

Bramley Grange Academy Newsletter – End of Term Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy and exciting half term, we want to thank you for your continued support. Your involvement and encouragement have been invaluable as we welcomed new students and began a new chapter in our school's journey.

We are proud to announce that Bramley Grange Academy is now part of the London South East Academies Trust. This partnership brings exciting opportunities for our school community and strengthens our commitment to improvement.

This term, we've been delighted to welcome our new Year 7 students, who have settled in brilliantly. It's been wonderful to see all our students proudly wearing the new school uniform, they look incredibly smart and confident. If you would like to purchase additional uniform items, please visit our **school website** for details.

I have also thoroughly enjoyed giving my headteacher awards certificates at the end of each month. This month the awards go to Cezar and Alfie for their hard work in Math's and English respectively, Harry and Mason in year 10 for excellent commitment to learning, Sonnie and Riley W in year 9 for their superb writing about scientific facts. I would also like to congratulate Bella Rose, Peyton, Aaron, Zach, Vinnie, Jimmy, Jack and Connor on their excellent tour guiding skills with our recent open mornings, they were a credit to the school and themselves.

Therapy & Wellbeing – ADHD Awareness Month

Autumn is in full bloom, and with it comes change, new routines, new classrooms, and new expectations. For children with **ADHD**, these transitions can be especially challenging.

October is **ADHD Awareness Month**, a time to raise understanding and reduce stigma. We recommend visiting the **ADHD Awareness 2025** website, which offers expert videos, myth-busting facts, and answers to common questions.

While half term offers a chance to rest, it can also be difficult for some families. Whether you're recharging or navigating challenges, remember that **getting outside**, enjoying nature, and taking time for yourselves can make a big difference.

Please take care—and thank you for all you do.

Simone Marks

Attendance Matters

Congratulations to the following pupils who have achieved **100% attendance** so far this year:

Jack, Aaron, Mason, Bella-Rose, Phoenix-Rocco, Zak, Frankie, Vinnie, Arthur, Jimmy, Connor B, Logan H, Miguel, Jensen

We've seen a wave of seasonal illness recently, which has understandably impacted attendance. If your child has a **mild cough or cold but is otherwise well**, please send them to school.

Supporting Every Pupil to Thrive

At Bramley Grange, we are committed to ensuring every pupil receives the support they need to thrive. One of the key ways we do this is through the **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) Annual Review**. Ideally, these meetings take place **in person at Bramley Grange**.

What is an EHCP Annual Review?

An EHCP Annual Review is a statutory meeting held once a year to review your child's progress and ensure their EHCP continues to reflect their current needs. It's a collaborative process involving families, school staff, and external professionals where we celebrate achievements, identify challenges, and plan next steps.

Why is it important?

- It ensures the support in place is still relevant and effective.

- It allows us to update outcomes and provision as your child grows and develops.
- It helps us work together to set meaningful goals for the year ahead.
- It provides a formal opportunity to raise concerns or request changes.

Why your voice—and your child’s—matters

We believe that parental and pupil contributions are essential to a successful review. You know your child best, and your insights help us understand:

- What’s working well at home and in school.
- Any new concerns or aspirations.
- How your child feels about their learning and support.

We encourage pupils to share their views in a way that suits them—whether through drawings, conversations, or written reflections. Their voice helps shape a plan that truly reflects who they are and what they need.

Bramley Grange Academy EHCP Annual Review Cycle 2025–26

- **Year 11** – Autumn Term 1
- **Year 10** – Autumn Term 2
- **Year 9** – Spring Term 1
- **Year 8** – Spring Term 2
- **Year 7** – Summer Term 1

Big News from The Dog Mentor Team!

“Clemmie and Winnie: A Pawfect Partnership!”



We’ve got something to bark about! Our wonderful Dog Mentor **Clemmie** has just taken on a brand-new apprentice — the adorable and enthusiastic **Winnie**!

Clemmie has been our superstar Dog Mentor for two years now. She’s calm, kind, and always knows just how to make everyone feel better — whether it’s a wag of her tail, a friendly nudge, or her famous “I’m listening” eyes.

But even superheroes need sidekicks... and that’s where Winnie comes in!

