

Summer Newsletter - 2016



BRANSTON
COMMUNITY ACADEMY

SCHOOL EXPANSION

Governors have agreed to work with the schools planning team from Lincolnshire County Council to expand the existing site and school capacity.

Plans have been agreed for the construction of additional building capacity to enable more young people to have access to a place at BCA (expansion to a 7 form entry school).

Details of the project are still being finalised but the LCC planning team are confident that the build should be completed by early 2018.



GOODBYES

As always this time of year brings with it the sadness of goodbyes to teachers who have served the students of our school with such dedication. We are losing Mr Sharpe and Mrs Wesley who have been with us in History and Food Technology for the past 2 years, Mr Remic in English for 4 years and Miss Cartwright in Geography for 5 years. These colleagues are moving (in large part) to local schools, so the wider communities of Lincolnshire will continue to benefit from their talent and commitment and we say a collective thank you for all that they have done for us.

This year we also say goodbye to one of Branston's greats. Mr Brown has taught thousands of students during a 35 year career at this school. His achievements are staggering in sheer scale but also in quality. For most of that time he has led the Art department here and made and sustained it as a true centre of excellence. As many know, Mr Brown is a very talented artist, a songwriter and singer but none of those gifts have ever distracted him from his central mission; an unwavering commitment to every student he has ever taught. These diverse gifts have simply enriched his enormous capacity to support, encourage and develop the creative potential of two generations of our wonderful students.

OFSTED REPORT

Obviously we are delighted that inspectors recognised and reported that our students' first class academic progress is achieved alongside, and nurtured by, strong and clear values and ethos.

The areas for improvement described in the report are 'relative' ones. For example the 'most able' group of students (those that join with L5 from primary schools) progress exceptionally well at BCA (see table below) compared to other 'most able' students nationally.

Group	Progress made at BCA	Progress made nationally
Most able (L5 on entry)	1021.9	999.9
Middle ability (L4 on entry)	1043.8	1000.0
Low ability (L3 on entry)	1063.5	1000.1

Similarly, student progress at BCA 6th Form compares favourably with all other 6th form and post-16 providers in the area and very favourable with most of them.

However, the letter from the Chair of Governors that accompanied the report describes the commitment of all of us to tackle identified areas for improvement and we will do so with rigour and tenacity. We are proud of our school and we will do all in our power to continue to win hearts and minds so that collectively we can make it even better.

Finally I would like to echo the sentiments expressed at the end of the letter from the Chair of Governors. The support, trust and faith of parents, students and staff has been more important than ever in recent times - thank you.

Mr P Beighton
Principal



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Year 11

Katie Robinson

Has passed the entrance examination for access to the Arkwright scholarships and was invited to attend final interviews at Loughborough University at Easter. We now await the results of this prestigious award where she receives sponsorship to study A level Design Technology over the next two years, with a view to encouraging her to pursue a career in Engineering or Design. Katie will hear the result in July - watch this space.

Lincolnshire Young Designers award.

Four of our students have reached the finals of the LYDA. Their work has been shortlisted for display at the Hub (national Centre for Craft and Design) in Sleaford for a short period after the 1st July. The work will be judged on the 1st and winners will be announced that evening - watch this space again.

The students and their work are;

- Chloe Dearden Y11 - An electronic automatic medication reminder.
- Jaimes Turner Y13 - A new take on a traditional guitar design.
- Jess Bleasdale Y13 - A 'she' shed for my Mum.
- Tom Morris Y13 - Contemporary bedside table.

Mr S Turner

GRAVITY RACING TEAM

Over the weekend of 11th and 12th June, Branston Community Academy Gravity Racing Team took part in their first ever event - the Coleby Downhill Challenge. Three members of the team took part, Daniel King (driver), Finlay Russell (driver) and Oliver Sims (pit crew and start line pusher). Saturday was a practice day which proved useful to acclimatise the drivers and make last minute tweaks to the gravity racer. The boys slowly increased their speed as they became more familiar with the cart and the track and by the end of the day were posting competitive times around the 57 second mark.

