



Branston Bulletin

19.12.25

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

Our School Week

We have come to the end of the Autumn term and what a busy last week it has been! The children have been so excited as we approached the end of term and a number of events have taken place to celebrate Christmas.

(Reflections, Relationships)



Care Home Christmas

On Friday the 12th December the school choir brought joy and good cheer to the residents of Woodview Care Home. It had been a number of years since the children of BJA had been to Woodview and it was wonderful to see the residents smile and sing along with their favourite Christmas music. The children visiting the care home was such an event that the care

home was packed with residents wanting to hear the children sing and play their music. The children conducted themselves fantastically and were a credit to the school and families. (Relationships)

Carol Concert

What can you do about the British weather? Unfortunately, the heavy rain stopped our visit to All Saints Church, but we were delighted that the church came to us. Nigel Dickin, a member of the church, joined us for our Carol Concert and led the children in Christmas Prayers as part of the event. The children then sang carols performed poetry and played musical instruments to bring festive cheer to a wet and dreary day. We were very proud of all the children who read readings, sang or played instruments.

Well done! (Respect, Relationships)

Children's Christmas Party

On Monday the children took part in their Christmas Party. The children took part in party games and when the games were over enjoyed their party food with their friends! Thank you to families for your support in providing food items.





Communication

We are aware that there has been an issue with emails. The technical experts assure us that this issue has now been rectified and you should receive emails in the normal way. However, initially please do check the junk folders just in case. If emails do not arrive in their expected place please do let the school know. ([Respect, Relationships](#))

End of Year Awards Assembly

On Friday the children took part in their end of term awards assembly. This assembly differs from our weekly award assembly and had a few special items to hand out. The awards handed out included certificates for the children who adults had identified as showing the 5Rs in a sustained way since September. We also handed out certificates for 100% attendance this term (reminder that each term resets to zero so there is still a good chance of receiving a 100% attendance certificate) and also we gave out personalised responses from our MP, Dr Caroline Johnson, regarding the outcome of her Christmas Card competition. ([Respect, Relationships, Resilience, Responsibility](#))

Reminders

- Autumn Term ends **Friday 19th December 2025**
- Spring term starts **Tuesday 6th January 2026**

Lunch menus are available to order from up to the week commencing 9th February 2026. If parents would like their child to have a meal when we return on 6th January you will need to place orders by Tuesday 30th December and for the week commencing 12th January orders will need to be placed by Tuesday 6th January.

Happy Christmas!

The children over the past two weeks have been learning about the Christmas Story. The children looked at the characters within that story and noticed how in each character they had been kind to someone at some point. As we head into our Christmas break this message of kindness, whatever we believe, is one which if given by children and adults alike will make, not just the community of BJA, but our wider community a better place to live, work and grow. At this time our community and our country needs kindness at its heart and what better time to adopt the value of kindness to make the Christmas message real than now.



On behalf of everyone at Branston Junior Academy I wish you all a very happy Christmas and best wishes for the new year ahead.

Barry Thornton
Headteacher



Diary dates 2025-2026:

- **Tuesday 6th January** – Spring Term 1 begins
- **Monday 19th January** – Parent SATs Information Session
- **Thursday 12th February** – Squishmallow Bingo (information to follow)
- **Friday 13th February** – Spring Term 1 ends
- **Monday 23rd February** – Spring Term 2 begins

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'

Top tips for managing devices at home

Dear families and friends,

As we gather together for the festive break, may I take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy & healthy Christmas. I hope yours will be an enjoyable and (where possible) a restful Christmas. I suspect that for some of us, there may well be new tech waiting under the Christmas tree for unwrapping on the morning of the 25th. Aside from the abundance of new chargers and cables ('tech spaghetti') we have to now accommodate, we also have to be mindful of managing the amount of time our children spend on their new tech. The team at Lincolnshire's **Stay Safe Partnership** have compiled a 'Top Tips' list for managing devices at home:



1. **No tech in bedrooms (or tech with door open):** keeping technology from behind closed doors reduces the likelihood children will search for inappropriate content.
2. **Watch and learn about apps together:** learn about the apps and games your children are interested in to better understand how it can be used positively, but also to understand the risks and how to manage them.
3. **Periodically check what your children are watching:** YouTube and Netflix will show you what has been recently watched. Social media can be a little more difficult to check but encourage your children to show you themselves through regular conversations.
4. **Discuss together and agree boundaries:** Keep talking about the good and the bad of being online, and explain why rules are necessary sometimes so children understand it's about their safety and not spoiling their fun.

As always, stay safe - and please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions about ways in which we can help support you in keeping your child stay safe online.