

Newsletter 14 July 2017

Dear parents and carers

As we come towards the end of my first year at Branfil, I wanted to thank you all for the support you have given to your children and the school which has really helped us move forward towards our vision.

I also wanted to express my sincere gratitude to the staff and governors who work tirelessly to provide the children with stimulating learning opportunities which help our pupils to develop socially, emotionally and academically.

Thank you to the Friends of Branfil and other volunteers who make a fantastic contribution to school life for which we are very appreciative.

Lastly, I would like to thank our pupils who have such enthusiasm for life and learning that it makes our job a pleasure (most days!).

I wish you all a happy, healthy summer holiday and I wish our Year 6 a smooth transition into their new schools and great success in the future: we will miss you.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

Annual Reports

Your child will be bringing home their annual report today. Teachers spend many additional hours writing these so please spend time reading it through with your child, celebrating their successes and identifying what they need to focus on next term. Please return the slip to us so we know you have received the report. Thank you.

Staff Updates

As well as welcoming new staff to our team, it is the time of year when we also have to say goodbye to others. We wish the following members of staff every success in their future: Miss Cumming, Miss Ahuja, Mrs Rushworth, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Baker, Mrs Harvey and Mrs Hails. On your behalf I would like to thank them for their commitment to Branfil and their hard work in supporting our pupils.

Meet and Greet Arrangements

In September, all teachers of Reception and Year 1 children will continue to greet the children on the playground between 8.50am – 9.00am every day.

Year 2 – 6 children will be greeted by Year Leaders who will pass on any messages to the class teacher: 8.50am - 9.00am Y2, 8.40am - 8.50am Y3 – 6.

Year 6 Mini Market

The Year 6 leavers will be holding their end of year 'mini market' for the school during the afternoon of Thursday 20 July. They run stalls and activities for which they make a minimal charge for participation. With the funds raised they then purchase a leaving 'gift' for the school. Some stalls will involve nail varnish and fake tattoos; please inform your child's class teacher if you do not wish for your child to participate in these activities. Children are allowed to bring in up to £1.50 (in small change) for the mini market.

Name it

Our lost property box is overflowing with discarded items. Those that are clearly named will be returned to their rightful owners, however, there are many items which have no names whatsoever and therefore make the process of returning property far more difficult. Please do ensure all items of clothing brought into school are clearly named. Any lost property that is not collected by the end of this term will be discarded so do please have a look to see if your child's belongings are in the box.

Water Bottles for September

Following pupil and staff feedback, we have made the decision to stop supplying the children with school water bottles. From the start of the new term in September, please send your child to school each day with a water bottle which is:

- plastic
- reusable
- approximately 500ml capacity (so it will fit into our carry crates)
- clearly labelled with child's name and class.

Please note that only plain water will be allowed; any other contents will be discarded and the bottle refilled with water.

Every child will take their bottle home each day so it can be cleaned and refilled with fresh water.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Year 2 Fruit Reminder

As your child enters Year 3 they are no longer eligible for the Government free fruit scheme. If your child wishes to have a snack at break time please send them in with a piece of fruit or vegetable.

Unauthorised Leave in term time

A reminder that from September any unauthorised absences could result in a fine being issued by the LA. Please see our attendance policy on the school website for more information.

Medical and Dental Appointments

Wherever possible please make appointments outside school time. Where this is not possible please bring your child in for registration first so that they get marked as present before taking them for any appointment.

Change to Dates for Diary

R & KS1 Lead Learner assembly was scheduled for Mon 17 July but has been changed to Tues 18 July (parents/carers by invitation only)

Year 2 Quadkids

On Tuesday 4th July a team of Year 2 children took part in a Quad Kids athletics event at Hornchurch stadium. They were Holly Bradbury, Theo Laronde, Owen Austin, Leyla Wakeham, Dean Harris, Charlie Fortune, Isabella Prior and Anna Stanley. Freddie Smith and Sophie Cave also came as reserves. The team competed in 4 events: a distance run, a sprint, a vortex throw and a long jump. There were some fantastic results for Branfil. Theo came 1st in the vortex throw, 2nd in the distance run, 4th in the long jump and 10th in the sprint. Owen came 13th in the sprint and Charlie came 11th in the throw. Leyla was 8th in the sprint and 9th in the distance run. Holly came 18th in the sprint and 12th in the throw and Isabelle was 12th in the vortex throw. Altogether the whole team effort paid off and Branfil came in fifth place out of 31 schools that were competing!

A big congratulations to Theo Laronde who came first place overall out of the 122 boys participating. Well done to the whole team!

Front and Back Gates

Apologies to parent/carers and pupils if the gates are not always opened at the correct times. Please understand that we are without Mr Maul at the moment and as you can understand things don't always go to plan.... even in a school!

Digital Leaders Update

On Thursday 13th July the Digital Leaders presented their very first assembly to the Key Stage One children. The Digital Leaders put all their training into practise and designed a PowerPoint which helped the younger children in the school think about how to keep safe online. The main message the Digital Leaders wanted everyone to take away from the assembly was: If something you see on the internet makes you feel worried or uncomfortable-tell an adult! Great work Digital Leaders.

Last day of Term

Your child is allowed to bring a game of their choice into school on the last day of term – no electrical games please. Thank you for your cooperation.

INSET Days for next Academic year

Mon 4 September 2017

Tues 5 September 2017

Tues 2 January 2018

Wed 3 January 2018

Thurs 3 May 2018 – please note unavoidable change of date due to the school being used as a polling station.

Pupil of the Week



30 June

Louis Bell, Eddie Waters, Sonny Horsey, Dion Fana, Kay Said, Logan King, Megan Hatley, Madeline Dennis, Denny Waterman-Cook, Aaron Levy, Jahmai Sanni, Oliver Evans.

7 July

Isabella Burton, Max Fulling, Owen Austin, Miley Cohen, Isabella Sear, Tommy White, Harrison McMahan, Evie Denison, Amelia Farrow, Oliver West, Daniel Goodman, Stanley Pigott, Amy Edmondson, Aaron Edmondson, Alex Fernandes.

Class Arrangements for next Academic Year		
Current class name	Class name Sept 2017	Teacher
	R Ash	Miss Quinn
	R Fir	Miss Evenden
	R Elm	Mrs Caffull (Miss Clark)
R Fir	1 Willow	Miss Pearce
R Elm	1 Pine	Miss Bateman
R Ash	1 Lime	Miss Kelner
1 Lime	2 Holly	Miss O'Toole
1 Willow	2 Cedar	Miss Goodman
1 Pine	2 Beech	Miss Morriss
2 Cedar	3 Maple	Mrs Goodman (Mon, Tues) Mrs White (Wed, Thurs, Fri)
2 Beech	3 Oak	Miss Oakley
2 Holly	3 Hazel	Miss Daly
3 Oak	4 Rowan	Mrs Lee (Mon, Tues, Wed) Mrs Goodman (Thurs, Fri)
3 Maple	4 Larch	Miss Briton
3 Hazel	4 Birch	Mrs Stevenson
		Mrs Fisk
4 Birch	5 Alder	Mrs Campbell (Mon, Tues, Wed) Mrs Harris (Thurs, Fri)
4 Larch	5 Aspen	Miss Barnes
4 Rowan	5 Hawthorn	Miss Philpot
5 Aspen	6 Hornbeam	Miss Bain
5 Alder	6 Acacia	Mr Grant