



BRAYS SCHOOL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM 2, 2026

Welcome to our latest edition of the Brays School Family Newsletter.

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME ...

Is it only 5 weeks since we last shared our last newsletter? It astounds me how our staff team manage to pack in so many engaging and exciting learning opportunities into such a short term!

I'd like to give thanks to all our pupils who have generally coped so well with an 'adjusted' school site. This extends to all the families who have attended annual reviews in the smallest of spaces! I can promise you that we're all working hard to get the rooms ready so that we can once again use the hall and our light and sound work for their intended purpose. #safety #teamwork

I'd like to share a huge thank you to all the families that completed the family FET questionnaire. We were overwhelmed with the number of responses and appreciate the time you took to fill it in. We've got the results and are busy analysing them to propose an action plan to address any areas where you have suggested we can make things even better. You will have seen that we recently wrote out to you asking for your help and input with information for your child's Engagement Model and we look forward to receiving your contributions.

This half term we officially welcomed two new teaching assistants to the team, Ferhana and Nasra. #braysbelonging

See you on Monday 13 th April for the start of a super summer term.

Kari



ATTENDANCE

We are so proud at Brays of the work that families and school have done to improve our school attendance.

Regular school attendance is especially important for children with SEND because it provides consistency, structure and access to the specialist support they need to thrive.

Attending school every day helps children maintain vital routines, build social and communication skills, and take part in therapeutic interventions that are difficult to replicate at home. It also enables staff to closely monitor progress, adapt teaching to individual needs, and intervene early if challenges arise.

Most importantly, strong attendance supports each child's sense of belonging, security and wellbeing—helping them make the best possible progress academically, socially and emotionally.

BRAYS DEMONSTRATE #TEAMWORK

We had the opportunity to take a team to Badminton England's Shuttle Stars Festival. It was a fantastic morning with superb #teamwork and inclusive activities for all. We were astounded by Hamza and his newly found talent of backhand! We also took at team to the Panathlon.

You can find out more about the events in a Panathlon by viewing this link
[Panathlon Key Stage 2 Multi Skills - YouTube](#)



CREATIVE SPACE – PAKISTAN

This half term The Creative Space has been set in a small village in Mirpur, in northern Pakistan. We have been so busy in the village, washing and drying the clothes, sorting out and cooking the rice and building new houses. We had to bake a lot of bread as well and do lots of singing and playing music.

When it was market day there was so much to do because it was the week before Eid. We worked on a fruit and vegetables stall, tried on lots of different clothes, painted our hands with mehndi and smelled all the wonderful spices. The village is great!



TEAM TEACH-WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT?

Team Teach is a behaviour-support training approach used at Brays School and the other schools in the Forward Education Trust to help staff understand, manage, and reduce challenging behaviour in a safe, positive and supportive way. It focuses primarily on **de-escalation**, meaning helping children calm and regulate before situations become overwhelming.

The approach is centred on understanding how a child is feeling and **why** behaviour is happening, so staff can respond in the most supportive way and keep everyone safe.

The vast majority of Team Teach practice is non-physical; around **95% of the training emphasises preventative and de-escalation strategies** to avoid crises and reduce stress for both children and adults.

Staff learn to build positive relationships, communicate effectively, and recognise signs of distress early so they can support children before behaviour escalates

SCHOOL FOOD MATTERS

Natasha came to visit school. She is our new Gardening Guru. Our children enjoyed their introductory assembly to the Young Marketeers programme.

Super Pea and Super Carrot certainly got our children enthused.

Our children will have the opportunity to grow produce and then sell it at the market in the Bullring in July.



OUTDOOR LEARNING

This half term, classes have been making the most of the improved weather and during their weekly outdoor learning sessions as well as caring for our chickens they have also been learning in our pond area.

Lots of opportunities to practice their fine motor skills in making nature versions of the Pakistan flag and nature Easter Eggs.



