

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear children,

I wanted to write to you as we head towards the time when the school will close for the next few weeks. Sadly, I haven't been able to be in school over the last few days so I won't be able to say goodbye to you all in person.

I know that this may be a worrying time for many of you, and your families, so please talk to those around you, share your feelings and ask any questions you may have. It's also important to look after others, including your neighbours where possible, since some of them may be alone and without people to support them.

Whilst you are not in school, it is important that you continue to learn so you develop your knowledge and skills ready for your return to school. Your teachers will be sending new work home each fortnight, via the school website. Please work with your parents/carers to make a timetable for each day (Monday-Friday) which includes 2-3 hours of learning time plus time to exercise (twice a day if possible), time to do some fun activities as a family, time to read, time to relax. Remember to limit screen time since it is not healthy for children to be on screens for long periods of time. Also, it's important that you remember to stay safe whilst you are online so only connect with people that you know well and who are your friends in real life.

All of the staff here at Branfil will miss you whilst you are learning at home. Your teachers will continue to have contact with you regularly, by telephone or video messaging, so they can find out how your learning is going and check that you are coping well during this unusual time.

Whether we are at school or at home, remember that we are all still part of the Branfil family and the staff are still always here for you.

We will look forward to ordinary school life starting again and seeing you all learning with your classmates again. In the meantime, take care of yourselves and the people you love.

Kind regards

Mrs Sansom