

## Newsletter 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear parents and carers

I am delighted to let you know that we now feel able to welcome you back into school following two challenging years when our COVID-19 risk assessment has prevented us from involving you in the life of the school in this way.

All year groups are planning an event this term where you can join your child in an activity and/or see them perform songs, dances or poems. Please see the diary dates for more details; if your child's class is not on there yet then please check the next newsletter because details are still being finalised.

On the date's section, you will also see that we will be holding sports days where you can spectate once again.

Do get these dates in your diary and we look forward to welcoming you in person once again.

Kind regards

Mrs Sansom  
Headteacher

## Twitter

Please follow us @BranfilPrimary to see life at Branfil.



## Scavenger Hunt



We would like to say a HUGE thank you to all the children that got involved in the scavenger hunt. It was a great success as we raised an amazing £1200! We have spent some of the money on books that explore a range of disabilities, cultures and religions. These books have been distributed to classes with the help of our Diversity and Difference committee, who are continually working together to find engaging, positive texts that showcase our differences.

## Vision for 2021-2026

### **EVERYONE LEARNING TOGETHER**

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.

## **Nurture the nature for a beautiful future**

-Devakumar G

Our value this term is NURTURE.

In our learning community we develop children's understanding of mental, spiritual and physical health, including strategies to employ when facing challenges in these areas.

## On Line Safety

Did you know... all internet capable devices have parental controls that can be enabled to make it safer for your child

Internet matters is a brilliant website full of useful tips and quick guides for setting up parental controls across a wide range of devices or websites



[Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides - Internet Matters](#)

### Excellence in the Arts Award

Last week the Excellence in the Arts award went to Ava in 4 Birch. Inspired by the ancient Japanese art of origami, Ava created a lake scene complete with intricate waterlilies, whimsical frogs, and majestic swans. Not only does exploring this art form require patience and determination but great care too. Demonstrating our value of nurture, Ava spoke most thoughtfully about working with family members while honing her skills as an artist, reminding us all of the value in sharing our passions with the ones we love.



Excellence in the Arts this week goes to Leila in 4 Birch for her delicate and carefully constructed floral design. Masterful in her medium of tissue, Leila constructed the sweetest of petals for her three-dimensional flowers. Mrs Hanson was in awe of Leila's botanical eye, especially the patience and precision with which she assembled stamens that stand proudly from her page. Already a masterpiece in progress, we are all excited to see where she takes this blossoming artwork next!



### Tri-Golf Festival

On Tuesday, 10 children from years 3 and 4 went to Noak Hill Sports Centre to take part in a Tri-Golf Festival. Whilst there, the team tried out 8 different golfing games and were awarded lots of bonus points for skills such as team-work, communication and enthusiasm. All golfers had a brilliant time, enjoyed learning about a new sport and improved their skills over the course of the afternoon.



### Eco-Committee Recycling Competition

The 22nd April was Earth Day. Our Branfil Eco-Committee made a video to let everyone in school know about Earth Day and what we can do to help the environment. This week, during playtime, we have also been litter picking to help keep our school grounds clean.



The Eco-Committee have created a competition that they would love the children of Branfil to get involved with. They have set the challenge of making a poster, model, film or song to encourage people to recycle-please see your child's Google Classroom for more details. There are lots of exciting eco prizes to be won. The competition closes on Friday 6th May and the Eco-Committee will choose the winners from Reception, KS1 and KS2 the following week.

## Love Reading

A reminder that parents and carers have access to the LoveReading4Schools page using the link below:

<https://www.lovereadingschools.co.uk/school/12061>

This will allow you to access a broad range of recommended books for you to read with your child. Recently updated lists include a Diversity and Difference book list! Check it out!



## Library Volunteers



We are now starting to actively plan to relocate our school library in a much larger room in the centre of the school. As part of the refurbishment, we have purchased a software system called Librosoft which will allow us to catalogue all of our library

books so children can scan them in and out, search for specific titles/authors and reserve books. We are looking for volunteers for this term who can help us to catalogue the books. This is a manual job where the ISBN code for each book is scanned then a sticky bar code is put in the back cover of the book and scanned in order to link the book to its details. If you are able to offer some time to help us with this task, you will need to hold a current DBS check, which the school can organise for you. Please contact the school office if you can offer some of your time.

