

## **Newsletter 22nd September 2023**

Dear parents and carers

It is very important to us that we work in partnership with you so we can do the very best for your child. There is a lot of information on our website to keep you informed about what your child is learning so you can support this at home. The year group page (accessed from the bottom of the home page) has details of the maths and English objectives to be covered in the week ahead. You can find an overview of the topics to be covered in all subjects across the year on the curriculum tab, under yearly overview plans. For details of our approach to home learning, which is based on personal choice, please see this tab on the home page.

If you require more information about what your child is learning or how to help them at home, please contact the class teacher via email. They will either ring you for a chat or arrange to meet you in person.

Please help us to help your child by working with us and keeping channels of communication open.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

### **Meet our House Captains and Vice House Captains**

Congratulations!

Meet our new House Captains and Vice House Captains: Albert, Simona, Mylee-Rae, Oliver, Darcy, Jude, Brianna, Charlotte, Lukas, Jasmine, Rebekah C and Cara V.

Good luck to you all in your new role - you will be brilliant!



### 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.

LOVE  
EXPLORE  
ASPIRE  
RESPECT  
NURTURE



### **Cricket Success**

Lyla, Mylee-Rae, Mila, Mabel and Minnie are all part of Upminster Cricket Club. The U10 girls team won the Central Softball League last weekend - congratulations to you all!



### Welcome to Acorns and Conkers classes

Reception has had a wonderful first few days at school! We have enjoyed lots of time getting to know our friends and the grown ups in our class and are really enjoying coming to school at Branfil!



### 4 Birch to Pizza Express

4 Birch had a great time at Pizza Express last Monday. They made Margherita pizza for their DT unit this term and enjoyed sampling them back at school. 4 Larch and 4 Rowan are looking forward to their visits in October and November.



### Year 4 Anglo Saxon Workshop

On Monday, year 4 were visited by Ash, an Anglo-Saxon from the past! He showed them weapons and battle styles, clothing and jewellery, food and drink and burial rituals from that period of history. The children thoroughly enjoyed finding out about medieval Britain and are now ready and raring to learn more during our history lesson this term.

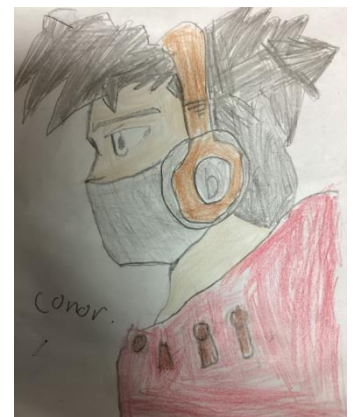


### Excellence in the Arts



Avtar in 2 Beech is last week's winner. He has been inspired by Year 2's current history topic of the Great Fire of London to create this chalk and watercolour masterpiece depicting that fateful September in 1666. Avtar's thoughtful use of bold, contrasting colours is incredibly effective in showing St Paul's Cathedral against a backdrop of raging fire and billowing smoke.

Conor in 3 Oak has been working hard at home to improve on his sketching skills. He carefully followed along with a tutorial to help him create this fantastic sketch. Conor's attention to detail has helped him to create a well proportioned outline and his use of shading has added some great details.



### Scooters



Scooters must be dismantled as soon as children enter the school grounds and must not be driven in the playground at drop off and pick up times.

Riding scooters on site is potentially dangerous for pedestrians as well as the children riding the scooters.

If members of staff see children riding scooters, they will tell them to dismount.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

### Contacting the school

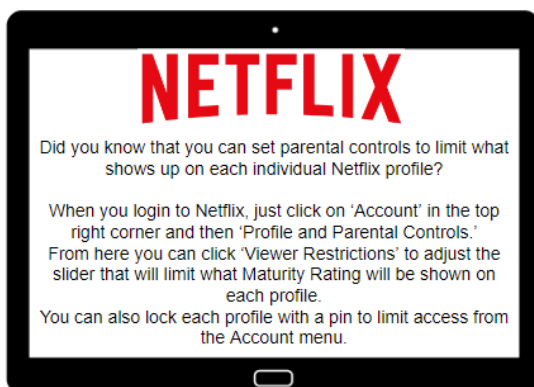


Please be aware that if you contact the teachers during the school day they cannot be expected to read and respond to your email since they will be teaching. The teachers may check their emails during their lunch break, however, this is not a school expectation and they will not always have time to reply.

