



Braishfield Bugle



Friday 11th September 2026

Be kind, be brave, be ready to learn, and be your best.

Together, we grow a love of learning and a community where everyone belongs and achieves.

Dear Families,

This week, the children have been enjoying the opportunity to continue using the recreation ground, as well as exploring some of the new sports equipment that Mrs Niles has ordered for them. It has been lovely to see them making the most of these opportunities to be active, play together and enjoy our wonderful surroundings.

We are also delighted to now have Little Acorns with us full-time. They have been getting to know their new learning environment, the staff and, of course, their new buddies — taking it all in their stride! They have made a fantastic start and are already becoming a lovely part of our school community.

A huge thank you to all of you for ensuring that the children arrive at school ready to learn and on time each morning. It really does make such a difference to their day, and it has been lovely to see so many children coming through the doors so happily and confidently this week.

A few assessments have taken place this week to help teachers check what the children remember from before the summer break. Their teachers have been pleasantly surprised by the impressive recall the children have shown of what they learned last year. It is always lovely to see that learning has been retained and that children are ready to build on what they already know.

Finally, the highlight of our week had to be the wonderful singing in our singing assembly yesterday. The children enjoyed learning — or, for our older children, remembering — the words to a few Harvest classics, including *Cauliflowers Fluffy* and *Harvest Samba*. I think quite a few of the adults in the room may have found themselves remembering their own school days too!

It has been a really positive start to the year, and we are looking forward to all that the weeks ahead will bring.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.
Best wishes,

Natalie Alldred – Headteacher

headteacher@braishfield.hants.sch.uk

Celebration Assembly – 9am on Friday morning **STARTING NEXT WEEK**

Our wonderful children who have been awarded certificates this week.

Headteacher's Certificate			
Sophie			
Little Acorns	Big Acorns	Saplings	Oaks
Start next week	Charlie B	Maya Albie	Tommy W Cian



Congratulations to all of the children below who were awarded their **Bronze** reading badges this week for **100 reads!** What a fantastic achievement!

• MORE COMING SOON...

Upcoming events...

- Tuesday 15th September–Meet the Team - Find Out More in classrooms @ 3:40pm
- Monday 21st September– Parent Forum @ 2:30pm
- Monday 28th September - Cross Country 4-5pm
- Thursday 1st October – Census Day
- **INSET DAYS 2026/2027 – 1st September, 22nd and 23rd October, 4th January and 28th May**

What we have been learning this week...

Little Acorns

It's been a week of firsts for Little Acorns! We've had our first whole day at school, first PE lesson, first 'wet play', first Birthday Book and first assembly!

Alongside all the new learning around class and school routines, we've really enjoyed getting to know one another during our Explore and Learn time. We've also loved having lunch with our buddies twice this week.

We've begun learning how to get ready to write too, by practising our correct posture when sitting at the table and developing the correct pencil grip when using mark-making tools.

What a wonderful first week! We can't wait to get stuck into our phonics and maths learning next week.

Mrs Wortham





Big Acorns

This week in Big Acorns we have been focusing on being our best selves, working together to create a warm, safe and happy classroom. An important part of becoming a Big Acorn is learning about growth mindsets. We have learnt that challenges help our brain grow, mistakes help us learn and the word “yet” stops us from giving up. I have loved seeing students face challenges with courage and an open mind.

Big Acorns were also thrilled to be invited to help Little Acorns during their 'Explore and Learn' sessions. Using the teamwork and tidy skills they learnt last year, Big Acorns enjoyed being role models and shared lots of exciting stories of their new Braishfield friends.

Miss Jones and Mrs Niles



Saplings

It has been a busy and exciting week in Saplings! We have been completing a few assessments to see how much we can remember from our learning before the summer break. It has been wonderful to see the children working hard and showing what they know.

In English, we have started our new unit, *Arthur and the Golden Rope*. We have been orally composing sentences to describe a character and using evidence from the text to find out more information about him. We have been developing our skills in finding clues within a story and explaining our ideas. In Computing, we have been learning about digital devices and exploring the terms *input*, *process* and *output*. We looked at different devices and thought about how these three stages work together. We have also continued our Spanish learning, focusing on the sounds 'a' and 'o' and practising recognising and saying these sounds. In DT, we have started exploring structures, with the exciting outcome of creating our very own castle! We have investigated how 2D and 3D shapes can be combined to create strong and stable structures. We are looking forward to putting our ideas into practice as our castle designs develop.