Meet Winnie!

Winnie is full of bounce, curiosity, and love! She has a lot of learning to do until she knows all the tricks of the Dog Mentor trade and completes her Dog Mentor assessment, but she’s already showing everyone that she’s got tons of potential.

She’s practicing how to:

- Sit patiently (even when there are exciting smells around!)
- Give the best gentle greetings
- Listen carefully to children’s voices and feelings
- And, of course... charm everyone she meets!



Clemmie has been showing Winnie the ropes — from how to walk calmly in the corridors to when to offer a comforting cuddle. It’s truly **pawsome** to see them working side by side!

Online Safety: The Digital World – Opportunities & Risks

Our children are growing up in a connected world—using devices for learning, entertainment, and socialising. While the internet offers many benefits, it also comes with risks such as:

- Inappropriate or harmful content
- Online bullying
- Contact with strangers
- Oversharing personal information

At school, we teach students how to navigate the online world safely. At home, your involvement is just as important.

Why Use Parental Controls?

Parental controls are a powerful tool to help you:

-  Set screen time limits
-  Block inappropriate content
-  Monitor usage and online behaviour
-  Control in-app purchases
-  Keep gaming and social media safe

These tools aren't about spying—they're about protecting your child, setting healthy boundaries, and encouraging open conversations.

How to Set Up Parental Controls

Smartphones & Tablets

- *iPhone/iPad*: Go to **Settings > Screen Time**
- *Android*: Download the **Google Family Link** app

Gaming Consoles

Use built-in controls on **PlayStation, Xbox, and Nintendo** to:

- Restrict communication
- Set game age ratings
- Limit playtime

Home Wi-Fi

Most broadband providers offer parental controls through their app or website. You can:

- Block websites
- Set offline times
- Monitor usage

Streaming Services

Use **Kids Profiles** and content filters on **Netflix, YouTube, Disney+**, etc.

Social Media

- Review privacy settings with your child
- Encourage open, judgment-free conversations about their online life

Year Group Highlights

Year 11



Year 11 have been focused on preparing for life after school. They've explored college options, interview techniques, and skills for work, showing real maturity and readiness for the next stage. In PSHE, they've engaged thoughtfully with topics around healthy relationships and reproduction, asking insightful questions and showing great respect.

In English, they've been mastering literary techniques and practicing exam-style questions. In Math's, they've worked hard to consolidate knowledge and explore new methods. And in Food Tech, their creativity has shone through with delicious bakes, pizzas, and pasta dishes.

Year 10

Maple Class

The first half term has flown by! Pupils have generally accepted the changes and are settling into their learning. While Math's remains a challenge for some, others are showing great number skills. In English, enthusiasm is growing, with pupils actively engaging in discussions and producing quality written work.

Social interactions are improving, with pupils handling disagreements more maturely and respectfully. As co-tutor, I'm grateful for the warm welcome and proud of the care and understanding many pupils are showing. Mr Battle and I look forward to helping 10 Maple aim high and achieve more than they thought possible.

Rowan Class

Year 10 Rowan have enjoyed exploring language and vocabulary choices through *The Hunger Games* in English. In Food Technology, they've planned and created sweet and savoury dishes from scratch. Pupils are also engaging in their option subjects, including Sports, Childcare, and IT.

They've begun working toward their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, participating in both theory and practical sessions, and thinking about how to incorporate their interests into the qualification.

Year 9



Year 9 have been building on their academic foundations and preparing for their GCSE options. In History, they've explored key events and their impact on society, while in Geography, they've looked at climate change and sustainability. In PE, they've focused on invasion games, developing tactical awareness and individual skills.

9E – GASP Motor Project

Pupils in 9E have been participating in an exciting new course with the GASP Motor Project. Every Thursday afternoon, they've worked with GASP staff to learn about engine mechanics. After covering health and safety, they successfully disassembled and reassembled a quad bike engine, even testing it by starting it up!

They've now moved on to motorbike mechanics, and are working toward AQA certificates, which will be awarded after half term. We hope to share

photos of their progress soon!

