Braishfield Bugle

Friday 23rd October 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,

It's been a short but busy week this week!
Thank you to everyone who attended parents' evening. We hope you found it helpful and informative and appreciated the opportunity to discuss your child's progress.
We were also grateful to have the MHST (Mental Health Support Team) join us for the evening. Thank you to those of you who took the time to speak with them and complete their brief questionnaire, which I mentioned in the Bugle a few weeks ago. The information gathered will help us to plan our next steps and ensure we continue to support the needs of our children and families.

Little and Big Acorns also enjoyed their swimming lessons this week. What a wonderful way to end their half term! The children showed such bravery throughout their sessions and had great fun along the way. I had the pleasure of joining them on Monday, and they were absolutely fantastic. We were so proud of them all!



On Wednesday, our lovely new BSA team organised two discos to round off the children's half term. The discos were enjoyed by everyone, and the Halloween-themed costumes were simply amazing! A huge thank you to the BSA team for organising such a fun-filled end to the week.





Yesterday, as part of our two INSET days, staff took part in paediatric first aid training. The session was both interesting and informative, and we all enjoyed learning new facts and developing our knowledge. The highlight of the day was the challenge of carrying out effective CPR on the resuscitation dummies. With feedback from the trainers keeping everyone on their toes, the competitive nature of some members of staff soon came to the fore (names will remain unmentioned, but they know who they are!). However, a special well done to Mrs Ewens and Mrs Cooper, who achieved impressive accuracy scores of 99% and 96% respectively. Thank goodness we have them on our team!



I hope you all have a lovely half term break.

Natalie Alldred – Headteacher
headteacher@braishfield.hants.sch.uk

Celebration Assembly – 9am on Friday morning

Our wonderful children who have been awarded certificates this week.

Headteacher's Certificate			
Little Acorns	**Big Acorns**	**Saplings**	**Oaks**



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

- Coming soon …

Upcoming events …

- **Monday 26th – 30th October – HALF TERM HOLIDAY**
- **Monday 2nd – Friday 6th November – KS2 Swimming**
- **INSET DAYS 2026/2027 –22nd and 23rd October, 4th January and 28th May**

What we have been learning this week…

Little Acorns

It may have been a short week, but Little Acorns certainly packed a lot in!

We started the week with a walk around our local area to visit the church. Following our RE learning last week about what is special in the context of Christian traditions, the children were fascinated to find out more. We spotted so many things in the church that we had talked about in class, including Bibles, the font used for baptisms and lots of crosses! We also noticed the graveyard, the beautiful stained-glass windows, and the harvest display, which the children decided were all very special too. The children had so much to share and were full of curiosity and questions – just what we love to see in our Braishfield learners!

We've also been working hard in our swimming lessons. Although we had one fewer lesson than expected, the children certainly made up for it with their excellent listening and determination to do their best. Every child was incredibly brave and gave swimming in the big pool a go. We are so proud of their confidence and willingness to try something new!

Finally, we wanted to share a lovely new initiative we've introduced in Little Acorns this half term. For their birthday, each child brings a wrapped book to open in front of the class. The book receives a special bookplate celebrating their birthday before being added to our book corner for everyone to enjoy. We've already celebrated six birthdays this half term, adding six wonderful new books to our reading area! A huge thank you to all the parents who have contributed – the children love sharing their special birthday books with their friends!

Mrs Wortham





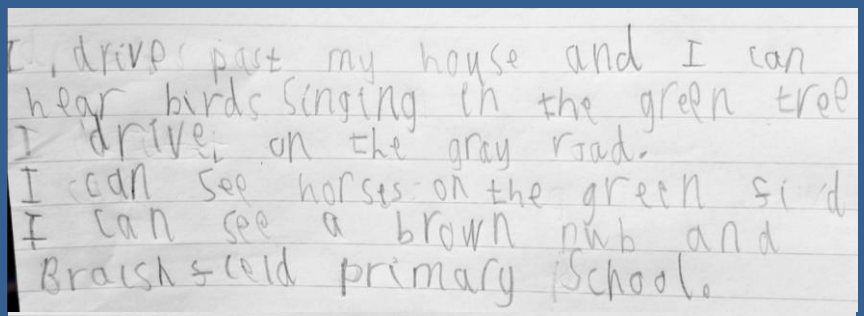


Big Acorns

This week in Big Acorns, we created our texts for our learning journey inspired by *Martha Maps It Out*. The children worked on sentence structure by using capital letters, full stops, and conjunctions like "and" to join their clauses.

