

Branwood Bee



Issue 38

3rd November 2023

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter

*"If you don't go
after what you
want, you'll never
have it. If you
don't ask, the
answer is always
no. If you don't
step forward,
you're always in
the same place."*

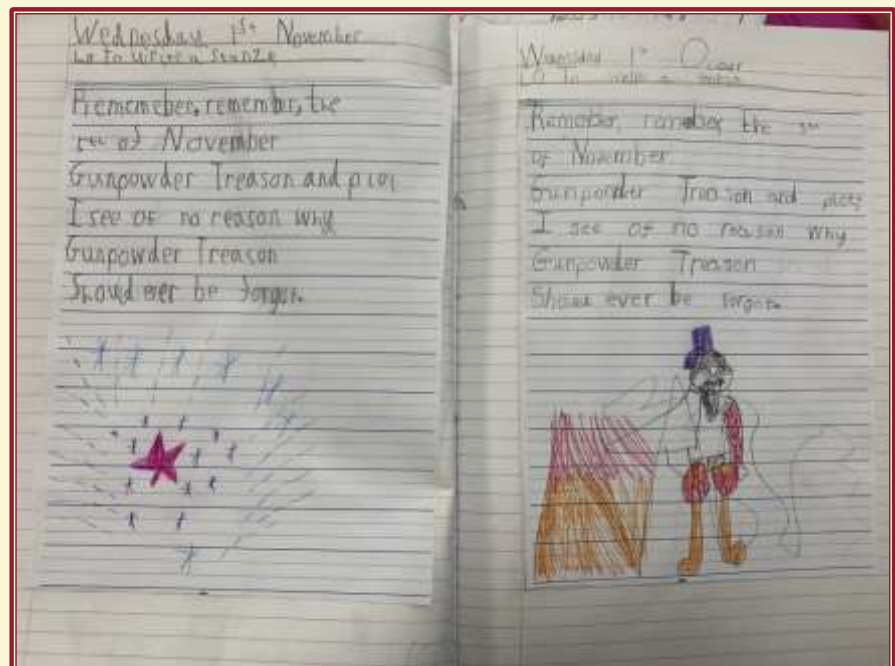
Nora Roberts

Form 1

The half-term break gave us a chance to recharge our batteries, and Form 1 have come back ready for action!

This week, we travelled back 418 years to learn about The Gunpowder Plot. It was on the 5th November 1605 that Guy Fawkes was caught below the Houses of Parliament with barrels of gunpowder, his aim was to kill King James I. He did not succeed and King James announced that we would celebrate his failure each year - now known as Bonfire Night. Form 1 had great fun listening to his story and created lovely pieces of writing. They experimented with forks to create firework pictures, dipped marshmallows in chocolate sauce and sprinkles to create 'sparklers', and developed their handwriting skills by writing the poem 'Remember, Remember, the 5th of November'.

Report by Mrs Houseman





Form 4

Form 4 have been enjoying studying Beowulf across history and English lessons. They were able to discuss ideas about what the story of Beowulf tells us about Anglo-Saxon society and culture before trying their hand at character descriptions of either the brave hero Beowulf or his fearsome opponent Grendel. Here are some of their sentences:

Grendel's body was pond-weed green with big bulging warts on his back and tummy. (Vanessa)

His tusks were as hard as metal and his eyes lit up with darkness. (Ava-Grace)

Beowulf was a humble warrior who was a heroic figure to others who looked up to him. (Dean)

He was a true warrior, a saviour of many; a fighter with the power of success and superhuman strength. (Mason)

Report by Mr Booth



KG2

The children returned to school with a positive attitude this week. In literacy they have enjoyed reading 'Whatever next' and writing about the story, thinking about what they would take to space and designing their own rockets. In maths they have learnt about number bonds to 5 and have enjoyed using the Numicon shapes to help them. During our Forest School session on Wednesday, the theme was based around the book 'Room on the Broom' and the children enjoyed the exciting activities that Emma and Greta provided. Mrs Dickinson made time to carve an amazing pumpkin and create some scary spiders. All in all, a very busy, but amazing week in KG2.

