

Newsletter 20 July 2018

Dear parents and carers,

We have had a very busy, exciting last week of the academic year: two Lead Learner assemblies, two fantastic Year 6 performances of 'Lights, Camera, Action', three Friends of Branfil discos, the mini market organised by our Year 6 children, pirate day for Reception children, two celebration/leavers' assemblies and class parties. We now need to say a fond farewell to our Year 6 pupils and several members of staff; we wish them all the very best on the next step of their life journeys.

As we say goodbye to Mrs Fisk, who is moving on to lead her own school, I would like to take this opportunity to thank her on your behalf for her dedication to Branfil over the last decade and her passion for ensuring that our pupils are supported socially, emotionally and academically. I would also like to thank her personally for the support she has given me, particularly during this year while I have had my own challenges to deal with.

A huge thank you goes to all our volunteers who have such a positive impact on the pupils' progress and wider life of school. Thanks also to our fantastic PTA who work tirelessly throughout the year raising much appreciated funds for the school.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your continued support for the school and for the wonderful range of positive comments that have been passed on to the teachers through the annual report reply slips; they are really appreciated. I wish you all a happy, healthy summer holiday – we will see most of you back on Wednesday 5th September.

Mrs Sansom
Headteacher

Staffing Update

We are welcoming Mrs Hewitt in the office plus Miss Float and Mr Byrne to the teaching staff.

We also have some new TAs joining us: Mrs Moore, Mrs Teleki, Mrs Oskis, Mrs Bradbury, Miss Saoudi and Mrs Whiteman.

Values Based Education

Unity

Unity is togetherness

Unity is collective strength and harmony

Unity is personal commitment

Our final value for this academic year is 'Unity'. As we reflect on our school year and the friends and teams we have worked with, we will learn the importance of harmony within our groups and among the group, how to accept and appreciate each other and staying with the task and team.

New House Names

We are pleased to announce our new house names which have been decided by Tilly in 3 Maple. Tilly came up with the idea of forest/woods because "the classes are



named after trees so the trees could be in these forests". We loved the idea of each child being a leaf on our class trees, which together make a beautiful wood, reinforcing the idea of everyone being an important part of the Branfil family.

The chosen local woods are; Belhus, Pages, Tylers and Cely.

Cup Winners



Congratulations to our well deserved Y6 winners who were awarded the following end of year cups:

Music cup – Ben 6 Acacia

Deputy's cup for sport – Ruby 6 Acacia

Ron Gouge cup for overall achievement and demonstrating the school's values consistently - Dacia 6 Hornbeam

Resilience cup for overcoming adversity; showing courage and strength – Emma 6 Acacia

House point trophy- summer term - St Cedd

House points, overall winner for the whole year – St Laurence

Arrangement for first day back

All the teachers will be on the school playground holding a sign with their class name on. Children are to line up with their new teacher and go in with them. Following the first day back Year leaders (Y1-6) will be on the playground each morning to take messages relating to any child in their year group. Reception staff will be there for each Reception class.

Branfils' got Talent!

We had a variety of talented acts taking part in our annual talent contest and congratulations to the winners below:

R & KS1

Harry 2 Beech – 1st place

Katie, Loredana & Faith 2 Holly – 2nd place

Lyla, Ruby, Mylee, Billy, Ben, Lily Fir – 3rd place

Ruby, Blake, Tilly, Charlotte, Olivia, Mylee-Rae Elm – 3rd place

KS2

Ella-Louise 5 Alder – 1st place

Rhys & Timon 5 Aspen - 2nd place

Jasper 6 Acacia – 3rd place

Just 10 minutes a day!

Please continue to read regularly with your child over the holiday. Reading together for 10 minutes is a great way to build special memories with your child. Reading also helps children:

- Understand the world around them
- Develop social and emotional skills
- Improve at school in English, science, maths and other subjects
- Build confidence with communication
- Strengthen their bond with you and other family members.

Playground Improvements

Thanks to sports funding and money raised by our PTA we are able to have some work carried out on the main playground which will include staging, basketball nets and a three way shooter. We can also resurface the grass area in the quad with artificial grass. We were hoping this work would be carried out during the summer holidays but this will now be throughout the autumn term.



Crunch Bunch Competition

Havering Catering recently held a competition in which children

collected badges every time they had a school dinner. Congratulations to our two winners, Elin Y6 and Philip Y4, who won a bike each!

Sports Day Results KS2 June 2018

I hope everyone enjoyed our annual KS1 and KS2 sports days this year. There was a lovely atmosphere throughout both mornings and the weather played ball too to make it a successful and enjoyable event. Thank you so much to all of you who came and supported.

Congratulations to all of our Branfil pupils; children participated with great enthusiasm, keen to score points for their house team. I think it is fair to say the children did us all proud. Their competitive spirit coupled with sportsmanlike conduct throughout was a pleasure to behold.

A special thank you to our wonderful PTA who organised and supplied each child with a well-deserved ice lolly upon their return to school. Also, a very special thank you to the team of Year 5 pupils who supported Branfil's KS1 sports day, timing and measuring children's achievements. They were a credit to the school and their support invaluable.

