

Braiswick Primary News

ISSUE 8

APRIL 2026

Head Teacher Area

Well, it was a short month, but no less action-packed!

In this issue, I would like to extend a huge thank you to some of our Braiswick family. Firstly, thank you to the Friends of Braiswick Primary, who organised for Zactiv, better known as Steel from *Gladiators*, to visit the school. He shared important messages with the children about healthy eating, staying active and supporting wellbeing. He also led breathing exercises and gave them a behind-the-scenes insight into the show, even revealing that some Gladiators are afraid of heights! He was a truly inspiring speaker, and we are very grateful to the FOBP team for funding this experience.

I would also like to thank Mrs Crane for organising our participation in Beat the Street and Active Travel. It has been fantastic to see the children so engaged in being active, walking, scootering or cycling to and from school and around their local area to collect Beat Box points. Their enthusiasm and effort have paid off, with us achieving first place in the Iceni Shield!

We are also delighted to be welcoming a full Reception cohort in September. Despite a declining birth rate, this is often thanks to the positive word of mouth from you, our families, who recommend Braiswick to others, whether they are just starting their school journey or joining later on.

Thank you for being part of the Braiswick family and for your continued support of our school.

Baseball Caps

Braiswick Baseball caps are for sale at the School Office for £8.00.

Please bring in the correct money in a named envelope.

Nut Free School Reminder

Can we please remind you we are a nut free school and we ask that you have no nut products in the lunch boxes or brought into the school as treats.

Children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.



School Dinner Money

Please remember that it is very important to pay for school meals in advance.

Unfortunately we have an increasing number of dinner money accounts which remain unpaid despite reminders being sent.

The current cost of a school meal is £2.30 per day, payments can be online via Arbor. You are able to check the balance of your account at any time on Arbor, and we will send out reminders for any accounts with an outstanding balance.

If your child is going to be late, or has a medical appointment, please could you provide their lunch order for the day before 9am.

The words "School Dinners" in a playful, multi-colored font. "School" is in blue, "Dinners" is in orange, and the letters are outlined in white.

Beat the Street – We Are the Winners!

What an incredible event!! Well done to everyone involved! We are absolutely delighted to announce that we are the overall winners of Beat the Street Iceni Shield!

Throughout the challenge, it has been fantastic to see so many of our children and families getting involved. Whether walking, running, scooting or cycling, the level of participation and enthusiasm across the whole school community has been truly inspiring. It has been wonderful to see so many people choosing active ways to travel, while also working together towards a shared goal.

At one stage, we were over 30,000 points behind Highwoods, but through determination, teamwork and a real sense of community spirit, we gradually closed the gap. As the competition drew to a close, the excitement really built, and by lunchtime on the final day there were only a handful of points between us. The final push from everyone was outstanding, with families going the extra mile... literally... to help secure our victory!!

In total, we scored a phenomenal 302,190 points, which is an incredible achievement and a real testament to the commitment of our school community.

A special mention must go to Henry, Teddy and Kirsten, who achieved gold, silver and bronze positions individually. This is a fantastic accomplishment and we are very proud of their dedication and effort throughout the challenge.

Beyond the competition itself, Beat the Street has encouraged healthy habits, brought people together and created a real buzz around being active. Thank you to everyone who took part, supported, and contributed to this amazing success, what a brilliant achievement for our whole school community!



Braiswick Book Fest

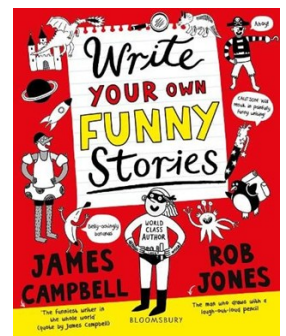
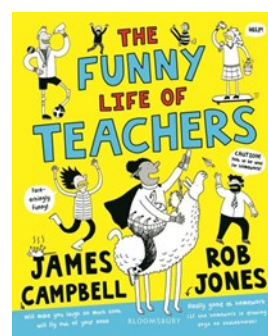
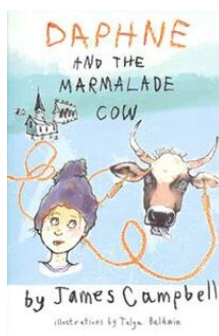
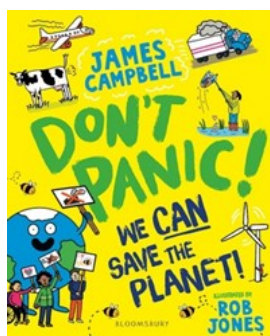
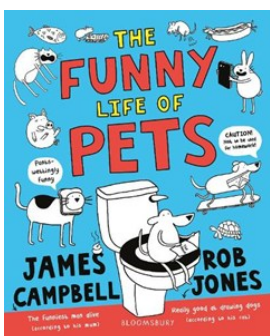
We were delighted to host our very first Braiswick Book Fest, and what a wonderful celebration of reading it was!

