



*We will aspire to great things, shine our light and reach our God given potential.
'let your light shine.' (Matthew 5:16)*

5th September 2025

Welcome back

It has been lovely to welcome all of the children back to school after the summer holidays. There has been such a positive buzz around school, and we are so pleased with how well the children have settled back into routines.

Everyone is looking really smart in their school uniforms, which not only helps create a sense of pride but also strengthens the feeling of unity across our school family.

Our pupils have made a fantastic start — showing great respect, working hard in lessons, and enjoying spending time with their friends during break and lunchtime. Their enthusiasm and positive attitudes have been great to see.

Behind the scenes, our staff have worked incredibly hard to prepare for the new school year. Classrooms are bright, welcoming, and full of exciting learning opportunities. The displays of children's work already going up around school look beautiful and reflect the creativity and effort our pupils are putting into their learning.

We're feeling very excited about the year ahead and can't wait to see all that the children will achieve.

Collective Worship

I was super impressed with how children came into collective worship and how well they listened. This week we have been thinking about fresh starts and how we all have 'a clean slate' this year. The children were eager to join in with the discussions and we talked about how the Bible says God's love and kindness are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22–23).

Important Update: Our School Governance Is Changing

Our school is moving from having a traditional governing body to a Local Advisory Board (LAB).

A Local Advisory Board is a group of people who work closely with the school to ensure it continues to run effectively and meets the needs of all pupils and families. The LAB acts as the school's local voice — providing both support and challenge, to help every child thrive.

While the LAB is similar to a governing body, it is more commonly used in schools that are part of a multi-academy trust (MAT). When schools join a MAT (a group of schools working together under one organisation), the way governance works changes slightly.

What's the Difference?

Governing Body (Previous System)	Local Advisory Board (New System)
• Made all decisions at school level • Operated independently • Responsible for all aspects of running the school Focused on finance, staffing, curriculum, etc.	• Some decisions made at trust level • Part of a multi-academy trust • Works alongside MAT leaders to support the school • Focused on local priorities, school ethos, pupil outcomes, and community engagement

What This Means for Our School

By moving to a Local Advisory Board, we can stay focused on the unique needs of our school and community, while also benefiting from the shared resources, expertise, and support of the wider trust family.

Get Involved – Join Our LAB!

We warmly welcome parents to get involved in this exciting new chapter. If you're interested in joining our Local Advisory Board, please see the information at the bottom of this newsletter.

Your voice matters — and this is a great way to help shape the future of our school.

Attendance

We have worked closely with Brampton Cortonwood Infants School and have designed a clear and concise explanation about the importance of attendance and how school will monitor this. This will be sent to you shortly.

One Life

We have a new Personal, Social, Health and Economic Scheme – On Life. You may have noticed our new Meet and Greet in a morning, which is part of this scheme. A letter will be sent out to you shortly explaining how the scheme works and it will also share the learning your children will complete this term.

Messages from the school office

Our individual school photographs will take place in school on **Friday 26th September**.

The photographers will also be taking sibling photographs from 8am at both our KS1 and KS2 sites.

- If you have 2 or more children who attend the same site, you DON'T need to arrive early for your children to be photographed together, our staff will arrange this during the school day.
- If you have children on both our sites, children who attend a different school or younger/older children - please accompany them to either of our school halls at 8am. We will work through the photographs as quickly and efficiently as we can to avoid too much disruption - any children who have been queuing for photographs will not be given a late mark.

Important dates

We have included all dates for the Autumn Term below. From next week, I will put on the next three weeks date son here for you as a reminder. The dates for the school year are also on the school website. Please note more details will be sent from the office/class teacher.

