

Braiswick Primary News

ISSUE 11

JULY 2025

Head Teacher Area

As we reach the end of another enriching and eventful school year, it's a wonderful moment to pause and reflect on all that our pupils, staff, and community have achieved together. Throughout the year, our children have worked incredibly hard, consistently demonstrating the core values of the FISH! Philosophy – choosing their attitude, making someone's day, being present, and finding fun in their learning. These values have truly shone in classrooms, playgrounds, and beyond.

Across the school, our pupils have embodied the Braiswick Educational Vision – showing curiosity, resilience, and a genuine love for learning. Their growth as independent, thoughtful learners has been a joy to witness. Our dedicated staff have continued to bring learning to life in creative, engaging, and adaptive ways, ensuring that every child is inspired and supported to achieve their best.

We've also enjoyed a wide range of wonderful trips and experiences outside the classroom, which have enriched learning and built lasting memories. Our school assemblies and productions have been a celebration of effort and achievement, providing pupils with fantastic opportunities to share their learning and talents with the wider school community.

Finally, we are immensely proud of our Year 6 pupils, who are now preparing to take the next step in their educational journeys. They have been fantastic role models throughout the year, and we are confident they will continue to thrive in their new schools. We will also be sad to say goodbye to Mr Fry, Mr Hayter, Mr Millar-Smith and Mrs Kennedy and we hope they continue to carry the Braiswick family in their thoughts as they either join new schools, or in Mr Fry's case, finally enjoy some retirement time!

Thank you to all families and carers for your continued support. We wish you a restful, enjoyable summer and look forward to another exciting year ahead starting on **Wednesday September 3rd**.

Much love, Miss Russell

Diary Dates

1st September: Non Pupil Day

2nd September: Non Pupil Day

3rd September: First Day of Autumn Term

22nd-24th September: Year 6 Residential

1st October: Individual and Sibling School Photos

22nd October: Flu immunisations

27th—31st October: Half Term

3rd November: Non Pupil Day

14th November: Flu immunisations (catch up session)

19th December: Last Day of Autumn Term

Non Pupil Days 2025-2026

Monday 1st September 2025

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Monday 3rd November 2025

Monday 1st June 2026

One more non pupil day to be agreed

Please see a full list of term dates on our website

OPAL Request!!

A request to think of us if you are having any summer sort outs!

As part of our ongoing commitment to the OPAL (Outdoor Play & Learning) programme, we invite you to kindly donate any old toys, loose parts, or garden resources. Your generous contributions help children explore, create, and learn through play in imaginative and engaging ways.

📋 What we're looking for:

📋 Small Toy Donations

Plastic figurines or smallworld sets (e.g. animals, dinosaurs, cars, planes)

Cuddly toys (for vehicles/den areas)

Dressup items (including fabric scarves, costumes, small accessories)

📋 Loose Parts & Natural Items

Sturdy crates, cable drums, pallet boards

Branches, pinecones, logs, shells, stones/pebbles

Wellies (any size), plastic watering cans, buckets

Guttering, hoses, foam tubing/"noodles," pipes

Fabric scraps, tarps, office crates

Small bike wheels, tyres, pegs, tarps

📋 Garden & Outdoor Supplies

Empty planters, wheelbarrows, gardening tools (spades, rakes—not metal forks)

Seed packets, compost bags, toolkits

Garden fabric, stakes, simple outdoor accessories

📋 Please ensure items are:

Clean & safe — no sharp or broken parts.

Plastic or metal free of rust — suitable for outdoor use.

Delivered to: Reception desk.

📋 Why it matters

Enables open-ended, creative play, boosting children's imagination and problem-solving.

Encourages risk-aware exploration, enhancing confidence and resilience.

Reduces waste and promotes sustainability by repurposing items.

Supports our OPAL vision: playful, inclusive, outdoor learning environments.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Your generosity makes playtime magic possible!

Have a wonderful Summer.

Mrs Clayton



Braiswick Leaders' Learning Award

Donated to Braiswick by Mrs Laudram, Miss Whybrow and Mrs Emrich, the Braiswick Leaders' Learning Award is awarded to the pupil who has demonstrated all of the learning acronyms and behaviours during their time at Braiswick Primary School. This is the fourth year we have been able to present this award, and our 2025 recipient is....

Abbie Philps



Goodbye Year 6

We would all like to say goodbye and good luck to the Year 6 pupils, you have been a fantastic year group, you have worked hard, tried your best and kept us all entertained with your funny jokes and stories.