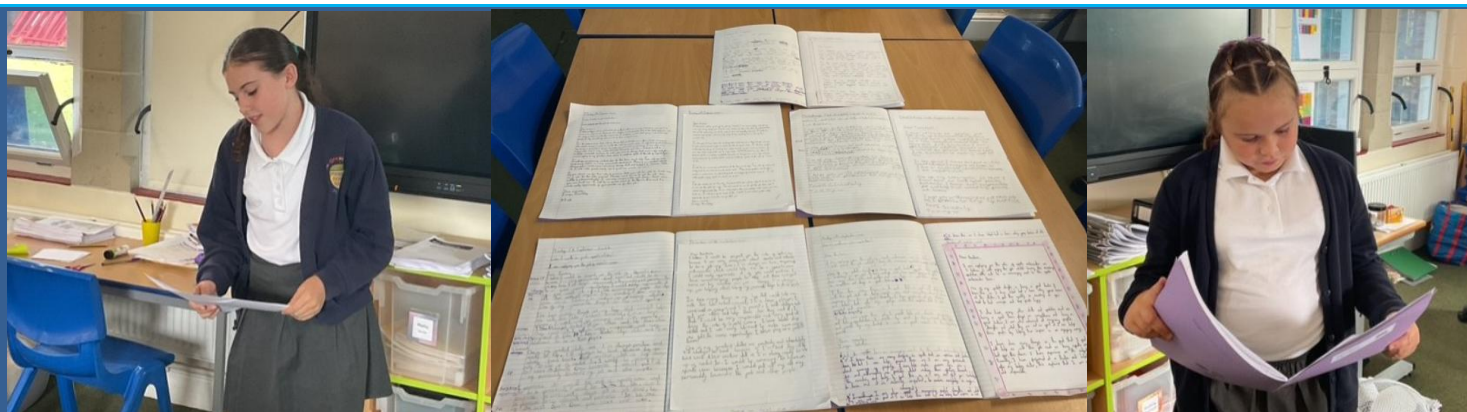
Mrs Doherty



Oaks

Oaks have had a super week of learning, and the children are continuing to settle well into our classroom routines, showing a growing sense of responsibility and independence. They have also been taking great care when presenting their work and are showing real pride in what they produce. In English, we have been writing and presenting our job applications for important roles around school. The children have thought carefully about the skills and qualities needed for each position and have done a fantastic job of explaining why they would be well suited to their chosen role. In Science, we have been building electrical circuits and learning how to represent these using recognised circuit symbols, while in Spanish, we have been learning the numbers 13–20. In Computing, we have been learning about computer systems and developing our understanding of how they work. It has been fantastic to see the children engaging so positively across the curriculum and making such a strong start to the term.

Mrs Wright and Mrs Niles



Why Attendance Matters!

It is the legal duty of parents to ensure that their child receives full time education. Good attendance is vital to a child's progress and achievement. Common sense tells us that absence and lateness disrupt the continuity of learning and therefore affect progress and, ultimately, success. As a result of the direct correlation between attendance and achievement, it is vital that children achieve full attendance.

It is also important to note that short periods of regular absence can be just as damaging to learning as long term absence.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

BEING LATE ADDS UP TO A LOSS OF LEARNING

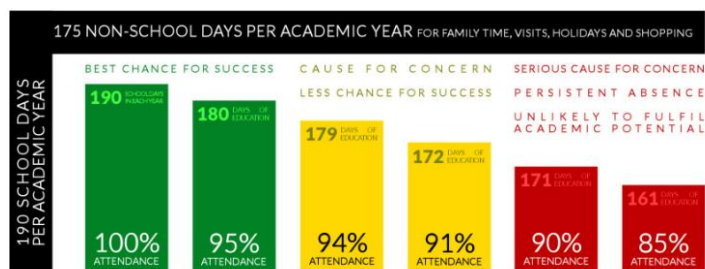
If you are 5 minutes late every day that adds up to 3 days lost each year.
15 minutes late is the same as being absent for 2 weeks per year.



