

### Newsletter 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear parents and carers,

The last two weeks have been really busy with World Book Day and our exciting science week which saw workshops and activities running across the school. The children fully engaged with all the activities and I would like to thank staff for the extra time and effort which go into these fantastic sessions.

We have also had some very successful sporting achievements which we are very proud of. Go team Branfil!

Red Nose Day today has seen the children wearing their red clothes and noses. With your support we will have raised a significant sum for Comic Relief. Watch the website for the final total!

A reminder that any contribution towards a leaving gift and/or messages for Miss Sutherland should be sent to the office as soon as possible.

I hope you have a happy, relaxing weekend

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

### Year 3 science workshop

Year 3 enjoyed their Science Workshop from Hands on Science. We all learnt about the different sugar content in foods and drinks and how it is important to have a varied and balanced diet. We also looked further at the human



body, in particular the role of the skeleton and the different bones. All the children enjoyed making their own puppet skeleton to take home.

### Values Based Education

This month our school value is Caring. At Branfil we care about and respect ourselves, each other and our environment. Children in our school show they care each day by working hard, helping each other and by contributing to groups such as our School Council and our Eco Council. If you or your child care about an issue and would like to raise its profile at our school then please encourage your child to share their ideas with their class' School Council representative and help make a positive difference.

'Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have.'

**Margaret Mead**



### Year 1 and 2 Superhero workshops

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 were very pleased to receive a visit from Perform on Monday 11th



and Tuesday 12th March. The children had a wonderfully energetic time exploring the theme of Superheroes: The Climate Change Challenge and using drama to help develop their confidence, concentration and social skills.

To complement the workshop, there is a free educational app for iPhones and iPads based around the theme of *Superheroes: The Climate Change Challenge*. It contains fun games, creative tasks and videos of the themed songs and dances.

### World Book Day

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March was World Book Day. All classes chose a book to focus on for the day. The children were then involved in various activities including: art work, writing own versions of the story, character descriptions and drama. By the end of the morning session each classroom door either looked like the front cover of the book or had the children's work on display. The afternoon was all about story telling with class teachers visiting three different classes to share their favourite book. The teachers and children thoroughly enjoyed this!

The story boxes that children were asked to make were amazing. Everybody who designed one received 5 house points and the winners from each year group received a book voucher in assembly. These will now be displayed either in the school library or the main corridor

### Year 1 and 2 Football Tournament

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, some children in Year 1 and 2 took part in the Mixed Football Competition at Playfootball. The Year 1 team demonstrated great teamwork and determination throughout all of their games and enjoyed trying out different positions. Year 2 developed their skills throughout the day, scoring and saving some amazing goals! They had great success and the Year 2 team won their group overall.



Well done to both Year 1 and 2 teams.

### Football - Branfil v Upminster Juniors

On the 15<sup>th</sup> March the boys' football team played their quarter final, in a local derby, against Upminster Junior School. In the first minute, Branfil asserted their dominance as James smashed the ball home. Shortly after, taking advantage of some confusion in the opposition defence, Ted pounced on the ball and drove the ball into the back of the net from the edge of the area. With Oliver controlling the game from central

midfield, Branfil went into half time with a deserved lead as they put constant pressure on the Upminster back line.

In the second half, James won a penalty after a

skilful dribble, that Liam coolly converted. After a determined run down the wing, Chay added to the goals, expertly



placing the ball with a confident finish. Jack W added another deserved goal with a low driven shot from 20 yards out before Joe finished off a great team move, volleying the ball home to make the final score 6 nil. Stalwart defending from Will, constant tracking back by Jack H and calm goalkeeping from George helped to keep a clean sheet.

Another entertaining match with Branfil showing their dominance through excellent team play and hard work. Congratulations boys. Good luck for the semi-finals!

### Car Parking Cedar Avenue

We are continuing to receive complaints regarding parking from residents and also reports of inappropriate behaviour/language by some individual parents towards residents in Cedar Avenue.

