



Respect, Responsibility, Hope, Courage

Brabourne

CofE Primary School

17th July 2026

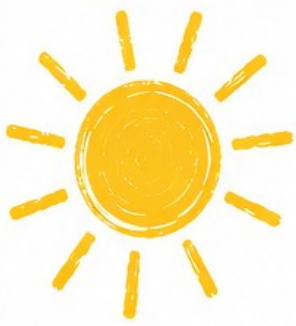


Prayer of the week:

Thank You for the story of the mustard seed. It reminds us that even something very small can grow into something amazing. As we get ready to leave primary school and begin a new chapter, help us to believe in ourselves, to have hope when things feel difficult, and to find the courage to try new things. Help us to keep growing in kindness, confidence and wisdom, so that we can make a positive difference wherever we go. May we always remember that, with faith, hope and determination, we can achieve more than we ever thought possible.

Amen.





A Year to Remember



As another academic year draws to a close, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on all that has been achieved at Brabourne. Looking back, it has been a year filled with success, opportunity, resilience and a strong sense of community.

One of the defining moments of the year was our SIAMS inspection, which recognised the strength of our Christian vision and the culture we have built together. Inspectors described Brabourne as a school where 'everyone is welcomed, valued and nurtured' and celebrated the way our vision is woven through everyday school life. They praised our strong sense of belonging, the way pupils flourish both academically and personally, and the compassion and care shown throughout our community. It was a proud moment for us all and a reflection of the dedication of our staff, governors, pupils and families.

We were also absolutely delighted when Miss Unsworth was named Ashford Primary Teacher of the Year. This prestigious award was richly deserved, recognising her exceptional dedication, inspirational teaching and unwavering commitment to ensuring every child reaches their full potential. We are incredibly fortunate to have such an outstanding teacher as part of the Brabourne family.

The opportunities available to our pupils this year have been truly exceptional. From residential visits and educational trips to theatre performances, sporting competitions, STEM events, outdoor learning and music, our children have embraced every experience with enthusiasm, curiosity and courage. Whether representing the school on the athletics track, debating with confidence, exploring scientific enquiry through CREST projects or performing on stage, they have continually impressed us with their determination, creativity and willingness to challenge themselves.

Sport has been another real highlight. After achieving the Gold School Games Mark for six consecutive years, we were incredibly proud to be awarded the Platinum School Games Mark—a recognition of our sustained commitment to high-quality physical education, school sport and opportunities for every child to lead an active lifestyle.

This year also marked the opening of our new Nurture Pod, providing a dedicated space where children can receive additional emotional support, build confidence and flourish. It is a wonderful addition to our school and reflects our commitment to ensuring every child feels safe, valued and able to thrive.

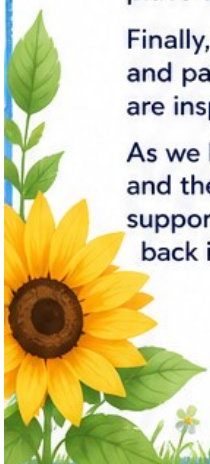
Our PTA has once again been extraordinary. Through countless hours of volunteering, remarkable creativity and unwavering generosity, they continue to provide opportunities and resources that enrich the lives of every child. Their support makes an enormous difference, and we are incredibly grateful for everything they do.

None of these achievements would be possible without our exceptional staff. Every member of the Brabourne team goes above and beyond each day, combining professionalism with kindness, expertise and genuine care. Their passion and commitment create the nurturing environment that makes Brabourne such a special place to learn, grow and belong.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our parents and carers. Your encouragement, trust and partnership are invaluable, and together we create a community where children are inspired to step up, step out and speak up with confidence.

As we head into the summer holidays, I hope every family enjoys a well-earned break and the opportunity to spend precious time together. Thank you for your continued support throughout another remarkable year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another year of learning, growth and shared success.

