



Branston Bulletin

16.10.2026

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

Our First Term at BJA 26-27

A couple of months ago I would imagine there was a buzz of anticipation in your household as the children returned to school after the summer break. As we come to the end of the first term in school, I am thrilled at how well the children have settled into the new school year and how they have adapted to their new classrooms, teachers, and routines. The children have worked very hard this term, being diligent in their learning and enjoying their clubs and playtimes. As we arrive at our October half term break, I hope that you can spend some time as families reflecting upon the good progress your child has made in this first term and take a lot of pride in this. ([Responsibility](#), [Resilience](#), [Respect](#), [Reflection](#), [Relationships](#))

Harvest

What a fantastic time we had at our Harvest Festival on Thursday afternoon. It was such a wonderful community event. The children took part in the harvest celebration brilliantly, confidently standing up in front of a lot of people to sing, speak or play their instruments. They should be very proud of the talents they showed. It was also lovely to see so many donations brought in by the children and then collected by the Lincoln Larder. As well as our Harvest celebration the children took part in an assembly earlier in the week where we learnt more about the Lincoln Larder, why it exists and what we can do to help and support this organisation. Thank you also to all the relatives of our children who supported the children in walking to and from the church. This was very much appreciated.

([Responsibility](#), [Reflection](#), [Respect](#), [Relationships](#))



Y3 Parent Drop In

It was great to see so many families at our Year 3 drop in on Tuesday. Families were able to come into school look at the learning their children had begun to undertake this term and see where the children spend their time in school. There was also the opportunity to see the children's class teacher and catch up on how children had been settling in to their new school. The event seemed to be warmly appreciated by all.

([Respect](#), [Reflection](#), [Relationships](#))



Netball tournament

On Wednesday some of the Y5 and Y6 children from BJA attended a netball tournament at BCA. The children performed fantastically well and represented the school with distinction. We had a third-place finish and 3 star players as noted by the adults organising the event. The children's behaviour and sportsmanship were excellent. Thank you also to the families who came along to offer support to our children to enable them to attend the event. Well done to everyone involved! ([Responsibility](#), [Resilience](#), [Respect](#))

Historical Local Walks

Across the past few weeks all the children at BJA have experienced a Historical Walk around Branston. These walks allowed children to see the history of Branston all around them. The children also looked at what Branston was like during both World Wars and where we could see history of this around us. The walks were fun and informative, and we must take this opportunity to say thank you Mrs Kearney who used her extensive knowledge of the local area to devise and run these walks for the children in our school. Thank you, Mrs Kearney. ([Respect](#), [Reflection](#))





Secondary School Applications – Deadline

A reminder for our Y6 families that the closing date for applying for your chosen secondary schools is Saturday 31st October. As we are on half term break at this point, I thought it pertinent to remind families of this. Please also remember to put down as many choices as there are options. Just because you only put one option does not necessarily mean you will be successful in applying for that school, so having a number of choices you would be happy with marked down is important. ([Responsibility](#))

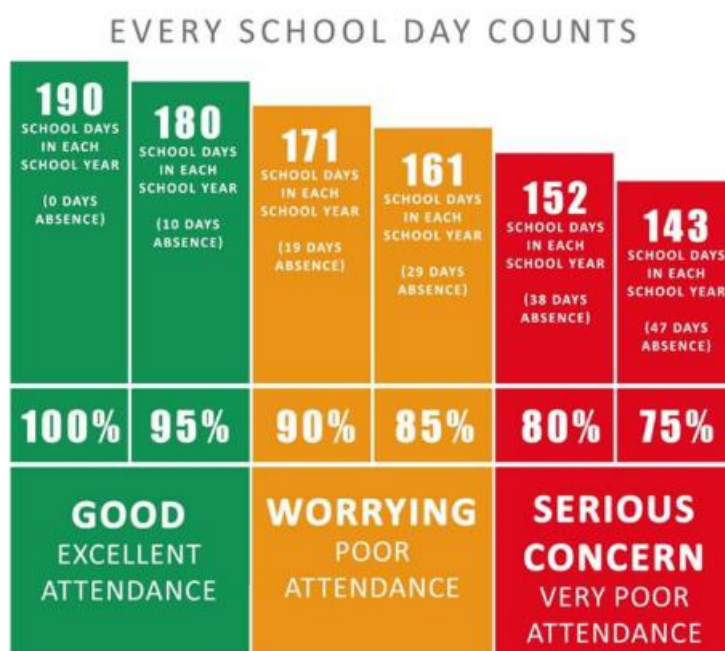
Lost Property

Over the course of this term, we have accrued quite a range of unnamed uniform. If you think your child has lost a piece of uniform, then please do come and take a look as it may be in our lost property box. ([Responsibility](#), [Respect](#))



