

## Newsletter 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you and your families are staying well through this extended school closure period. I know that it is very challenging for everyone and I hope that you feel supported by the school and our staff. We know how important it is to maintain contact while we are not seeing you all in person and feedback shows that you feel that we are managing to do this effectively, which is great to hear. We hope that the video that is now on the video tab on the School Closure Home Learning page of our website will help too!

The teachers have thoroughly enjoyed speaking to lots of you and your children this week to find out how things are going at home. The children seem to have valued this contact too – one child even cried on hearing his teacher's voice! Our calls will display as No Caller ID so do please answer these calls if possible or email if you would like to arrange a call for a specific day/time and we will try to accommodate that.



The teachers and I have loved looking at the emails that children have been sending in to the year group emails, sharing their work and things they have been doing at home. I felt emotional looking at them, seeing the variety of experiences that children are having during this time. If your child has not sent an email yet then please do; the emails are:

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



Teachers will be choosing a Pupil of the Week every Friday from the emails they have received and announcing these on the year group pages of our website.

## 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

Our presence on Twitter is ever growing as staff post messages, set challenges and share things they have been doing at home. Every Monday we have Miss Bain's Monday Maths Madness; on Tuesday we have Mr Fielder's Tuesday Teaser; on Friday we have Miss Philpott's Funky Friday Fun. Our Twitter posts have brought me a lot of happiness over the last few weeks, seeing the children's responses, with some sharing their own photos and films. I have particularly loved the recent film from 1 Willow in response to the Toilet Roll Challenge – superb! If you are not already following Branfil then find @BranfilPrimary.



We miss you all.

Stay safe and stay connected with us.

Mrs Sansom, Headteacher

### Essex Sumdog Contest!

On 24th April, we began our journey on the road to becoming the Sumdog champions of Essex!

Every class needed at least 10 players to qualify and then each child had 1000 maths questions to answer. It would take hard work and dedication to answer them all!

I am so proud to say that out of 213 entries, 4 of our classes made the top ten!

Even more exciting, is that we were the overall winners of the contest! Huge congratulations to 4 Larch who finished in 2nd place and 4 Birch who finished in 1st place.

Well done to every one that took part.

I have now entered us into the National contest that begins on the 8th May. Get your class involved, good luck and have fun!!



Mrs Goodman

### Free School Meals

You may be aware that the Government's Free School Meal Voucher scheme due to the Covid-19 crisis is now up and running, providing a £15 supermarket food voucher per week for every child who is eligible for Free School Meals due to their financial circumstances. Unfortunately, this voucher scheme does not extend to those children in Years R, 1 and 2 who receive Free School Meals daily as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme.

It may be that you have had a change in your personal circumstances which means that you and your family could now be eligible to apply for Free School Meals, even if your child is an Infant Child in Years R, 1 or 2. Applying online is quick, easy and confidential and none of your personal financial information is passed to the school. We will be told if your application is successful and will then be able to start sending your weekly food vouchers electronically plus your child will be eligible to receive a daily free hot meal when we return to school. To apply, please [click here](#) and complete the online form.

<https://my.havering.gov.uk/pages/onlineforms/free-school-meals.aspx#details>

### Message from Mrs Cullender



I've noticed the past few nights the shooting stars in the sky and how wonderfully bright they are!

I wonder if any other children/parents have noticed this too?

<https://news.sky.com/story/lyrid-meteor-shower-shooting-stars-and-occasional-fireballs-set-to-light-up-uk-skies-11975847>

### Home Learning Resources

## 16 Everyday Activities That Count as Learning

1. Cooking and baking
2. Meal planning
3. Budgeting
4. Checking the weather forecast
5. Building with LEGO
6. Playing card games
7. Playing board games
8. Doing puzzles
9. Imaginative play
10. Listening to music
11. Reading
12. Coloring, drawing, painting
13. Listening to podcasts or audiobooks
14. Writing letters or emails
15. Taking a walk
16. Cleaning and doing chores



### The London 26.2 challenge

Do you want to make a difference?

Do you want to do something positive to help society in these difficult days?

Do you want to have fun?

Please join The 2.6 Challenge. It's been created to help save the UK's charities. 2.6 miles. 2.6 km. 26 press-ups. 26 times up and down the stairs. 26 pancake flips. Anything with a 2 and a 6.

We're asking you to dream up an activity based around the numbers 2.6 or 26 and fundraise or donate to your

chosen charity to help Save the UK's Charities. The ideas and options are endless! You can do anything you like as long as it follows the Government's guidance on exercise and social distancing.

**All you need to do:**

1. Dream up your 2.6 challenge – if you need help there are lots of ideas on the website
2. Head to [twopointsixchallenge.co.uk](http://twopointsixchallenge.co.uk) to donate £26 – or whatever you can afford – to your chosen charity or to set up a fundraising page
3. Ask all your family and friends to sponsor you and ask them to do their own 2.6 Challenge
4. Complete your challenge
5. Share a photo or video of your challenge on social media with **#TwoPointSixChallenge**

Mrs Sansom and Mr Fielder are taking part - head to our Twitter page to find out how they got on!