*FIGURES ROUNDED TO NEAREST HALF DAY

GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS

BEING IN SCHOOL AT LEAST 95% OF THE TIME (BETWEEN 180 & 190 DAYS)



🌟 Congratulations to **Year R and Year 5** who this week have achieved the best attendance in the school with **100%**. Well done for showing such great commitment to learning!

Year R – 100%	0 days missed
Year 5 – 100%	0 days missed
Year 3 – 99.3%	½ a day missed
Year 6 – 98.6%	1 day missed
Year 2 – 98.5%	1 day missed
Year 1 – 97.7%	1 ½ days missed
Year 4 – 87.5%	7 ½ days missed
Overall this week – 97.5%	11 ½ days of missed learning across the school
Overall this year- 96.8%	
Our minimum target is 96.5%	

Homework

Big Acorns

Reading books and phonics/spelling sheets have been sent home in their reading packs

Saplings

Spellings - practise your common exception spellings and create a poster for them (a copy of the common exception words will be in your child's bag)

Maths - Timestables.co.uk. Choose the table you are working on and complete the practise parts. Year 4 - also do a timestables check

Oaks

Reading and brushing up on those times tables!

Free School Meals (FSM) Information

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be £7,400 a year or less (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education

From the start of academic year 2026 to 2027, your child will qualify for free school meals if you get Universal Credit, regardless of household income.

If you do not qualify for most benefits (also known as having 'no recourse to public funds'), your child may still be eligible for free school meals. Ask their school or local authority whether they're eligible.

Infant free school meals in England

Your child will be able to get free school meals if they're in a [government-funded school](#) and in:

- reception class
- year 1
- year 2

Tell your local authority if you also get any of the qualifying benefits. Your child's school could get extra funding if you do.

BSA News!

We hope all our families had a fun and restful summer, and are now fully back into the swing of the new school year!

We'd like to remind everyone of our upcoming AGM, which is being held on Tuesday 22nd September, at 7:00pm, in the school hall.

After 4 years in post, the current committee will be standing down and we will be voting in new members. As a registered charity, the BSA needs at least 3 committee members that are willing to be named trustees in order to continue running so please do consider whether this is something you could do, to ensure the continuation of the school PTA.

Many thanks for all your support!

Useful links and information:

Look out for the clubs letter that came out this week. Coach Tom's clubs are on Mondays and Wednesdays, and Sparks on a Tuesday from next week.

The image displays three promotional posters side-by-side.

SEA CADETS ROMSEY SEA CADETS
We are holding an *Open Evening!*
MONDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2026
7:00-8:00PM
Come along and find out what Sea Cadets get up to and talk to our cadets.
FUN, FRIENDS AND ADVENTURES
Romsey Sea Cadets is a welcoming unit for 10-17 year olds, meeting near Romsey Rapids on Mondays, with boating nights in Southampton during summer, weekend courses and national qualifications.
Find out more: <https://www.sea-cadets.org/welcome>
Apply: <https://www.sea-cadets.org/apply>
Email: romseyseacadets@hampshire@gmail.com
Location: Romsey Sea Cadets, Southampton Road, SO51 1AF (behind Romsey Rapids)
Cadets (12-17): Mondays 7-9pm
Junior Cadets (10-12): Mondays 7-8:30pm
SEA CADETS READY FOR LIFE

You're Invited!
JOIN US FOR OUR **WOMEN'S & GIRLS FESTIVAL DAY!**
AT OTs & ROMSEY CRICKET CLUB
EST. 1998
SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 10.30AM START
A DAY OF FRIENDLY MATCHES
LADIES vs LADIES
GIRLS vs GIRLS
Come for the cricket, stay for the fun, friendship & community!
LET'S CELEBRATE WOMEN & GIRLS' CRICKET TOGETHER!
WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!
Activities: RAFFLE, MUSIC, CAKES, BBQ, & A WHOLE LOT OF FUN!