## 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](mailto:ash@branfil.havering.sch.uk)

[fir@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:fir@branfil.havering.sch.uk)

[elm@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:elm@branfil.havering.sch.uk)

[year1@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:year1@branfil.havering.sch.uk)

[year2@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:year2@branfil.havering.sch.uk)

[year3@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:year3@branfil.havering.sch.uk)

[year4@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:year4@branfil.havering.sch.uk)

[year5@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:year5@branfil.havering.sch.uk)

[year6@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:year6@branfil.havering.sch.uk)



## Absent from School

**Appointments should be made outside of school hours. If it is not possible to arrange a medical appointment, including doctors, dentist, opticians or hospital appointments, outside the school day, please send a copy of your appointment by text or email to:**

**[attendance@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@branfil.havering.sch.uk).**

**This is necessary in order for the absence to be authorised. Please email in advance of the appointment to ensure that the teacher is aware and your child/children are sent to the office ready for you to collect.**

**Please remember to contact the school when your child is absent on a daily basis. You can either email: [attendance@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto: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. Please do not just say your child is unwell as we need to record a reason. If you wish to speak to a member of the office staff, please hold on the line and your call will be answered.

## 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. We do need to close these promptly so staff can get to meetings, assemblies and classrooms.

Please do not enter the back gate at 8.50am and expect it to still be open for you to go out that way.

## Water Bottles

Please remember to send a named water bottle into school with your child each day.



### 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>

### Milk at School

Please be aware that, from January, we reinstated the offer of school milk as a part of the school food plan. Milk will be available in the dinner hall at lunchtime for any pupil who requests it.

### 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.

## Weekly Attendance Awards!

### 20.04.2022 -24.04.2022

The Attendance Cup was won by 4 Larch.



### 25.04.2022 – 29.04.2022

The Attendance Cup was won by Elm and Fir classes.



### Happy Birthday!

Ada, Simona, Milo, Mila,  
Albert, Harriet, Marni-Rae,  
Belle, Moses, Phoebe, Paige,  
Billy, Raffe, Liam, Poppy,  
Blake, Noah, Jacob and Eva.





**20<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Bella, Kaiden, Jed, Joshua, Gabriel, Miles, Aydin, Harry, Matias, Niamh, Charlie, Amrita, Carter, Lily, Maksim, Harvey, Emilija, Ben, Izabella, John and Hooria.



**29<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Lillianne, Teddy, Sophie, Jayden, Esme, Leonid, Summer, Joe, Jessica, the whole class, Ananya, Ruhi, Leila, Ryan, Anna, Layla, Kol, Aaron, Ekkham, Scarlet and Maria.



**INSET DAYS 2022-2023**

Thursday, 1st September 2022

Friday, 2nd September 2022

Thursday, 5th January 2023

Friday, 6th January 2023

Monday, 17th April 2023

**Please note: 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 was incorrect**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

<b>Tuesday 3 May 2022</b>	<b>Reception Height, Weight, Vision and Hearing Tests (ASH)</b>
<b>Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>Year 6 SATs</b>
<b>Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> May – Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>Year 6 Residential trip to Gilwell Park Activity Centre</b>
<b>Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> May – Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>Virtual Commonwealth Week</b>
<b>Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>Reception Stay and Play 1:55 - 2:55pm</b>
<b>Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>Reception Stay and Play – 1:55 – 2:55pm</b>
<b>Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>New Intake Induction Meeting 5:30 – 6:30pm</b>
<b>Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>Reception Stay and Play - 9:15 – 10:15am</b>
<b>Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>Young Voices Concert at the O2</b>
<b>Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>Whole Class Photograph</b>
<b>Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>Year 3 Sharing With Parents Event: 3 Maple 9:05 – 9:35am 3 Hazel 09:55 – 10:25am and 3 Oak 2:15 – 2:45pm</b>
<b>Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b>	<b>INSET day</b>
<b>Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>Half Term Holiday</b>
<b>Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> June, Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> June &amp; Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>Jubilee Dance Workshops</b>
<b>Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>Sports Day – 9:00 am Years 1 &amp; 2      1:30 pm Years 5 &amp; 6</b>
<b>Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>Sports Day – 1:30 pm Years 3 and 4</b>
<b>Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>New Intake Stay and Play– parent/carer and child 2-3pm</b>
<b>Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>Virtual Rounder’s Week</b>
<b>Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>1 Willow – Parent Event – Moon Party 1:45-2:45pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>1 Lime – Parent Event – Moon Party 1:45-2:45pm</b>
<b>Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>1 Pine – Parent Event – Moon Party 1:45-2:45pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>Year 6 Citizen Event 8:30am</b>
<b>Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>Ash Class Assembly – 2:30 – 3:00pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>Fir Class Assembly – 2:30 – 3:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>Elm Class Assembly – 2:30 – 3:00pm</b>
<b>Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>New Intake Child Stay and Play 2-3pm New Intake Parent/Carer Meeting 2-3pm</b>
<b>Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>6 Acacia Production 1:45 – 2:45pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>6 Chestnut Production 1:45 – 2:45pm</b>
<b>Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>6 Hornbeam Production 1:45 – 2:45pm</b>
<b>Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>School finishes usual time for Summer Holiday</b>
<b>Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022</b>	<b>INSET day</b>
<b>Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022</b>	<b>Children return to school</b>