

Newsletter 1st March 2019

Dear parents and carers,

It is with sadness that I have to inform you that Miss Sutherland has made the decision to leave Branfil due to personal reasons.

Miss Sutherland joined Branfil Junior School in January 1987 as a class teacher. During her career at Branfil Junior School she was subject co-ordinator for maths and history as well as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo).

Following amalgamation of the Infant and Junior Schools she became Assistant Headteacher in 2015, and combined this with her role as SENCo, as well as supporting colleagues as English lead.

Miss Sutherland has led residential trips for Y5 or Y6 every year since 1995 enabling and encouraging literally hundreds of children to participate in educational and adventurous activities. For several families, Miss Sutherland has taught two generations - both parents and current children.

We know that our children, parents, staff and governors would like to thank Miss Sutherland for her work at Branfil and wish her well for the future. There is a collection for a leaving gift should any parents/carers wish to contribute – please send any messages or donations into the school office.

While we are in the process of appointing another Assistant Headteacher with SENCO responsibility, please continue to refer any SEND queries to the class teacher in the first instance or to me, since I am acting SENCO.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

Values Based Education

This month our school value is Caring. At Branfil we care about and respect ourselves, each other and our environment. Children in our school show they care each day by working hard, helping each other and by contributing to groups such as our School Council and our Eco Council. If you or your child care about an issue and would like to raise its profile at our school then please encourage your child to share their ideas with their class' School Council representative and help make a positive difference.

'Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have.'

Margaret Mead



Change for Life smoothie making



On Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th February Branfil were lucky enough to have a visit from Sharon at Healthy Days. Years 1-6 all enjoyed a 40-minute session learning about the importance of a varied diet and how to get their

five a day. We discussed portion size and how this differs for everyone. Some of us (staff and children) even enjoyed cycling the bike to make our own healthy smoothies for us all to try. We are now more aware of how much sugar is in food and drinks plus the amount we should be having every day, which will hopefully be a useful reminder when we are making choices about what we eat and drink.



Air quality outside the school gates

Could all parents/carers who park outside the school gates before drop off and pick up time please ensure that they turn off their engines whilst stationary outside the school. We would like everyone to contribute to making the air quality outside school better where possible. Thank you.

Theme Menu for Pancake Day and World Book Day

On Tuesday 5th March there will be pancakes as the desert choice for Pancake Day. Havering Catering Service are also doing a special theme menu for World Book Day on Thursday 7th March.

WORLD BOOK DAY THURSDAY 7TH MARCH 2019

The BFG's Chicken in a Bun with Curly Fries

Biff & Chip's Cheesy Tomato Pasta Pot

The Gruffalo's Vegetarian Sausage Roll with Curly Fries

Horrid Henry BBQ Boston Beans

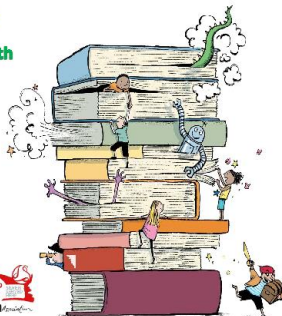
Hungry Caterpillar's Sweetcorn & Peas

Willy Wonka's Iced Marble Cake

Also available: Fresh Fruit, Yoghurt, Cheese and Crackers



£2.20
FREE FOR ALL INFANTS



Year 6 Boys Football

Branfil 4 – 1 Parklands

On Monday 11th February, the boys' football team played in the quarter final of the Havering Cup against Parklands Primary School. It was a tentative start from Branfil, who were trying to get their passing game going to find their rhythm. However, the breakthrough goal from Chay, after a superb delivery from Liam, settled the team who then took control of the game. James added a second goal, which was thoroughly deserved by the home side. Parklands grabbed a goal back just before half time.

In the second half, Ted extended the lead with a calm finish and Joe (on his team debut) finished off the win,

firing the ball home from a tight angle. The boys' sportsmanship, talent and hard work shone through in a deserved win against a good team. Good luck for the semi-finals!