September	October	November	December
12 th – INSET DAY 22 nd – Flu Vac 26 th – Ind Photos	1 st – Sponsored Walk 6 th – Y5 Wath Academy Art Day? 9 th – Y6 Crucial Crew Visit 22 nd -24 th – Y6 Residential 24th - Last Day 27 th -31 st HALF TERM HOLIDAY	3rd – Children return to school 4 th & 5 th - Parents Evening	9 th – EYFS Nativity 10 th - EYFS Nativity 11 th – KS1 Nativity 17 th – Y1/2 Panto Trip 18 th – Y3 Christmas @church 18 th - Christmas Lunch & Christmas Parties 19th – Last Day
NB – Children Return to School Monday 5th January			

Attendance

Class	Weekly Attendance Figure		
F2 - Kingfisher	92.31%		
F2/Y1 – Skylark	96.75%		
Y1/Y2 - Nightingale	88.89%		
Y2 – Puffin	98.98%		
Y3	Swallow	Swift	Y3/Y4 Woodpeckers
	100%	98.52%	
Y4	Avocet	Oystercatchers	
	95.85%	93.33%	
Y5	Merlin	Kestrel	Peregrine
	92%	%	92.61%
Y6	Sparrowhawk	Eagle	Kite
	92.35%	93.6%	96.19%

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,
Mr Adam Minor

“Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.”
Proverbs 31:25 (ESV)



Transforming our vision into **REALITY**

New Local Advisory Board Members Required

What is a Local Advisory Board?

A group of people who support a school community, challenging heads and senior leaders to achieve the best outcomes for children.

Who Are We Looking For?

We welcome people from all backgrounds- whether you're in business, education, health, youth services, social care, or simply passionate about supporting young people.

What Will You Gain?

- Influence local education and drive positive change.
- Gain experience working with school leadership and multi academy trusts.
- Share your skills while developing new ones
- Join a network of passionate people

**For further information contact us
lab@jmat.org.uk or scan the QR code**



www.jmat.org.uk



Parents Needed

Are you passionate
about your child's
education?

Do you want to make a
real difference in our
school community?

- **Have a voice**

Share your ideas and concerns to help shape and challenge leadership on strategic decisions

- **Offer Knowledge**

Work closely with school leadership, teachers and fellow parents

- **Support Accountability**

Ensure decisions align with the trust's mission and values



**Are you Ready to make
a difference?**

Scan the QR code for further
information or get in touch
lab@jmat.org.uk



Join us on
our journey!





School Attendance



Brampton Ellis and Brampton Cortonwood schools are introducing new attendance procedures this year to help every child make the most of their learning time in school. Attendance will be carefully monitored each week, with key milestones set across the year so that we can identify any concerns early and offer support where needed.

Children's attendance will be tracked using a colour band system, which clearly shows whether attendance is at, above, or below expected levels.

At the end of each half term, parents will be informed of their child's current colour band so that you are fully aware of their attendance record.

This allows us to work together to celebrate good attendance and to act quickly if any issues arise. Good attendance is vital for your child's progress, friendships, and enjoyment of school, and we appreciate your support in helping us maintain our high expectations.

See the next page for the colour banding.



If your child has 20 or more days absent, then they fall into the Persistent Absence (PA) Group which is monitored by the Local Authority and Department for Education (DFE).

Understanding Persistent Absence (PA)

Persistent Absence refers to when a child's attendance falls below 90%, meaning they miss a significant amount of school over the academic year. If your child is identified as being in the PA category, the Local Authority is required to monitor their attendance closely and may intervene—offering both challenge and support to help improve the situation. As a school, we are committed to working in partnership with you to ensure your child attends regularly and does not fall into the PA category. Good attendance is vital for your child's learning, wellbeing, and future opportunities, and we are here to support you every step of the way.

Please see the next slide to see how school will be monitoring attendance in this Autumn term.....

During September and October, school will monitor attendance weekly and check for children who have missed 3 days or more. If your child hits 3 days missed, you will receive a text. If you need any support, we are available to help.

If following the text, your child has another days absence, school will phone and/or contact you to see how we can support you and your child to be in school.

Please contact school at any point if you have any concerns regarding your child's attendance.



Brampton Ellis Primary 01709 760370

Brampton Cortonwood Infants 01226 340044