Sunday was race day with over thirty teams taking part. Branston were entered in the 'Soapbox' category with 17 other teams. The boys were the youngest competing and only two other teams had under 18s driving. Despite the wet conditions it was decided to stick with slick tyres but ballast and tyre pressures were altered to try and eek out extra speed. The course had recently been re-surfaced and this was playing havoc with competitor tyres. Some teams struggled for grip and many, including us, suffered shredded tyres. Both boys drove well and continued to improve their times. By the end of the day the team's best time was 52.5 seconds, (Daniel driving) enough to make them the fastest junior team competing and fifth overall. Quite some achievement for their first time! The teams next race takes place on the 10th July in Worlaby near Brigg.

Mr M Creasy



COOKERY CLUB

Cookery Club started again in the summer term with 20 Lower School students making a range of dishes including muffins, pizzas and biscuits. They then competed to become Branston's Star Baker 2016, making a wide range of amazing decorating cakes.

Mrs Woods and Mrs Wesley



FEMALES INTO INDUSTRY CHALLENGE

On the 4th and 5th of July Leah Crowder and Paige Morrison took part in the Siemens "Females into Industry Challenge". The event was massively over subscribed but thanks to strong applications the two girls were chosen together with 18 other year 8 students picked from schools all over Lincoln and surrounding areas. Over the two days the girls got a real taste of what a career in engineering might look like. Following training from first year Siemens apprentices they each designed a made a very professional looking desk tidy using a variety of computer aided manufacturing equipment. At the end of the two days Paige and Leah had to give a presentation to staff, teachers and parents about their experiences. Both girls have been invited back for a similar event for year 9's due to take place next year. Well done girls!



COMPUTING

Our Year 12 group have recently started researching and writing about the use of social media and its ubiquitous impacts on our lives. They will do the same for how its effects have changed how some businesses operate now compared to only a few very short years ago - some will have changed their processes and communication with their customers beyond all recognition. To support this, the group were very fortunate to have the opportunity to host a visiting speaker, Mr Rory Forrest, who works for Full Screen in the USA. His early career was in creating more traditional advertising campaigns with Advertising agencies, but has recently made the move to Full Screen who are a global network of content creators and brands on YouTube. They also write and produce their own content for clients such as AT&T. The session discussed the ever changing face of entertainment and how producing on-line content is fast becoming the new vehicle for advertising given that 9 out of 10 minutes of video watched globally, is watched on a mobile phone! An astonishing statistic. It was a great chance for our students to speak to someone with real insight into the social media world. He also stopped by to chat with the Gifted and Talented group who have many different interests such as animating, blogging and gaming and encouraged them (with their on-line safety paramount) not to wait to be older to be recognised for their talents, but to use social media to show their knowledge and skills now. This way, he thinks, opportunities and future employers in their field of interest might come looking for them! Consistently during the conversation he did caution (as we all do) about how to protect themselves and stay safe on-line while at the same time starting early to build a polite and very positive on-line presence of their own that might lead to being the innovators of the future.

For more information on either of these topics, please visit the websites below.
www.fullscreen.com
www.thinkuknow.co.uk

The Gifted, Talented and Able group are working on creating a resource to help other students learn how to code to create web pages. They are extending and exploring their own learning to create an informative, interactive and professional website to help others learn HTML. They have overcome many obstacles along the way and have relied on their problem solving skills and keen enquiring minds to find solutions to the problems they have encountered. A great job...well done!



Mrs E Tierney

CAREERS

Year 10 Work Experience 14th-18th March
Year 10 students had a taste of the working world during their week of Work Experience. This proved to be a valuable week with students making the most of the opportunities available to them. Students are encouraged to find their own placement, in an area of their choice to allow for the most fulfilling experience. We had several students taking part in a residential Army Insight Course, a few more students chose to complete their work experience outside of the local area including one student going as far afield as Germany. For many students work experience has confirmed their future career plans.

