

Newsletter 10th September 2021

Dear parents and carers,

It has been lovely to hear our children talking about our new values; so many can already recite them:

L	Love
E	Explore
A	Aspire
R	Respect
N	Nurture

Please talk to your child about this half term's value, LOVE, and see what they have learnt in their assemblies and in class. You can also ask them who their class' Values Champion is each week and why that child was rewarded.

On a separate note, I wanted to remind you that we welcome all feedback, be it positive or negative, since we aim to work in partnership with you, for the benefit of your child. I would urge you to talk to your child's teacher if you have an issue, rather than use social media to air a concern, so we have the chance to work with you to reach a solution. We want every pupil to be happy at school so they can be successful learners.

Thank you all for your support at the start of this term, as we begin to enjoy some of the freedoms of life pre-COVID-19.

Kind regards

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

School start time

A reminder that the back and front gates are open between 8.40 am and 8.50 am for children to arrive in school.

Any children who arrive after this time will receive a late mark. The minutes late, and reason for lateness, have to be entered onto our registration system, and the office staff will also ask for your child's lunch requirement – this can all mean a delay (especially if parents have not consulted the menu in advance).

EVERYONE LEARNING TOGETHER

Vision for 2021-2026

Branfil is a vibrant learning community where we nurture lifelong learners who embody our school values and make a positive contribution to the world.

Adults and children feel valued and love learning together. Everyone thrives and achieves personal success through being happy, safe and confident learners, who ask questions, take appropriate risks, learn from their mistakes and seek help when needed.



Our value this half term is love and at Branfil we focus on loving ourselves, life and learning.

This then means your child is even later getting to class meaning that they miss some essential early morning work. We therefore encourage parents and carers to ensure that children arrive promptly, whilst the gates are open.

House Captains

Meet our new House Captains and Vice House Captains.

Meet our new House Captains and Vice House Captains.

'Love yourself, love life and love learning'

Tylers: Layla, Sophie, Eleanor and Maisie
Belhus: Lewis, Poppy, Darcy and Finley
Cely: Quadell, Helena and Izabella
Pages: Aurora, Henry, Maisie and Jess

Good luck to you all in your new role - you will be brilliant!

New Climbing Equipment

As you have probably noticed, the old climbing frame has been replaced by a brand new log climbing frame with artificial grass, beside the main playground. The children have thoroughly enjoyed playing on it during their lunchtimes and we are sure you'll agree that it looks much more inviting. The climbing frame will also be able to be used for reward time when classes achieve their Target 10, 30 or 50 and to support imaginative and physical play as part of their curriculum.



Contact with teachers

A reminder to parents/carers that they can contact their child's class teacher by using the following emails:

ash@branfil.havering.sch.uk
fir@branfil.havering.sch.uk
elm@branfil.havering.sch.uk
year1@branfil.havering.sch.uk
year2@branfil.havering.sch.uk
year3@branfil.havering.sch.uk
year4@branfil.havering.sch.uk
year5@branfil.havering.sch.uk
year6@branfil.havering.sch.uk



PE Update: Earrings and Plimsolls

We have recently received advice from Havering Educational Service about earrings and PE lessons. Although we were previously advised that micropore tape could not be used to cover earrings, we have now been advised that this tape can be used only if a child just had their ears pierced. In this situation, the tape would have to be fixed over the piercings before coming to school. However, we strongly encourage ear piercings take place at the beginning of the summer holidays as this will allow enough time for them to heal and be able to be removed for PE lessons.

Children must be able to remove their own earrings since these cannot be worn during a PE lesson for health and safety reasons. If your child finds it difficult to remove their earrings independently, we ask that you remove the earrings at home on PE days.

On indoor PE days, the children will come to school in their PE kit and black trainers. The children can take part in indoor PE in bare feet, however, if you would prefer them to wear footwear, please ensure your child has plimsolls inside their book bag (they cannot wear their outside trainers in the halls for PE lessons).

School Comms

You should have received a message advising of our forthcoming change from ParentPay to Schoolcomms for all communication and payments in the future. We would ask that you activate this as soon as possible to enable a smooth transfer to the new system.

If you have not yet received a notification about Schoolcomms please email: office@branfil.havering.sch.uk so that we can ensure you get the appropriate information.