Branfil 1 – 1 Brady

The squad players of the boys' football team played a match against Brady's first team on 14th February. It was a very open game with end to end action. George in goal for Branfil pulled off a string of impressive saves to keep his team in the game throughout the match. In the first half Dom and Sonny were unlucky not to find the target but it was Brady who made the first breakthrough with a goal to take the lead. However, it didn't take long for Branfil to respond as a typically determined forward run by Chay caused chaos in the opposition area, allowing for Reece to tap the ball in from a tight angle.

The second half continued to be a tight match with George and Will being stubborn in defence. As the game became more open, there were some half chances to win the game for Albie, Natan and Damien, but in the end, the Brady defence stood strong. A great game by the boys, who showed an excellent team ethic. You should be proud of your performance boys, well done!

Hockey Competition

Years 5 and 6 took part in this year's Hockey competition at Coopers Company and Coborn School on Tuesday 12th February. The



children have been working really hard at their hockey club after school on Mondays to develop teamwork, ball skills and extend their hockey practice further. This was all evident in the way that they played on Tuesday and represented Branfil. The team played their group matches, drawing two and winning three. They then went onto the knock out stages where they won both

games against Parsonage Farm and St Peters. Branfil then faced Newtons in the final and won 3-1 against them. Go team Branfil! We look forward to taking part in the London Hockey Youth Games in March and representing Havering.

Place2Be Wellbeing awards

Place2Be, the charity who have provided Mental Health and Wellbeing training to members of staff, have been running Wellbeing awards for the last three years. This year, Branfil entered the Progress Award and we are pleased to announce that, even though we did not make it to the finals, we were shortlisted. We received a certificate and letter from the charity which we will put on display in the reception area.

Online Safety

Having a conversation with your child about how they spend their time online can be really insightful. It is really important to chat with your child on an ongoing basis about staying safe online. The links below provide some really helpful tips about how to approach conversations about the internet:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/have-conversation>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/new-e-safety-app-for-parents-and-children/>

We have also added some further information about talking to your children about healthy internet use to the Online Safety section of our website:

<http://www.branfil.com/key-information/online-safety/>

Red Nose Day Sales

We will be selling Red Noses in the office from Thursday 7th March ready for Red Nose Day on Friday 15th March. On Red Nose Day we are asking the



children to bring in a donation for RND in order to wear their own clothes (preferably as red as possible!).

Footwear

Please ensure your child has suitable footwear for school. Black school shoes and/or plain black trainers are allowed. Black boots (unless for a specific medical reason) are not allowed as shoes must be suitable for climbing.

Dogs Fouling outside of school

We have had reports of parents/carers allowing dogs to foul on the pavement on the route into school. If you are bringing your dog to school please ensure you pick up their mess so our children don't walk the mess into school.

Havering Music School Open Day

Havering Music School are holding an open day session on Saturday 6th April between 1pm to 2.30pm at Havering 6th Form College. Children can participate in music taster lessons, have instrument checks and listen to live music!



Tennis Roadshow

Year 1 and 2 were lucky enough to have some tennis sessions on Thursday 14th February. The sessions



involved an introductory lesson to tennis, learning how to hold a racquet and how to stand when hitting the ball. The children learnt different ball skills and they also worked on their co-ordination skills during

the session with a tennis ball and racquet. This was all finished off with some fun tennis games. The children all showed great enthusiasm for the sport and enjoyed the fun packed afternoon!

Year 2 baby chicks

Our Year 2 children have watched our baby chicks hatch in their incubators! We now have lots of chicks in our year 2 classes. The chicks have been given names which were voted on in class and our staff will be looking after them over the weekend and bringing them safely back to Branfil on Monday for the children to study next week.