If you are emailing anything to do with attendance, e.g. illness or appointments, this must be sent to [attendance@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@branfil.havering.sch.uk).

If you are emailing regarding a different collection time or arrangement, only let the teachers know if you are able to inform them before 8am on the day. After this time, please email [office@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:office@branfil.havering.sch.uk). Please note, if the person collecting your child is on the pickup list you do not need to inform the school since they will be released to anyone on this list.

### Internet Safety



### Contact with teachers

A reminder to parents/carers that they can contact their child's class teacher by using the following emails:

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



### X / Twitter

Please follow us @BranfilPrimary to see life at Branfil.



### Water Bottles

Please remember to send a named water bottle into school with your child each day. This should be plastic, reusable, approximately 500ml capacity (so it will fit into our carry crates) and clearly labelled with child's name and class. Only plain water is allowed.

### Happy Birthday!

Diona, Albey, Fletcher, Chloe,  
Olivia, Rishi, Alice, Patrick,  
Maddison, Kamilla, Kendra, Evie,  
Skyla-May, Aidan, Rola,  
Elizabeth, Addison, Oliver,  
Oleksandra, Casey, Olivia,  
Jenson, Anneliese, Aisha,  
George, Rosie, Maksim



## School start time

A reminder that the back and front gates are open between 8.35 am and 8.45 am for children to arrive in school.

Any children who arrive after this time will receive a late mark. The minutes late, and reason for lateness, have to be entered onto our registration system, and the office staff will also ask for your child's lunch requirement – this can all mean a delay (especially if parents have not consulted the menu in advance).

## Reminder – pick up times

Please can all parents and carers ensure that they enter the playground via the front or back gate at the correct times.

Reception – 3:10pm  
Year 1, 2 and Year 3 – 3:15pm  
Year 4, 5 and 6 – 3:20pm



These staggered times help to ensure that the children leave school safely at the end of the day. Please remember to enter the playground at the designated time, line up in front of the correct class and once you have collected your child leave via the one way system. If you have more than one child to collect, please wait at the back of the playground until the next time slot. Managing the exit of all our pupils safely requires careful planning and organisation. By adhering to the times you are supporting us to maintain safe routines. Thank you.

## 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.

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea, they will need to remain off school for 48 hours after the symptoms have cleared.

## Authorised and Unauthorised Leave

We strongly recommend that holidays are not taken during term time since these cannot be authorised. For any other planned absence, in the event that this cannot be avoided, a formal request should be submitted as soon as it is anticipated and, where possible, before the absence. A leave of absence request form **must** be completed, assessable from the school office or by emailing: [attendance@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@branfil.havering.sch.uk). The headteacher may require evidence to support any request for leave of absence.

Only the school, within the context of the law, can approve absence, not parents or carers. The headteacher will only grant a leave of absence to a pupil during term time if they consider there to be 'exceptional circumstances' (this does not include family holidays, weddings or birthdays).

The local authority can fine parents for the unauthorised absence of their child from the school, where the child is of compulsory school age.

If issued with a fine, or penalty notice, each parent must pay £60 within 21 days or £120 with 28 days. The payment must be made directly to the local authority. If the payment has not been made after 28 days, the local authority can decide whether to prosecute or withdraw the notice. [O:\Primary\Attendance\Authorised and Unauthorised Leave.pdf](#)  
[..\Attendance\Holiday Forms\Q & A Penalty Notice Fact Sheet V2.pdf](#)

## Weekly Attendance Awards!

### 11.09.2023 – 15.09.2023

The following classes won the Attendance Superstar Certificate for excellent attendance of over 97%:

1 Pine, 1 Willow, 2 Beech, 3 Hazel, 4 Rowan, 5 Alder, 5 Aspen, 6 Acacia, 6 Chestnut and 6 Hornbeam.



A special 'well done' to 2 Beech for 100% attendance.

