



## Branston Bulletin

08.05.26

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

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### Our Week

Although a shorter week it has nevertheless been a busy week at BJA. Children have continued in their learning making progress in English, Maths, Science, and all the many other subjects we cover. The children have particularly enjoyed getting outside and practicing their athletics in preparation for Sports Day, although the weather has still been chilly at times!.

### Consultation Growing Up in an online World



Open consultation

### **Growing up in the online world: a national consultation**

The UK government has released a consultation to inform its plans for how they support children using the online world in the future. I would urge all parents (and 10yrs+ children) to have their say on this as we know there are many different viewpoints and these need to be heard. As well as a consultation for parents there is also one for children who are 10 or above and so if your child wishes to complete this their views will also be taken into account. You can find the consultation here [Growing up in the online world: a national consultation - GOV.UK](#)

(Resilience, Reflection, Responsibility, Respect, Relationships)

### Social Media



At this time of year, and despite many proactive strategies, we seem to be seeing an increase in issues that evolve from children's use of social media. There are many factors which impact upon the number of incidents we see. Can I ask families to be aware that social media outlets have age restrictions of at least 13yrs old. However, we are aware that many children have access to social media and I urge all families to check and monitor their children's mobile phone use. The number of issues we have in school because of issues that are happening outside of school is increasing and this is having an impact upon the emotional wellbeing of our children and therefore their learning. The school uses many strategies to support children in their use of mobile phones from assemblies, to PSHRE lessons to distinct one off events led by

LCC Stay Safe partnerships. Also do see Mr Pyburn's weekly E-safety tips at the end of this bulletin to best understand how to support children through this complex area of modern day life. We value your help in making the online world a safe and happy place for our children. ([Responsibility, Respect, Relationships](#))

### **SATs**

Next week is SATs week in school. It means that school will be a very busy place but we know that our Y6 children will be ready and raring to go due to all their fantastic effort and commitment to their learning. Whilst SATs are an important checkpoint in children's education, they're just that: a checkpoint. These tests give us a snapshot of what children can do in English and Maths on a particular day. But they don't tell the whole story.

They don't capture the children's creativity, resilience, kindness, curiosity, or the brilliant ways they contribute to our school and the wider world. Those things matter just as much, if not more. We are looking forward to supporting your children to have a fantastic week in school.

([Resilience](#))



### **School Trip**



We were very excited to announce our school trip to **Magna, Rotherham** on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**. You will see from the letter that came out to you this week that there is a cost associated with this trip. We would like nothing better to put on all our school trips for free however, as it stands, funding for schools continues to be tight and costs continue to rise. These costs, particularly those associated with travel, continue to place a burden on the overall cost of school trips. ([Relationships](#))

### **Football Club**

We are very thankful to Mr Gray who dedicates his time to run our school football team. It is so much fun that we would love to extend our offer to more children. However, in order to do this we are on the look out for anyone who might be willing to volunteer some time to support Mr Gray in taking the children's football club. If you or someone you know might be interested in this then do let school know at [enquiries@branstoncommunityacademy.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@branstoncommunityacademy.co.uk) and we can arrange a chat about what this might involve. ([Responsibility, Respect, Relationships](#))

Thank you for your continued support.

Barry Thornton  
Headteacher



### Diary dates 2025-2026:

- **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May** – Yr 6 SATs Week (Mon 11<sup>th</sup> to Thurs 14<sup>th</sup>)
- **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May** – Cricket Day
- **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May** – Year 2's Visit BJA
- **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** – Summer Term 1 Ends
- **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June** – Summer 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](http://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' -

#### **Parental Top Tips for guiding children in their interaction with AI chatbots**

Dear Families,

I've had a fabulous couple of weeks with the older children discussing & investigating the benefits of AI (along with an awareness of the need to approach it with responsibility and an understanding that it's not infallible). The children have approached the lessons with maturity and interest.

With this in mind, this week's tip arrives as an interesting (and thought provoking) article written by Lincolnshire's Stay Safe Partnership about the rise of AI.

With any use of technology, there comes responsibility; the Stay Safe Partnership have written a guide for parents about the potential risks of AI chatbots to children. This can be found at:

<https://tinyurl.com/42kzisp4>