News from the PTA

For more information about the "friends" and our events, visit friends.branfil.com



Coffee Morning - Thursday 14th March

- 09:00 'til 10:00 in the Main Hall
- All parents and younger children welcome
- Discuss upcoming events and share ideas
- Coffee, tea and other refreshments provided



Quiz Night - Saturday 16th March @ 19:30

- Fresh and improved
- Cod, chicken or vegetable burger & chips dinner
- Bring your own drinks & nibbles
- Raffle
- £10pp / £75 table of 8
- Book online now: friends.branfil.com



Tesco's Bags of Help

Fantastic news! Not only are we one of the local Co-op's charity of the year, Friends of Branfil have been shortlisted by Tesco's Bags of Help initiative. Voting is open in all local Tesco stores from today until the end of April. Branfil has the exciting opportunity to win up to £4k towards improving our outdoor play equipment further. Please remember to grab your blue tokens at check out and vote for Branfil!!!



Mother's Day Sale - Friday 29th March

A chance for the children to buy something special for Mummies and Nannies. The children always have such a great time choosing from our wide selection of quality gifts. Every item is £1.50.



A HUGE THANK YOU to Nisa Local, Gaynes Park Road for their generous support of our Christmas Bazaar

They were so kind to donate £400 from their Making a Difference Locally fund. Here is a photo of Divya Ashier from Nisa presenting the cheque to some Branfil pupils. Please visit Nisa, do some shopping and say thanks!

Choose us as your
Co-op local cause

Go online coop.co.uk/membership



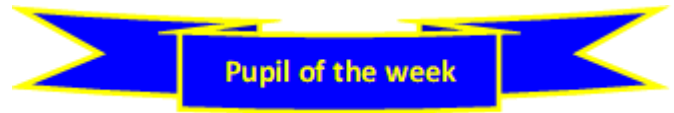
Mental Health and Wellbeing at Branfil

Following on from a successful Children’s Mental Health Week, Place2Be have released some research about the effects that lack of sleep can have on children’s mental health.

They found that children who usually get less than the recommended 9 hours of sleep on a school night are more likely to feel that worries get in the way of school work according to a survey of over 1,100 10-11 year-olds.

More than half of the children said they worry “all the time” about at least one thing to do with their school life, home life or themselves – and those getting less sleep are less able to cope with worries, saying they often don’t know what to do when they’re worried, and once they start worrying, they cannot stop.

To help your child get the recommended amount of sleep, try sticking to a relaxing bedtime routine, limiting screen time for an hour before bed and avoiding food or drink late in the evening.



15th February

Jorgie J, Skylar T, Jessica B, Tilly D, Emmy H, Freya B, Dylan H, Aaron C, Frankie J, Gregory S, Loredana M, Toby D, Tilly H, Jessica V, Ruby-Mae S, Olivia T, Caitlin Smith, Evie M, Evie D, Daniel O, Victoria D-S-F.

1st March

Michael H, Elijah B , Raphael D, Darcy SB, Florrie C, Sienna S, Evie D, Nikita P, Quadell S, Harry C, All of 3 HAZEL, Millie B, Amelia W, Farid O, David M, Macey T, Lilly-Anne B, Oliver C, Muskaan U, Joe W.

Upcoming dates in the next fortnight

Tuesday 5 March	Ash Class Stay and Play
Wednesday 6 March	Elm Class Stay and Play
Thursday 7 March	Fir Class Stay and Play
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day (Special Lunch Menu)
Mon 11 Mar – Fri 15 Mar	Science Week
Monday 11 March	Superhero Drama workshops in school for Reception, Y1 & Y2
Tuesday 12 March	Superhero Drama workshops in school for Reception, Y1 & Y2
Friday 15 March	Red Nose Day – Non uniform day

INSET DAY for 2018/19 Term – 3rd June 2019

INSET Days for 2019/20 Term (agreed by Governors): 4th, 5th, 6th September 2019, 6th January 2020, 20th April 2020