

Newsletter 15th May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I am sure you are all aware that the government has now asked schools to start planning to potentially re-open to children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from 1st June. They have given assurance that schools will only open again when this can be done safely so this date may be delayed if necessary.

Our senior leadership team and the Governing Body are currently considering the implications of reopening for Branfil; every school has different issues to consider e.g. staff availability, premises management, site layout etc. We are completing a detailed risk assessment to ensure that we have considered all necessary areas. We know that you will need to feel confident about how we will keep your child safe before you send them back into school. We will communicate our plans with you as soon as possible and I thank you for your patience in the meantime.

We continue to miss you and your children so please stay in touch with us through emails and Twitter.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

Letter to Year 6

Dear 6 Acacia, 6 Chestnut and 6 Hornbeam,

This week you would have been taking your Year 6 SATs. Although these are important, they are very limited in the areas that they measure. They cannot measure what you are like as a person: how much you care about others, how resilient you are when faced with challenges, what kind of friend you are, how much you mean to others. They cannot measure your passions and skills: how high you can jump or how fast you can run, what fun you have singing or dancing, what beautiful art and models you make, how you support charities through fundraising. They cannot measure the core values that you show in your everyday lives, including our value for May: quality. SATs are one measure of how you can answer written questions in English and maths but there are far more important things about you that tests cannot judge

Values Based Education

This month our school value is Quality and, as I know from recording my first online assembly this week (check it out on our school website today in the new 'Videos' section on the Home Learning tab), sometimes producing something of quality is very challenging! So what does it take to produce excellence: something of real quality? Well it takes a lot of hard work, patience and determination. When I was growing up my Dad taught me that if something was worth doing, it was worth doing well. So that meant that helping him wash the family car, tidy the garage or paint the fence always took longer than I wanted it to! But it was always worth it in the end because, as my dad put it, we'd done a 'quality job' and it felt really satisfying that our hard work had led to a shiny car or beautiful fence we could be proud of. This month think about how you can make yourself and others proud by working hard to produce something of real quality.

'Quality is not an act, it is a habit.' Aristotle



and these are the things that you will take with you as you move on to secondary school and into your adult life when SATs scores will have been long forgotten.

We are proud of all that you have achieved whilst at Branfil and we do not need a test to tell us what an amazing group of children you are. We hope you are proud of yourselves and your achievements.

We hope to see you soon so you can finish your learning journey at Branfil with your friends and teachers.

Mrs Sansom

VE Day – Friday 8th May 2020

Thank you to everyone who sent in photos and work linked to VE Day. It looks like lots of you found some lovely ways to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Victory over Europe.

Here is just a selection of photos from across the school. It is Branfil's way of saying, "To those who gave so much, we thank you."

Miss Bain



Well done to Tilly, Finley, George, Lucy, Freya, Emily, Callum, Oscar, Jessica, Leila, Daisy and Blake – thank you for sharing your fantastic photos and work.



Maths Home Learning

White Rose Maths made some changes this week; they have stopped providing their worksheets for free and are now linking with BBC Bitesize where there are linked videos and worksheets. Whilst some of these have been excellent, others have lacked the challenge and variety that the White Rose Maths sheets provided. We have therefore subscribed to White Rose Maths so we can provide their worksheets for each lesson – you can find these on our website on the Home Learning page.

We hope your children continue to make good progress with their maths learning using the White Rose Maths resources, supplemented by BBC Bitesize.

30 days wild in June 2020

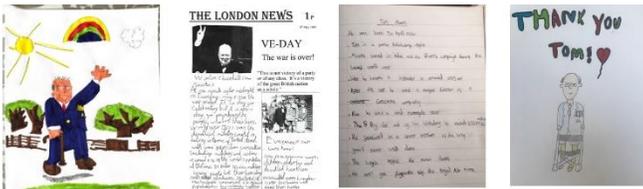
The aim of '30 days wild' is to get out into the wild each day for 30 days. You can download a free printable pack that includes activities and a calendar to plan your wild adventures. Just follow the link below. Maybe you could make a photo album or scrap book of all the things you get up to.