Best wishes,
Mr Stapley



Ex-Pupil Success

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the achievements of former Brabourne pupil Jake Phillips, who is enjoying an outstanding season with Ashford Athletic Club.

Jake has taken on a new challenge this year, competing in the 300m hurdles, and has made an immediate impact. His dedication, determination and hard work were rewarded when he won gold at the Kent Schools Championships, securing qualification for the Inter-Counties Championships.

His success has continued throughout the season, and Jake is now ranked 2nd in the UK in the Under-16 300m hurdles—a remarkable achievement and a testament to the commitment he has shown to his sport.

Everyone at Brabourne is delighted to see Jake achieving such incredible success. He is a wonderful example of what can be achieved through perseverance, resilience and a willingness to embrace new challenges.

Congratulations, Jake! We are all incredibly proud of you and wish you every success for the rest of the season.



Well Done, Mai!

A huge congratulations to Mai, who has shown incredible determination and kindness by raising an amazing £412.50 (including Gift Aid) for Race for Life.

As part of her fundraising, Mai organised a sweet sale after school, which was brilliantly supported by our school community and made a significant contribution to her fantastic total. She then went on to complete the full 5km Race for Life, crossing the finish line having not only achieved a wonderful personal milestone but also raised vital funds for an important cause.

We were delighted to hear that Mrs Nesbitt was there to cheer her on, providing some welcome encouragement along the way.

Mai, we are so proud of your commitment, resilience and compassion. You are a wonderful example of living our school values by making a difference to others. Well done on such an outstanding achievement!



Thank you to our wonderful PTA

A huge thank you to Mrs Roberts, Mrs Eyles, Mrs Townshend and Mr Smith, who, over the past six years, have dedicated an extraordinary amount of their time, energy and enthusiasm to raising an incredible **£34,000** for our school through a fantastic range of PTA events.

Their remarkable voluntary commitment has enriched the lives of our children in so many ways, helping to fund educational visits, inspiring workshops, pantomimes, community and family events, the monkey bars, our guinea pigs, and countless other experiences that have made Brabourne such a special place to learn and grow.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many other parents, grandparents, family members and friends who have volunteered behind the scenes over the years. Whether you helped set up, packed away, baked cakes, ran stalls, donated prizes, gave up your time, or supported events in any other way, every contribution has made a real difference. The success of the PTA has always been a true community effort.

We are incredibly fortunate as a school to have had such a dedicated, hardworking and generous team of volunteers. Their commitment, kindness and belief in our children have left a lasting legacy that will continue to benefit Brabourne pupils for years to come.

On behalf of our pupils, staff, governors and the entire Brabourne community, thank you. We are immensely grateful for everything you have done.



As one chapter closes, another begins....

A warm welcome and heartfelt thank you to our new PTA Chairs, Mrs Mockford and Mrs Taylor-Smith, who, together with their fantastic team of volunteers, did an amazing job of reorganising and rescheduling this year's Summer Fair at short notice. Their hard work, determination and positivity ensured the event was a wonderful success and a fantastic celebration of our school community.

Thank you also to every volunteer who gave their time before, during and after the fair. Events like these only happen because of the generosity, enthusiasm and teamwork of so many people.

Finally, a huge thank you to all the families who came along to enjoy the fair and support Brabourne. It was wonderful to see so many people laughing, chatting and making memories together. Your support will help fund exciting projects and opportunities for our children throughout the coming year, and we are incredibly grateful.

We are so fortunate to be part of a school community where people continually step forward to support one another and our children.





Miss Cresswell and Mr Parry

At the end of this academic year, we say goodbye to Mr Parry and Miss Cresswell, and we would like to thank them both for their valued contribution to Brabourne.

Mr Parry has been with us for the past two years as a Teaching Assistant, providing support to our pupils and staff. We are especially delighted that his experiences at Brabourne have inspired him to take the next step in his career by beginning a teaching degree this September. We have no doubt that he will make an excellent teacher, and we wish him every success for the future. Thank you, Mr Parry, for everything you have done for our school.