**Metropolitan Police Video fun**

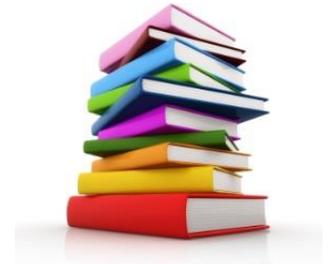
To try and spread some joy and happiness, the Metropolitan Police Service have started to roll out a project that they would like Branfil and other schools to help them with. They would like children to be video'd telling your best joke while holding a thank you note to key workers. This could be a thank you to your favourite teacher, the NHS, their mum who is a police officer, their dad who is a paramedic, the carer who's looking after their grandparent, the people who work at the local shop, the list is endless! You can dress up and make your entry as fun or silly as you like.

These clips will then be sent to MPS officers as part of their daily briefings, and may be used on MPS social media to bring a smile to the wider public. If you would like to enter please email your clip to [KD.82jn2od5stwmynaa@u.box.com](mailto:KD.82jn2od5stwmynaa@u.box.com) by 22nd May 2020 (please be aware these images will be published).

**Mrs White's Reading Challenge**

How many book titles can you find that begin with the same letter as your first name?

How many books can you find that just have a one word title?



**Language Challenge**

Mrs Daly and Miss Saker challenge you all to start learning some new languages! We want you to find and learn as many ways of saying 'hello' in a different language. As an extra tricky task, why not find and learn another phrase in different languages, such as how to say your name, or ask for your favourite food at a restaurant? We thought we would start you off with how to say 'hello' in Italian; Ciao! Maybe you could email your year group a video of you saying some of the new phrases you have learnt.

**Wordsearch**

Mrs Hewitt and her children have come up with a Branfil word search. They thought of all the things that remind them of our wonderful school. See if you can find them. Can you make up your own wordsearch? Test out your family and friends with your very own one!



O	F	A	Y	B	W	X	L	M	F	N	T
P	O	C	R	P	A	G	E	S	R	B	U
D	O	M	Z	A	J	K	R	S	I	R	V
V	T	O	C	O	U	R	A	G	E	A	X
Q	B	S	H	T	R	U	S	T	N	N	G
S	A	N	I	H	I	C	T	U	D	F	O
U	L	A	C	S	B	R	C	Q	S	I	D
H	L	S	K	A	B	A	E	L	X	L	M
L	T	S	S	Z	R	S	L	F	P	R	U
E	F	R	F	I	D	T	Y	L	E	R	S
B	G	M	N	E	R	D	L	I	H	C	F
P	O	G	N	B	D	L	O	L	A	E	S

CELY	YR2 CHICKS	MRS SANSOM
PAGES	LOLA	CHILDREN
TYLERS	SUMDOG	FOOTBALL
BELHUS	FRIENDS	TRUST
COURAGE	CARING	BRANFIL

## Miss Bain's Maths Challenges

Have a go at these anagrams and then make similar ones for the people in your house to try or email them to the office for Miss Bain to complete!



### Anagrams

Mathematical anagrams.

An anagram is a word or phrase made up of the letters of another word.

These are all made up from maths words.

Can you work them out?

ANGEL	RENUMB	CAR
DOD	CAGEDON	TRAIN LEG
SITE TEAM	MOLERKITE	UMS
LIB LION	BART SUCTION	A CROFT

## Mental Health at Home

The current circumstances we all find ourselves in can affect not only our own mental health and well-being but that of our whole families. Even though we are not in school, our priority is to support children and families who are struggling during this time, so please contact the school if needed. Place2Be, a mental health and well-being charity for children, have released lots of helpful resources and links that will help support families at home during the lockdown that you may find useful:

<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/parents-and-carers/coronavirus-wellbeing-activity-ideas-for-families/>

## Happy Birthday!

Ernie, Alexandra, Lily, Ruby, Oliver, Rhys, Simona, Sidaq, Arthur, Ekkam, Eleanor, George, Dean, Ben, Holly, Milly, Harry, Ava-Rose and Freya.



**2 Beech, 2 Cedar, 2 Holly**

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 2 children for keeping up the good work at home!



Ben from 2 Cedar practising his 2 D shapes.

Ruby in 2 Beech showing her excellent art skills and her amazing picture challenge of the day.



Freya in 2 Beech practicing her keyboard daily.



Ava-Rose in 2 Cedar built this amazing giraffe! She learnt tensile strength, balance, centre of gravity, torque, moment and force, teamworking and leadership!!



Kayden in 2 Beech conducting a science experiment on momentum.

Lyla in 2 Beech making 3D shapes with magnets.



Leila in 2 Holly writing a story.

Billy in 2 Cedar completing a puzzle whilst learning about the ocean.



Oliver in 2 Cedar using his engineering skills to build marble runs.

Sadie in 2 Holly sewing.



Jude and his daddy designed and built a lemonade bar! Jude is looking forward to serving his friends some lemonade soon.

Lukas in 2 Beech has been calculating the lengths of the train routes.





Kamran in 2 Holly working on his Oxford Owl reading activities.



Maksim in 2 Beech completing his maths in the sunshine!



Claudia in 2 Cedar has been helping to plant some flowers in her garden.

Nicole has been reading to her Dad whilst he works.