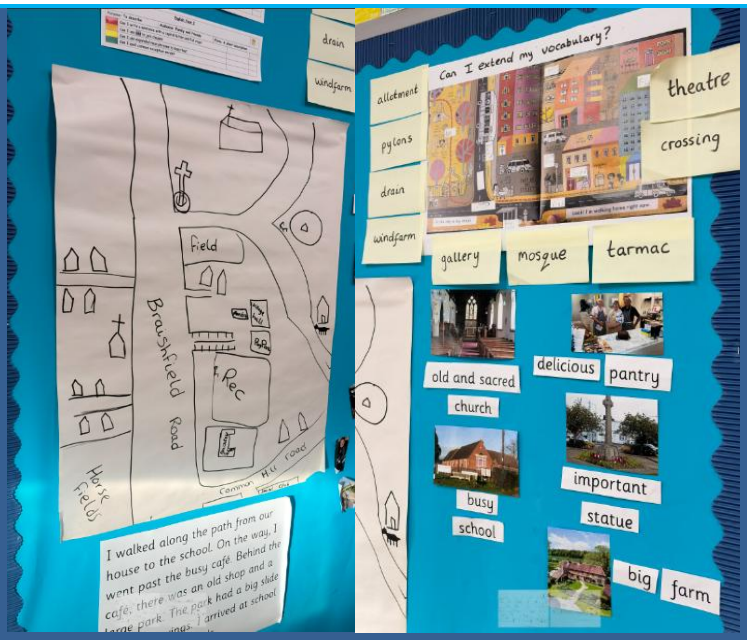
Year 2 focused on vocabulary building and using expanded noun phrases. They practised how to paint a clear picture of their routes using descriptive words like *"old and sacred church"*, *"delicious pantry"*, *"important statue"*, and *"busy school"*. The children loved detailing all the familiar sights and sounds along their path, from hearing birds singing in green trees and spotting horses in the fields, to passing the village hall, park, and local café before arriving safely at school to see their friends.

Miss Jones and Mrs Niles



I drive past my house and I can hear birds singing in the green tree I drive on the gray road. I can see horses on the green field I can see a brown pub and Braishfield primary School.

I drive past my house and see the park the park has a fun swing and a slide. Then I see a brown horse in a horse field. I get to school and see my friends.



Saplings

This week in Saplings, we have finished our English unit by writing our own interviews with a sea creature of our choice. We worked hard to include paragraphs and use a range of simple, compound and complex sentences.

In Maths, we continued to practise addition and subtraction before taking on some problem-solving activities with Mrs Cooper. We have also been working hard to improve our times tables!

In Computing, we finished our unit on digital devices by designing our very own devices. We enjoyed using our creativity and thinking about how technology can help us in everyday life.

The highlight of our week has definitely been making our castles in DT! We used a range of junk-modelling materials and 3D nets to bring our amazing creations to life. All the adults who worked with us agreed that our castles looked fantastic! Mr Churcher had great fun making them alongside us, too.

What a creative and hardworking week we have had in Saplings!

