

Newsletter 26 January 2018

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for all of your good wishes whilst I have been recovering following my surgery in December. I am very happy to be able to tell you that I have made a good recovery so far and am now back in work. I am working a phased return which means that I am in school for reduced hours at the moment so Mrs Fisk and Miss Sutherland will continue to be the more visible presences around the school. The next, and hopefully last, stage of my treatment will begin around the half term break so this will necessitate a flexible working arrangement, possibly until the end of this term. I am sure that you have already seen that it's 'business as normal' even when I am not in school and I am confident that this will continue.

On a separate note, your child will be bringing home a Pupil Passport for their year group today. This sets out the journey that your child is on with their learning and their destination by the end of the year. I hope that you will find this useful to guide you when supporting your child's learning out of school. Please keep it safe so you can refer to it over time.

Wishing you all a relaxing, happy weekend.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

School nurse visit

Our school nurse, Denise Ellis, will be doing a drop in session on Wednesday 7 February at 3.00pm. She is here for anyone who has any concerns about their child and would like to have a chat.

Donations

A big thank you to Upminster Baptist church for their donation of £100 to school funds.

Thank you to those parents who are donating to the school via our school fund account.

Details for donations are:

Account Sort Code	30 14 24
Account number	00976304
Account Name	Branfil School Fund Account

Thank you also to Mrs Manesta for her kind donation of rose bushes for our school grounds.

Values Based Education

RESPECT

This month we are focusing on the value of 'RESPECT'. Respect is at the core of everything we do in school. It underpins learning through behaviour and our attitudes to the people and the world around us. Our Golden Rule is; At Branfil we respect ourselves, each other and our environment.

Our ongoing anti bullying motto is All different, All equal. We are aiming that through stories, film, discussion and visitors children will gain a new understanding of difference, which will enable them to develop deeper respect and acceptance of themselves and of each other.

For the adults ... The best way to teach RESPECT is to show RESPECT. When a child experiences RESPECT, they know what it feels like and begin to understand how important it is.

No More Dinner Tickets - Welcome to SQUID!

From Monday 19 February Havering Catering Service will no longer be using dinner tickets for school meals.

You will shortly receive a letter with a registration number to register on the SQUID website.

You will be able pay online and your payment will be held in a 'catering purse' online for your child. You will be able check your child's balance and see all transactions on screen. and top up as necessary.

Any dinner tickets remaining after half term can still be used but you will be unable to purchase dinner tickets from 9 February.

Further information to follow.

ParentView

We would like to hear your views about the school. Please go to <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk> and click on 'give your views' on the top grey bar. There are 12 quick questions to respond to and space for explaining your answer if required. Thank you in advance.

Site Staff

Mr Maul has decided to retire at the beginning of February. We know you would all wish to join us in wishing him a long and happy retirement. If you would like to send any message or donation for Mr Maul please send them to the office.

We are pleased to let you know that we have appointed Mr Joseph Dadzie as Assistant Schoolkeeper from 1 February. Mr Dadzie has been working with us since September on an agency basis and we are delighted to have him join the Branfil Team.

Nearly New Uniform

We have a huge selection of nearly new uniform – particularly old style sweatshirts and cardigans. If you are in need of a spare, please do come and help yourself.

INSET days 2018/2019

Governors have approved the following INSET days when school is closed to pupils for staff training:

3 & 4 September 2018
29 October 2018
7 January 2019
3 June 2019

DfE Sex and Relationships Education – call for evidence

DfE have launched a [call for evidence](#) to gather views from parents, teachers, young people and interested organisations on how relationships education, including relationships and sex education for older children, should be taught in schools.

The call for evidence aims to gather views on the content and teaching of these subjects.

It will look to establish:

- what teachers think they should be teaching their pupils to help them navigate the modern world they are growing up in;
- how parents expect their children to be taught this topic in a safe and age-appropriate way; and
- what young people themselves think they would benefit from learning in these subjects.

This follows the announcement earlier this year that relationships education will become compulsory in all primary schools and relationships and sex education compulsory in all secondary schools. This is a key part of the government's wider plan to ensure every young person has the essential knowledge they need to stay safe and develop healthy relationships.

The call for evidence is open until 12 February 2018 and we would encourage parents and children to respond:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/life-skills/pshe-rse-call-for-evidence>

The link also contains all of the guidance you need to complete the call for evidence.

We will be reviewing our Branfil Sex and Relationships policy this term. This will be an item on the parent forum on Tuesday 27 February. Any questions or comments, please email or send in writing to the school office two weeks prior to the meeting.

Music Awards

Congratulations to Harry McLarens who achieved Grade 1 pass in his recent Flute music exam, and his brother, Oliver, who received a Grade 2 merit for his violin exam... well done boys!

Helpers

We are looking for any parents/carers who would like to come in to school on a regular basis and help in class with reading etc. If you hold a current DBS or are willing to apply for one through the school, please contact the office.

Parent Governor Elections

We have vacancies for two Parents Governors to join our school Governing Body. **We have had NO nominations as yet!**

Nomination forms must be received by 31 January.

We particularly welcome parents with education or PR experience.

Brentwood School Taster Day

Year 5 pupils are invited to visit Brentwood School for a 'Taster Day' on Saturday 12 May. This is from 9.30 – 1.00pm and the morning is designed for pupils of local primary schools who may be considering an independent education at Secondary level. The children can take part in a selection of lessons and have lunch. Contact is Judith Bailey 01277 243246 for any interested parent/carers.

Learning Objectives for this week

Below are links to our year group pages where you will be able to find our Learning Objectives for this week:

Reception: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year0/>

Y1: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year1/>

Y2: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year2/>

Y3: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year3/>

Y4: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year4/>

Y5: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year5/>

Y6: <http://www.branfil.com/yg/year6/>

Pupil of the Week



12 January

Lexie Barclay, Holly Titterrell, Freddy White, Layla Fuller, Advika Bhomia, Sophie Cave, Emily Hampton, Frankie Jackson, Antonio Filomarino, Lewis Munn, Jahmai Sanni, Ralphie Gifford, Nicole Butnaru, Jasper Chen, Jack Porley, Abi Ford, Cara Vincent, Favor Akingbola, Beau Bailey.

19 January

Nathan Biddle, Isabella Sear, Alex Leggatt, Oliver McLarens, Amaia Borges Clark, Louis Gibbs, Lily Wren, Rosie Richardson, Phoebe Stone, Louis Scripps, Olivia Hodges, Stevie Bowers, Bella McMahan, Layla Parker-West, George Little, Ben Murphy, Alice Ritchie, Cezar Onet, Grace Oldland, Frankie Lang.