The day included two drop-in Storytime sessions, where families were warmly welcomed into school to enjoy stories together. Children came dressed in their comfy clothes, bringing along their teddies and blankets, which created a cosy and relaxed atmosphere. It was lovely to see teachers sharing their favourite books with the children and their adults, making these sessions feel extra special and memorable.

All year groups also had the exciting opportunity to meet visiting author James Campbell, who shared extracts from his books in a fun and interactive way. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to his stories and hearing about what it's like to be a real-life author.

Throughout the day, the Roving Bookshop was available for children to browse, offering an incredible selection of over 3,000 titles to choose from. This gave children a fantastic opportunity to explore a wide range of books and purchase their own choices, helping to inspire a love of reading beyond the classroom.

It was a truly enjoyable event, and we are so pleased to have shared this special experience with our school community.



Year 5/6 Netball Tournament—Friday 17th April 2026

On Friday 17th April, a group of our netball team travelled to Littlegarth School to take part in a High 5 netball tournament. They competed against seven other schools and were initially split into two groups of four, followed by a second round of matches based on the first round results.

The children played exceptionally well throughout the tournament, showing great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship. For some, this was their very first netball tournament, making their performances even more impressive. We are incredibly proud of all their efforts.

Overall, the team finished in 6th place, a fantastic achievement!

Results

Round One

Braiswick 1 vs 4 Lexden

Braiswick 0 vs 0 Kelvedon

Braiswick 2 vs 5 Heathlands

Round Two

Braiswick 2 vs 3 Kelvedon

Braiswick 5 vs 0 St Michaels

Braiswick 2 vs 1 Home Farm

Well done to Katie, Arabella, Priyancy, Poppy, Alexa, Minnie & Zara!!

Year 5/6 Netball Tournament—Tuesday 21st April 2026

On Tuesday 21st April, a group of our netball team travelled to Thurstable School to take part in a High 5 netball tournament. They competed against twelve other schools in a series of fast-paced and competitive matches.

The team performed brilliantly throughout the tournament, winning three matches and narrowly losing four. Their determination and teamwork were evident in every game, and they showed great resilience against strong opposition.

We are delighted to share that the team finished in 9th place overall, securing a fantastic win in their playoff game. All of the children represented the school superbly, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and effort throughout.

We are very proud of all the players and their achievement, well done to everyone who took part!

Results

Braiswick 0 vs 3 Prettygate

Braiswick 0 vs 2 Lawford

Braiswick 3 vs 0 Great Totham (Ella x 2, Teal)

Braiswick 2 vs 3 St Teresas (Rose, Lily)

Braiswick 0 vs 8 Heathlands

Braiswick 2 vs 1 Birch (Ella x 2)

Playoffs

Braiswick 2 vs 1 St Andrews (Lily, Rose)



Well done to Yeva, Ella, Molly, Lily, Teal & Rose!!

Subject Spotlight— Maths

Maths at Braiswick is taught using the White Rose scheme of learning, which follows a mastery approach. This means we focus on ensuring that pupils develop a deep understanding of mathematical concepts, enabling them to reason confidently and solve increasingly complex problems.

Children are taught through a combination of concrete resources (such as Base Ten, Numicon and counters), visual representations and abstract methods. A balance of all three approaches is essential in helping children deepen their understanding and build fluency. We aim to make maths fun, interactive and linked to real-life situations.

Parents can support their children by incorporating maths into everyday life. This might include telling the time, using money, budgeting, playing games involving counting or calculation, measuring ingredients when cooking, or exploring fractions by dividing food such as pizza, cake or chocolate into halves, quarters or even sixths. From Year 2 onwards, children can also practise their times tables using songs, rhymes, posters, games and Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS). White Rose also provides a range of free resources for parents to use at home:

<https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources>

If you would be interested in volunteering to support children in practising key maths skills, such as times tables or number bonds, please contact Miss Taylor via the school office.



Sports Fixtures

A very quiet month for our sports team, with just two fixtures:

U11 Football (League Fixture) vs Gosbecks – 20th April 2026

Final Score: Braiswick 2 vs 2 Gosbecks

Team: Teddy, Albert, Mustaqim, Euan, Shaun, Luke & Jimmy

Goals: Jimmy, Euan

U11 Netball (League Fixture) vs Queen Boudica – 23rd April 2026

Final Score: Braiswick 11 vs 2 Queen Boudica

Team: Lily, Teal, Molly, Ella, Zara, Alexa & Arabella

Goals: Lily x 7, Teal x 2, Zara, Ella

Next month we have more football and netball fixtures, year 1 & 2 fun run, sports day, plus a visit from a great athlete!

More information regarding these events will be sent in due course.

Please ensure that all children bring their P.E. kits to school. These will be kept in school until the end of each half term unless they become significantly soiled.

Each child should have shorts, T-shirt, Tracksuit, Trainers or plimsolls

Please make sure that t-shirts are plain teal or white and all other items are plain grey or black

Football kits and brightly coloured clothing should not be worn.

Thank you for your cooperation.

OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING

Over the holidays, the shed was carefully organised and refreshed with a range of new resources, including some very generous donations, which the children have already been enjoying. Members of the play team have also taken great care of the reading shed, ensuring it is tidy, well-stocked and inviting for everyone to use. In recognition of their hard work and commitment, they were treated to a well-deserved hot chocolate with Miss Russell.

We are excited to be launching our new Play Team Club next week. This will run throughout the summer term on an invite-only basis and will provide children with further opportunities to develop leadership skills, teamwork and responsibility during playtimes.

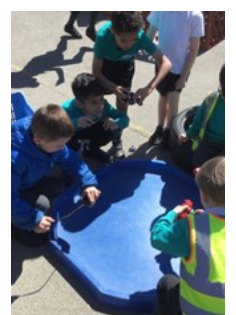
The field is now fully open for the summer term, which has been fantastic for outdoor play. Sports coaches are on hand at lunchtime to supervise and support ball games for each year group, helping to ensure that everyone can take part safely while developing their skills and enjoying being active.

In addition, each class recently voted for their favourite songs, which have now been added to our music player. It has been wonderful to see the children singing, dancing and socialising together, creating a really positive and lively atmosphere during playtimes.

We are looking forward to a term full of fun, sunshine and active play for all.

Mrs Clayton

Date for your diary: Parents Play Session – Friday 19th June @ 2pm, further details will be sent.



Braiswick Eco-Committee

During the Easter holidays, work began on our exciting new sensory path. The area has now been carefully dug out, creating a clear route for the path, and we are ready to move on to the next stage. This will involve lining the path before we begin creating the different sensory sections, which will provide a variety of textures and experiences for the children to explore and enjoy.

A big thank you to Mr Wright for his hard work and dedication in digging out the path, this has been a fantastic start to the project.



Some of you may have been watching *The Secret Garden* on BBC. If you haven't, we highly recommend it, as it is a wonderful programme for learning more about the incredible wildlife that can be found right in your own back garden. Scan the QR code above to find out more and be inspired to explore nature at home!

Forest School

Since the Easter holidays, Year 2 have been enjoying the lovely weather during their Forest School sessions. The children have taken part in a range of engaging outdoor activities, including building dens and creating bird feeders to support local wildlife. They have also enjoyed playing group games such as *Eagle Eye* and *Find My Flock*, which have encouraged teamwork and observation skills. During their choosing time, the children have made the most of the outdoor space by using the swings and ropes, creating imaginative meals in the mud kitchen and exploring the area through bug hunting. Last week, Year 3 took part in a one-off Forest School session, where they embraced the opportunity to try a variety of activities and games. They showed great creativity by designing and making their own musical instruments and even formed a band to perform together. There was also plenty of tree climbing and opportunities for teamwork, with the children supporting and encouraging one another throughout.

In addition, we have taken children from Wrens Den out for Forest School sessions. They thoroughly enjoyed exploring the natural environment, relaxing in the hammock and challenging themselves while climbing on the large log. It has been wonderful to see the children building confidence, creativity and teamwork skills while enjoying the outdoors.



Diary Dates



Week commencing 11th May: KS2 SAT's Week

12th May: Year 1/2 Fun Run (invite only)

13th May: Linnet Class Henry Moore Trip

14th May: Larks Class Henry Moore Trip

Week commencing 18th May: Wellness & Healthy Living Week

19th May: Year 3 Wild Arts Music Workshop

20th May: Sports Day

21st May: Early Years Assembly, 2.30pm

25th—29th May: Half Term

1st June: Non Pupil Day

Week commencing 1st June: Year 4 Times Table Check Week

3rd June: Reserve Sports Day

Week commencing 8th June: Phonics Screening Week

19th May: Year 3 Wild Arts Trip

10th June: Year 3 Saffron Waldon Museum Trip

11th June: Year 2 Assembly, 9am

12th June: Year 6 Writing Afternoon, 2.30pm

19th June: OPAL Play Afternoon, 2pm

24th June: Year 2 Jimmy's Farm Trip

9th July: Year 1/2 Sportshall Athletics (invite only)

10th July: School Reports

13th July: Year 1 Walton Trip

16th July: Year 6 Production & Leavers Party

17th July: Performing Arts Day & Parent Picnic—school finishes at 1.30pm

17th July: Last day of Term

Sports Day—Wednesday 20th May 2026

We are delighted to welcome you to our Sports Day on Wednesday 20th May, which will include a family picnic lunch. The structure of the day will be as follows. As with all events involving children, timings are approximate and may be subject to change:

Morning Session (EYFS & KS1)

9:15am – 10:15am: Field Event Stations

10:15am – 10:30am: Break

10:30am – 11:30am: Track Events

Lunch

11:45am – 12:20pm: Family picnic lunch on the main playground and, where space allows, on the field. Please remember we are a **no nuts** school.

12:20pm: Children return to class to register for the afternoon

Afternoon Session (KS2)

12:35pm – 1:35pm: Field Event Stations

1:35pm – 2:45pm: Track Events

Further information will be sent in the next couple of weeks, we look forward to seeing you there!!