**Pupil of the week**

### 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Elizabeth- 1 Pine  
Patrick - 1 Lime  
Harry - 1 Willow  
Danny - 2 Cedar  
Maddison - 2 Beech  
Teddy - 2 Holly  
George - 3 Hazel  
Seraphina - 3 Oak  
Betsy-Lu- 3 Maple  
Chiemeke- 4 Birch  
Aydin - 4 Rowan  
Dolcie - 4 Larch  
Evie - 5 Alder  
Oleksandra - 5 Aspen  
Jessica-Rose - 5 Hawthorn  
Amelia - 6 Hornbeam  
Vinny - 6 Acacia  
Mylee - 6 Chestnut



Pupil of the Week



### 18.09.2023 – 22.09.2023

The following classes won the Attendance Superstar Certificate for excellent attendance of over 97%:

Acorns, Conkers, 1 Pine, 3 Oak, 3 Hazel, 4 Larch, 4 Rowan, 5 Hawthorn, 6 Acacia and 6 Hornbeam.



A special 'well done' to Conkers and 1 Pine for 100% attendance.

**Pupil of the week**

### 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023

Max - 1 Pine  
Louie- 1 Lime  
Archie- 1 Willow  
Dexter- 2 Cedar  
Louie- 2 Beech  
Thea - 2 Holly  
Jayden - 3 Hazel  
Isabel - 3 Oak  
Oliver - 3 Maple  
Darcy - 4 Birch  
Rosalyn - 4 Rowan  
David - 4 Larch  
Charlie - 5 Alder  
George - 5 Aspen  
Lawson - 5 Hawthorn  
Oscar - 6 Hornbeam  
Lois - 6 Acacia  
Toby - 6 Chestnut



Pupil of the Week



**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Year 2 Parent Reading and Phonic Workshop
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Year 1 (year 2 parents if invited) Phonic Workshop for Parents
Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2023 – Friday, 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Year 6 Bikeability
Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2023	Harvest Festival Assembly
Tuesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2023	Individual Class Photos
Wednesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	School Tours for New Intake 2024 – 9:15am and 1:45pm
Thursday, 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Yearly AGM 9-10am for new and existing parents
Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Year 2 – Creating Pudding Lane – parent event
Tuesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Year 5 Employment and Engagement Session
Tuesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	4 Larch visit to Pizza Express 9:30am
Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	All About Your Child Meetings
Thursday, 12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Year 1 Maths Parental Workshop
Tuesday, 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Science Dome for Year 5
Thursday, 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	School Tours for New Intake 2024 – 9:15am and 1:45pm
Thursday, 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Year 1 Science Workshop
Monday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> October – Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Autumn Half Term
Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2023	Reception Phonics Parent Workshop
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2023	Year 5 – Miles the Mole Air Quality Theatre Production
Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Flu Vaccinations – session 1
Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Reception – Diwali Dance Workshop
Tuesday, 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	4 Rowan visit to Pizza Express 9:30am (amended date)
Monday, 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Odd Sock Day for Anti Bullying Week
Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Friends of Branfil Christmas Bazaar
Friday, 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	INSET day
Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Friends of Branfil Children's Xmas Sale
Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Year 5 Parent Event – Sewing (D&T)
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Wednesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2024	Christmas Break
Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	INSET day
Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	INSET day
Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2024	February Half Term
Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Easter Break
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday, 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024	Spring Half Term
Wednesday, 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Break up for the summer break



**Branfil**  
Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs N Sansom

Cedar Avenue, Upminster, Essex. RM14 2LW  
Phone: 01708 225186 Web: [www.branfil.com](http://www.branfil.com) Email: [office@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:office@branfil.havering.sch.uk)