Year 12 Work Experience 20th-24th June
Work experience for our Year 12 students is very much centred around their future career ideas, which has proved invaluable for our students. Gaining hands on experience in their chosen career sector and for some, important links are made with employers. This experience gives students a head start when completing applications for employment or writing personal statements when applying for university. Once again this year we've had a number of students completing work experience outside of the local area, including Legoland, The Houses of Parliament, Air Historical Branch at RAF Northolt, an architecture company in Liverpool and an outdoor education organisation in Wolverhampton.

Mrs J Thompson

HEADS OF SCHOOL EVENING

Over 80 students attended this evening on Tuesday 28th June 2016 to celebrate their success at Branston Academy Awards were presented to students in all years receiving Heads of School or Gifted and Talented awards, with some students receiving more than one award.

They received a framed certificate presented by Mr Beighton and enjoyed a number of musical performances provided by the Music department.

A great evening was had by all.

Mrs J Woods



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

As from September 2016 all students from Years 7-11 are required to bring their own dictionary (French, Spanish, German) to language lessons. Having a dictionary in lessons will facilitate their learning and help them in completing tasks set. You may wish to buy this yourself or buy it from us at the reduced price of £6.00 for a new dictionary or choose to buy a second hand one at a reduction.

Should you decide to buy a dictionary yourself, we advise the Oxford or the Collins pocket dictionaries. In some circumstances, school will provide dictionaries for certain students.

Mrs P Card

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

As part of the BTEC Health and Social Care First Certificate, Year 12 students Tori Hughes and Kelsea Jackson had to demonstrate their ability to carry out routine observations. They practised on members of staff (Mr Beighton and Mr Wright were willing volunteers) and became very proficient by the end of the course.

Mrs L Bramley

HEIGHINGTON VILLAGE PICNIC IN THE PARK

The Queen's 90th birthday celebrations extended across the country and the village of Heighington was no exception. The Academies gifted and talented performance group 'Unorthodox' arrived despite the pouring rain and entertained the residents of Heighington who had braved the weather for a picnic tea in the marquee. The performance took picnickers through the decades in dance starting with Ballet, moving through the 20'S, 40'S, 60'S, 70'S, 80'S, 90'S and finally ending with music from the 2010's in the form of the Pussycat dolls. A great celebration which even the rain could not dampen. Congratulations to Bethan Spriggs, Katie Hutton, Chloe Holden, Charlotte Hayes - Cowley, Stacey Kettleborough, Lauren Whaley, Molly Northing, Lucy Casey, Evie Shaw, Scarlett Johnson, Devan Callum who all performed with great professionalism

GUYS AND DOLLS

Students from across the Academy visited Nottingham's Theatre Royal on Wednesday 22nd June to watch the spectacular musical Guys and Dolls. Most students had been involved in the musical Grease in February and were excited at the prospect of watching professionals perform their next school musical. Following a fabulous performance the coach was buzzing with anticipation and speculation from both staff and students who could sing 'Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat? Where will we find enough trilbies for the male characters? And most importantly who will play the part of 'Big Jule'?

We have already started auditioning for main parts for next year's production of Guys and Dolls and are looking forward to the chorus auditions in September. We will also be looking for our usually excellent cast of students who would like to get involved with set design, props, costumes, make up, hair and stage crew so if you fancy getting involved come and see Mrs Hackett.

Mrs A Hackett

MATHS CHALLENGE

Every year at BCA we participate in the UKMT (United Kingdom Mathematics Trust) Maths Challenge. In February our top sets Year 10 and Year 11 entered the Intermediate Challenge and in April 8N1 and 8S1 entered the Junior Challenge. Our students performed exceptionally well with our Y8 classes achieving 3 silver awards and 20 bronze awards. Harvey Longman came away with the title of 'Best in School'. In Year 10 there was 1 silver award and 10 bronze awards. Eleanor Sykes was given the title of 'Best in Year' and 'Best in School'. Year 11 students also achieved 1 silver and 10 bronze awards with Connor Briggs being named 'Best in Year'.

Well done to all the students who took part in these challenges.