Combined KS1 & KS2 House Team Results

1st St Andrews 62,843 points

2nd St Cedd 60,953 points

3rd St Laurence 58,621 points

4th St Chad 55,770 points

Individual Results – Children who scored the highest total number of points in their year group:

Reception: Isacc W, Sahib G, Ernie F and Amelia P

Year 1: Jack R, Jenson B, Eadi F and Evie D

Year 2: Teddy M, Darasimi A, Toby D and Daya G

Year 3: Theo L, William E, Evie H and Jessica R

Year 4: Harry J, Sean D, Lilly – Anne B and Mia L

Year 5: James S, Jack H, Emily H and Violet C

Year 6: Archie P, Charlie O'M, Imogene B and Ruby G

Art competition

Well done to our art competition winners!

Sahib – Ash

Austin – 1 Pine

Sian – 2 Beech

Sophie – 3 Hazel

Abbey - 4 Rowan

Jessie – 5 Hawthorn

Emma – 6 Acacia

Parent View Results

Thank you to the 79 parent/carers who took part in our survey recently. As you can see from the results below, the responses were very positive.

	Strongly agree/agree	Disagree/strongly disagree	Don't know
My child is happy at this school.	98%	3%	
My child feels safe at this school.	99%	1%	
My child makes good progress at this school.	90%	7%	3%
My child is well looked after at this school.	99%	1%	
My child is taught well at this school.	91%	7%	1%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	65%	33%	3%
This school makes sure their pupils are well behaved.	87%	6%	6%
This school deals effectively with bullying.	68%	5%	27%
This school is well led and managed.	91%	4%	5%
This school responds well to any concerns I raise.	88%	6%	8%
I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress.	84%	15%	1%
Would you recommend this school to another parent?	Yes 92%	No 8%	

Columns totalling over 100% have been rounded up.

In response to the survey, we will be reviewing our homework policy to offer parents/carers more choice in how to support their child with home learning. We will also consider how to provide additional information about your child's progress.

Alarm Fault

We would like to reassure you all that the intruder alarm which was triggered last Friday was done so by a fault on the line which has now been rectified. This was not one of our normal sirens but ultimately the whole school evacuated safely.

Playground Safety

Scooters and bikes are not permitted to be ridden on school premises. Please also ensure your child is mindful of other people when riding their bikes/scooters to prevent any accidents/collisions

Dates

Mon 3 & Tues 4 September – school closed, staff training

Wed 5 September – School opens 8.40-8.50am

Wed 12 Sep - Reception start part time

Mon 17 Sep - Reception start full time

Half Term break – Monday 22 – Friday 26 October

Mon 29 October – School closed, staff training

Tuesday 30 October - School reopens 8.40-8.50am

Inset Days 2018/19

3 & 4 September 2018

29 October 2018

7 January 2019

3 June 2019

Pupil Premium, Free School Meals and grant towards uniform

Where parents are entitled to pupil premium the school receive extra funding and if your child is in KS2 your child will also receive free school meals which is a significant weekly saving.

As a thank you to any parents who apply for and are awarded pupil premium will also get a grant of £50 towards school uniform to be used at the school suppliers. To apply is very simple:

<https://my.havering.gov.uk/pages/onlineforms/free-school-meals.aspx#details>

Change of times to school day

From September school times will be as below:

Start time

8.40-8.50am for all children (gate open 8.35-8.50am)

Finish time

3.10 for R & KS1 (R, Y1 & Y2)

3.15 for KS2 (Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6)

Uniform- September

From September, the Governing Body have decided that children can wear trainers to school as long as these are entirely black, including the soles, and have no logos on them. Since all children do a Daily Mile but do not change their footwear for this, we felt that this amendment would give parents and carers the option of children wearing more supportive footwear if they feel this is necessary.

Attendance

Well done to 59 of our pupils who achieved 100% attendance throughout the academic year. What a great achievement and they all receive a certificate and badge.



Lead Learners Summer Term

Ernie – Elm
Lyla – Fir
Elise – Ash
Isabella – 1 Pine
Antonio – 1 Willow
Miley – 1 Lime
Lexi – 2 Holly
Henley – 2 Cedar
Megan – 2 Beech
Daniel – 3 Hazel
Charley – 3 Oak
Charlie – 3 Maple
Mira – 4 Larch
Ava- 4 Birch
Scarlett – 4 Rowan
Jack – 5 Aspen
Oliver – 5 Hawthorn
Kurtis – 5 Alder
Macy – 6 Acacia
Sam – 6 Hornbeam
Well done to everyone!



13 July

Kay S, Amelia W, Jack H, Benjamin S, Lennie O, Elsie F, Freddie S, Seb W, Joseph S, Lily W, Fedor I, Joshua P, Max E, Claudia G, Nancy S, Lyla T, Daisy W, George S, Harry M, Rose H.

sQuid

Please check any debt on your sQuid account is cleared before next Wednesday when we will be closing our accounts for the summer.

Where accounts are in debit at the start of next term, catering service will be instructed not to provide a school dinner and children will need to bring in packed lunch.

From September any pupils who owe for more than three lunches will be provided with a sandwich lunch only.



Branfil
Primary School

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