**Branfil**  
Primary School

## Open Day Tours

4th October 2023

9:15-10:15 or 13:45-14:45

and

19th October 2023

9:15-10:15 or 13:45-14:45

Call us today to book a tour  
on: 01708 225186

### Our School Values

Love, Explore, Aspire,  
Respect and Nurture

Branfil Primary School

Cedar Avenue

Upminster

Essex

[www.branfil.com](http://www.branfil.com)

Follow us on X @BranfilPrimary

**Branfil**  
Primary School

**DEVELOPING THE WHOLE CHILD**

**PLANNING IN THE MOMENT**  
EARLY YEARS

**SCHOOL PARLIAMENT**  
12 COMMITTEES VOTE

**FOREST SCHOOL**  
RECEPTION & KS1

**CORE VALUES**  
LEARN

**OUTDOOR PLAY & LEARNING**  
OPAL PROJECT

**ARTSMARK**  
AIMING FOR PLATINUM

**MENTAL HEALTH HUB**  
TRAINED STAFF

**SPECIALIST TEACHING**  
ART, MUSIC, COMPUTING, PE

**EVERYONE LEARNING TOGETHER**



Thank you to all those parents, carers or grandparents who volunteered last year. Your support was really appreciated by our children and our staff.

We would love to welcome back our previous volunteers and welcome some new ones to our school community. If you are able to volunteer at Branfil, please e-mail the office ([office@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:office@branfil.havering.sch.uk)) with the following details:

- Your full name
- Your children's/ grandchildren's names (this helps us not to place you in the year group your children are in)
- Your availability and ideal days and times you would be willing to volunteer
- Any preference on what you would like to volunteer your time to do (e.g. hearing readers, supporting in the library)

I will then be in touch to complete your volunteer induction and finalise arrangements.

Mrs Metcalfe

SENCo and Assistant Headteacher

Branfil Primary School





CAMHS parent/carer consultations are available on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023**. These are usually held via telephone call or virtual meeting.

These consultation sessions are designed for parents/carers to discuss concerns they may have about their child's emotional health and wellbeing and to be signposted to key services.

This could discussing concerns such as:

**Worries/ Anger / Emotions/ Sleep/ Bullying/ Coping skills**

If you would like to book a consultation, please contact Mrs Metcalfe at:  
[sendco@branfil.havering.sch.uk](mailto:sendco@branfil.havering.sch.uk)

Note: If your Child already has an allocated CAMHS clinician, please liaise with them about any queries that you may have. This service is for families not known to CAMHS.



# Friends of Branfil news: September 2023

Your newsletter about our PTA!

Website: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofbranfil/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BranfilPrimarySchoolPTA/>

## Highlights:

Welcome back for a new school year!

This year, the committee are looking for new members **URGENTLY**. Please take a look at the 'job roles' there are:

Class Reps role:

- 1 or 2 people from each class to share our news/event information into whatapps groups - THAT'S IT

Small event organisers:

- To arrange and run an event like school disco or quiz night or Christmas Bazaar.
- The core committee members will be supporting and paying for all outlay for the event.
- Manage helpers at events

Core Committee member or Titled role:

- Plan PTA activities and have input as to what money is spent on for school.
- Attend meetings during term time for updates/voting/planning activities
- Manage helpers at events
- Advocate for PTA
- Attend meetings with school heads

If you would like to know more about the roles above or take one up, message us at [friends@branfil.com](mailto:friends@branfil.com)

Thank you from Friends of Branfil

## Upcoming Events

Yearly AGM: Thursday 5th October, 9am - 10am

- This meeting for all new and existing parents to attend and vote for your Committee for the upcoming school year.
- To learn more about what the PTA have done and if you would like to get involved!