Attendance

I would like to thank all families for their perseverance in supporting their children to attend school. Our school attendance for this term is **96.1%**. This is an improvement on the same point last year and we thank all families for recognising that your child being in school as much as possible is very important for their progress and development. I hope that one of the benefits of our October half term break is that there is a longer time for you to enjoy family time together and therefore a reduction in the need to take holidays during this term. ([Responsibility](#), [Resilience](#), [Respect](#))



Dates

A reminder that children's last day in school this term is **Friday 16th October**. The children will return to school on **Monday 2nd November**.

Website Calendar

As the time of year approaches where more and more events begin to happen in school and after school, I wanted to draw your attention to the school calendar embedded into our website. This calendar is live and shows all the events that are planned across the year. For even more advanced notification of events such as shows, sports days and parents evenings do look at the calendar on the website at this link [Calendar - Branston Junior School](#)



Ready for term 2?

When the new term starts, we will be in November. Please can I remind families that as the weather and temperature changes your child will need to have a coat in school and wear uniform that is suitable for the weather we face at the time. Children are encouraged to go outside in most weathers both at playtimes and during PE sessions. ([Responsibility](#), [Resilience](#))

Term 2 – New addition

I'm very excited to be **almost** ready to announce a new and very exciting addition to Branston Junior Academy!! I can't say too much yet, but keep your eyes peeled on communications after the half term break! I can't wait to see the children's faces!

Pickles – Autumn Holiday Club

Pickles Wrap Around Care are running an Autumn Holiday Club which families may wish to take advantage of. ([Relationships](#), [Respect](#))

Thank you for your support across this term and I hope you all have a welcome break when the time comes. We will look forward to seeing you in November!

Barry Thornton

Headteacher
Branston Junior Academy

Welcome Everyone
to the
Autumn 2026
Holiday Club!
27 October 2026 – 29 October 2026

Looking for a fun, safe, and stimulating way to keep your children entertained this October holiday? Our Autumn Holiday Club for children aged 3–11 is the perfect solution for busy parents and excited children alike!

Packed with creative activities, active play, and themed fun, our holiday club turns the **autumn break** into an unforgettable adventure. Each day is carefully planned to keep children engaged, smiling, and learning through play.

What's in Store?

Tuesday 27 October 26	Wednesday 28 October 26	Thursday 29 October 2026
Autumn Walk and Craft	Mini Olympics	Halloween Fun

Safe, Supportive & Supervised

Our experienced and friendly staff create a warm, welcoming environment where every child feels included and confident. Safety is our top priority, giving parents complete peace of mind while children make new friends and try new things.

Make This October Holiday One to Remember!

Tuesday 27 October 2026 – Thursday 29 October 2026

Time: 9am – 3pm, 9am – 12pm, 12pm – 3pm

Fees: £27 including a morning and afternoon snack, £14 for half session including a snack

Please ensure that your child is provided with a packed lunch. This will ensure that children have a suitable meal at lunchtime. We kindly ask that the lunch is clearly labelled with your child's name.

Booking is easy, just pop on to Family or contact us on louise@little-pickles.com or 01522 793112 if you have any questions.

Fun. Friendship. Fantastic Memories.
Join us this October!

Diary dates 2025-2026:

- **Monday 2nd Nov** – Autumn Term 2 Starts
- **Wednesday 4th Nov** - Halloween Film
- **Monday 9th Nov** – After School Clubs Start for x 3 weeks (w/c 9th, 16th & 23rd Nov)

*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' -

Social Media guides for families

Many thanks to the parents and carers who were able to come into school last week to talk to teachers about different ways in which to support their children.

One of the leaflets I was handing out to parents on this occasion was a 'social media guide for parents & carers'; this guide details the age rating for different apps and the reasons why these age ratings have been determined. Of particular note, **the majority of social media apps have an age rating above that of the age of children at primary school, often due to child-protection risks** (which are explained within the guide). **Another point of (very important) note is that many of these age restrictions will rise further when the government introduces the social media ban for children in the Spring.**

A copy of this parental guide can be found on our website at:

<https://tinyurl.com/4xuuy979>

