

Newsletter 30 June 2017

Dear parents and carers

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for your good wishes as I start my treatment. I have been overwhelmed by the flowers, presents, cards, emails and messages in person from parents, carers and pupils. Your support at this personally challenging time is hugely appreciated. Thank you.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

PTA Country Fayre

The Annual summer fayre hosted by the PTA is taking place this Sunday 2 July on the school playground between 12 – 3.00pm. There will be plenty of fun and games for all the family so please come along and support them.

Staff updates

Sadly Miss Cumming will be leaving us at the end of July, however we are delighted that she has been promoted to Early Years leader at another Havering school. We will miss her but wish her all our best and will no doubt continue working with her across the schools.

We are pleased to announce that we have three new members of staff joining our teaching team: these are Mr Grant, Miss Morriss and Miss Philpott. I am sure you will join me in making them welcome at Branfil.

Sports Days



Reminder to parent/carers that we have our sports morning for Y3,Y4, Y5, & Y6 on Monday 3 July at 9.20am and Reception, Y1 &Y2 is being held on Wednesday 5 July at 9.30am. Both events will be taking place on the school field and your support is greatly appreciated.

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.

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.

Dog Awareness

Thank you to all the parents/carers with dogs who leave them outside the school gate when collecting their children. Some people, however, are leaving the dogs completely unsupervised and when they become restless, this is distressing some young children. Please ask someone else to oversee your dog while you bring your children to school.



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.

Sainsbury Vouchers

Please check your purses/bags and pockets for any stray vouchers as we are now able to place our order. Thank you.

Back Gate

Following feedback from parents we are now opening the back gate from 8.30am.

The gate is closed at 9.00am at which time children are entering the playground for the Daily Mile.

The back gate will be opened by 3.20pm – as soon as children clear the playground from the Daily Mile and/or games lessons.

Morning Safety- please ensure you do not allow your child on the platform or the slope along by the school office in the mornings.

It can be very dangerous to swing on the bars and could cause a bad accident.

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.

Online Safety: Snapchat and Snap Maps

If you or your child is a user of the popular app Snapchat you have may be aware of a new feature that has been added, Snap Maps. This location based map allows users to see where in the country their Snapchat contacts are, as well as seeing location based photos and videos. The Snap Map shows a user's Bitmoji, their cartoon avatar within Snapchat, pinpointed on a world map. Users can then zoom into the map to see the exact location of their friends. It is important to be careful about who you share your location with, as it can allow people to build up a picture of where you live and spend your time. The following link contains advice from the Safer Internet Centre about ensuring that privacy and safety settings on Snapchat are enabled so that locations aren't shared unwittingly:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/introducing-%E2%80%98snap-maps%E2%80%99-new-location-sharing-feature-snapchat>

Waitrose Community

We have been donated £284 by Waitrose as part of their Community support programme. Thank you to everyone who donated their Waitrose tokens to us.

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.

Lego Cards

While we understand that 'swapping' cards is fun for the children I am afraid that school staff do not have the time to be distributing these as some parents have requested.

Quadkids

A team of Year 3 & 4 children took part in this year's Quadkids event at Hornchurch Sports Stadium on Tuesday 20th June. All pupils gave their best and were a credit to the school, especially in the hot weather conditions.

Well done to: George O'Meara, Oliver Greening, Louis Gibbs, Khalid Olanewdu, Joe Gree, Maddie Dennis, Milly Jones, Scarlett Paris, Mia Laronde, Jack West, James Sasere, William Baxter, Jack Hignett, Oliver Cossington, Alice Ritchie, Emily Hampton, Poppy Smith, Poppy Marketis and Megan Hatley.

Overall Year 3 team came 16th and Year 4 came 4th.

Individual achievements below:

Year 3

400m: Khalid Olanewdu (7th), George O'Meara (10th) and Milly Jones (5th)

Year 4

Sprint: William Baxter (8th), Jack Hignett (10th) and James Sasere (14th)

Jump: Jack Hignett (9th) and Poppy Smith (13th)

400m: Jack West (2nd) and James Sasere (8th)

Throw: Jack West (14th)

A very big thank you to all the children who attended training and participated in this year's Quad Kids; you did the school proud! Also a special thank you to all the parents/carers involved for your support.

Badminton Competition

Sixteen children from year 3 represented our school at the Borough badminton competition on Tuesday 27th June. They really entered into the spirit of it and did very well despite strong competition from some older children. They were a credit to the school.

Miss Briton

Year 5 visit to Eastbury Manor House

In history, Year 5 have been learning about the Tudors. Last week 5 Alder and 5 Aspen got to experience life in the Tudor times when visiting Eastbury Manor House. They spent the day in a 16th century Tudor mansion where they learnt about Tudor living. They thoroughly enjoyed playing with some of the Tudor toys and trying on Tudor clothes. The children had a memorable day and the Year 5 team would like to thank all the volunteers who helped us make this an amazing trip.

Mrs Harris

Junior Music Festival

On Wednesday 21st June, Branfil's school choir performed at The Queens Theatre along with six other local schools in the annual Junior Music Festival. The children sang beautifully and thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the concert. Mrs Campbell and Mrs Cole would like to thank all the children for their hard work this term and the parents/carers for their ongoing support.

Year 6 events

On Wednesday 28 June Y6 took part in a Junior Citizen event at Taunton Hall, Harold Hill. They learnt about personal safety, public transport, fire safety, littering, road safety, water safety, knife crime and substance abuse. It was a really interesting and informative morning and they even met the Mayor!

Last week the Year 6 and Reception children spent two afternoons together. The Year 6's organised a range of activities for the Reception children it was a pleasure to watch the positive interactions between the two year groups!

All the children are looking forward to repeating the experience again next week!

Miss Bain

Great Fire of London

On Wednesday 21st June Year2 had an exciting day learning more about our history topic of the Great Fire of London. The children came to school dressed as children from the Stuart era and we all participated in a fantastic drama workshop about the Fire. The workshop involved recreating Pudding Lane and we were even able to meet famous people from 1666 such as Samuel Pepys. It was a brilliant day and really helped the children to write some great diaries about September 1666.

Miss O'Toole

Hair accessories, nail varnish and jewellery

Please note that hair bows should be in school colours and no larger than 10cm.



Jewellery should not be worn except for discreet stud earrings and a watch.

Nail varnish should not be worn so please ensure that any children who attend pamper parties at the weekend remove their nail varnish in time for school on Monday.

Pupil of the Week



16 June

Cezar Onet, Ema Gackaite, John O'Hanlon, Ben Hollick, Freddie Tredwell, Daya Ghuman, Mia dorrian, Isabella McMahon, Harry Jones, Reece Narine, Jessica Vinten, Bailey Suckling, Jay Welch, Billy Persue, Lexie-Mae Foster

23 June

Sian Wilson, Joe Green, Elizabeth Jones, Antonio Filomarino, Isabelle Prior, Rhys James, Nancy SurrIDGE, George O'Meara, Joseph Teleki, Jack Thompson, Oliver Schafer, Milly Watts, Aadit Latey, Aidan Fairfax,