<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/news/countdown-starts-30-days-wild>



Well done to Joe, Marni, George, Ben, Oliver and Ruby – thank you for sharing your fantastic photos and work.



Well done to Josh, Henry, Rhys, Ruby, Dylan, Ben, William and George – thank you for sharing your fantastic photos and work.



Well done to Louis, Phoebe, Mira, Tilly, Daniel, George, Oscar, Owen and Alfie – thank you for sharing your fantastic photos and work.



International Nurses Day Art Work

This week the children created a piece of work to celebrate International Nurses Day and ironically it falls on Florence Nightingale's Birthday. The children, ranging from Reception to Year 6, made lanterns and a huge chalk rainbow, painted the sign and wrote



thank you notes to show their gratitude. The older children drew and painted Florence Nightingale. A really lovely team effort - you made the staff very proud of you!

Thank you

A huge thank you from all of our teachers and TAs who have received lovely videos from all their class members.



National Sumdog Contest!

So this week we entered the National contest having fared so well in Essex! 5965 classes were entered across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and 1278 classes qualified.



I am delighted to say that the very dedicated champions of Essex, 4 Birch, finished in 14th Place!! What an incredible achievement!

I'm so proud of every one that took part!

Mrs Goodman

Miss Bain's Maths Challenges

Have a go at this Code breaker and then make similar ones for the people in your house to try or email them to year6@branfil.havering.sch for Miss Bain to complete!

Puzzle time

Code breaker



A code is a way of writing a message in secret. The code below is very easy. Each letter of the alphabet is replaced by a number. Send your message in numbers and then your friend can use the de-coder to find out what it says.

THE DE-CODER

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

So, if I want to write 'hello' I would write 8 for H, 5 for E, 12 for L and 12 for L again and then 15 for O.

My code would be 8 5 12 12 15

Now try and work out what this says.



The code:

9			1	13		2	18	9	12	12	9	1	14	20
1	20		13	1	20	8	19							

Mrs White's Reading Challenge

Choose a poem to learn by heart and then perform it to your family. Can you get someone else in your family to learn one and then perform it to you? You could give marks out of 10 and see who the best performer in your family is!

Happy Birthday!

Albert, Marni-Rae,
Eliana, Rio, Jorge,
Zachary, Harry, Matilda,
Denny, Ginervra, Lewis,
Marian, Demi, Sophie,
Christopher, Szophia,
Alfie, William, Joshua,
Ruby, Charlie, Amber,
Hazel, Isabella, Luke, Jack, Jady, Damon, Billy, Finley,
Alex, Brooke, Albie, Tilly, Amy, Edward, Dolcie,
Maximus, Mazid, George, Sonny and Amelia.



3 Oak, 3 Maple, 3 Hazel

Each newsletter we will be focusing on a year group and showing pictures and examples of your home learning. Well done to all our Year 3 children for keeping up the good work at home!



Katie from 3 Oak has been helping her mum to cook dinner! She even made her own dessert afterwards. Yum!



Tommy in 3 Hazel has been doing Joe Wicks PE each day with his dog.



Benjamin in 3 Hazel has made some excellent bunting for VE day celebrations.

Fletcher has been working hard at home learning with his little sister!



Henry in 3 Oak has been baking some yummy chocolate cakes.



Daisy has been creating some fabulous drawings using Draw with Rob as inspiration.



Dylan has been hard at work making his very own volcano.



Bonnie has been creating her very own balloon!



Daisy B in 3 Oak has made this amazing skeleton.



Oscar has been working hard on his VE day bunting.



Henry in 3 oak taking part in the toilet roll challenge.



George B made some cupcakes for his street party.



Lucy in 3 Maple researching and designing flags.



Nikita helping his family with some baking and writing a lovely message for his 3 Hazel classmates.



Emily making cupcakes for VE day celebrations.



Lilly-Rose in 3 Oak has created her own fantastic keep fit poster.

Max playing his Dad at backgammon.