Please ensure that you park considerately avoiding dropped kerbs.

Our advice regarding anyone behaving inappropriately towards residents, or indeed towards parents, is for the local police to be contacted.

### Nutella in School

We would like to remind parent/carers that we are a nut free school as we have a number of children who suffer with severe peanut allergies. This does include Nutella in sandwiches as this contains hazelnut. Please do not send your child in with Nutella in sandwiches.

### Reception Science Visit from Mr Galvin from Coopers School

The children very much enjoyed a visit from Mr Galvin and immersing in all things science! A wonderful



afternoon had, watching rockets and creating indoor clouds with liquid nitrogen! We are all very excited for Mr Galvin to visit us again.

### Year 1 Phonics Screening

Year 1 parents/carers, the Phonics Screening Information Meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday 21st March 2019 9:00-9:45am.

### Parent Support Group Sessions

You and Me counselling are offering Parents and Supporting Hands which is a free parent-led support group which is held in Hornchurch, which brings together parents and carers of troubled young people to learn from each other and from outside experts about how to create positive change within their families and communities. If you are interested in these sessions please contact You and Me Counselling on 01708 477 663 or email info@youandmecounselling.org.uk .

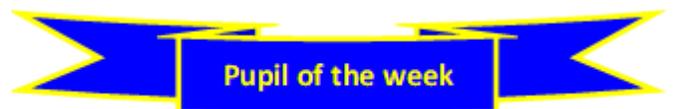
### Early Help Service

Parenting can be a complex business, from pre-school through to late teens. However sometimes we could all do with a little advice and support surrounding our

children's behaviour. Havering are offering free one-to-one parenting advice and support sessions. Every Thursday at St Kilda Children's Centre, 90 Eastern Road, Romford, RM1 3QA and every Monday Hilldene Children's Centre, Straight Road, Harold Hill, RM3 7DU. To arrange a free appointment from 10am to 7pm please call 01708 432 636 alternatively email parenting@havering.gov.uk .

### Mental Health and Wellbeing at Branfil

As we are celebrating Red Nose Day, it is important to remember that Comic Relief not only raises money to support vulnerable people and communities in the UK and internationally, but it also provides a great opportunity to laugh! Laughing releases endorphins, the body's "feel good" chemicals. Therefore, it provides short-term relief from tension and worry. Moreover, laughing reduces stress and strengthens social connections. As a result, one of the many benefits of laughter and humour is the power to combat anxiety and depression, according to researchers. Therefore, laughter is good medicine for child and adult mental health.



#### 8<sup>th</sup> March

**Matilda S, Amrita R, Gracie O, Ben W, Ben M, Elise D, Lennie O, Henry C, Ruby S, Eddie W, Max B, Loanne H, Ruby SL, Dylan E, Dean H, Leo F, Molly W, Jayden M, Rosie J, Luke M, Grace O.**

#### 15<sup>th</sup> March

**Arthur G, Esme F, Nicole I, Rebekah C, Mylea P, Vinny P, Logan M, Layla H, Chloe E, Henley O, Finley N, Roxie L, Lola V, William P, Lexie B, Beau B, Beth V, Thomas B, Kay S, Amy E, Ben G,**

### Upcoming dates in the next fortnight

Monday 1 April	Egyptian Day – Yr 4
Wednesday 3 April	Dance Festival at Windmill Hall (Yr groups TBC)

Thursday 4 April	Whole School Book Look – 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Monday 8 April	Reception & KS1 Lead Learner Assembly (Parent/Carers by invitation only)
Wednesday 10 April	KS2 Lead Learner Assembly (Parent/Carers by invitation only)
Wednesday 10 April	Dance Festival at Windmill Hall (Yr groups TBC)
Thursday 11 April	Spring Concert
<b>Friday 12 April</b>	<b>School finishes normal time for Easter holiday</b>

**INSET DAY for 2018/19 Term – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019**

**INSET Days for 2019/20 Term (agreed by Governors): 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020**