

11th June 2020

Dear parents/carers,

Some of you may be aware of concerns that were raised in the local community yesterday about the name of our school and its connection to the slave trade. I had no awareness of this link to our school, although I have now found an article in the Romford Recorder in 2017 about this.

I wanted to let you know that I am in communication with relevant Local Authority staff and our Governing Body about this issue and how best to respond. This is a much wider issue than just Branfil Primary School since it includes road names and other organisations in our local area, and throughout the country. If there is a strong feeling towards changing the school's name then the Governing Body will consider this and gather the views of the wider community to inform their decision.

Please see the statement from Councillor Damian White, the Leader of Havering Council, which was issued today, stating the action being taken by the council:

https://www.havering.gov.uk/news/article/805/council_announces_independent_review_of_race_relations.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sansom
Headteacher