Your leavers performance of 'A Midsummer Nights Dream' was amazing! It really expressed all your individual characters!

We would like to wish you all the best for the future and the next chapter of your education.



Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

Massive thank you to the 'Year 6 Leavers Team' for organising the Year 6 leavers hoodies. All of the children were super excited to receive their wonderful hoodie which will be a lovey keepsake for their time at Braiswick.



Primary Schools Athletics Competition – Monday 30th June 2025 at Colchester Garrison

On Monday 30th June, 32 children, 4 boys and 4 girls, from years 3, 4, 5 and 6 attended the annual athletics competition at Colchester Garrison athletics track. The children represented the school in a number of track and field events. The track events included three distance runs as well as two field events which were a ball throw and a long jump. There were 15 schools competing, with two heats in the 60m/80m and 100m/200m, with 7 schools in heat one and 8 schools in heat 2. The top four finishers from each heat progressed to the final. The longer distances of 400m and 600m didn't have a heat, it was a straight final.

Please see the results below:

YEAR 3	BOYS	HEAT	FINAL	GIRLS	HEAT	FINAL
60M	Preston	4th	4th	Oceane	2nd	4th
100M	Godswill	5th	N/A	Naomi	1st	3rd
400M	James	N/A	NOT PLACED	Lucy	N/A	NOT PLACED
BALL THROW	Godswill	N/A	NOT PLACED	Naomi	N/A	NOT PLACED
LONG JUMP	Bilal	N/A	5th	Jessica	N/A	4th
SHUTTLE RELAY 4X60M	Preston, Godswill, Bilal, James	3rd	5th	Naomi, Oceane, Lucy, Jessica	2nd	3rd

YEAR 4	BOYS	HEAT	FINAL	GIRLS	HEAT	FINAL
60M	Oscar	4th	5th	Rebecca	4th	4th
100M	Shaun	2nd	5th	Rose	3rd	5th
400M	Freddie S	N/A	7th	Riya	N/A	7th
BALL THROW	Collin	N/A	NOT PLACED	Riya	N/A	NOT PLACED
LONG JUMP	Shaun	N/A	NOT PLACED	Paige	N/A	NOT PLACED
SHUTTLE RELAY 4X60M	Oscar, Shaun, Freddie S, Collin	3rd	2nd	Rebecca, Rose, Riya, Paige	4th	5th

YEAR 5	BOYS	HEAT	FINAL	GIRLS	HEAT	FINAL
80M	Kwadwo	3rd	2nd	Daisy	1st	2nd
200M	Freddie	5th	N/A	Kirsten	3rd	5th
600M	Henry	N/A	7th	Ronni	N/A	1st
BALL THROW	Zion	N/A	NOT PLACED	Daisy	N/A	NOT PLACED
LONG JUMP	Henry	N/A	NOT PLACED	Teal	N/A	NOT PLACED
RELAY 4X100M	Kwadwo, Freddie, Zion, Henry	3rd	5th	Daisy, Kirsten, Ronni, Teal	1st	2nd

YEAR 6	BOYS	HEAT	FINAL	GIRLS	HEAT	FINAL
80M	Hunter	5th	N/A	Lucy T	7th	N/A
200M	Aaryan	5th	N/A	Jadun	2nd	3rd
600M	Edward	N/A	8th	Layla	N/A	8th
BALL THROW	Aaryan	N/A	NOT PLACED	Jadun	N/A	NOT PLACED
LONG JUMP	Hunter	N/A	NOT PLACED	Nihal	N/A	NOT PLACED
RELAY 4X100M	Hunter, Aaryan, Edward, Kwadwo	5th	N/A	Lucy T, Jadun, Layla, Nihal	2nd	4th

The winners were awarded points depending on where they finished and the points were added together to give an overall winner. Braiswick finished 4th overall which was a fantastic achievement. The children represented the school brilliantly and behaved fantastically; putting 100% effort into each event they were asked to participate in, on what was probably the hottest day of the year so far!!! Well done to all!!



Congratulations!

Staff V Pupil Netball Match



Well, the teachers didn't go easy on the Netball team last week during the staff V pupils netball match! We certainly have some competitive adults in our school. The pupils played really well and all of the teachers commented on how much they had improved and their understanding of the game is amazing!

It was great fun and we were impressed with the team's growth mindset and positive attitude as always.

It has been fantastic watching the team grow and work together this year during their training sessions and games and we are looking forward to resuming netball in the Autumn term with some new players too.