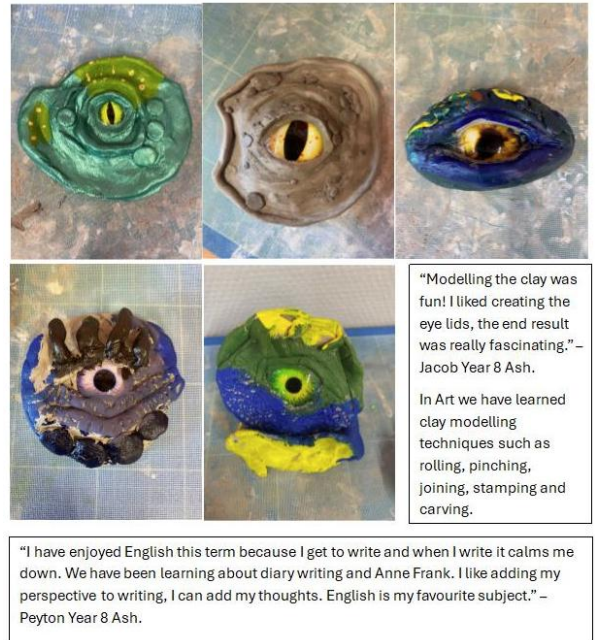
Year 8

Elm Class

Year 8 Elm have thrown themselves into the new school year with energy and resilience. Despite the many changes at Bramley Grange, they've adapted well and are already showing progress in core subjects.

A highlight has been the library refurbishment project, which has captured the enthusiasm of many pupils. 8 Elm are helping to create a space that inspires all learners even reluctant readers! They've also enjoyed sculpting and painting clay dragon eyes, and Food Tech continues to be a favorite, with lots of cakes and soups made this term.

Next half term will bring a class trip and more exciting developments in the library project stay tuned!



Year 7

7Willow have had a fantastic and productive half term, full of learning, teamwork, and fun! The children have worked incredibly hard and impressed us with their curiosity and enthusiasm.

In History, we've explored the theme of power—learning about powerful figures from the past, how power is held, and how it changes hands. In Geography, we've delved into UK settlements, identifying human and physical features and developing our map-reading skills.

Science has been full of discovery as we investigated light, shadows, and the light spectrum through hands-on experiments. In English, we've focused on sentence types and construction, while in Reading, we've been immersed in *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo.

In PE, Year 7 completed a team-building unit, focusing on problem-solving and teamwork exercises. These activities helped build friendships and collaboration skills.



Special shout-outs go to:

- **Jimmy** for outstanding leadership
- **Jack** for commitment to the Carrot system (top scorer of the year!)
- **Zak** for sharing brilliant general knowledge
- **Vinnie** for sharp inference skills in reading
- **Frankie** for humour and bravery in tackling new challenges

Well done, everyone!

Year 7 – Birch

What a fantastic start to the year it has been for our new Year 7s! This term has been full of learning, creativity, and

teamwork as our students have settled brilliantly into secondary school life.

In English, we have enjoyed reading *Gangsta Granny* and have now begun exploring the touching story of *War Horse*. In Food Technology, students have developed their culinary skills by making delicious cupcakes, hearty soups, and colourful pasta salads. Over in Maths, we have focused on strengthening our understanding of numbers and place value.

In P.E., teamwork and resilience have been at the heart of every lesson, with some students even discovering a new enthusiasm for boxing! History lessons have taken us through Britain's most powerful people and key events that shaped our nation, while in science, we have investigated how light works and uncovered the fascinating functions of the human body.

It has been a term filled with curiosity, creativity, and courage. Our Year 7 students have embraced every challenge, made new friends, and become a wonderful part of our school community. We cannot wait to see what the next term brings!

As you can see, we have been very busy this term, and we have so many adventures next term. Please enjoy your 2-week half term and I look forward to seeing all the pupils return on Monday 3rd November.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable break.

Warm regards,
Louise Needham
Head Teacher

Term dates Autumn 2

Monday November 3rd	Return to school
Thursday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day/ Christmas Dinner
Friday 12 th December	Academic Review Day
Wednesday 17 th December	School Panto Trip
Friday 19 th December	Break up for Christmas Holidays at 1pm
Monday 5 th January	INSET Day
Tuesday 6th January	Pupils return to school