



Branston Bulletin

9.10.2026

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



You may have noticed on bulletins, letters, and our school website that there are a group of aliens who 'hang around'. These aliens are the characters that represent our values. These aliens provide a way for children to visually associate the abstract value with something concrete so that when they see the alien in and around school and therefore know which value we are looking for or are focusing on. You may see them in your child's planner and as you see them do have a conversation with your child about what they are and the values they represent.

Help Your Child to Learn

Thank you to everyone who came to our "Helping Your Child to Learn" session on Tuesday after school. It was lovely to see so many parents engaging with teachers, discussing how different subjects are taught and ways to support children at home. Your questions and input made the evening useful — we appreciate the time you gave and the positive partnership this shows. ([Responsibility](#), [Resilience](#), [Reflection](#), [Relationships](#))

Flu Immunisation – Monday 12th October

Monday 12th October Flu Vaccine - This vaccination allows children to be kept well and stop the transfer of Flu throughout the community. Booking is direct with NHS as was outlined in a recent letter. Each winter in the UK, thousands of children who do not have a health condition need hospital care because of flu. Children can catch and spread flu easily. Vaccinating them also helps protect others who are at higher risk of getting seriously ill from flu, such as babies, anyone who's pregnant and older people. ([Responsibility](#))



Y3 Parent Drop In- Tuesday 13th October.

Y3 families, on Tuesday 13th October at 3.30pm you are welcome to come into school at the end of the day with your child to allow them to show you where they learn and to show you the learning they have produced so far. It's been a big step for them since arriving from their infant school and they are very keen to show you all that they have been doing. It's also an opportunity to catch up with teachers about how your child is settling at BJA. This event is always very valued by our families. ([Responsibility](#), [Reflection](#), [Relationships](#))



Harvest Festival – Thursday 15th October

On Thursday 15th October we are all looking forward to celebrating Harvest Festival at All Saints Church Branston. We are thrilled to be collecting food items that will be donated to the Lincoln Food Larder. A previous letter sent details what items we would welcome to be brought into school to support this worthwhile cause. You are also more than welcome to join us in the church to celebrate the harvest festival service with us. Seating may be limited as we will be attending as a whole school. Thank you to all the volunteers who have offered to support our children getting to and from the church. We hope for fine weather! ([Reflection](#), [Relationships](#), [Respect](#))

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](#)



Uniform and the Uniform Swap Shop

Please remember to label your child's uniform as this helps us to return uniform to its owner. However, I wanted to make you aware of two other places where uniform exists in school. Firstly, we have our uniform swap shop. These are clothes that are freely available to families. These clothes are often new and have been donated to us by families who had bought uniform previously for their children, but



it was never worn. Please feel free to come to school and look to see if there is anything which may be of use. Secondly, we do have a lost property box in school. This is for uniform that has been recently 'lost' but has no name in it. If you think that your child may have lost an item do come to school and have a look!
(Relationships, Respect)

Illness and School Attendance

We have one week to go before the half term holidays arrive. I hope that you have found this opportunity to plan for holidays over a longer period in October helpful. I have spoken to several families who are letting me know they have made plans for the holiday which they would not otherwise have been able to make. They can do this whilst not impacting upon their child's attendance during term time.
(Responsibility, Resilience)

Pickles – Autumn Holiday Club

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

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**
Autumn Walk and Craft
- Wednesday 28 October 26**
Mini Olympics
- Thursday 29 October 2026**
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 12th Oct** – Flu Immunisation
- **Tuesday 13th Oct** – Year 3 Parent drop in session
- **Thursday 15th Oct** – Harvest Festival
- **Friday 16th Oct** – Autumn Term 1 Ends
- **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' -

When is it the right time to buy my child a smart phone?

A common question that many parents ask is, *'When is the right time to buy my child a phone?'*

We're all aware that phones can bring about many benefits: keeping in touch with relatives; learning another language through an app such as Duo Lingo and as a gateway to online research. However, we also know that phones can bring risks into the lives of our children, **especially when that access is unsupervised and when using apps that are not recommended for their particular age group.**

To support you in making an informed and safe decision, the **Lincolnshire Stay Safe Partnership** have written a guide & factsheet along with supporting link to a YouTube video that I would urge any parent, or carer to watch. This guide can be found on the Online Safety page of our school website at:

<https://tinyurl.com/6be39j54>

