Bradworthy Primary Academy
September Newsletter 2026

Welcome Back!

A very warm welcome back to all our children, families and staff as we begin another exciting school year at Bradworthy Primary Academy.

We hope that everyone enjoyed a restful summer break and has returned refreshed and ready for the months ahead. It has been wonderful to see the children returning with such enthusiasm, positivity and smiles. We would like to extend a special welcome to all new pupils and families joining our school community this year. We are looking forward to working together to ensure every child has a happy, successful and rewarding year filled with learning, achievement and memorable experiences.

We know that parents are the experts on their children and, as always, we know that the relationships we build with our parents are essential for children's success in school. Please feel free to catch us either in the mornings at drop-off or at the end of the school day at collection if you are worried about something or have any queries. Alternatively, you are welcome to email your child's teacher directly and we will do our very best to get back to you as quickly as possible.

Mrs Disney – edisney@bradworthy.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Betts – nbetts@bradworthy.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Carey – hcarey@bradworthy.devon.sch.uk

Miss Young – iyoung@bradworthy.devon.sch.uk

Miss Dimmock – sdimmock@bradworthy.devon.sch.uk
Mrs Turner – bturner@bradworthy.devon.sch.uk
Miss Runeckles – eruneckles@bradworthy.devon.sch.uk

Flu Nasal Spray Vaccination

The annual flu vaccination programme will be taking place in school on 16th September. The flu vaccine is administered as a quick and painless nasal spray and helps protect children against seasonal flu while also reducing the spread of infection within school and the wider community.

Hopefully, you will have received an email about this already. If not, please contact the school office, who will be happy to send it again.

If you would like your child to receive the vaccination, please ensure that you follow the link below to complete the form.

If you do not want your child to receive the vaccination, we will ensure that any children whose parents have not given consent are not vaccinated.

https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu?schoolcode=DV136492

Free School Meals

Parents and carers are encouraged to check whether they may be eligible for Free School Meals. Even if your child receives Universal Infant Free School Meals, registering for eligibility can provide additional funding for the school that supports learning opportunities and resources.

If your circumstances have changed or you would like to check your eligibility, please contact the school office for guidance on how to apply

Attendance

As a school, we have been proud to boast attendance figures above national averages for a number of years, and this is thanks to the support of our parents.

Unfortunately, last year our attendance dropped below our school-based expectation, which is set by the DfE. As a result, we are likely to find ourselves under an enormous amount of pressure this year to show what we are doing to challenge and improve the attendance of pupils who have dropped below our school-based expectation of 96%.

The local authority had already started drilling down into our attendance data in the summer term and identified two key issues which they feel need addressing. The first is holidays. Too many of our children are taking holidays during term time, and although we are already unauthorising holidays, their recommendation is to start issuing fines. The second issue is absences on Mondays and Fridays. The number of absences we have on Mondays and Fridays stands out significantly and, to be honest, they did not have many suggestions as to how we can improve this other than challenging whether children are actually unwell enough to remain at home and unauthorising days taken for short weekend breaks away.

Our attendance policy is clear on holidays. As long as attendance is good enough, the school will not issue fines for a holiday taken in term time, and we are doing as much as we possibly can to stick to this. Our ask of parents is that you help us by ensuring that children are only kept at home if they are genuinely not well enough to come to school.

We are more than happy to administer Calpol or ibuprofen to any children who are not 100%, and please trust us that we will send children home if we do not think they are well enough to be in school. You may find the link below useful if you are unsure whether your child should come to school.

Is my child too ill for school? - NHS

Cross-Country Running

We will be kicking off our cross-country season with our annual inter-house cross-country event for all children in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 on Wednesday 23rd September.

For the last few years, we have used Sandra's fields behind Corner Stores and are very grateful to have been offered these again. We will be heading down to the start after lunch, with the first race beginning at 2pm. As always, parents are more than welcome to come along and support the children if they are available.

The BREMCo League will be starting on Sunday 4th October with the first fixture at Kingsley College.

Entry will be open to any children in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 who wish to take part, regardless of ability, with more information to follow soon.

The Great Bradworthy Bake-Off

As most of you already know, we hold an annual baking competition in the autumn term and its always one of the highlights of our school calendar. This year we will be raising money for both the school and Macmillan.

The competition is open to children from across the school and there are usually around eight different categories. Everyone is invited in for a coffee morning where you can taste the wonderful cakes that have been entered, and you will need a good appetite because last year we had over 140 entries.

We have pencilled this into the diary for Monday 28th September and will send out more information about this event nearer in the next few weeks.

Parents' Evenings

We will be holding Parents' Evenings on the evenings of Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th October. These will not be long meetings but are an opportunity to meet your child's new teacher and discuss how they have settled in, along with any concerns you may have.

We will hold another set of meetings later in the spring term when the children are fully settled into their classes.

You will be able to book appointments via the MCAS app soon.

