

Newsletter 24th July 2019

Dear parents and carers,

As we come to the end of another school year, I would like to thank you all for your continued support for the school. Staff and governors feel very lucky to work alongside such a fantastic group of parents and carers. Our pupils also deserve my thanks because they really are lovely to work with day in, day out, bringing much pleasure to everyone involved with Branfil.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the staff and governors who work tirelessly to ensure that we provide the best possible opportunities for all of our children to develop their skills, knowledge, values and talents to the best of their abilities. It has been a busy, hardworking, fun filled year for everyone at Branfil – a year where we were recognised for our ‘good’ provision by Ofsted. I feel proud to lead such a fabulous school and I look forward to working with most of you again next school year. For those who are ending their association with the school, I wish you and your child all the very best for the future.

I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved, relaxing summer break. See you in September!

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

Questionnaires and improvement priorities

Thank you to all parents/carers who completed our recent questionnaire about the school’s strengths and areas for development. The pupils also completed questionnaires and the results of all of these can be found on the website. We have used the results to inform our school improvement priorities for next year – these can also be found on the website now.

Staffing Update

We have to say goodbye to some of our support staff today: Miss Float, Miss Saoudi, Mrs Moore and Mr Wilkins. We wish them all the very best in their new adventures. We welcome Mrs Parveen and Mrs Tolan to our teaching team.

Values Based Education

As another school year draws to a close, our school value for the month of July could not be more pertinent. Co-operation is the glue that holds our school community together and it is a value which we are all required to show as we see out the final hectic few weeks of the school year. As a school, we rely on the cooperation and support of you, our parents, on an ongoing basis and the success of last week’s Summer Fayre led by the Friends of Branfil is another reminder of the amazing things we can achieve when we work together and co-operate.

So this month please remember:

Keep calm and co-operate

Year 5 Cricket Tournament

On Tuesday 16th July, a selection of children from year 5 attended a Cricket Festival at Hall Mead School.

During their PE lessons this half term they have been receiving cricket training and working on their skills. Throughout the competition they were able to apply these skills into game settings and their play developed greatly. They all worked amazingly as a team, encouraging and supporting each other and demonstrating fantastic sportsmanship. Well done year 5.



PTA

A huge thank you to the PTA for all of the fundraising they have done over the last year. Events have included the Christmas Fayre, Christmas Discos, Father and Mother’s day sales, the fabulous Summer Fete and our recent end of term discos. They have also worked really hard to secure community fundraising through Tesco’s, Nisa Local and a number of other sources and we are so grateful for all of their help and support during this year.

Congratulations to 5 Alder who won the 5p challenge and raised a huge £108.45 in their class alone! The total raised by the 5p challenge was a fabulous £1,138.25.

Car Park Consultation

Following our car park consultation, we are installing a number of safety measures, including mirrors and increased signage, to ensure those people leaving the car park are aware of children crossing.

Year 6 Football Success



Branfil were honoured to have 5 boys represent the London Borough of Havering District Football team this year: Will, Teddy, James, Chay and Liam. They achieved a level of success that Havering has not seen since the 1960s, winning 18 matches and only losing one. Their achievements include: winners of the Essex Finch League 2018/19; winners of the London Crisp Shield 2018/19; winners of the Lester Finch Trophy 2018/19; winners of the National Premier League 2018/19 South East Regional; and runners up in the National Premier League Finals 2018/19. We are very proud of you all and look forward to hearing about your future success.

Year 4 trip to Rainham Marshes

On the 16th July, we arrived at a popular attraction called Rainham Marshes. Rainham Marshes is home to lots of different species of animals. We did two activities, the first was identifying and finding minibeasts. There were around 20 to find. We found a lot but were unable to find the less common ones.



That was fantastic but there was something more exciting to move onto! It was a pond! A shallow, murky pond. We had to fish with big nets and look for creatures on the key. There were lots of them to find and like the first activity, we found lots but not all of them.

Overall, the trip was a total success!

Charley, 4 Larch

Silver School Games Mark

Branfil have achieved the School Games Silver Mark Award for the 2018/19 academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success this year. With a vast amount of children taking part in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including the sports leaders and parents/carers who made our competitions possible. We were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition and clubs and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year. We look forward to developing sport even further during the next academic year and going for gold!

Art Competition – Core Values

Branfil will now be hosting an art competition each month based on our core values.

The idea of the art competition is to get children to explore a variety of artistic mediums and explore different styles that artists work in.

| Month | Core Value | Medium |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| September 2019 | Friendship | Photography |
| October 2019 | Responsibility | Collage |
| November 2019 | Peace | Paint |

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|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| December 2019 | Appreciation | Pop Art |
| January 2020 | Respect | Pencil |
| February 2020 | Love | Cubism |
| March 2020 | Hope | Film |
| April 2020 | Courage | Photography |
| May 2020 | Quality | Collage |
| June 2020 | Understanding | Paint |
| July 2020 | Unity | Poetry |

Each month, the children will be asked to explore the meaning behind the current core value and represent this value using a particular medium (see table below).

The competition has been launched this week, so that the children can experiment over the summer holidays.