Miss Cresswell has been a valued member of the Brabourne team since 2012, providing PPA cover and supporting children across the school. Over the past fourteen years, she has taught and inspired hundreds of pupils, becoming a familiar and trusted face to many families within our community. Through her enthusiasm for French, she has helped generations of children develop confidence in learning a new language while fostering an appreciation of different cultures and the wider world. Her dedication, professionalism and kindness have made a lasting contribution to Brabourne, and we are incredibly grateful for everything she has given to the school over the years.



Year 6

As you prepare to leave Brabourne, we want you to know just how proud we are of each and every one of you. You have truly embodied what it means to be a Brabourne pupil—showing kindness, courage, respect, responsibility and hope every day.

Like the mustard seed at the heart of our vision, we have watched you grow into confident, caring and capable young people, ready for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. Continue to Step Up, Step Out and Speak Up, believe in yourselves and never stop aiming high.

Thank you for everything you have given to our school. You have been exceptional role models, wonderful ambassadors for Brabourne and will always remain part of our school family.

To our Year 6 parents, thank you for your support, encouragement and partnership over the years. For those families whose journey with Brabourne now comes to an end, we are especially grateful for the trust you have placed in us. It has been a privilege to watch your children grow, and we wish you every happiness and success in the years ahead.

Planetarium Experience

Last week, the school hall was transformed into a spectacular 3D inflatable planetarium, giving pupils the opportunity to embark on an exciting journey through space without leaving Brabourne!

Children explored the wonders of our solar system and beyond, bringing their science learning to life in a truly immersive and memorable way.

A huge thank you goes to our House Captains, who organised this fantastic experience as a reward for our pupils. It was wonderful to see the enjoyment and excitement on everyone's faces throughout the day.

District Sports Success

Congratulations to all of our pupils who represented Brabourne at the District Sports competition held at Ashford Prep School. As always, our children competed with determination, resilience and outstanding sportsmanship, making us incredibly proud both on and off the track. Their hard work and commitment were rewarded with an excellent second-place finish overall (only 1 point from first!), alongside an impressive number of individual event victories and podium finishes. It was wonderful to see every pupil giving their very best and supporting one another throughout the day.

A special thank you goes to Mrs Snare, whose dedication, expertise and encouragement as our athletics coach have helped our pupils prepare so well for the competition. We are incredibly grateful for the time and enthusiasm she gives to developing our young athletes..



Learning Beyond the Classroom

This term, every class has enjoyed an exciting educational visit.

Venus Class had a fantastic day at Howlett's Wild Animal Park, where they discovered a wide variety of incredible animals and learned more about wildlife and conservation.

Mars Class explored the natural world at Wildwood, meeting native British wildlife and deepening their understanding of habitats and the environment.

Neptune Class visited Maidstone Museum, where they enjoyed fascinating workshops and exhibits that enriched their curriculum learning through real historical artefacts and interactive experiences.

Jupiter Class travelled to Kent Life, immersing themselves in the county's rich rural heritage and taking part in hands-on activities that brought history to life.

A huge thank you to our staff and volunteers who made these wonderful experiences possible.



Bringing Learning to Life with KIC Theatre

This term, we were delighted to welcome Ian back from KIC Theatre, who delivered an inspiring programme of drama workshops for every class. Through storytelling, role play and performance, our pupils brought their curriculum learning to life in a truly memorable way.

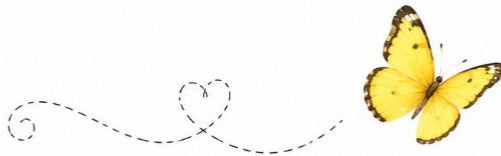
Venus Class (Reception) travelled back in time to explore the fascinating world of Dinosaurs.

Mars Class (Years 1 & 2) discovered the wonders of Plants, using drama to deepen their understanding of the natural world.

