

Newsletter 8 September 2017

Dear parents and carers

After a busy summer of work in the school over the break the children and staff returned to find a new computer suite, new library area and improved art and music rooms. The children have all settled in well to their new classes and both staff and pupils are full of energy and enthusiasm for the new school year. In our first assembly the children learnt about the 'power of yet' and will be remembering that this one word has the power to ensure we all aspire to achieve the high expectations we need to succeed this year.

We warmly welcome our new staff; Mr Grant 6 Acacia, Miss Philpott 5 Hawthorn and Miss Morriss 2 Beech who join our teaching team. Mrs Dower will be teaching art throughout the school and joins our teaching support team. Mrs Cunningham and Mrs Woods join our Middy team and Mrs Panter joins our cleaning team. They have all had a fantastic week and have commented on how polite and well behaved Branfil pupils are!

School dates, year and class information will all be shared with you and meet the teacher meetings are an opportunity to find out the detail of what your child will be learning this year. However, if you have any further queries or concerns please speak to your child's class teacher at the end of the school day or contact the ladies in the school office.

Mrs L Fisk, Deputy Headteacher

Meet the Teacher Dates

Thurs 14 Sep Y1 - 9.10am

Fri 15 Sep Y2 - 9.10am

Tues 19 Sep Y4 - 9.00am

Wed 20 Sep Y3 - 9.00am

Thurs 21 Sep Y5 - 9.00am

Fri 22 Sep Y6 - 9.00am

Please wait outside by the hall entrance.

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.

Meet and Greet Arrangements

All teachers of Reception and Year 1 children will continue to greet the children on the playground between 8.50am – 9.00am every day.

Year 2 – 6 children will be greeted by Year Leaders who will pass on any messages to the class teacher:

8.50am - 9.00am

Y2 (Year Leader Miss O'Toole)

8.40am - 8.50am

Y3 (Year Leader Mrs Goodman/Mrs White)

Y4 (Year Leader Mrs Lee/Mrs Goodman)

Y5 (Year Leader Mrs Campbell/Mrs Fisk)

Y6 (Year Leader Miss Bain)

Any problems or concerns should initially be raised with the class teacher at the end of the day or by arrangement with the office. If there is no resolution you can then speak to the Year leader and only if still not resolved, contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

School Times

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Start: 8.50-9.00am children enter their classroom

Lunch: 11.50am-1.00pm for Reception;

11.50am-12.50pm for Years 1-2

End: 3.25pm

Years 3-6

Start: 8.40-8.50am children enter their classroom

Lunch: 12.20-1.20pm for Years 3-4;

12.30-1.30pm for Years 5-6

End: 3.30pm

Safeguarding before school

Please remain with your child in the playground until they enter the school building. Parents should only enter the building to access the school office. Parents should not enter any other part of the building.

Water Bottles for 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.

Parking Issues

We continue to receive regular complaints from our neighbours about the constant inconsiderate parking on a daily basis. We are aware that the majority of our parent/carers do park with care and consideration but there are a minority who flout the rules.

Can you please ensure that you are mindful of our residents and do not park over driveways and especially on the zig zag lines and the pavement as this is highly dangerous when there are children entering/leaving the school premises.

Thankyou

A huge thankyou to Mr Newman for sponsoring our school football kit. They will look very professional this season!

Also thank you to Mrs Punter and family for decorating our library with their lovely murals and our wonderful PTA for their help in arranging the books.

Year 3-6 Fruit Reminder

If your child wishes to have a snack at break time please send them in with a piece of fruit/ vegetable only.

Harvest Donations

Tuesday 19 September - Harvest Festival Assemblies (pupils only). We are once again collecting tins, biscuits and dried foods to send to; HOPWA House, a local Dementia Club and the local food bank. Please send any food donations in with your child to take to their classroom.

School Meals

Cost of school meals remains at £2.20 and can only be purchased on line at www.haveringcatering.co.uk

Tickets are delivered via school book bags.

The current menu runs until 20 October.

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.

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.

Office Opening Hours

Please note that the office will be open from 8.30am until 4.00pm daily.

Scooters, bikes, football

Please do not allow your child to ride bikes or scooters, or play with footballs before or after school in the school grounds.

Holiday Homework

A reminder that Mrs Sansom set the following challenges:

- Take photos of any bad grammar or spelling that you have spotted in the environment as you are out and about; we will display these in September
- Have someone take a photo of you reading in an unusual place, the more unusual the better! Your photos will go on display in our new library which will open in September.
- Join in the "Animal Agents" Summer Reading Challenge at your local library; certificates will be presented in a celebration assembly in the new academic year.
- Think of a suitable assembly song to replace "Proud" at the start of our celebration assembly and "Celebration" at the end - the songs will need to reflect the values we celebrate at Branfil.
(I am sure your family will have some interesting ideas too!)
- Learn to tie your laces if you cannot tie them yourself.