Performing Arts Festival—Wednesday 16th July 2025

On Wednesday 16th July we held our fourth Performing Arts Festival where children had the opportunity to express themselves through poetry, dance and music. We were absolutely overwhelmed by the children's performances and so proud of their confidence and precision while they performed. We were also thrilled to see so many talented individuals performing on the day on guitar, violin and drums!! We also welcomed performances from our school choir. And finally the brilliant members of The Braiswick Rockers! I am sure you will agree that these children are all future super stars!!



Forest School

We have had a great half term with Year 5 at Forest School. We have been learning how to make fire using fire steels. The children lit cotton wool balls and then put them out in a bucket of water. We talked about how to have fires safely. Another week we enjoyed s'mores after cooking marshmallows. Previously this half term we built dens, made friendship bracelets and whittled elder.

We hope you have a great summer and we look forward to seeing Year 6 in September!!



Early Years

The Early Years children have enjoyed their fortnightly year 5 buddy reader sessions and have made some excellent friendships!! On Thursday 17th July, we celebrated by having a party which included biscuit decorating, eating rice crispy cakes and lots and lots of play!! The year 5 children embraced this in true Braiswick fashion!!



Job Vacancy

We are looking for supply Play Team members to join our happy, positive and supportive team. This will be on a supply rota only, when required the working hours will be, 11.30am to 1.30pm.

The role will be to assist children as required during their lunch and to provide playground support and supervision to ensure the children have safe and happy lunchtimes. You will be working both inside and outside the school building; supervising children, setting up games, and looking after their wellbeing. You must be able to work effectively as part of a team, enjoy working with children, and demonstrate good communication, organisation, patience and understanding. Braiswick Primary are utilising the OPAL scheme of play at lunchtimes with our pupils.

If you are interested in joining our team on a supply basis, please email admin@braiswickprimary.org.uk with your name and contact details.

OPAL Summer of Play Challenge

We are excited to announce our upcoming "Summer of Play Challenge" for all our students. This challenge is designed to encourage creativity, physical activity, and skill development during the summer break. The challenge is simple - encourage your child to complete a series of fun and engaging tasks over the summer holidays. These tasks will promote active play, critical thinking, and imaginative play. Please ensure your child completes the challenges and brings the completed form to school in September. We look forward to celebrating their achievements and sharing in the fun experiences they have had over the summer.



School Uniform Expectations

Please ensure that pupils wear the correct uniform as per the expectations on our website from the start of the new year. This includes wearing black shoes, no trainers or boots or sandals. The sweatshirt or cardigan should have the Braiswick logo, or a plain teal coloured sweatshirt or cardigan is also acceptable. We do not allow hoodies or other jumpers. The P.E kit consists of a teal or white t-shirt, black shorts, grey or black tracksuit, white socks and trainers.

Please ensure that children does not wear jewellery other than one pair of stud earrings (which your child needs to be able to remove themselves to take part in P.E), no smart watches and no nail varnish.

Please ensure that all school uniform is clearly labelled.

The School Day

Please see below a reminder of the timings of the school day. If your child/ren arrives at school after 8.50am, they will be registered as late and will need to enter through the main office. We, like you, want to make sure that your child is in school and safe, so we ask you to arrive promptly. A late start is unsettling for your child. We are trying to instill life skills into all of our children to prepare them for future life at work and it is important that they arrive at school on time.

Time	Group	Activity
8.30am – 8.50am	All children	Drop off period & Registration
10.30am – 10.45am	EYFS, Years 1, 3, 4 & 5	Morning break
10.55am—11.10am	Years 2 & 6	
11.45am – 12.45pm	EYFS, Years 3 & 5	Lunch
12pm—1pm	Years 1 & 4	
12.15pm—1.15pm	Years 2 & 6	
3pm	EYFS & KS1	End of day
3.05pm	Years 3 & 4	End of day
3.10pm	Years 5 & 6	End of day

Please ensure your child/ren are collected promptly at the end of the day. We have numerous children who are collected late quite frequently, staff have meetings and other work commitments which then need to be missed to ensure they are supervised.

If your child is ill, please let the school know as soon as possible on the first day of absence. We will attempt to contact you if your child is not in school and we have not had a reason for absence, it is therefore essential that we have a current number on which to contact you. It is important that you keep us informed about:

- Changes of address or telephone numbers
- Your child's medical details

Please let us know of any changes immediately so that we can keep our records up to date.

If your child has a medical appointment, please inform the school as soon as possible with proof of the appointment for your child's records.

Thank you in advance for your help and assistance in making the next academic year a successful one.