

Newsletter 12 January 2018

Dear parents and carers

Happy New year! We have an exciting Science focussed spring term ahead and the children have returned determined to step up to the challenges being set. Please support your child by reading regularly at home, discussing and supporting their spelling and phonics practice and by encouraging them to work on their maths rapid recall. Our school website has year group home learning links and your child's class teacher will be able to offer advice to further support you or your child with their home learning.

This month we will be holding information on the key statutory tests that your child will be taking this Summer:

Wednesday 17 January – Y6 SAT's information session

Wednesday 24 January – Y2 SAT's information session

Tuesday 30 January – Y1 Phonics information session

All the above sessions are from 9.00am – 9.40am.

Please continue to look on our school website for updates on school events, trips and letters.

Mrs Fisk, Deputy Headteacher

School nurse visit

Our school nurse, Denise Ellis, will be doing a drop in session on Wednesday 7 February at 3.00pm.

She is here for anyone who has any concerns about their child and would like to have a chat.

Music Awards



We are very pleased to announce that Branfil pupils have again done us proud!

The following pupils recently took Grade 2 Brass Exams with the following grades:

Distinction – Casey Schafer, Thomas McDonach.

Merit – Ben Townsend, Alice McKelvey.

Grade 1 Piano Exam – Elin Morozov – Distinction

Well done!

Values Based Education

RESPECT

This month we are focusing on the value of 'RESPECT'. Respect is at the core of everything we do in school. It underpins learning through behaviour and our attitudes to the people and the world around us. Our Golden Rule is; At Branfil we respect ourselves, each other and our environment.

Our ongoing anti bullying motto is All different, All equal. We are aiming that through stories, film, discussion and visitors children will gain a new understanding of difference, which will enable them to develop deeper respect and acceptance of themselves and of each other.

For the adults ... The best way to teach RESPECT is to show RESPECT. When a child experiences RESPECT, they know what it feels like and begin to understand how important it is.

Children not collected at the end of the school day

We have adopted Havering's Policy & Procedure to safeguard children not collected at the end of the school day.

A copy of the policy and procedures can be viewed on the website.

Parking and Cedar Avenue

Please respect our residents and do not park over drive-ways!

Although unofficial, our 'one way system' (in from Gaynes Park Road, out through Southview Drive) does help to keep traffic flowing and our children safe.

Football - Girls (Y5 and Y6) and Boys (Y6)

This will resume on Thursday 25th January with Miss Bain and Mr Grant, 3.30-4.30 on the school field.



INSET days 2018/2019

Governors have approved the following INSET days when school is closed to pupils for staff training:

3 & 4 September 2018
29 October 2018
7 January 2019
3 June 2019

DfE Sex and Relationships Education – call for evidence

DfE have launched a [call for evidence](#) to gather views from parents, teachers, young people and interested organisations on how relationships education, including relationships and sex education for older children, should be taught in schools.

The call for evidence aims to gather views on the content and teaching of these subjects.

It will look to establish:

- what teachers think they should be teaching their pupils to help them navigate the modern world they are growing up in;
- how parents expect their children to be taught this topic in a safe and age-appropriate way; and
- what young people themselves think they would benefit from learning in these subjects.

This follows the announcement earlier this year that relationships education will become compulsory in all primary schools and relationships and sex education compulsory in all secondary schools. This is a key part of the government's wider plan to ensure every young person has the essential knowledge they need to stay safe and develop healthy relationships.

The call for evidence is open until 12 February 2018 and we would encourage parents and children to respond to the call for evidence.

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/life-skills/pshe-rse-call-for-evidence>

The link also contains all of the guidance you need to complete the call for evidence.

We will be reviewing our Branfil Sex and Relationships policy this term. This will be an item on the parent forum on Tuesday 27 February. Any questions or comments, please email or send in writing to the school office two weeks prior to the meeting.

Thank you Kellie McMahon!

Our chairperson of Friends of Branfil is stepping down due to increasing family commitments. On behalf of the staff, pupils and community of Branfil we would like to thank her for the support, commitment and enthusiasm she has given to the role over the past six years. Kellie should be very proud of her achievements in building a successful and sustainable PTA for the children, staff and community of Branfil Primary.



The rest of the committee are staying in the roles and Chris West is going to stand in as Chairperson until the end of this school year at least. If we have any parents who wish to step into the role then this can be addressed at the AGM. Please visit the website for PTA information <http://friends.branfil.com>

Mrs Fisk

Parent Governor Elections

We have vacancies for two Parents Governors to join our school Governing Body.

Further information and nomination forms will be sent out on Monday. We particularly welcome parents with education or PR experience.

Pupil of the Week



8 December

Kayden Palmer!

Learning Objectives for this week

Below are links to our year group pages where you will be able to find our Learning Objectives for this week:

Reception: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year0/>

Y1: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year1/>

Y2: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year2/>

Y3: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year3/>

Y4: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year4/>

Y5: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year5/>

Y6: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year6/>