Early Collections

To minimise disruption to learning, we ask that children are only collected early from school when absolutely necessary, such as for medical appointments. Unfortunately, last year we saw an increasing number of children being collected early for activities such as swimming lessons, which were creating a significant amount of disruption during the final part of the school day.

We are now asking that children are not collected early for any external lessons, and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

We will also be making a slight adjustment to the timings on our front gate at collection time. Please can we ask that parents do not come onto the school site before 3:25pm. We have adjusted the timings of the parent code on the front gate to match this and will also be changing this code later this week.

Uniform

We have made a slight change to our uniform policy this year in that our school hats are now only compulsory for school trips. Children are still more than welcome to wear them in the playground at breaktimes and lunchtimes if they wish.

Please can we ask that all parents ensure:

- All items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.
- Children wear the correct school uniform each day.
- Appropriate footwear is worn (black shoes).
- Children have their PE kits every day.

Staff Vacancies

We currently have two temporary part-time vacancies within our school team for a Mealtime Assistant and a Classroom Assistant

Further details about the positions, including how to apply, can be found on our school website in the Vacancies section or by contacting the school office. Please help us spread the word within the local community.

Wraparound Care

Our wraparound care provision will continue before and after school between 7:40am and 8:40am in the mornings and between 3:30pm and 5:30pm in the evenings.

This runs alongside our extensive range of after-school clubs which, for the majority, will get underway next week, with the exception of gymnastics, climbing and dance, which start this week.

The wraparound provision offers a safe, welcoming environment where children can enjoy a range of activities and social opportunities, as well as breakfast in the mornings.

Sessions are £3, with the exception of the hour between 3:30pm and 4:30pm, which is free of charge. We do encourage parents to book their children in for the required days on the MCAS app but, if for any reason this is not possible, you are welcome to drop them in on the day and we will book them in ourselves.

Below is a list of the clubs on offer this year:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School			Year 4 Climbing (Simon) 8:00 – 8:45		
Lunch time	Multi-sports (Elliot) Year 1 and 2	Football (Elliot) Year 3 and 4	Girls Football (Elliot)	Football (Elliot) Year 1 and 2	KS2 Multisports (Elliot) Year 3 and 4
After School	Multi-League (Elliot) 3:30-4:30 Year 3,4,5,6	Netball (Elliot) 3:30-4:30 Year 4,5,6	Multi-sports (Elliot) 3:30-4:30 Year 1, 2 and 3	Football (Elliot) 3:30-4:30 Year 5 and 6	Dodgeball (Elliot) 3:30-4:30 Years 3,4,5,6
	Band (Alex) 3:40-4:30 Year 4, 5 and 6	Gymnastics (Pre Squad) 3:30 – 4:15	Dance (Jess Squire) 3:30 – 4:15 All Years *chargeable at £4 per session	Cookery (Miss Young) 3:30-4:30 *£1 per session Yr 5 and 6 Autumn Term Yr 3 and 4 Spring Term Yr 1 and 2 Summer Term Children are limited to 4 sessions each to give everyone a turn.	
		Gymnastics (Squad) 4:30 – 5:15	Band (Alex) 3:30-4:30 Year 4, 5 and 6		
			Climbing (Simon) 3:30-5:15 Year 4, 5 and 6		

Unfortunately, we are unable to offer a climbing club for Year 3 children this year as Simon is only in school on a Wednesday and places for climbing are being prioritised for the older children. Year 3 children will access climbing through the curriculum on Wednesdays.

Rose

Sadly, Rose has been quite unwell over the summer break and is not yet well enough to return to work. We know you will all join us in wishing her a speedy recovery and sending our very best wishes during this time.

With Rose currently away, the office is a little short-staffed. We would be grateful for your patience if you experience any delays when contacting us by phone or email. We will respond as soon as we can and thank you for your understanding.

Autumn Term Diary Dates

16th September – Nasal Flu Vaccine
23rd September – Inter-House Cross-Country Competition, 2pm
25th September – Year 6 Trip to Appledore Book Festival

28th September -	Bake Off
29th September –	Author Visits
1st October –	Author Visits
4th October –	First BREMCo League Fixture @ Kingsley College
5th October –	Great Bradworthy Bake-Off
12th and 13th October –	Parents' Evenings
16th October –	Harvest Festival, 11am for KS1 and 2pm for KS2
18th October –	BREMCo Cross-Country Round 2 @ Shebbear
W/B Monday 19th October –	Class 2 Swimming Week
W/B Monday 26th October –	Half Term
W/B Monday 2nd November –	Class 2 Swimming Week
W/B Monday 9th November –	Class 1 Swimming Week
W/B Monday 16th November –	Class 1 Swimming Week
W/B Monday 23rd November –	Class 3 Swimming Week
29th November –	BREMCo Cross-Country Round 3 @ West Buckland
Monday 7th December –	Year 3 Rosemoor Trip
Wednesday 9th December –	Christmas Dinner
Friday 18th December –	Last Day of Term
Monday 4th January –	First Day of Spring Term