## Products available:

Available to buy on our website now:

- Branfil Water Bottle
- Pre-Loved Uniform
- Adventure Island wristbands continue to be available online for collection from Pin Ups Salon, Gidea Park or school office on request.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofbranfil>



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## BRANFIL WATER BOTTLE

£4.00 EACH

Available to order now on our website:  
<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofbranfil/>



## Pre-Loved Uniform

ON SALE NOW



**ADVENTURE  
ISLAND  
WRISTBANDS  
ON SALE NOW!**

# HMS *Havering Music School*

- Learn with Havering Music School's dedicated team of specialist teachers
- From primary school age onwards
- Personalised tuition tailored to individual needs and aspirations

# MUSIC TUITION

musicschool@havering.gov.uk

<p><b>BRONZE</b> £33.67 per month 20 minute lesson for group of two</p>	<p><b>SILVER</b> £56 per month 15 minute individual lesson</p>	<p><b>GOLD</b> £89.50 per month 30 minute individual lesson</p>
<p>ALL LESSONS INCLUDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AND RESOURCES</p>		

www.haveringmusicschool.org.uk



### How to apply...

Havering Music School – Instrumental tuition request  
Please complete one form per child, USING BLACK INK AND BLOCK CAPITALS.

Your child's details:

Name: ..... Date of Birth: ...../...../.....M/F

I wish to apply for a place  
at my child's school: ..... (name of school)

I wish to apply for a place at the Weekday or Saturday Music Centre (tick box here)

School Year: .....

Please decide which instrument(s) your child would like to learn,  
then enter the name(s) of the instrument(s) below

1st choice instrument .....

2nd choice instrument (optional) .....

3rd choice instrument (optional) .....

Current Level:  BEGINNER  GRADE

Now please decide which package you would like for your child -

<b>BRONZE</b> £33.67 per month <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SILVER</b> £56 per month <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>GOLD</b> £89.50 per month <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Single ensemble £16.50 per month
Not available at Centre			<input type="checkbox"/> Unlimited ensemble £30.40 per month

Your contact details:

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr: .....

Name: .....

Telephone: .....

Email: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Please send the completed form to: Havering Music School, The Walk, Hornchurch, RM11 3TL

The Council holds personal information about its customers and clients and Havering's residents. All the information about you that we hold is protected under the Data Protection Act 1998. The Act refers to users of personal information as "Data Controllers" (such as the Council) who must work within the requirements of the Act when receiving and using information about you.

### Direct Debit Instruction

Please find below an instruction to request payment by Direct Debits. The total amount of your instrumental lessons will be collected monthly. Please complete the form fully and return it to us by detaching this form, folding and sealing it, and posting back to us.

#### The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all Banks and Building Societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit the London Borough of Havering will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed.
- If you request the London Borough of Havering to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit by the London Borough of Havering or your Bank or Building Society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your Bank or Bank Society.
- If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when The London Borough of Havering asks you to.
- You can cancel your Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your Bank or Building Society. Written confirmation may be requested. Please also notify us.

#### Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay direct debits

Please pay the London Borough of Havering Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that the instruction may remain with the London Borough of Havering and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.



Full postal address of your Bank/Building Society

To: The Manager.....  
Address.....  
.....  
Postcode.....

Name(s) of the Account Holder(s)  
.....

Account Number  
.....

Branch Sort Code  
.....

Originator's Identification Number

9 5 4 2 7 8

Originator's Account Number  
.....

Signature(s)  
.....

.....

This section is not part of the instruction to your Bank/Building Society. **LBH use only**

Customer name

Address

Date

Actioned by

FWD to Bank



### ABOUT US...

Havering **SENDIASS** provide a **FREE**, impartial, confidential information, **ADVICE** and **SUPPORT** service offering **ASSISTANCE** to children and young people aged 0-25 with **SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)** and parents of children with **SEND**. Our Case Officers are fully qualified and trained to **SUPPORT** you with your query.



**Havering**  
LONDON BOROUGH

Contact us on 01708 433885 or  
email us on [sendiass@havering.gov.uk](mailto:sendiass@havering.gov.uk)



**Essex Fire Museum Open Days**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023**  
**(10.30am to 4.00pm)**



Visits must be pre-booked via:  
[museum@essex-fire.gov.uk](mailto:museum@essex-fire.gov.uk)

**Address: Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire station,  
Hogg Lane, Grays, RM17 5QS**