

## **Newsletter 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

Dear parents and carers,

Our last week of term has been really busy with lots of special activities:

- Year 2 children impressed us all with their fabulous nativity play;
- We welcomed Reverend Davies who led Christmas assemblies for the whole school;
- Our brass band played for us in our carol concerts and everyone sung their favourite carols with great enthusiasm;
- Christmas dinner was delicious and enhanced by the creative table decorations that children had made;
- The choir were invited back to Queen's Hospital to entertain everyone there;
- Movie Magic afternoons rewarded our Star Readers for the autumn term;
- Lead Learner assemblies celebrated those pupils who have been role models this term;
- Class parties ended the term in style.

All of these were only possible due to our fantastic staff team here at Branfil who really do 'go the extra mile'. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all – their hard work is really appreciated.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing the children back on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher



## **CD recording update**

Thank you so much to everyone who bought a CD; we hope you've enjoyed listening to the children sing their favourite Christmas songs. There are still a few remaining copies available from the office @ £8.99!

## **Values Based Education**

### **Appreciation**

As we prepare for Christmas, a time when we traditionally offer gifts and cards to loved ones, it is appropriate that our school value should be Appreciation. However during this period of Advent, let us show the people we care about how much we appreciate them not by breaking the bank or filling giant stockings to the brim, but instead through our words and actions. Let us help our children appreciate the little things in life: a smile, a compliment, giving time to help someone. As these are the things which can truly make the biggest difference.

'As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.'

John F. Kennedy

## **Christmas Table decoration competition**

Thank you to all who took part in the DT competition. The winners from each year group are:  
Isla Y6, Denny Y5, Phoebe Y4, Lois Y3, Mylee Y2, Raphael Y1 and Dylan Reception.  
The decorations made our school Christmas dinner very festive and special for all the children.

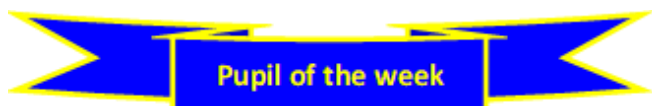
## **School Closure in the event of bad weather**

In the event of extreme weather conditions, should the decision be made to close the school, we will notify parents/carers as early as possible, either the evening before the closure or very early on the morning of the closure. Notification will be in the following ways:

- Parentpay text message
- An announcement on the school website – [www.branfil.com](http://www.branfil.com) (at the top of the page)
- On LGFL OpenCheck - Select LA = Havering and Branfil School.  
<https://opencheck.atomwide.com>.  
Download the Parentcomm: mobile app for free notifications to your phone.

### Respecting our neighbours

We would ask that you do not park across resident's driveways please. Also, we have had several reports of aggressive verbal exchanges between parents/carers and residents – please treat our neighbours with courtesy and respect.



### **20<sup>th</sup> December**

David G, William W, Sid A, Kayleigh G, Raphael D, Max M, Amelia P, Oliver L, Charlotte E, Jensen B, Oscar H, Lucy A, Heath B, George V, Rhys C, Eleni A, Amelia B, Eloise N, Demi A, Isabella B, Lilia W.

### House points

The house point trophy for this term was won jointly by: Belhus and Tylers.

### Excellence in the Arts Award:

Daisy W (3Oak) for her Starry, Starry Night painting

### Lead Learners for Autumn Term

Congratulations to the children who have been fantastic role models to their peers this term:

Dylan (Ash), Milena (Elm), Evie (Fir), Ava (1P), Charlie (1W), Reid (1L), Benjamin (2H), Benjamin (2B), Claudia (2C), Tommy (3H), Daisy (3O), Evie (3M), Gus (4L), Roxie (4B), Izabella (4R), Sonny (5Aspen), Sophie (5H) Sophie (5Alder), Stanley (6 A), Freya (6H), David (6C).

### 100% Attendance

A big "well done!" to all of the children who received their 100% attendance certificate in Celebration Assembly today.

### Sponsored Reading Challenge

Thank you to all who took part in the reading challenge. We have already raised around £600 which will be used to purchase additional books to keep the library up to date. If you still have sponsor money please send into school in the new term or pay by Parentpay.

Thank you.

<b>Monday 6 January</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>Tuesday 7 January</b>	<b>School reopens 8.40am – 8.50am whole school</b>
Friday 10 January	Official Launch of Branfil Radio with Time FM – 1.30pm – 3.00pm
Friday 10 January	Yr1 & Yr2 Dangerous Theatre Company Road Safety Workshop
Wednesday 15 January	Year 6 Explore Learning Event (selected Yr 6 children only)
Thursday 16 January	Boccia tournament at YMCA (selected children only)
Tuesday 21 January	More Able Writers event at Mawney School (selected Yr3 & Yr4 children only)
Tuesday 21 January	Yr5 & Yr6 Netball League at Noak Hill Sports Complex (selected Yr5 & Yr6 children only)
Thursday 23 January	Choir Young Voice performance at the O2

**DUE TO PRIOR NOTICE OF ANOTHER ELECTION ON THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020, THIS IS NOW REPLACING THE PLANNED INSET DAY ON 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2020. THIS NOW MEANS THAT AS THE EARLY BANK HOLIDAY IS ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FOR 2 DAYS – THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY AND FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY.**

**NEW INSET Days for 2020/21 (agreed by Governors):**

**3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020, 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021.**