Mrs C Pepper

PE NEWSLETTER

What a year of sport for the school this year. This has been our most successful year of sport ever with teams winning leagues across a vast array of sports. We have won more titles than any other school in Lincoln and Gainsborough. The winning roll call is as follows:

League Winners

Football:	Year 7 and 9
Netball:	Year 7 and 10
Tennis:	Yr 8 Boys - Also County Champions
Tennis:	Yr 10 Boys
Rounders:	Yr 8, 9 and 10 Girls
Badminton:	Yr 8 Boys

Possible: Yr 7 Rounders (Need to win last game)

GIRLS

Under 12 Netball - CHAMPIONS

In the previous newsletter I reported on the success of the year 7 netball team. Since then, the team have completed their league matches and I am delighted to say that they have won the Lincoln and Gainsborough A league. Their final match was against The Priory LSST and although it wasn't a high scoring game, Branston were certainly on top throughout. Their calm manner on the ball and their determination to remain unbeaten shone through. Final score, Branston 6, LSST 1.

Congratulations to the team on being undefeated this season and I thank them for their unwavering commitment. To beat both Queen Elizabeth Grammar, Gainsborough and LSST in the same season is something to be very proud of. Well done.

Squad

Shania Lacia ©, Abbie Green, Bryana Atkin-Snell, Charlotte Walker, Freya Atkinson, Hollie Myers-Hemingway, Olivia Carter, Scarlett Johnson, Laura Hall, Leah Bayne, Ruby Whitworth, Emily Bowers

Final League Record

P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
6	6	0	0	59	5	18

Under 15 Netball & Rounders - CHAMPIONS

The Year 10 girls netball and Rounders teams have completed the double this year winning both the Netball and Rounders Lincoln and Gainsborough 'A' league titles.

As reported in the previous newsletter the Year 10 Netball team had one game left to play after Easter against Priory LSST. The game proved to be a real nail biter. At half time we were 4 goals down and not playing well. Following a very frank half time talk the girls came out fighting. Going into the last quarter we were 2 down. The girls fought hard, put their team under enormous pressure in all areas of the court and came out winners by 1 goal thereby taking the league title.

I am very proud of the girls achievement as they have worked really hard throughout the whole season.

Final League Record

P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
6	6	0	0	83	27	18

Squad:

Eve Meadows (CPT - GD), Megan Stafford (GA), Charlotte Moore (C), Alice Richardson (WA), Georgia Stow (WD), Hannah McConville (GS), Grace Boden (GK), India Cowling (WA)

BOYS TENNIS

Under 13 'A' & 'B'

COUNTY CHAMPIONS & UNDEFEATED

Results

County Cup

'A'

Bourne Grammar Won 6-0
 Priory Ruskin Won 6-0

'B'

Healing School Won 6-0
 Toll Barr Academy Won 6-0

County Cup Final

BCA 'A' v BCA 'B' - 'A' team won 6-0

League 'A'

LCHS Won 6-0
 TGA Won Walkover
 William Farr Won 6-0
 NKt

P	W	D	L	F	A
3	3	0	0	18	0

Friendlies

'B'

William Farr Won 6-0

Up Coming Fixture

NK

Squad

'A': Ross Armstrong, Joe Souter, Alex Armstrong & Beres Kemp

'B': Jacob Jones, Nojus Janutis, Ben Harker, Harry Edenbrow, Joe Hancock

Report

What a year for Tennis for our Yr 7 & 8 boys. Turnout to club had been tremendous with over 40 boys at every session. There was clearly real talent, so I decided to enter two teams into the Aegon National Tennis Cup, which we rarely do. It starts at County Level and the 2 teams were put in different groups. Both teams played superbly sweeping aside all in their path with relative ease. The toughest match was for the 'A' team against Bourne Grammar, who put up a good fight but were still beaten 6 nil. The other matches ended the same with most individual matches ending 6 love.

This meant that the County Final at Eastgate Tennis club saw our 'A' team play our 'B' team. In a close fought match our 'A' team prevailed and now go through to the Midlands Regional competition in October at Loughborough

In the League the season started with a comprehensive 6 nil win over LCHS and a walkover v TGA. A further whitewash of William Farr followed at both 'A' and 'B' level. We now await NK in the last game. The title is already assured and victory here would mean an undefeated season. A superb season for all the boys that played.