Mrs Doherty

Oaks

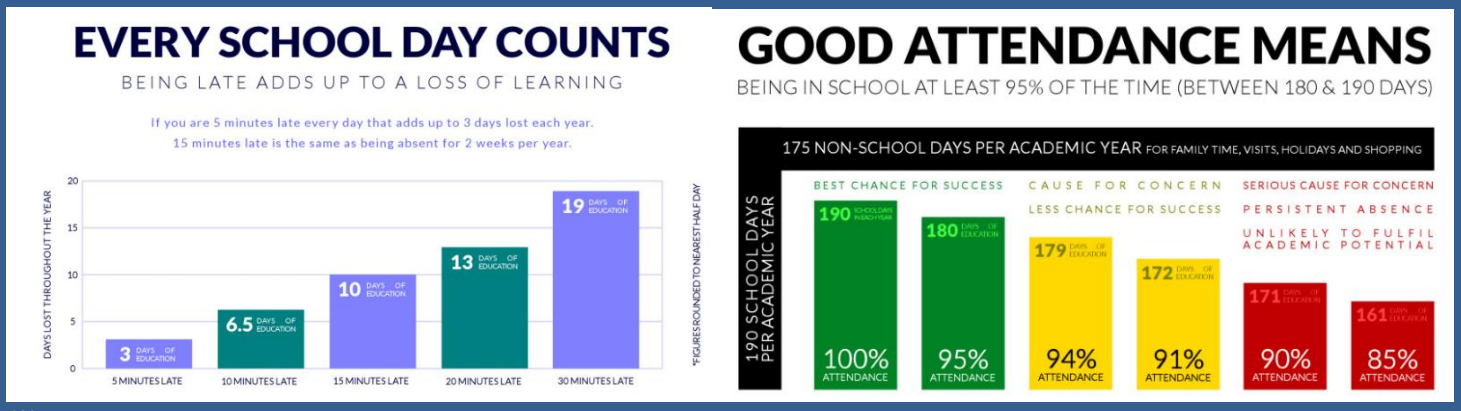
This week, Oaks have been busy writing and publishing their own sensory poems, using descriptive language to engage the reader's senses. We have developed our reading comprehension skills by asking questions to deepen our understanding of texts and taken part in debates inspired by 'The Happy Prince'. In maths, we have been ordering and comparing numbers and using digit cards to further explore place value. In science, we have investigated how the wires used in electrical circuits affect resistance and in PE, we have been developing our teamwork skills through a range of activities and games.

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.



Congratulations to **Year 1,** who this week have achieved the best attendance in the school with **100**%. Well done for showing such great commitment to learning!

Year 1 – 100%	0 days missed
Year 2 – 98.7%	½ day missed
Year 5 – 97.4%	1 day missed
Year 3 – 95.6%	2 days missed
Year 6 – 94%	2 ½ days missed
Year R – 93%	2 ½ days missed
Year 4 – 73.6%	9 ½ days missed
Overall this week– 93.5%	18 days of missed learning across the school
Overall this year- 96.2% **Our minimum target is 96.5%**	

Homework

Big Acorns

Reading and having a good break!

Saplings

Keep reading and practising your times tables but also enjoy a rest!

Oaks

Keep reading and practising your times tables but also enjoy a rest!

Braishfield Ready to Learn Day

As promised a few more details on our values day last Friday…

Miss Jones said…

On our values day, the houses competed to use their growth mindset whilst engaging in a STEM challenge, creating the longest paper chains. Whilst students competed in groups to create, reflect and adapt, as the activity continued it seemed clear that students wanted to collaborate rather than compete, thus creating a spectacularly long paper chain!

Mrs Doherty said…
Ready to learn day - ready heart. We found out how having a ready heart mean being kind, forgiving people, not being judgemental. If your heart is not ready because it is full of anger, fear, worry, productive learning will not take place. We discussed difficult situations and how to manage them with a read hear e.g if you have a disagreement with a friend, someone falls over, someone has been unkind to you. We then designed hearts showing how to respond with a ready heart.

BSA News

Firstly a massive thankyou to all those who came and supported the Halloween Disco, it was great to see so many happy faces and the children having fun! We will let everyone know how much was raised after the half term.

Looking forward to our next event, we would love to be able to run the Christmas Elfridges which we know from previous gives children much joy being able to chose presents for people on their own. For Elfridges to go ahead, we are calling out to all parents to start looking through and clearing out any unwanted and unopened gifts or toiletries etc which would be suitable for us to use as options the children to choose from. We would love for you to start dropping these off into the School Office after half term so we can collate them together and ensure we have enough to offer every child the chance to take part!
Thank you for your support.

JRSO Team message from Tommy, Bisandu, Lily and Jacob

Parent webinar – modelling good road safety behaviour

A new programme is being launched by the Road Safety Team, helping parents teach their children about road safety from an early age.

A leaflet and webinar cover pedestrian, cycle and in-car safety, supporting parents to model good road safety behaviours.

