

Newsletter 29th November 2019

Dear parents and carers,

Tomorrow sees the start of Branfil's Christmas season with the Friends of Branfil 'Christmas Cracker' fair. This is always fabulous family fun with a huge variety of stalls where you can buy and win Christmas gifts plus Santa's grotto, refreshments and music from our choir.....the list goes on! (please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more information). As well as being a great community event, the money raised makes a big difference to the resources and activities that we can provide for our pupils. Please grab your family and friends then join us tomorrow between 11am – 2pm to start Christmas in style!

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

History Museum Open Afternoon

Come along to our History Museum Open Afternoon next Tuesday from 3.30pm – 4.30pm. Yr 1-Yr6 will have open classrooms with all our history project work we have done over this term.



Nut products in School

Please ensure you do not send your child into school with any products that contain any type of nut as we have children with severe allergies.

Late arrival at school

Please ensure your child arrives promptly at school before the gates close at 8.40 am. Children arriving into school late miss the beginning of lessons and disrupt the other children when arriving.

Values Based Education

Peace

This month our school value is peace. I think it is fair to say that at times all of us (parents, staff and children) all need a bit of peace. It helps us refocus our thoughts, reflect on what has been done and what needs to be done, as well as giving us a welcome break from the rigours of modern life which often moves at 100 miles per hour. This month let us all make sure we give ourselves time to be peaceful, to be at rest and to show our children the true value of being at peace.

'Don't let people pull you into their storm. Pull them into your peace.'

Kimberly Jones

Chatham Dockyard Trip

Year 6 had a fantastic day at Chatham Dockyard.

They went in a genuine Second World War Air Raid Shelter where they experienced the sights, smells and sounds of an Air Raid in one of the Admiralty's 'most luxurious' shelters of the time.

Then they got to go on the HMS Cavalier where they learnt about life above and below deck aboard the Royal Navy's last operational Second World War Destroyer.

They also got to explore the HM Submarine Ocelot - the last Royal Navy warship built at Chatham Dockyard.



The children behaved impeccably, especially on the extra-long journey home! They were a credit to Branfil.

Thank you to all the parent helpers too!

Christmas Notices

Our Christmas Post boxes will be in use from Monday 9th December for the children to send their cards. Please ensure your cards are labelled with the children's first name and class.



Christmas Dinner for the children will be on Wednesday 18th December. Children and staff are invited to wear a festive hat for the occasion. We will also be organising a Christmas table decoration competition for Christmas dinner day. A letter regarding this will be sent out shortly.

Friday 20th December will be the class party days. Children will be allowed to wear non-uniform and we encourage festive outfits! Board games can be brought in for the children to play (no electronics please). Teachers will be asking for a £1 donation for Class Christmas Parties to cover refreshments and prizes. Please give this to your child's class teacher or year leader on the playground by **Friday 13th December**.

CD Recording

We were very lucky on Friday to have a recording artist come in to record Branfil's own Christmas CD. Every year group was involved in choosing, learning and singing a Christmas song that was recorded. It was a thoroughly enjoyable, fun and festive day getting us in the mood for the upcoming festivities. Thank you to everyone who has purchased a CD. Well done to every child involved!



The winners of the design a CD competition are Isla in Year 6 and Amber in Year 5. Congratulations!

Little learners Christmas Nativity

Nine Year 6 children have had the joy of working with children from the Little Learners Nursery to help prepare them for their Christmas Nativity. On the 19th November, Branfil's children went for a stay and play afternoon with the nursery children and helped them to learn their nativity songs. The nursery children loved having some friends to play with! The final performance will be on 5th December, here at Branfil.

Art Recycling Project

In the New Year, our Arts and Eco Councils will be collaborating with Brady Primary School to create a piece of art work showcasing the need to recycle and the damage caused by plastic waste.



Both our Arts and Eco Council teams have been working incredibly hard to create a selection of designs to potentially use for our project. One main resource that will be required for one of our projects will be the use of plastic bottle lids.

We kindly ask for any donations of clean plastic bottle lids to be handed in to class teachers in bags. Please keep an eye on the school website for updated information regarding the progress of the project.

Year 6 Football Match

Yesterday the girls' football team played a match against Oakfields. They won 10-1. There were great goals from Ruby, Maddie, Winnie, Molly and Milly. There was also fantastic defending from Kara, Mia and Lailah and brilliant saves from Caitlin. A fantastic team effort from you all!

school. Please drop a note or email to school advising us of this.

The school does have a very small supply of emergency inhalers for use if a child's inhaler fails. Parents will need to sign a letter of permission for this to be used and these forms will be sent home next week.

