



Branston Church of England Infant Academy

Newsletter



Issue 2

11.9.26

September Diary Dates

Please check out the calendar on our website for all the dates for this term

Friday 18th September: Little Explorers for 0-4 year olds 1.45-2.45pm

Friday 18th September: Village Scarecrow Trail (look out for our entry!)

Monday 21st September: New EYFS Open Morning for 2027 places

Wednesday 23rd September: Burland Court for Y1 Squirrels

Friday 25th September: Macmillan Coffee Afternoon/Open Afternoon from 2pm...all invited!

Wednesday 30th September & 7th October: Family Learning Workshops



News From Around the Classes In School:

Little Owls: have enjoyed exploring the outdoor learning environment where they have played with water, manoeuvred in different ways over the bridge and had lots of fun riding the bikes. They have started to think about this terms value of kindness, thinking about kind words we can use with our friends.



Fox Class: started the week by decorating gingerbread biscuits and starting their vocabulary booklets in English. They have been learning all about the days of the week and months of the year in their maths lessons.

Squirrel Class: have been carrying out lots of activities to help them remember the order of the months of the year. They have also been writing about the Gingerbread Man in their English lessons.



Hedgehog Class: have started learning all about Florence Nightingale's interesting life in their History lesson. They have been writing descriptive phrases in English.

Allergen Aware School



Earlier today we sent an email detailing ways in which you can work with us to ensure that all the children in our care remain safe and free from things that could be potentially life threatening. We appreciate your support with this. As a school we are also really pleased to let you know that we now have an **emergency anaphylaxis kit** which can be used to help children and adults should they experience an anaphylactic reaction while in school. If you have any question or need to let us know about a change in your child's needs, please do ask.

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have completed our first full week of the school year. It has been a joy to walk around school and see the children engaged in their learning and really showing this terms value of 'KINDNESS'. Our Little Owls continue to find their feet and our older children have impressed us with just how quickly they have got back into the routines.

Meet Coach Ollie: This week we welcomed a new member to our team. Coach Ollie joins us from Premier Education. He will be working with the children every Thursday during PE. This term our focus is 'Functional Skills'. Children in Big Pickles also had a bonus session with Coach Ollie on

Thursday evening. A big well done to the following children for being awarded the sports star for their class this week:

Little Owls: Havannah & Lyra
Fox Class: Harry W
Squirrel Class: Albie
Hedgehog Class: James



Certificates will be presented in our first celebration worship!

Phonics Workshops: Thank you to families who joined us earlier this week for the Little Owls phonics workshop with Mrs Savage. We



hope you found this really useful. Our Little Owls have started learning their first set of sounds and been superstars! Mini-booklets have gone home to all our Little Owls families with details about our phonics scheme and ways to help at home. We are

also in the process of sending a recording of the workshop so those who couldn't make it don't miss out.

Our KS1 phonics groups are also in full flow, with children bringing home their first reading books this week. We ask that children read at home **at least three times** each week. It makes a huge



difference to the progress they make.

Helping your child to read is one of the best skills you can give them in life. Teachers are always happy to offer support if you need guidance on supporting your child's reading journey at home.



Little Explorers

Our first Little Explorers session for 0-4 years takes place on Friday 18th September (next Friday). This session is for younger siblings of school age children. We hope to see lots of you there. Why not bring along a friend, everyone is welcome!



Travelling Together To Be The Best We Can Be Within The Love of God



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Walking Bus Wednesday: We had a brilliant turn out for first walking bus this week. We have also been seeing some amazing active travel with children whizzing through the gates each morning on bikes and scooters. The children have started filling in their active travel trackers and the results are impressive. We have also been sent the badges for the next few months and they are fab!



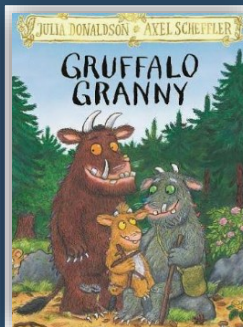
Top tips for wearing a bike helmet...