KICK-A-BOU
the unique football experience
Weekly Football Sessions
TERM TIME CLASSES
MONDAYS
Winchester Leisure Centre
4-5 years 4.30-5.15
6-7 years 5.15-6.00
8-11 years 6.00-6.45
WEDNESDAYS
Knightwood Leisure Centre, Chandlers Ford
3-5 years 4.00-4.45
6-11 years 4.45-5.30
FRIDAYS
Places Leisure, Eastleigh
3-5 years 3.45-4.30
6-7 years 4.30-5.15
8-11 years 5.15-6.00
SATURDAYS
Itchen College, Southampton
3-4 years 8.45-9.30
4-5 years 9.30-10.15
6-7 years 10.15-11.00
8-11 years 11.00-11.45
TWO WEEK FREE TRIALS AVAILABLE
TO SIGN UP, GO TO WWW.KICK-A-BOU.COM
Call ROB on 078 2727 4197 | ROB@KICK-A-BOU.COM

KICK-A-BOU
the unique football experience
VOUCHER
Valid Until 30th July 2027
TO WK FREE DISCOUNT
www.kick-a-bout.com
rob@kick-a-bout.com

Safeguarding and Wellbeing:

MHST – Mental Health Support Team – There are a range of different leaflets and information, which can be found on the bookshelf in the office foyer, and parents are welcome to take anything that might be useful to them.

Coming soon... Parent Workshop linked to supporting children's behaviour at home led by the MHST. Details coming soon.

Further dates and information are available using this link:

<https://www.hampshiresendiass.co.uk/workshops/>

Please see the below link from Hampshire County Council, which offers information may be of interest to families of children with Special Educational Needs.

[SEND Local Offer Discovery Days | Hampshire CTS](#)

Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It's why it's essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it's important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.

1 PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental control settings available to you. With most devices, you're able to change the settings to control the content your child has access to. This isn't difficult to do, as you'll often find guidance in the instructions that come with the device. By setting a private pin code on certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.



2

PROTECTING ANDROID DEVICES



You can set up restricted users on Android tablets through a Google account. Open the settings menu (look for a cog icon) and select the 'Users' option. Here you can add a new restricted user. After setting up a password and username, select which applications you want to restrict access to. On an Android smartphone it's similar, but first select 'Parental Controls' in the play store.

3 PROTECTING APPLE DEVICES



For Apple devices, you can simply visit the preferences/settings menu and within 'General' there is an option for 'Restrictions'. Here you can turn off any applications or features on your child's device that you do not want them to have access to.

4



THINK ABOUT ALL YOUR SMART DEVICES

As well as tablets and smartphones, you should think about any device in your home connected to the Internet: a games console, a media hub, or a personal computer. In each case you can usually find parental controls in the settings. Think carefully about how much access you want to allow your child, especially when it comes to accessing the Internet.



5

MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER



Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a 'safe search' setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it's extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the Internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you're using, go to the settings and search for 'safe search'. Make sure you save the change so it defaults each time you open the browser. This will seriously reduce the chances of your child being exposed to something they shouldn't be.



National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

9 Top Tips To Get Smart About children's devices

6

REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS



Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the dangers with them. You should also make sure you're able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The companies behind social media platforms often make privacy changes without making it very obvious to the eye, such as Facebook's introduction of facial recognition software.

7

DON'T LET PEOPLE SEE WHERE YOU ARE



Location software sounds useful for seeing where your child is, but it also provides the opportunity for others to locate your child too. For safety, it's a good idea to disable location software on all devices or at least turn it off when it's not required. Also, be mindful of specific apps that record running routes or locations where your child might be playing a game. Talk to your child about why these can be dangerous and how to turn the setting on and off as required.

8 WATCH OUT FOR FAKE PROFILES

Sadly, social media presents an enormous opportunity for the likes of paedophiles to set up fake profiles and interact with children. Keep a track of the people your child interacts with on social media and if you do not recognise a user as a friend, consider blocking them.



9 KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME

Managing how much time we spend on screens is a new challenge for us all. It's critically important when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It's not just a case of setting arbitrary time limits. Guidelines published by The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health suggests it's more important to consider the 'context and content' of what the screen is being used for. Still, it is helpful to put limits on devices using 'Guided Access' functions, which you can find in the settings of certain devices.



Meet our expert

Emma Davis was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old, she's had vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.

