

24th June 2020

Dear parents and carers of children in Year 6

We are now heading towards the end of the summer term and therefore the end of your child's time at Branfil. It has been lovely to welcome many of our Year 6 children back into school recently but unfortunately we have not been able to have them back full time and we also still have a significant number of children learning at home due to their personal home circumstances.

It is sad that the children have not been able to all be together again and that we have not been able to arrange the usual end of Year 6 events to mark the end of their time at Branfil. However, we know that endings are important, as are transitions, to prepare children for their next step. We therefore invite all of our Year 6 children back for a face-to-face session with the Year 6 staff:

- 6 Chestnut – Monday 20th July between 1.30-2.30pm
- 6 Acacia - Tuesday 21st July between 1.30-2.30pm
- 6 Hornbeam – Wednesday 22nd July between 1.30-2.30pm

This will enable the children to return to Branfil to say goodbye to their classmates and teachers.

These sessions will be on days when only key worker children are in school (these children will join the relevant session with their current class). Each session will last for an hour for each class and will take place in small groups. Where possible the sessions will be outdoors, on the playground and Garwood Court, but halls and classrooms will be ready for use as a wet weather contingency. Children and staff will maintain social distancing of 2m throughout the session; please ensure that your child knows that sharing a hug will not be possible.

The children will be able to bring a picnic lunch to eat (no nuts or products containing nuts please) and they will be able to choose who they sit with during the session. They can have a chat and a catch up while the staff go round and talk to each group. We hope to have some music playing throughout the sessions and to provide an ice-lolly for every child.

Children do not need to wear uniform and they are encouraged to bring a water bottle and a cushion or small blanket to sit on if they wish. If it is a hot and sunny day, please make sure your child has sun cream applied, plus a hat with a brim or peak. Unfortunately, it will not be possible for your child to use the school toilets so please ensure they have used the toilet before leaving home.

At your allotted time, please wait with your child at the main gate on Cedar Avenue – social distancing markings are on the fence posts to help you to queue safely. Teachers will let your child in promptly and will return them to you at the same gate at the end of the session. Please do not congregate and wait around the school gate during this time since it is important that social distancing is maintained for all of our safety.

These sessions are optional; we understand that some families may choose for their child not to attend due to their personal circumstances.

Please be aware that teachers will not ring children during the last fortnight of term since hopefully they will be seeing them in person for these sessions instead. I would also like to confirm that the last day for our Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 bubbles will be Thursday 9th July or Thursday 16th July (depending on the week the children are in school based on the rota). For our key worker bubbles, school finishes for the summer on Wednesday 22nd July.

We will look forward to welcoming our Year 6 children back to Branfil to say a proper goodbye in person and let them know how proud we are of how they have coped during such a challenging time for everyone.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher