

Newsletter 25th January 2019

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you to all our parents/carers who attended our Online Safety Workshop, run by the UK Safer Internet Centre, last Monday.

Our teachers also had an interactive training session which ensured that we are all up to date on current apps, programmes and issues online. If you were not able to join us then I strongly urge you to look at the presentation and resources on our website (under Key Information – Online Safety).

Whilst the online world has lots to offer our pupils, it also presents a significant safeguarding concern so it is vital that you ensure parental controls are used, as appropriate to your child's age. If you have concerns about your child's safety online, please speak to the class teacher in the first instance and we will help you.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

Year 6 SATS Meeting

A reminder to parents/carers of Year 6 pupils that our SATS workshop for parents/carers is being held on Thursday 31 January at 9.00am.

Changes to the list of dates

There was an error on the list of dates which stated that the children will return to school on Monday 3rd June, however, this is an INSET Day and children will return to school on Tuesday 4th June following our May Half Term. INSET days will remain on the bottom of the newsletter for information.



Also the Lead Learner assembly for KS2 (which is by invitation only) has been changed to Wednesday 10th April 2019.

The School Nurse drop in session has changed from 27th March to 3rd April 2019.

Values Based Education

This month we are celebrating our school value 'Trust' which is the firm belief that someone or something can be relied upon. Every day you trust us to help nurture, develop and keep your children safe and in turn we trust you to bring them to us on time, well fed, well rested and ready to learn. As a school we also trust our children to be well behaved, responsible and follow the school's Golden Rule: At Branfil we respect ourselves, each other and our environment. This mutual trust is vitally important to help all our children thrive. It has been proven that when people put their trust in someone or something, the chemical oxytocin is released by their brain which makes them feel good! So hopefully by trusting each other, we are also helping each other to feel good! What a lovely thought for the start of a new term.

Snow and adverse weather notifications

In the event of heavy snow please go to the front page of our website where we  will post updates. We will also send out a  Parent Pay text message to parents/carers (first contacts only).

Lollipop Lady

The Lollipop lady will not be at her post for the next two weeks and should return by 14th February. Please take care when crossing Gaynes Park Road.

Knife Crime Assemblies

Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 had an insightful assembly about knife crime led by You and Me Counselling Service in partnership with the probation service. You and Me Counselling are offering a counselling service for any children that parents/carers think may be impacted by knife crime:

- The child can be a victim / witness of knife crime – presenting issues could include signs of anger, aggression, frustration, fear,



withdrawal. The parent/carer is struggling as a result of this.

- This could also include young people whose family members are involved in knife crime.
- The child/young person is either at risk of exclusion or involvement in knife crime, or has been involved in knife crime.

They can offer 6 funded counselling sessions for anyone meeting any of the above criteria but the child / young person must be aged between 8 and 18 at time of application. If you feel you may benefit from this please contact the school who can make a referral on your behalf.

Library

We are looking for parent volunteers who are able to help out on a regular basis in our school library. Duties will involve sorting the books and organising the shelving in the library. If you are interested please speak to Mrs White (2 Beech).

Birthday sweets and cakes



A reminder to parents/carers that class teachers cannot give out

cakes or sweets for birthdays directly to the children. If you would like to give out sweets or cakes this must be done by the teacher in front of the parents/carers and the end of the school day.



Year 5 and 6 Netball Tournament



On Tuesday 22nd January 2019, some of the children in year 5 and 6 took part in this years' Netball League at Noak Hill Sports Complex. The netball team

worked very well together and played a total of four matches. We came an impressive 3rd overall! We gained lots of experience and were able to really

practice our footwork which is something we have been working on at Netball Club.

Year 5 and Year 6 Hamlet

As always the Young Shakespeare Company performed brilliantly and the children were engaged throughout as 'Hamlet' was brought to life in front of their eyes! The children particularly enjoyed the audience participation. Year 5 and 6 are looking forward to continuing to study Hamlet in school and completing a variety of English and drama activities.

TerraCycle Recycling

Our School has recently signed up to the TerraCycle recycling scheme. This scheme enables Schools to participate in recycling waste which is not generally collected by the borough's recycling service. Our Eco Council will be looking at implementing the scheme in the near future.



You can also look at the TerraCycle website to see where you can recycle different types of waste at various locations all over the borough:

<https://www.terracycle.co.uk/en-GB/>

Branfil Vs Ardleigh Green Football Match

On Wednesday 23rd January, Branfil's boys football team played a cup match against Ardleigh Green Junior School. Branfil were the team who started sharpest, with James taking advantage of some disorganisation at the back to slot the ball home. As the game settled, it became tighter but after a good passing move, James scored again. However, he wasn't finished and completed his hat-trick before half time. Just before half time, Ardleigh Green managed to get a goal back.

