

Newsletter 14th June 2019

Dear parents and carers,

We really value your views and opinions about your child's experience at Branfil and we use these to inform future decisions about the school's development. We would therefore like to ask you for your feedback now in order to inform our improvement priorities for the next academic year. Your child will be bringing home a questionnaire today asking you about the strengths of the school and potential areas for development; please spend 5-10 minutes completing it as a family and return it to school by Friday 28th June. Thank you in advance for your input into the continued improvement of Branfil.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

Year 5 & 6 Quad Kids Final

Year 5 and 6 took part in the yearly Quad Kids event at Hornchurch Stadium on Thursday 6th June. All the children competed in a throwing,



jumping, sprinting and long distance event. They all demonstrated their versatile sporting ability and also showed fantastic sportsmanship throughout the morning. Well done to all the children involved!

Arts and Culture Week 4th-7th June

Arts & Culture Week has been an absolute blast in **Reception**. We immersed ourselves in everything Greek and the children really enjoyed learning about a different culture. We explored famous buildings, the country's history, including the Olympics, looked at lots of islands and of course



Values Based Education

This month at Branfil we are celebrating a value which is incredibly important, yet incredibly difficult to teach: humility. Some people associate humility with being timid or lacking confidence whereas at Branfil, we want to show our children that being humble is, in the words of C.S. Lewis, 'not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less.' We will all be aiming to put others first in the month of June and remembering that there is always something to improve, and always more to achieve, as Anthony Joshua found out recently – stay hungry, stay humble.

'Never look down on anybody unless you're helping them up.' Jess Jackson

their glorious beaches. Alongside this, we made a traditional Greek salad, created some Greek warrior armour and enjoyed creating a Greek dance ready to perform to the school! What an exciting week of events.

As part of Art and Culture Week, **Year 1** have learnt all about Spain. To start the week off, Year 1 enjoyed a flamenco dancing workshop. The children learned how flamenco dancers use their face, hands and stomping steps to show emotions when performing. Year 1 are looking forward to performing their flamenco dance to the school next week.



In **Year 2** our focus country for Arts and Culture week was Brazil. The children learned all about the places of interest, the Rio carnival, types of food that they eat in Brazil and the Amazon



Rainforest. In art the children had to work in pairs to paint a rainforest showing the different layers and then they coloured in the different types of animals that would be found there. They also made carnival masks. They ended the week learning to dance the Samba!

Year 5 have been learning about America during Arts and Culture week and they have thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They designed and made Native American totem poles to

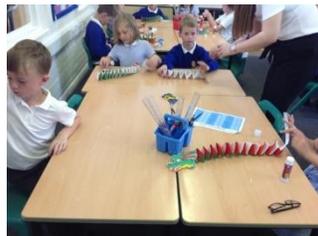


represent their families, found out about and played some American Sports, made banners to cheerlead for their team and took part in a dance workshop. In assembly today they will performed their dance, to 'Disco Inferno' by The Tramps to the rest of the school.



Year 3 have been learning lots about China for Arts and Culture Week. The children really embraced the Chinese culture and it has been great to see the lovely work they have produced over the week. We

made lanterns, dragons, tasted some yummy food, designed Chinese menus and even learnt a dance in the traditional Chinese style.



Year 6 have enjoyed finding out about Iceland.

They have drawn the Northern lights using pastels, made their own information



booklet, learnt the Viking clap, made clay models, produced their own version of a waterfall and worked in groups to re-create the houses in Reykjavik.

Tate Britain Year 3 Project

This week year 3 took part in the largest group portrait ever made across London. A photographer from the Tate Britain came in and took pictures of each year 3 class. The photographs will be centre stage for six months next year in the Duveen Galleries at Tate Britain. The purpose of this project is to capture an epic picture of the city's pupils and our rich diversity. The hope is to encourage the children to explore their hopes and futures focused on identity, belonging, inclusion and citizenship. The children will have the opportunity to be able to see themselves in one of the most compelling British artworks and have access to visit the collection.



For Arts and Culture week **Year 4** have been learning all about India. This has included learning an Indian Dance, producing Indian artwork and making clay Divas. These are oil lamps that are used to celebrate Diwali.

Classes in September 2019

Following many classes being mixed up last year in order to ensure better balance of gender, ability and additional needs, we have decided not to mix any classes for September. All current classes will move up to their next year group as they currently are.

Havering Year 6 District Football Team

Congratulations to Liam D, Chay W, Teddy S, James S, William B who are in the final of both the Essex and London cup for the Havering Year 6 District Football Team. The team are also competing in the 'Final Four' of the national competition. They won both the Essex and then the South East England rounds to move into the National Finals taking place in Liverpool over this weekend!

Traffic Chaos around Upminster

We are aware that many parents are struggling to negotiate the numerous road works/traffic diversions in and around Upminster. We have registered our concern with the local authority!

In the morning there is no need for you to contact the school office to advise us that you will be late. Please continue to let us know if you are going to be late collecting your child at the end of the day – although we would ask that you make alternative arrangements for their collection if possible.

Mobile Phones and walking to and from school

We will only keep mobile phones in the office for those older children who are walking to and from school on their own each morning and afternoon. Please do not send your child into school with a mobile phone if they are dropped off and collected by you or with Abacus After School Club. All mobile phones which are kept in the office will now have to have a label on them as per our phone policy.