Under 15

Results:

TGA Won 6-0
 W Farr Won 4-2
 LCHS Won 5-1
 NK

P	W	D	L	F	A
3	3	0	0	15	3

Squad:

Joel Thompson, Drew Hilton, Jack Foot, Matt Andrews, Ben Whitehouse

After many postponements we finally got going in July with 3 games in 3 days. The first saw a comprehensive 6 nil defeat of TGA with 5 scores of 6 love and one of 6-1. William Farr followed and this proved far more competitive. Despite them having a County player we battled to a 4-2 victory. LCHS were dispatched 5-1, securing the league with a game to play. NK await to secure an undefeated league season. Well done.

CRICKET

Under 13

Results

LSST Won by 46 runs
 QEHS Match drew - Weather abandoned
 W Farr Won Walkover
 LCHS Lost by 5 wkts

P	W	D	L
4	2	1	1

Squad

AJ Cook ©, G Ganniford (v/c), J Ritchie, A Wood, L Banner, T Fletcher, J Horner, J Hennell, R Armstrong, O Landry, S Lacia, A James, K Downes, J Billingham

It is fair to say this was not a squad blessed with an abundance of high level cricketing talent. To be honest most had never played until they came and had developed in our lessons. However what they may have lacked in perceived ability they made up for in effort, enthusiasm, a willingness to listen and learn and an ability to carry out my instructions to the letter.

Captained by the excellent AJ Cook (Year 7), we took on LSST in our first game. Batting first AJ made an aggressive 25 before retiring and backed up by 13 from Jay Ritchie, the two of them put on 50 before we ended on 81 for 2 from our 12 overs. This was a competitive total in my eyes and it proved to be as we then bowled very straight and very full as LSST struggled for runs. We restricted them to only 36 of their 12 overs to win by 46 runs.

A walkover against William Farr and an abandonment against QEHS meant a victory v LCHS in our last game would claim the league. However reality struck and a strong LCHS side were too strong for us with all 3 elements of the game. We battled hard but were outclassed and lost by 5 wickets. However I am really pleased with the boys this year. To finish second was a great effort as, if I am honest I thought we would finish last. They have all improved, given 100% at all times, listened to my advice and most importantly enjoyed themselves both in matches and at nets.

Under 15

Results

Minster Lost by 3 wkts
 LSST Lost by 7 wkts
 LCHS Lost by 7 wkts
 QEHS Match drawn

P	W	D	L
4	0	1	3

Squad

B Plant ©, C Turner (v/c), B Whitehouse, M Monnery, J Foot, J Thompson, E Thompson, D Lindsey, C Bucknell, L Deaton, J Moore, C Williams, J Wallhead

It was always going to be a tough year for this squad as we entered the league against some powerhouse cricket schools, filled with County cricket players. In spite of the tough opposition and 3 defeats the boys have done tremendously well, being very competitive in every game. In all 3 games we played to the best of our ability, batting, bowling and fielding well. We were simply out powered in the batting department as all three opposition had a power hitter and we simply do not have a player who can clear the ropes. The team was led very well by Ben Plant, supported by Callum Turner. Along with Ben Whitehouse and Matt Monnery these were our only 4 regular cricketers and they played well all year in all sides of the game. The rest of the boys have all again battled very well over the year, gaining in confidence (I hope) and all showing a great team spirit. What has pleased me most is that the boys have all really enjoyed themselves, have given 110% in all areas of the game and showed tremendous sportsmanship to each other and the opposition throughout. Well done lads.

ROUNDERS

Results

NK	Won 16-9
Robert Patt	Won 8-4
Priory City	Won 14.5 - 7
Priory LSST	Won Walkover

Squad

Charlotte Moore (CPT), Eve Meadows (B), Megan Hugill (BS), Georgia Stow (2nd base), Alice Richardson (DF/4th base), Keira Saunders (DF), Sophie Moss (DF), Katie Valley (DF), Lizzie Catlow (DF), Melissa Sudaby (DF), Lucy Russon (DF), Emma Oliver (DF)

To be honest I didn't approach the Rounders season with the same confidence as I did the netball having witnessed some interesting fielding during training sessions. However on match day the girls really pulled it together led fantastically by Captain Charlotte Moore (no relation) and played exceptionally well.