Asthma UK On-line provide resources to support parents/carers and schools – please see links below:

<https://www.asthma.org.uk/advice/child/life/school#pe>

<https://www.asthma.org.uk/advice/child/asthma-attacks/>

Air Quality

Air quality is an important issue for children with asthma. We would remind parents/carers to walk or cycle to school wherever possible, to park a distance away if you need to drive and to always switch off engines when parked outside school.

The following link provides some important information:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/environment/pollution-and-air-quality>

Cleaning Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a school cleaner for 10 hpw, 3.15pm-5.15pm plus 40 hours to be worked in the summer holidays. If you are interested please contact office@branfil.havering.sch.uk

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 as early as possible either the evening before the closure or very early on the morning of the closure. Parents will be notified in the following ways:

- Parentpay text message
- An announcement on the school website – 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 Android or IOS phone.

Call 020 8408 7508



22nd November

Dylan J, Brody S, Hunter L, Lawson T, Remi F, Kabishayan J, Sidaq S, Darcy D, Henry C, Tommy W, Rhys S, Dolcie W, Ekkam S, Sophie C, Louis S, William P, Jack P, Leo F, Milly J.

29th November

Betty F, Willow S, Marian H, Ruby A, Mohammed E, Maya EE, Holly A, Blake J, Kamran S, Julia C, Eva-Grace B, Henry M, Finley C, Alissa-Mae L, George S, Isabelle P, Evie B, Jessica R, Abby C, Jack M, Zach McM.

Monday 2 December	Year 3 Trip to Colchester Castle
Tuesday 3 December	History Museum Open afternoon 3.30 – 4.30pm
Wednesday 4 December	Whole school Flu Vaccinations
Thursday 5 December	Phonics briefing and lesson for R & Y1 parents/carers: how we teach phonics and how to support your child at home 9.00-9.45am
Tuesday 10 December	Reception Christmas Concert 2.15pm (by Ticket only)
Wednesday 11 December	Reception Christmas Concert 2.15pm (by Ticket only)
Friday 13 December	Y2 Christmas Play 2.15pm (by Ticket only)
Monday 16 December	Y2 Christmas Play 2.15pm (by Ticket only)
Monday 16 December	Year 1 Victorian Workshop
Wednesday 18 December	Christmas Lunch (Children can wear a festive hat)
Wednesday 18 December	R & KS1 Lead Learner assembly 9.00am (by invitation only)
Wednesday 18 December	KS1 Star Reader reward; Movie Magic – 1.15pm – 3.15pm
Thursday 19 December	KS2 Star Reader reward; Movie Magic – 1.15pm – 3.15pm
Thursday 19 December	KS2 Lead Learner assembly 9.00am (by invitation only)
Friday 20 December	School finishes normal time for Christmas holiday – (non-uniform day – festive outfits encouraged!)

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

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL BE CLOSED ON THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER DUE TO THE SCHOOL BEING USED AS A POLLING STATION

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



Generously supported by
Nisa
Gaynes Park Road, Upminster

Friends of Branfil
CHRISTMAS CRACKER

HELPERS + DONATIONS NEEDED
FRIENDS.BRANFIL.COM

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
11AM 'TIL 2PM

FUN TO BE HAD...

- SANTA'S GROTTO
- SCHOOL CHOIR
- LUCKY BAGS
- THE NORTH POLE LAUNDRY – WIN!
- YE OLDE CHRISTMAS SHOP
- SWEETIE STALL
- DREAMCATCHER PHOTOS
- EXTERNAL SELLER STALLS
- BBQ + REFRESHMENTS
- TEDDY BEAR EMPORIUM
- TOY SHOP
- TOY TOMBOLA – WIN!
- BOTTLE TOMBOLA – WIN!
- GLITTER TATTOOS
- HAIR DECORATION
- CRAFT CLUB
- SPLAT-THE-SNOWMAN
- HOOK-A-BAUBLE
- KNOCK THE ELF OFF THE SHELF
- CHRISTMAS PONG
- REINDEER RUN

PRIZES TO BE WON...

- KIDS R US FREE ENTRY
- DEEP YOGA BEATS CLASSES
- STUDIO FLORIST VOUCHER
- CAKE BOX CAKE
- CAFE GELATO VOUCHERS
- JOBBERS REST VOUCHER
- BELLA SPOSA WINE
- BELLA SPOSA CANDLE
- JOHNSON BUTCHER VOUCHERS
- TOWER BRIDGE VISIT
- £30 JOULES VOUCHER
- BARLEYLANDS VISIT
- MAA EYECARE DESIGNER
- SUNGLASSES X 2
- ONGAR RAILWAY TRIP
- TRAIN CAB EXPERIENCE
- TRAIN SIMULATOR EXPERIENCE
- FAMILY PANTO TICKETS
- QUEENS THEATRE TICKETS
- MARSH FARM ENTRY
- ADVENTURE ISLAND TICKETS
- BISCUITS, CHOCOLATES + MORE