



## Branston Bulletin

19.09.25

Welcome to the Branston Bulletin!

### **Our School Week**

In our assembly this week we reflected on the fact that it is International Democracy Week. The children learned about what democracy is and how this looks in our country. We then reflected upon how our school uses democracy to value everyone's voice, including ideas such as our School Council where children vote for other children to be a representative for their class.

### **Our learning**

This week has seen the introduction of our new Active Spelling program. A letter previously came out to inform you of the research behind this and all of the teachers have been enthusiastically delivering the new learning. I'm pleased to say that our children have really responded well to Active spelling.



**Katrina** – 'Active spelling is helping me to see and hear the syllables in words which is helping me to spell.'

**Darcie** – 'Active Spelling has helped me a lot. Before I was struggling with my spelling, but I remember not just the words but the different ways I can spell words I don't know.'

**Harvey** – 'It helps me to know the sounds in words when I break them up to spell'.

**Annabel** – 'It's a great new way to learn spelling. It helps me to find my way to spell. Tick and fixing each letter helps to know that even if I got one letter wrong I got all the others right. It helps me stay positive about spelling.'

Looks like Active Spelling has had a successful start to life at BJA and we will continue to monitor this to see positive outcomes for all children.

### **School Facebook**

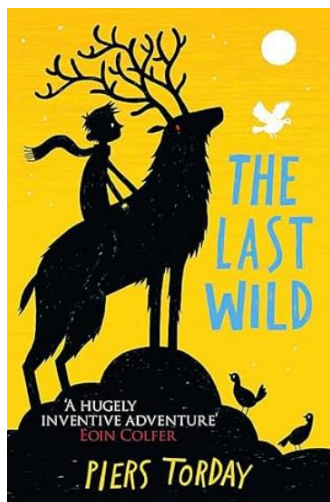
A quick note to new parents please follow us on Facebook @branstonjunioracademy for updates and latest news.

### **Mr Thornton's Book Corner**

Each week I'll be adding books to the Branston Bulletin which may support your child with their reading for pleasure. As your child begins to read more fluently it can be tempting to think the children don't need a family member to read to. However, whilst children are decoding the words well, their understanding of what is being read will need to be supported. This is where reading to a family member who can ask some basic questions checking sense and vocabulary understanding can be most helpful to a child's development.

The books that I recommend are books which are readily available and may inspire your child to pick up a book and read it.

The Last Wild is an exciting book in which a boy becomes aware of an exciting talent he did not know he possessed. How he uses this talent will have big consequences. This book is a great read and became a bestseller.



*This is a story about a boy named Kester. He is extraordinary, but he doesn't know that yet. All he knows, at this very moment, is this:*

- 1. There is a flock of excited pigeons in his bedroom.*
- 2. They are talking to him.*
- 3. His life will never be quite the same again...*

*Kester lives in a land in quarantine. A deadly virus has killed all the animals except pests and it's expected to be equally dangerous to humans. But when Kester realises he can talk to the pests, he finds they have great hope invested in him.*

### **Book Donations?**

As you are all hopefully aware, reading is a big focus for us at BJA. As we move towards attaining our Lincolnshire Reading Pledge, we are developing our class and school libraries, increasing the amount and the range of books the children have on offer. I know that as we enter this Autumn period many of us might be reviewing our children's bookshelves to make space for the coming months. There may be books that children have read and are finished with, or they may have outgrown them.

If you have any books that are for children of a junior age range, fiction or non-fiction and in good condition, we would be delighted to receive them at BJA and repurpose them for the children in our school.

Even if you are uncertain if a book is the type the school requires do bring these in as we have a wide variety of uses for books within the school.

Any book donations can be brought to the school office or sent in with your child.

Your support with this is very much appreciated and will make a difference to the education of our children.

Mr Thornton  
Headteacher

### Diary dates 2025-2026:

- **Year 3 Parent Drop In** – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October
- **Harvest Festival** – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October (Information to follow)
- **Halloween Event** – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October (Information to follow)
- **Autumn Term 1 Ends** – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October
- **Autumn Term 2 Begins** – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

*Please do look on our website and scroll down to the 'Forthcoming Dates' section [Diary - BranstonJunior \(branstonjunioracademy.co.uk\)](https://www.branstonjunioracademy.co.uk) to find dates of all events.*



### Useful information on our website

Please go to our website:

[www.branstonjunioracademy.co.uk](https://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.

This page:

<https://www.branstonjunioracademy.co.uk/local%20events.asp> has information on a whole range of local events.

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

#### **BJA Family Computing Acceptable Use Policy**

Any time soon, 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