We batted well, took our chances when they came and fielded with confidence. Tactically we outplayed all other teams. Again I am really proud of their achievement.

ROUNDERS

Under 12

Results

NK	Won	26-7
LSST	Won	19-12
Witham	Won	Walkover
Robert Patt	Won	8-5
Priory City	To play	

Squad

Laura Hall ©, Shania Lacia, Freya Atkinson, Olivia Carter, Scarlett Johnson, Ruby Whitworth, Sophie Lindsey, Blythe Hilton, Amelia Mattison, Bethany Cannon, Robyn Barber, Tia Kaszics, Merry Davies, Katie Marfleet

Year 7 Rounders club began at the start of the summer term and the girls were full of enthusiasm. 18 girls have regularly attended rounders club so some difficult decisions had to be made when selecting for matches. Our league consisted of Branston, Priory LSST, Priory City, NK, Priory Witham and RPA. To date, we have played 3 matches and still have 1 left to play. We were due to play Witham but unfortunately they could not field a team so we were given the win.

Our first 2 matches were against NK and Priory LSST. These 2 matches were very similar in the way that we played. We were first in to bat on both occasions and the girls set very high targets to chase. Their batting performances were outstanding with ½ rounders or rounders being scored on most balls. I didn't believe that their fielding could be as good as their batting but the throwing and catching accuracy stopped many rounders being scored. For a year 7 team, they showed great composure when under pressure. Final results were Branston 26 - 7 NK and Branston 19 ½ - 12 ½ LSST.

Our 3rd match v RPA proved to be a little more difficult. We were pretty confident going into the game but in our first innings they restricted us to just 4 rounders; not a very high target at all. However, tight fielding from Laura, Shania and Sophie in particular ensured that we restricted RPA to just 2 rounders. The 2nd innings proved to be just as difficult with us only scoring another 4 rounders, so for the first time I felt nervous that our winning streak may come to an end (year 7 girls have not lost at netball or rounders all year!!). However, the calm nature of the team continued, the adrenaline kicked in and we kept their second innings down to 3 rounders. Final score Branston 8 - 5 RPA. A hard fought match - well done!

Our final match has been postponed due to rain and will take place in the last week of term. This will be the league decider v Priory City, both teams having won all 3 games so far. An amazing performance once again from the year 7 girls, following on from the netball success. They will be practicing hard until the end of term in the hope that they will be crowned champions!

Under 13 - CHAMPIONS

Results

League

NK	Won 16-9
Priory City	Won 12-3
Robert Patt	Won 6-2
Priory LSST	Won Walkover
Priory Witham	Won Walkover

Squad

Isla Sullivan ©, Charlotte O'May, Lucy Dempsey, Amber Pickard, Katie Christopher, Alice Tissier, Emily Edenbrow, Fleur Delbosq, Mia Weaver

The Rounders squad this year have demonstrated unrelenting dedication to improving their techniques and tactical understanding both in training and during competition. The progress the team have made this year has been pleasing to watch not only on an individual level but also seeing the team mould into one supportive unit. The first match of the season saw the girls enter the A league with a secure victory over NK. The match against Priory City saw the girls nervously await to face a tough opponent, nerves that soon disappeared as the girls grew in confidence throughout the duration of the match. Emma Oliver could not stop backhanding her hits passed the fielders, whilst Suzanna Page and new player Ashlee McLuckie smashed the ball around the field to help the team take a big win.

After 2 teams forfeited their games, a win against Robert Patt would secure an unexpected but deserved league title. We played superbly, dominating from start to finish to claim a 6-2 victory and the title .

A fantastic year from a vastly improved team.