Neptune Class (Years 3 & 4) immersed themselves in Gods and Mortals, exploring the myths, legends and history of the Ancient Egyptians and Greeks.

Jupiter Class (Years 5 & 6) journeyed through Scavengers and Settlers, bringing the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age vividly to life.

The workshops encouraged every child to participate, think creatively and develop their confidence while reinforcing key curriculum knowledge. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm, imagination and excellent acting from all of our pupils.



Yoga

We would like to extend our thanks to Coach Simeon for a fantastic year of yoga at Brabourne. Throughout the year, our children have thoroughly enjoyed their sessions, developing not only their flexibility, balance and coordination, but also important skills in mindfulness, resilience and emotional wellbeing. The calm, engaging and inclusive approach has provided groups of children with valuable opportunities to slow down, focus and build confidence.



A Lasting Legacy – Thank You

One of the most special moments of this term was the official opening of our beautiful new Nurture Pod – a space that will provide comfort, support and encouragement for children for many years to come.

This wonderful addition to our school has been made possible thanks to one of our former pupils and her family. Their kindness, vision and commitment to giving something back to Brabourne have created a lasting legacy that will benefit countless children, not just today, but for generations to come.

The Nurture Pod is far more than just a building. It is a place where children can feel safe, listened to and valued; somewhere they can grow in confidence, find reassurance during difficult moments and continue to flourish both emotionally and academically.

It was a privilege to welcome the family back to Brabourne for the official opening. Seeing a former pupil return to help shape the future of our school was a truly moving reminder of the enduring bonds that make our community so special.

On behalf of everyone at Brabourne Church of England Primary School, I would like to offer our heartfelt thanks. Your generosity has given our children a gift beyond measure, and your kindness will continue to make a difference every single day.



Ex alumnus message by Magnus

It is unlikely that many of you will still remember me from my time here, which actually makes me feel quite old, but I had the amazing opportunity to go to Brabourne from year 2 to when I left in 2017 at the end of year 6.

I can't quite put into words the range of experiences Brabourne provided me with. When I arrived, I had just moved from another country and so my social skills and confidence were a little lacking. That's where Brabourne was perfect. The small class sizes and constant sport forced me out my shell and rapidly grew my confidence, potentially too much if you ask my mum.

The highlight for me was always sport, when once a week, 11 of us would be piled into teachers' and parents' cars - those were the dark ages before the minibus - and go off to play Brook, Smeeth or Wye which at the time felt like the World Cup final.

Having grown up in Switzerland I was behind in reading, writing and maths when I arrived. Brabourne was great at helping me catch up, with teachers never letting me question my potential, despite being behind in most areas. Thanks to them, I gained a love of maths and science that has stayed with me, and the school helped me extend as much as they could. But it wasn't just the core subjects that Brabourne valued, I have vivid memories of going up onto the downs to collect nettles to make soup, with Mr. Stapley who was my teacher in year 5.

As you go into secondary school, you'll move a little further away from all the friends you've had here in Brabourne. But I promise you will stay friends; just last Summer my year met again and it was lovely to see how quickly we got back to joking around. And it's amazing to see how all those things which were so important to my classmates in Brabourne have become areas that they're studying now, whether it is going into important trade skills like Bradley and Archie, the sciences like Millie, Phoebe and Sophia, the arts like Ellie, Charlotte and Megan or even into teaching like Onnee.

As I say, I loved sport and maths so I went onto Norton Knatchbull and I know quite a few of you will be too. I then went to Langton Boys to do my A levels because that meant I could also do more sports at the same time. And I'm now at University studying Physics while being able to manage my sports addiction with many hours rowing.

So, my best advice to you is to follow your passions and good luck as you move into Secondary school. Maybe this will be you in a few years, coming back to talk to those who haven't even started at school yet...



☀️ Snapshots ☀️ ★ of the Year

A YEAR FULL OF
LEARNING, LAUGHTER,
FRIENDSHIP & UNFORGETTABLE
MEMORIES!



Happy 
SUMMER!