If you have any money in your ParentPay purse you should request a refund – this is not something the school can do as we do not have access to the parent purse function on Parentpay.

Informing Us About Positive COVID-19 Cases

Under the new government guidance, if your child tests positive for COVID-19 then they must remain off school and follow instructions from Track & Trace. Please inform the school in the usual way, as for other absence.

Absent from School

Please remember to contact the school when your child is absent. You can either email: attendance@branfil.havering.sch.uk or telephone the school on 01708 225186 and **press option 1 if you wish to leave a message.** Please leave your child's name, class and reason for absence. If you wish to speak to a member of the office staff please hold on the line and your call will be answered. If you are informing us of a possible Covid contact, please remember to inform us again when you receive the result. Please arrange a test/tests for anyone who is displaying any symptoms that may be Covid related.

If it is not possible to arrange a medical appointment, including doctors, dentist or hospital appointments, outside the school day, please send a copy of your appointment by text or email attendance@branfil.havering.sch.uk. This is necessary in order for the absence to be authorised.

Second Hand Uniform

Our Branfil pre-loved uniform shop is open for socially distanced collections. You are able to purchase items of second hand uniform from Suzanne Lock, who is operating entirely Covid friendly. She asks that you text her your orders and she will then put the items in a box outside her house for collection. Please message Suzanne on 07773910611 or via the Branfil Primary Preloved Uniform Facebook page.



Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals please see the link below to apply. If your child is in R or KS1, you do not currently pay for school meals, but the school would still be able to get funding if you apply for free school meals. If your child is in KS2, you would save a significant amount of money if your child is entitled to free school meals.



As a thank you to any parents/carers who apply for, and are awarded, pupil premium, they will also get a one off grant of £50 towards school uniform to be used at the school suppliers. To apply is very simple: <https://my.havering.gov.uk/pages/onlineforms/free-school-meals.aspx#details>

sQuid

 Please remember to regularly top up your sQuid account and keep it in credit.

Pupil of the week

10th September 2021

Lexie-Mai, Arnie, Erin, Isla-Rose, Gino, Myla, Charlie, Michael, Jacob, Mylee, Holly, Eddy, Henry, Lewis, Layla, Rosie, Toby and Harry.



Happy Birthday!

Harrison, Mohamed, Tyler,
Charlotte, Josh, Finley, Michael,
Kamran, Enzi, Henry, James,
Amie, Minnie, Lewis, Fletcher,
and Chloe.



Birthday Sweets & Treats

Due to health and safety reasons, we are no longer able to distribute sweets or treats in school to celebrate children's birthdays. Please do not put your child's teacher in a difficult position by asking them to do this.

Wednesday, 15 September 2021	Reception children starting full time
Wednesday, 29 September 2021	Yr 5& 6 Author Webinar
w/b 27 September 2021	Year 6 Cycle Confidence Levels 1 & 2
Tuesday 5 October 2021	School Photographs
25 October – 29 October 2021	Half Term
Friday 19 November 2021	INSET day
20 December 2021– 3 January 2022	Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 4 January 2022	INSET day
14 February – 18 February 2022	Half Term
4 April – 18 April 2022	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 19 April 2022	INSET day
Friday 22 July 2022	INSET day

Virtual Drop-In Sessions

Becki is your Mental Health Worker



Trevor is your RMN – PMHT Clinician



- We are offering **virtual drop-in sessions** for parents/carers of children over the age of 5. These are for **signposting** and **information** regarding **emotional health** and **wellbeing**. Your school nurse may also join this session
 - You can talk to us about lots of things regarding your child, including:
Worries | Anger | Emotions | Sleep | Bullying | Coping Skills
 - Your next virtual drop-in will be on **Wednesday 29th September 2021** at **10am-12pm**. Please **speak to your school ASAP** if you would like to book a 15 minute slot. Your school will then email us to book you in and we will send school the video link for them to send to you
 - You can speak to us about personal information in confidence and we will not discuss this with anyone else without your permission. We would only pass on information in order to protect you or someone else from serious harm. **We would always discuss this with you first**
 - *Note: if your child already has an allocated CAMHS Clinician, please liaise with them*
- www.nelft.nhs.uk about any queries that you have as they will be able to best support you 