Under 14

Results

LSST	Won 13-9
Robert Patt	Won 13-8
Priory City	

Squad

Emma Oliver (Cpt.), Ashlee McLuckie (Manager's Player of the Season), Katie Flintham (Players' Player of the Season), Hannah McConville, Grace Boden, Limara Wardle, Hannah Wilson, Abigail Bolton, Emma Shaw, Ashlee Mcluckie, Orissa Sanasoa-Twell

From the very first training session, the turnout for year nine Rounders this year has been excellent, leading to the development of a 16 player squad. The commitment and dedication to training by every single player has been outstanding and all have shown great progress, not only in their skills within the game, but also in their ability to work as a team and support each other. The first few matches of the season highlighted perfectly the finely tuned organisation of the team and the confidence they have grown as a unit. Solid victories over RP and LSST have ultimately been the icing on the cake for a team of girls who thoroughly enjoy the game. The title is almost certainly secured and beating Priory City in the last game will be the icing on the cake.

The whole squad have worked to produce highly efficient fielding, with an exceptional link between Emma Oliver (backstop) and Katie Flintham (2nd base) which saw them ruthlessly stump out batters to end the team's innings with balls to spare. The girls in this squad have an amazingly positive and enthusiastic drive for Rounders which has led to another enjoyable and successful season.

HOUSE SPORT

Another great year of House Sport has seen a tremendously close competition with the lead hanging from event to event. Hundreds of pupils have taken part and all have showed 100% effort, a fantastic attitude and all seemed to have enjoyed themselves

Results this term have been as follows:

Rounders:

Yr 7: Spartans
Yr 8: Spartans
Yr 9: Titans
Yr 10: Trojans
Overall: Trojans

Tennis:

Yr 7: Spartans
Yr 8: Titans
Yr 9: Spartans
Yr 10: Trojans
Overall: Spartans

Kwik Cricket:

Yr 7: Spartans
Yr 8: Titans
Yr 9: Spartans
Yr 10: Trojans
Overall: Spartans, Titans & Trojans

Swimming:

Yr 7: Spartans
Yr 8: Spartans
Yr 9: Spartans
Yr 10: Trojans
Overall: Spartans

Athletics:

Yr 7: Trojans
Yr 8: Titans
Yr 9: Spartans
Yr 10: Titans
Overall: Spartans & Titans

Overall:

1st:	Spartans	1350 pts
2nd:	Titans	1335 pts
3rd:	Trojans	1305 pts

PRIMARY SPORTS

This summer saw yet another successful Primary Athletics Festival at Branston, with Washingborough taking victories in both the years 3/4 competition and years 5/6 competition. Branston students continue to demonstrate an outstanding degree of motivation, empathy and independence whilst working with younger children.

The academy were also asked to provide leaders for the Primary Swimming competition Lincolnshire School Games at Grantham on Thursday 7th of July. 24 Yr 9 & 10 leaders attended the event and ran the entire competition superbly. They were praised by the organisers for their excellent maturity, teamwork, manner with the younger children and general all round niceness. A great day and we are very proud of all of them

The hard work and dedication the students show towards enhancing the provision of sporting opportunities for primary children is outstanding and highlighted well by the achievements of Eve Meadows, Daniel Hill, Katy Valleley and Charlotte Moore in year 10, all of whom have provided more than 30 hours of sports voluntary work each over the past 8 months.

YEAR 10 GIRLS DO THE DOUBLE

The Year 10 girls netball and rounders teams have completed the double this year winning both the netball and rounders Lincoln and Gainsborough A league titles.

As reported in the previous newsletter the Year 10 netball team had one game left to play after Easter against Priory LSST. The game proved to be a real nail biter. At half time we were 4 goals down and not playing well. Following a very frank half time talk the girls came out fighting. Going into the last quarter we were 2 down. The girls fought hard, put their team under enormous pressure in all areas of the court and came out winners by 1 goal thereby taking the league title.

I am very proud of the girls achievement as they have worked really hard throughout the whole season.

Squad: Eve Meadows (CPT - GD), Megan Stafford (GA), Charlotte Moore (C), Alice Richardson (WA), Georgia Stow (WD), Hannah McConville (GS), Grace Boden (GK), India Cowling (WA)

To be honest I didn't approach the rounders season with the same confidence as I did the netball having witnessed some interesting fielding during training sessions. However on match day the girls really pulled it together led fantastically by Captain Charlotte Moore (no relation) and played exceptionally well. The scores were as follows:

Branston 16 - 9 NK

Branston 8 - 4 RP

Branston 14 ½ - 7 City

Branston walkover V Priory LSST no team

We batted well, took our chances when they came and fielded with confidence. Tactically we outplayed all other teams. Again I am really proud of their achievement.