A winner will be chosen at the end of each month for both KS1 and KS2. Entries will be judged by the School Council and members of staff. The winners will be announced in assembly, the art work will be displayed and the winner's names will be included on the newsletter.

Any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you
Mrs Cullender, Art Leader

Break-time Snacks and Drinks

Milk is available through a Government scheme which parents/carers pay directly to Cool Milk – details are available online www.coolmilk.co.uk. Children under 5 and those in receipt of free school meals receive free milk.

Children in Y1-6 should bring in their own water bottles which must be:

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

No other drinks will be allowed in classrooms but children may bring a bottle or carton to drink with their lunch.

These should be stored on their class lunch trolley at the beginning of the day.

In Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, children are provided with a piece of fruit or a vegetable each day during morning break, funded by the government.

In Years 3-6, children are allowed to bring in fruit or vegetables from home for break-time. These should be labelled and put in the class basket daily, not left in their packed lunch bag as this can cause disruption at playtime.

Please note, WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL. We have pupils who have severe nut allergies which can be life threatening so no products containing nuts can be brought into school. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Shoes

When shopping for school shoes over the holidays, please ensure these are black smart school shoes or black trainers. Trainers must be all black (including soles) with no logo. No high heels or boots and footwear must be suitable for climbing and running.

School Book Bags

We would encourage parents/carers to use the school book bags where possible as storage is limited outside classrooms. If you do purchase a different bag please ensure that it is small in size.

Branfil's Got Talent

Congratulations to all the children who participated in the Branfil's Got Talent Finals.

The Winners were –

KS1 – Ralphie, Ben and Leo singing “We will rock you” (2 Beech)

KS2 - Damien and Daniel's Magic Show (6 Chestnut)

We had some amazing acts and the finalists included –

Reception

Ash – Charlie and the Ash Band – Singing and dancing
Elm – Elm Class Choir – Singing



Fir – Mila, Cathrine and Jacob – Dancing

Year 1

- 1 Lime – Soraia, Ava-Rose, Bethany and Rachel – singing
- 1 Pine – Ruby, Nicole and Elise – Singing and dancing
- 1 Willow – Miley and Charlotte – Dancing.

Year 2

- 2 Beech – Ralphie, Ben and Leo – Dancing
- 2 Holly – Tia, Georgia and Ruby – Action show
- 2 Cedar – Lucy – Acting

Year 3

- 3 Oak - Maisie, Roxie and Faith – Dancing
- 3 Maple - Sadie, Loredana, Amelia and Nia – Dancing
- 3 Hazel - Lexie and Katie – Gymnastics and dancing



Year 4

- 4 Rowan - Aaron, Faird, Jay, Theo, Freddie and Owen – Dancing
- 4 Birch - Holly and Lara – Science experiment
- 4 Larch - Amber – Larch’s very own Mr Bean

Year 5

- 5 Aspen - Joseph – Singing
- 5 Hawthorn - Kieran – Singing and playing the guitar
- 5 Alder - Isabella L, Isabella B, Scarlett and Macey – Dancing

Year 6

- 6 Hornbeam - Lily – Singing
- 6 Acacia - Jack – Playing the Obe
- 6 Chestnut Daniel and Damien – Magic Show

Lead Learners for Summer Term

Congratulations to all our Lead Learners this term:

KS1

Antonia P (ASH), Matilda S (ELM) Jacob W (FIR), Rebekah C (1P), Emmy H (1W), Jude H (1L), Lilah T (2 H), Ben O’M (2B), Chloe E (2C).

KS2

William Mck (3 H), Maisie B (3O), Callum RH (3M), Ella P (4B), Grace P (4R), Kara S (5As), Stanley P (5H), Maddie D (5Ald), Tymon Z (6A), George W (6H), Oliver P (6c).

100% Attendance Awards



Congratulations to 52 children who were awarded a gold certificate today for attending school every day this school year. They can now wear their 100% attendance badges with pride.

House Points for the year



Cely – 106



Tylers – 105



Pages – 100



Belhus – 89

New House Captains

Belhus: Scarlett and Jay

Cely: Stanley and Kieran

Pages: Olivia and Jayden

Tyler: Lilia and Alfie



19th July

Lincoln R, Arthur H, ELM, Simona S, Zoe B, Kayden P, Amelie M, All of 2 Beech, Eva-Grace B, Harry M, Layla S, Finley C, All of 4 Larch, All of 4 Rowan, All of 4 Birch, Khalid O, All of 5 Hawthorn, 5 Aspen, All of 6 Acacia, All of 6 Hornbeam, All of 6 Chestnut.

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|------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday 4 September | School closed – staff training day |
| Thursday 5 September | School closed – staff training day |
| Friday 6 September | School closed – staff training day |
| Monday 9 September | School opens 8.40 – 8.50 am whole school |
| Thursday 12 September | Reception start part time |
| Tuesday 17 September | Reception start full time |
| Monday 16 September | Y4, Y5, Y6 Meet the Teacher meeting 9.00-9.30am |
| Thursday 19 September | Y1, Y2, Y3 Meet the Teacher meeting 9.00-9.30am |

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.