Award Announcement

We are delighted to have been nominated and named as one of finalists in the Active Lincolnshire Sports & Physical Activity Awards 2026! This is the second time we have been finalists for an award at this ceremony, last time was back in 2021. This year we have been nominated for the 'Positive Experiences for Children & Young People' award. This is linked to all of the work we

have completed around active travel initiatives. We were very proud to be the first school in Lincolnshire to launch the WOW Active Travel Challenge...some of you may remember the giant Strider mascot on the playground! We were also thrilled to be the first (and currently only) school in Lincolnshire to receive the Modeshift Stars Education accreditation for our travel plan and work. Of course none of this would be possible without your support, getting behind initiatives which as WOW active, the walking bus, bring your bike to school day, walking bubbles and much more. Mrs Cook and Mrs Savage will be heading out on a school night in November to a fancy awards night. We will keep you posted on how we get on!



Gruffalo Granny

Did you know that there is a new addition to the Gruffalo story collection? This morning the children in KS1 had a very special virtual story time with the British Library! We don't want to give too much away...but we loved how Julia has included a glimpse of three of her other well loved books in this new story. The children

in Hedgehog Class gave the book five stars! We have added a copy of this new book to each of our KS1 classrooms for the children and teachers to continue enjoying! Happy Reading!



BRITISH LIBRARY



We have been asked to share some information about a brilliant local community group...please do get behind them and help keep spaces like Branston Woods open for everyone to enjoy!

Friends of Branston Woods is a local community group working to establish a legal right of way through the woodland near the Old Branston Hall (now the Vedanta site), helping to ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy this special area. If the woods are somewhere you currently walk, or have walked in the past, please consider supporting our application by completing an evidence form.

Forms can be requested by emailing:

friendsofbranstonwoods@gmail.com

We regularly share updates on our social media platforms we would love you to give us a follow!



Instagram @Branstoncofeinfants



Facebook 'Branston C of E Infant Academy LAAT'

Travelling Together To Be The Best We Can Be Within The Love of God



Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust

We are proud to be a LAAT school. Branston C of E Infant Academy joined LAAT in 2017. We have gone from strength to strength with the support and guidance being in LAAT provide.

How LAAT Supports Our Schools

LAAT is a family of 24 wonderful schools, each with its own character, community and identity. Our role is to support our schools and help them thrive. We bring together colleagues with expertise across education, finance, HR, estates, health and safety, data and operations, who work alongside school teams to provide advice, support and practical help. By sharing this expertise across LAAT, we can ease pressure on busy school leaders and give them more time to focus on what matters most: giving every child the best possible education.



What does LAAT do?

We provide specialist support in areas including:

- Education and school improvement – leadership development, curriculum, teaching and learning, assessment and inclusion.
- Finance – helping schools manage resources effectively and meet financial and regulatory requirements.
- People and HR – recruitment, employee relations, wellbeing, training and professional development.
- Payroll and pensions – providing accurate and reliable administration for school colleagues.
- Operations and administration – supporting the efficient day-to-day running of schools.
- Health and safety – helping schools maintain safe environments for pupils, staff and visitors.
- Data and insight – supporting informed decision-making and school improvement.
- Governance – working with school and Trust governance structures to ensure effective processes and compliance.



Find out more at www.thelaat.co.uk

What doesn't LAAT do?

Being part of LAAT does not mean every school becomes the same. Schools retain their individual identity, character and connection to their communities.

LAAT does not:

- Decide how individual schools organise their classes or classrooms.
- Set day-to-day school routines.
- Choose class names, displays or decorations.
- Decide which trips, celebrations, events, clubs or enrichment activities take place.
- Interfere with PTAs or Friends groups.
- Decide which local traditions schools maintain.
- Replace the relationship between schools, parents and their communities.
- Dictate how schools engage with their local communities.
- Set each school's calendar and events programme.
- Control how schools communicate with families, provided they meet Trust standards.
- Make every spending decision for schools; school leaders manage their delegated budgets within the Trust's financial framework.

Excellence, Exploration and Encouragement. Powered By Equity