Squad: Charlotte Moore (CPT), Eve Meadows (B), Megan Hugill (BS), Georgia Stow (2nd base), Alice Richardson (DF/4th base), Keira Saunders (DF), Sophie Moss (DF), Katie Valley (DF), Lizzie Catlow (DF), Melissa Sudaby (DF), Lucy Russon (DF), Emma Oliver (DF)

picture

Mrs C Moore



AND FINALLY.....

I hope you have enjoyed reading about the many successes and achievements of our students over recent months. Unfortunately, my section of the newsletter - by contrast - sometimes appears a little negative....sorry - but there are always a few useful reminders for parents at this time of the year! Please don't be offended if they don't apply to you.

Firstly, a huge thank you for the overwhelming support and co-operation we receive on a daily basis; there is irrefutable evidence that when the three-way partnership between parents, students and teachers is strong - as it is at Branston - then the students perform well.

Reminders

Contacting staff

Whilst the vast majority of our communications with parents is positive and helpful, we do recognise that with nearly 1100 students, things occasionally go wrong and there may be a need for you to contact us for clarification over an issue or even to make a complaint. This of course, is fine. However, there are certain protocols that we would ask you to follow in these situations:

1. Phone reception in the first instance and explain the problem. The reception staff will pass this on to the appropriate teacher. This may be the form tutor or classroom teacher. In more serious cases, the appropriate person may be the Head of Department or even the Head of Upper/Lower School. The vast majority of "cases" can be resolved amicably by a phone call.
2. If the situation is not immediately resolved then it is usually possible to arrange a meeting with the relevant person.
3. In extreme situations. A meeting with a Vice-Principal may be appropriate if all other avenues have been exhausted.

Traffic/Safety:

We have no objection to parents coming onto the Academy site to drop-off and pick-up students. However, this must only be done at the front of the Academy. Please do not drive to the staff car park at the eastern end of the site: this area is not supervised and can become dangerous if used as a drop-off/pick-up point.

Attendance

As you may know, the government have introduced a new category into the monitoring of attendance which they have called "Persistent Absence". This is now an official Ofsted category and has been set at 90% or below. Subsequently the pastoral team will be sending out letters specifically about persistent absence from September. We would obviously welcome your support in ensuring that your young person does not fall into this category.

Holidays

I am sure that you will all be aware of the High Court test case earlier in the year. The government are intending to pass new legislation in the autumn which will hopefully clarify the situation. However, as an Academy, we would ask that holidays continue to be taken during the 175 days when the students do not have to be here. Work missed is always difficult to catch up on and a term time holiday for those taking examination courses is particularly inadvisable. Again we thank you in advance for your support.

Mr A Wright

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TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017

TERM 1

Thursday 01/09/16 STAFF ONLY

Friday 02/09/16 to Friday 21/10/16
**** (Friday 2nd Sept - Year 7 and Sixth Form only)****

First day for Years 8 -11 Monday 05/09/16

Half Term: Monday 24/10/16 to Friday
28/10/16

TERM 2

Monday 31/10/16 to Friday 16/12/16

Christmas Break: Monday 19/12/16 to
Tuesday 03/01/17

N.B Tuesday 03/01/17 - STAFF ONLY

TERM 3

Wednesday 04/01/17 to Friday 10/02/17

Half Term: Monday 13/02/17 to Friday
17/02/17

TERM 4

Monday 20/02/17 to Friday 31/03/17

Bank Holiday: Friday 14/04/17 and Monday
17/04/17

Easter Break: Monday 03/04/17 to Monday
17/04/17

TERM 5

Tuesday 18/04/17 to Friday 26/05/17

Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May 2017

Half Term: Monday 29/05/17 to Friday
02/06/17

TERM 6

Monday 05/06/17 to Thursday 20/07/17

Friday 30th June - STAFF ONLY