

## **Newsletter 12 May 2017**

Dear parents/carers

This week our Year 6 children completed the National SATs (Statutory Assessment Tests) in reading, maths and GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling). They were an absolute credit to the school in the way they approached the tests: positive, focused and supportive of each other throughout. Many of the children actually seemed to enjoy having the opportunity to demonstrate their learning!

Our Year 2 children are completing their SATs during May and they are also showing a great attitude to these so far.

The staff at Branfil do a great job at preparing the children for the tests, both emotionally and academically, so they can take them in their stride. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for helping your children to develop the confidence and resilience necessary to cope with the demands of our education system.

Hopefully the results will reflect everyone's hard work.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

### **Year 2 visits**

This week Year 2 have been finding out about the history of Upminster. 2 Cedar and 2 Holly have visited the Old Chapel and the brand new visitor centre at Upminster Windmill - in fact 2 Cedar were lucky enough to be the first ever class to have a workshop there! These visits included making timelines about the local area, trying on old fashioned clothes and making rag rugs and windmills. The children really enjoyed the visits and have learnt a lot of information they can use in their history lessons. 2 Beech are looking forward to going on the trip next week.



### **SATS Week**

"During SATs week the Year 6 children have been a credit to Branfil and their families - they have worked so hard, been determined to do their best and have behaved impeccably. We are really proud of them all - Well done 6 Hornbeam and 6 Acacia!"

Miss Bain, Mrs Stevenson, Mrs Smith & Mrs Dawkins.

### **School Closure Thursday 8 June**

The school will be closed all day on Thursday 8 June as it is being used as a polling station for the General Election.

### **Havering Music School Open Day**

Havering Sixth Form College

13 May 1.30 – 3.30pm

Free Taster sessions, live music and expert advice.

### **Cedar Avenue – Unofficial 'one way system'**

For many years parents and carers have co-operated with an unofficial 'one way system' in Cedar Avenue. Although in no way a legal requirement, it has proved to be an easy way of relieving traffic congestion in Cedar Avenue if all cars enter from Gaynes Park Road end and leave via Southview Drive.

We have had reports of parents getting booked by the traffic enforcement cars simply for pulling over on the yellow lines to let other cars pass in the opposite direction!

If parents and carers are able to support this unofficial one way system it will help relieve congestion and make the early morning school run safer and less stressful for all concerned.

We have also had a report about a couple of cars mounting and driving along the pavement to avoid the congestion. May we remind you how dangerous this is, especially at a time when children are arriving or leaving the school premises.

### **Thorndon Park visit**

“Reception have been on an exciting adventure. We put down our books and pens, put on our wellies and went on a trip to Thorndon Country Park! What an amazing day we all had. We enjoyed hunting for bugs, completing art activities, learning about caterpillars and their life cycles as well as collecting natural resources to bring back to school. It was a marvellous day of learning in the Essex Countryside. The children and adults had an amazing day! Thank you to all our volunteers on behalf of the Reception team”.

Miss Quinn



### **Girls' football**

“Cup final winners and league final runners-up.

Congratulations to:

Sophie Court, Elizabeth Jones, Faith Reilly, Maizy Langley, Freya Long, Rosie Macleod, Jolie Hollis, Gabrielle Purdie and Molly Brooker.

A fantastic team performance - you all played brilliantly and showed great team spirit and determination. You made me very proud.

A big thank you to all the supporters and 'taxi drivers' too”.

Miss Bain



### **Boys' football**

“It is with great pride and happiness I tell you of the boys' football news from last week. On Tuesday, against Ardleigh Green, they won the league final 7-2 to earn their third major trophy of the year. On Friday, the boys held their nerve in a 4-2 victory over St Joseph's to win the cup: the fourth piece of silverware this year. As you can imagine, this has never been done before and probably won't happen again. On behalf of everyone at Branfil I would like to say one more well done to George, Max, Bailey, Sam, Jake, Thomas, Benjamin, Lewis and Harrison. You have been brilliant! Thanks as well to your parents for their continued support”.

Mr Edwards



There are a couple of lovely reviews of the boys' and girls' wonderful football achievements in this week's Romford Recorder.

Page 20 has an article and page 4 of the Schools' Football supplement in the middle of the paper also has a detailed review..... Happy reading!

## Pupil of the Week



### **28 April**

Alice Tsui, Ruby Seeley, Daisy Day, Millie Hosler, Poppy Racher, Molly Brennan, Harry Worpole, Favour Akingbole, Zarah McDaniel, Amelia Cross, Branavan Uthayakumar, Dominic Wilkins, Brandon Whittlesey, Freddie Jennings, Farid Olanrewaju, Luke Kemp, Daisy Burley

### **5 May**

Marianna Schiraldi, Lilly-Anne Bowers, Ella Goddard, Layla Hamilton, Taran Kular, Poppy Sharp, Casian Pascaroiu, Precious Ashiru, Jack Cook, Harrison McMahon, Isabelle McMahon, George Marketis, Tolu Sule, Francesca Chapple, Serine Ettaani, Amie Bone

### **INSET Days for next Academic year**

Mon 4 September 2017

Tues 5 September 2017

Tues 2 January 2018

Wed 3 January 2018

Mon 16 April 2018