

Newsletter 11th January 2019

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back and a happy new year to you all. We have enjoyed a really positive start to our spring term and are looking forward to a wide range of events, trips and visitors over the next three months, as detailed on the dates list which has been sent home with child today.

We have two workshops coming up shortly which will be delivered by external specialists and promise to be highly informative and useful: Online Safety and Restorative Justice (see below). I would strongly urge you to attend both if possible; they will help you to safeguard your child whilst maintaining a positive relationship with them.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

Thank you from the Staff

A very big thank you from all the office staff, teachers and TAs for the kind and generous gifts given to us all before Christmas. These are much appreciated!

Online Safety Workshop for Parents and Carers- Monday 14th January 2019 from 2-3pm.

You are invited to attend an online safety workshop for parents and carers on Monday 14th January from 2-3 pm. This engaging session will be run by an expert from The South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL), part of the wider UK Safer Internet Centre. You will find out many hints and tips to help your child stay safe online and when using the latest apps, websites and gadgets. There will also be an opportunity to ask the workshop leader any questions you may have about your child's online activity.

Donations to the School

Thank you to those who have made generous donations to the school. We are grateful for your support at a time when we face serious challenges with the budget. A specific thank you to Mr and Mrs Toner of Toner Legal Ltd for the sponsorship of our tracksuits for athletics events and also thank you to Mr and Mrs

Values Based Education

This month we are celebrating our school value 'Trust' which is the firm belief that someone or something can be relied upon. Every day you trust us to help nurture, develop and keep your children safe and in turn we trust you to bring them to us on time, well fed, well rested and ready to learn. As a school we also trust our children to be well behaved, responsible and follow the school's Golden Rule: At Branfil we respect ourselves, each other and our environment. This mutual trust is vitally important to help all our children thrive. It has been proven that when people put their trust in someone or something, the chemical oxytocin is released by their brain which makes them feel good! So hopefully by trusting each other, we are also helping each other to feel good! What a lovely thought for the start of a new term.

Connolly of Graphic Office Supplies who have purchased a visualiser for use in the school.

Rocket Fund visualiser fundraising project

Thank you to all those parents/carers who donated money to our Visualiser Rocket Fund. We have so far been able to purchase 6 visualisers and with our new funds should be able to purchase another 4. Hopefully very soon every KS2 classroom will be able to benefit from this technology.....then we will continue to fundraise until every classroom has a visualiser.

Thank you!

Miss O'Toole, Computing Leader.

January Census Day

There is a special lunch for pupils on Thursday 17th January 2019. The menu is:

Chicken Nuggets

Beef Casserole

Vegetarian Sausage Roll

Chocolate Sponge

Fresh Fruit, Cheese and Crackers and Yoghurt

This lunch is part of our Spring School Census and our school funding is allocated based on the amount of children who have a hot dinner on this day. If you could encourage your child to have this lunch it would be really beneficial to our school census numbers and help us get as much funding as we can!

School Nurse Drop in sessions

The School nurse will be available for parents/carers to drop in on Wednesday 30 January at 3.00pm and Wednesday 27 March at 3.00pm.

Restorative Justice at Branfil Primary

You may have seen some signs up around the school regarding our Restorative Justice Parent Workshop which is taking place on 30th January at 9am-11.30am. The workshop covers a range of reflective activities, encouraging parents/carers to consider the impact of their current parenting styles and behaviours. This will enable parents/carers to develop new skills needed to restore and rebuild positive relationships by reducing future conflict. Please come and join us for what promises to be a thought provoking, helpful session.

Restorative Parent Workshop



FOR: Parents & Carers

DATE: 30th January 2019

FOCUS:

- Models of intervention and disputes
- Using restorative language and questions
- Transform the Parent-Child Relationship
- Developing positive connections
- develop key listening skills
- Ability to connect with feelings and needs being expressed.

TIME: 9am – 11.30am

LOCATION: Branfil Primary School.

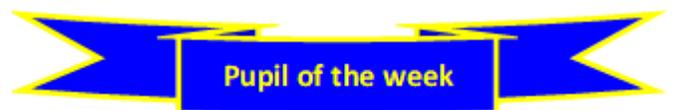
Cedar Avenue,
Upminster.
RM14 2LW

Cameleon Christmas Cards

We would like to thank parents/carers for their patience whilst we worked to distribute the late delivery of Christmas cards and other goods. We would also like to assure you that we will not be using this company in the future.

Mental Health and Wellbeing at Branfil

The Branfil community recognises that January can be a difficult month for children and adults alike. After the excitement and build up to the festive period, we return to dark and cold mornings, which can make getting motivated very hard! Why not take a look at the Mind website where you will find information about RED January – ‘a community initiative that encourages you to support your mental health by doing something active every single day.’ Last year, over £1 million was raised for Mind – why not sign the family up and get active!



11th January

Sunny O, Damon F, Lydia H-F, Kamran S, Mylee-Rae P, Aria F, Hunter S, Julia C, Aela D, Fidor L, Ruby G, Megan B, Sophie G, Ashton B-M, Frankie L, Eric P, Maggie A, Joe W.

Upcoming dates in the next fortnight

Monday 14 January	Parents Information session on Safer Internet Use (2 – 3pm)
Tuesday 15 January	Reception height and Weight Measurement – ELM Class
Tuesday 22 January	Reception height and Weight Measurement – FIR Class
Thursday 24 January	The Royal Shakespeare Company workshop for Yr 5 and Yr 6

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