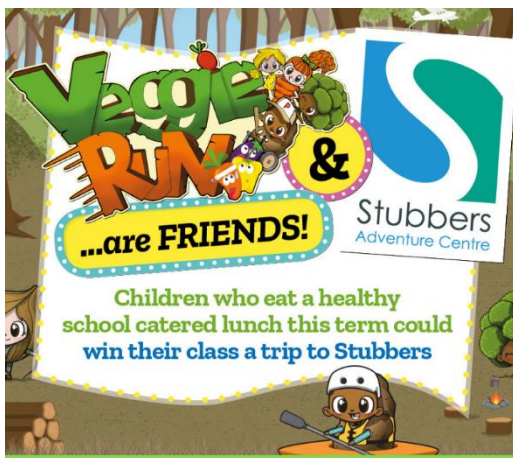
In the second half Branfil reasserted their dominance with Chay keeping his head, after a goal mouth scramble, to drive the ball into the back of the net. Soon after, James pounced on a rebound after a shot from Oliver hit the bar. Teddy finished off the scoring, sumptuously stroking the ball home from 20 yards out, after a neat passing move.



George demonstrated his prowess in goal, with some superb one on one saves but couldn't prevent Ardleigh Green getting a consolation goal, leaving the final score 6 – 2. Another excellent performance from the boys, who showed an excellent team spirit, in another commanding win.

Veggie Run

Havering Catering Service are running a new competition for the class with the highest uptake of School Meals.



Six class trips to Stubbers Adventure Centre to be won

The top two schools to demonstrate the highest school meal uptake against their role number from 14 January - 14 February 2019, will be the first to win a "Learning outside of the classroom" activity day for 30 pupils plus free transport.

Prize to be taken 27 and 28 February, 9am - 3pm
Winners announced Friday 15 February



needs at home, please join us at this workshop. Or, maybe you just fancy popping along to pick up some tips or new ideas. During the workshop, you will explore how you can support your child in a positive and collaborative way, which in turn will impact on their everyday life, including when at school.

You and Me Counselling Funded projects

You and Me Counselling is a charitable organisation which provides counselling and psychotherapy; and they are based in Hornchurch. They work with young people from age 5 upwards and their families. There are a number of projects they are currently funding:

- The People's Health Trust is funding project PASH, a fortnightly group for parents/carers of young people who suffer from mental health or behavioural problems. The parent-led sessions allow the group to learn from each other and professionals on how best to support their children.
- Children in Need have provided funding to support children, young people and their families affected by substance abuse within the family. This consists of both one-to-one and family counselling for the young person and their immediate family.
- Young Londoners fund which is funded by the Mayor of London's Office, which is to provide mental health support to children and young people between the ages of 10-21.

If you are interested in accessing any of these schemes please see their website - <http://youandmecounselling.org.uk/>

Mental Health and Wellbeing at Branfil

Next week, on the 30th January, we are hosting a Restorative Parenting workshop. If you feel that your child is experiencing mental health or behavioural

**Harrison C, Isabella B, Isabelle P, Amelie L, Stanley F,
William I, Scarlett C, Matilda B, Layla P-W.**

Pupil of the week

14th January

Madison M, Betty M, Lucie P, Claudia G, Bella C, Ruby W, Daniel C, Kol S, Lily-Rose D, Poppy R, Alfie W, Sadie W, Jessica R, Isla W, Evie H, Scarlett P, Alissa P, Abby C, Ella G, Lily-May, Lewis P.

21st January

Joe B, Harris F, Ernie W, Jack W, Maxim G, 1, Harry T-S, Irene G, Holly A, Izabella K, 3 Hazel, Heath B,

Upcoming dates in the next fortnight

Wednesday 30 January	Restorative Justice Parent/Carer workshop – 9am-11.30am
Thursday 31 January	Yr 6 SATS Parent/Carer Workshop – 9.00am – 9.40am – Main Hall
Monday 4 February	Choir Young Voices Performance at the O2 Arena
Tuesday 5 February	Athletics at Hornchurch Stadium - Yr 1 and Yr2 (selected children only)
Tuesday 5 February	The Dangers of Online Activity workshop for Yr5 and Yr6
Wednesday 6 February	Year 2 SATS parent/carers workshop – 9.00am -9.40am – Main Hall
Thursday 7 February	Parent Consultation meetings 3.30pm -7.00pm
Friday 8 February	Road Safety Production in school for Yr1 & Yr2

INSET DAY for 2018/19 Term – 3rd June 2019

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