The first webinar takes place on **Monday 16 November, 12 - 12.30**. Parents can register via the webinar registration form.

Useful links and information:


Starting school in September 2027
If your child is 4 or will turn 4 before 1 September 2027, they can start school in September 2027
Applications open for Hampshire residents on 1 November 2026
THE NATIONAL CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY 15 JANUARY 2027
DON'T MISS IT!
BEST START IN LIFE
For more information go to www.hants.gov.uk/admissions
Hampshire County Council
hants.gov.uk


#MBSport
The Mountbatten School
Whitenap Lane
Romsey, SO51 5SY
The Mountbatten PE Faculty invites you to:
A Community Club Links Evening
Thursday 12 November 2026, 6.00pm - 7.30pm
in The Olympic Hall
Come and explore the Sports Clubs and Physical Activity opportunities on your doorstep.
For more information, and to help us to keep track of numbers, please complete the Google Form via the QR code.
We Care. We Respect. We Achieve.


DREAMS
NETBALL CLUB
CALLING ALL CURRENT YEAR 6&7
come join us
Qualified level 2 coaches
Fun and friendly environment
Learn new skills
Make new friends
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED-JUST BRING YOUR ENTHUSIASM!
sessions start in September 2026
EMAIL: dreamsnetballclub@gmail.com


University of Southampton
Explore human experience
Arts and Humanities Day
Saturday 14th November 2026
10:30 – 16:30, Southampton Cultural Quarter
Free activities, workshops, talks, exhibitions, and live performances.
Book your tickets
www.southamptonartshumfest.co.uk
#UoSArtsHumFest


Halloween Tales at King John's House
This Halloween, step inside the grounds of the historic King John's House for a spook-tacular adventure the whole family will enjoy!
Join our enchanting Halloween tours and meet a cast of mysterious spooky characters lurking throughout the grounds. Discover ghostly tales, Halloween surprises, and magical moments as you explore this atmospheric historic setting.
Date: Saturday 31 October
Time: 5pm & 7pm
Where: King John's House Gardens
Price: £8 per person
Book online from TicketSource or use the QR code
For more information, visit www.kingjohnshouse.org.uk
Charity No. 276961
Test Valley Borough Council


Halloween Cookie Decorating at King John's House
Get into the Halloween spirit and create your own deliciously spooky cookie masterpieces!
Date: Monday 26 October
Time: 10:30am-2pm
Where: King John's House Cafe
Price: £5 per cookie
Book online from TicketSource or use the QR code
For more information, visit www.kingjohnshouse.org.uk
Charity No. 276961
Test Valley Borough Council


ROMSEY
EXPLORE more
KES HOLIDAY CAMP
26th October - 6th November
PLAY freely
POWERED BY NEXT LEVEL CAMPS
TAX-FREE CHILDCARE & CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED



Message to say the Circus is in town…

Circus Ginnett is back at North Baddesley Recreation Ground, SO52 9EA this week with shows from Wednesday 21st until Sunday 25th of October.

Join us for an unforgettable experience filled with breath-taking performances, acrobatics, and magical moments that will leave your students and their families in awe.

To make this wonderful event more accessible, we are pleased to offer your school an exclusive discount code: SCHOOL. This code provides 20% off bookings for families purchasing tickets online, by telephone 07562 450045 or on site. All they need to do is quote SCHOOL or type it on the discount box online.

We invite you to share this exciting opportunity with your students and their families. Encourage them to gather their friends and come enjoy an amazing day filled with laughter and wonder!

For ticket purchases and more information, please visit our website www.circusginnett.com . Don't forget to use the discount code SCHOOL at checkout!

We can't wait to see your school's community at the circus!

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.



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 CTSH

Online Safety - supporting children at different ages with their use of technology.

If you are looking for online safety advice, sites such as parentzone.org.uk, commonsensemedia.org, nspcc.org.uk, internetmatters.org and lgfl.net are great places to look!



The NSPCC have written a guide with helpful tips to help you decide what's right for your child in terms of tech ownership and usage throughout childhood, thinking about under 5s, under 10s, pre-teens and teens as well as children with SEND.

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/access-to-technology-for-different-ages/