WILLY WONKA LIVES BRAYS VALUE OF #KINDNESS

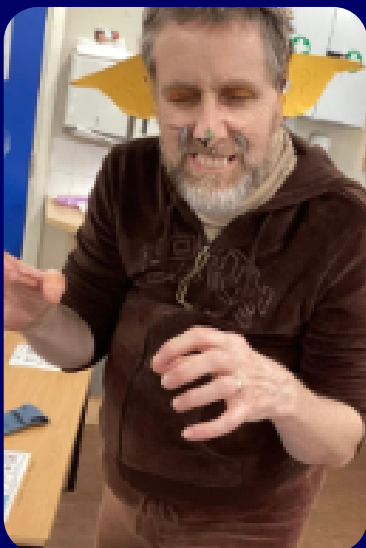
On 23rd March we had a visit from Willy Wonka and Grandpa Joe, also fondly known as Zain and Phil. Zain's family created tickets for every child in school which Zain delivered to each class. After a whole school drum roll and a mass opening of envelopes the golden ticket winner was revealed.....Yaqoob.

We thank Zain and his family for their #kindness and spreading joy within the school community.



WORLD BOOK DAY

We had a wonderful World Book Day and with so much engagement from the whole school community. Cool Cats made their own Gruffalo - warts and all! 18 families who joined us at the end of the day for sharing stories with their children



COMIC RELIEF

Wow! Our children worked incredibly hard in their sponsored yoga challenge raising over £655 with more money still coming in.

Thank you to everyone for their support.



CELEBRATING OUR FINALISTS

National Teaching Assistant Award



We are delighted that Hayley has been shortlisted as a Finalist in the Teaching Assistant category in The Pearson National Teaching Awards 2026. We will be proudly celebrating Hayley and all our colleagues on National Thank a Teacher Day, June 17th when all the results will be announced. We wish Hayley the best of luck for judging.

National Muslim Teacher Awards

The National Muslim Teachers' Awards, recognises and celebrates the outstanding achievements of Muslim educators across the UK. It shines a spotlight on teachers who go above and beyond to inspire students, raise aspirations, and make a lasting impact in their classrooms and communities. The awards honour their work but also inspires others to follow in their footsteps, ensuring a stronger and more inclusive education system for all. We're looking forward to cheering on our Assistant Head at April's gala ceremony.



NATIONAL RECOGNITION, BRAYS PRIDE

Farzana Chowdhury is a finalist in the National Muslim Teachers' Awards.

FAMILY SUPPORT

1st April 2026
10.00 - 14.30

Touchbase Pears
Bristol Road, Selly Oak, B29 6NA

Neurodevelopmental Pathway Information Day



Supporting families on the NDP pathway (Autism Pathway)



Get advice and find out
about support available
whilst waiting

Advice and Resources

Find out what
support is available
to you and your
child while you wait

Understand the Assessment Process

Come and talk to
professionals
involved in
assessments

Expert Advice

Meet professionals
in Autism and get
expert advice

Where to get support

Access to a number
of service providers
across Birmingham



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 13th April - **Children Return to School**
- 14th April - **Vaisakh**
- 15th April - **Bees Girl's Trip to Edgbaston Women's Cricket**
- 15th April - **Local Academy Council Meeting**
- 21st April - **Parent Team teach Family Engagement at Leycroft**
- 23rd April - **St George's Day**
- 24th April - **Transition Visit from Calthorpe**
- 30th April - **School Closes at 1pm for Staff Training**
- 4th May - **Bank Holiday. School closed**
- 5th May - **School closed for staff training**
- 6th – 8th May - **Scholastic Book Fayre in school**
- 24th April - **Re-arranged Inclusive Attendance Trip to Birmingham City Football Club**
- 29th April - **Family Coffee Morning including new Families (Mark from SENDIASS)**
- 20th May - **Primary Enterprise Challenge**
- 22nd May - **Diversity Day**
- 22nd May - **Children break up from school**

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If you are on X(Twitter), please follow @BraysSchool1.

