our website:
www.branstonjunioracademy.co.uk where you will find lots of useful information.

Under the 'Parents' tab, you will find information about:

- Information and events to support families.
- Mobile phones
- Second hand uniform
- Holiday / Medical Appointments
- Useful 'Letters and Forms'
- Your School Lottery

Under the 'Curriculum' tab, you will find lots of useful information about how to help your child with their learning.

Mr Pyburn's E-Safety 'top tip' -

BJA Family Computing Acceptable Use Policy

In the near future, you'll be receiving an email with an attachment named, '**BJA Family Computing Acceptable Use Policy**'. It's been written to help ensure that all children understand what is expected of them in contributing to keeping themselves and other BJA children safe and happy when online for school work, or related tasks.

If you could read through with your child, particularly paragraph 2 ('Chat Functions'), I'd be most appreciative. There's no form for you to fill in, or to reply to me - just a read and discuss with your child. I've already read through and discussed this paragraph with the Year 3 and 4 children last week, but it helps if family adults can also have this chat.

Wishing you all the best, and if you ever want to pop in to discuss your child's work in computing, please do feel free to make an appointment.

Kindest regards

Mr Pyburn