If you are preparing your child for the transition to secondary school and would like them to walk to and from school on their own, please send in a written letter to the office/class teacher stating this and the days of the week that this will be happening.

Mental Health and Wellbeing at Branfil

The school website now has a page devoted to the Wellbeing of pupils at Branfil. You will find the page under 'Our School' and there are links, informatio and resources that you can access. The website is in the developmental stage, so pop by regularly to see what's new.

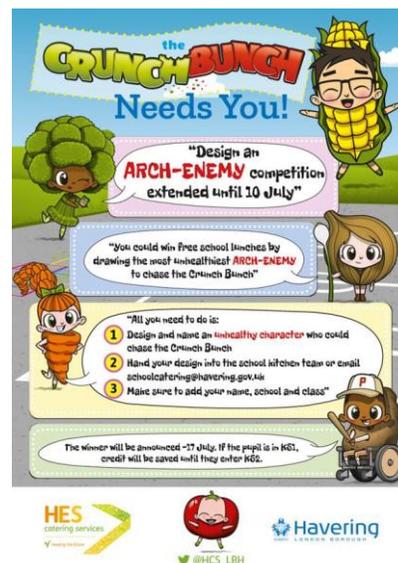
Hall Mead SEN Open Evening

The SEN department at Hall Mead School are having an open evening on Wednesday, 10th July, 2019, from 4pm until 6pm for prospective parents. The Open Evening is for current Y5s looking to apply for September, 2020.

If you require any further information, please contact Hall Mead School direct: 01708 225684 and ask for the SEN department.

Havering Catering Service

Advance notice: from September 2019 the cost of a school meal for KS2 children (years 3 – 6) will increase to £2.25.

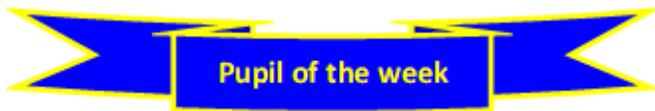


Parent/Carers of Yr 5 children

A reminder for parents/carers of year 5 children who want their children to sit the CSSE 11+ examination for 2020 that registration for this closes on Monday 1st July.

Year 6 Leavers Production

Due to the fact that we now have three Year 6 classes we will be doing two evening performances of the Leavers' production. These will be Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th July (children required at 6.30pm) and the performances start at 7pm. The presentation of the Year 6 awards will take place on Friday 19th July as part of the KS2 Lead Learner Assembly; parents will be notified beforehand if their child will be receiving one of the cups and they will be invited to attend.



14th June

Amelia-Rose G, Zachary D, Oliver C, Sahib G, Charlotte E, Henry W, Eadi F, Billy P, Lilah T, All of 3 Hazel, Heath B, Callum R-H, Ruby P-W, Max H, Denny W-C, Isla P, Mira Z, Kieran McW, Alice R, Reece N.



News from the PTA

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



The 5p Challenge - Ends Friday 28th June

The challenge is still on! Bring in your 5ps to help us raise money for much needed toilet improvements. The class that collects the most money will win a prize - the competition is hotting up!!! The 5p collection bottles are in every classroom NOW!

Get collecting - GOOD LUCK!



School uniform sale

Every other Friday in the playground after school. Unwanted uniform and PE kit donations are gratefully received. Suzanne has a wide variety of stock for purchase. Anything you need, just ask! **Plus...**

We will soon be sending out bags for your old clothes, pants, towels, sheets etc. Please start going through all your old stuff and anything you can donate will be gratefully received. Ask your family, neighbours and friends for donations. If we get a carrier bag from each we should raise over £400 for the school.

For more details, please see friends.branfil.com



Amazon Smile

Make money for 'The Friends' just by shopping on Amazon. 0.5% of every qualifying transaction will be donated by Amazon directly to the PTA. Go to smile.amazon.co.uk for more information and to select "Branfil Primary School PTA" as your charity.



Upcoming dates in the next fortnight

Monday 17 June	KS2 Sports morning - Hornchurch Stadium 9.30am – 11.30am (Rescheduled)
Tuesday 18 June	Quad Kids Final – Yr 3 & Yr 4 – Hornchurch Stadium (Time TBC)
Wednesday 19 June	KS1 Sports morning – Hornchurch Stadium 9.30am – 11.30am
Wednesday 19 June	New Intake Stay and Play event for children & parents/carers – 2pm – 3pm
Thursday 20 June	New Intake Stay and Play event for children & parents/carers – 2pm – 3pm
Friday 21 June	Yr 6 Air Quality Presentation
Friday 21 June	Reception and Playhouse Pre School sports morning – 10am – 11am (School Field)
Monday 24 June	Elm Class Stay and Play (9.15am-9.40am)
Tuesday 25 June	Fir Class Stay and Play (9.15am – 9.40am)
Tuesday 25 June	Year 3 Trip to the Natural History Museum – Date TBC
Wednesday 26 June	Ash Class Stay and Play (9.15am-9.40am)
Thursday 27 June	Quad Kids Final – Yr 1 & Yr2 – Hornchurch Stadium (Time TBC)
Thursday 27 June	5 Hawthorn trip to the Tower of London
Friday 28 June	5 Alder and 5 Aspen trip to the Tower of London

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

FOR INFORMATION – The early May bank holiday in 2020 will move from Monday 4 May to Friday 8 May to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day. Please be aware when booking any long weekend away.