Report by Mrs Boulton



KG1

It was lovely to see the children back at school after the half term holidays. It was Halloween and the children have enjoyed listening to lots of 'Spooky stories'. One of their favourite stories was Funnybones and the children enjoyed painting their own skeletons. Continuing the spooky theme, the children made magic wands, witches broomsticks and tree monsters at Forest school and hunted for the characters from the story Room on the Broom. The children have also found out about the history of Bonfire Night and enjoyed creating lovely firework pictures using both wax resist and 2D shape techniques.

In Phonics KG1 have been introduced to the sound S. The children have been on a sound hunt and have used whiteboards, pens and paint to form the letter. They have also begun their new handwriting books this week.



Thank you to Mr Pattinson for the lovely Halloween lunch of Chicken and Pumpkin curry. KG1 really loved it and I don't think they even realised they were eating pumpkin. It was delicious!

Report by Mrs Coffey



Form 2

We've all had a 'spooktacular' time in our learning this week. We began by composing and performing our own 'Scary Troll' poem, focusing on adjectives and adverbs.

In Forest School there were lots of spooky themed activities. Our favourites were creating spells and potions, making fire and creating tree monsters!

Our commendations this week go to Lyan for her lovely cursive writing and to Anthony for trying so hard in both English and Maths lessons over the last few days. Well done!

Report by Mrs Jones

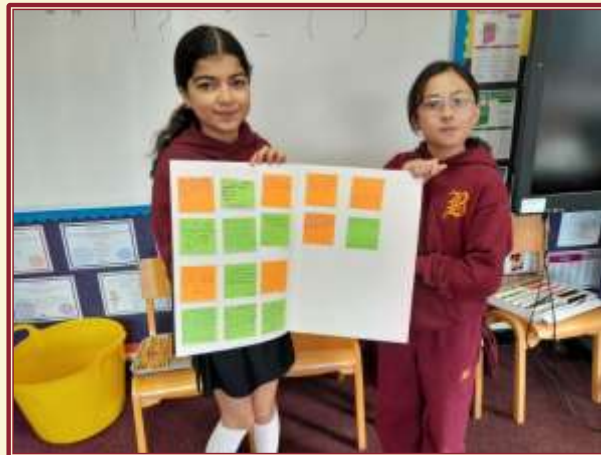




Form 6

Despite a week heavy with revision, Form 6 still took the time to reflect as part of our PSHEE learning. We talked about the value of being different; how it enhances life that not everybody is the same. We also discussed how this can sometimes sadly result in people being picked on and came up with the best ways to take action if ever we observe this happening to others. The class were sensible and considered throughout, adding to our class PSHEE journal.

Report by Mr Sullivan



Form 5

Form 5 have been feeling spooky this week and we have channelled our spookiness into some fantastic creative writing, based on a picture of a creepy, haunted house! A lot of the children wrote fabulous stories, which really creeped me out!! Here are Grace and Charlotte displaying their work!

Report by Miss Basger



Staff Profile



Name :	Mrs Christensen
Job :	Teacher
Class :	Form 3

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Christensen to the Branwood family this week. Mrs Christensen has been teaching for 19 years and is a dedicated and passionate teacher who we know will be a wonderful addition to our Branwood staff team.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I love running and run most days before coming to school. I have run a few marathons. I also like spending quality time with my family.

Tell us a little bit about you.

I was born and raised in Salford although I have travelled and spent some time teaching in UAE. My husband is Danish and I met him while working on the cruise ships as a development trainer, we have two wonderful boys 13 and 16 who are both very sporty.

Eco Council

This week the team met to create an action plan for our Eco School Award application. We have chosen to focus on Litter, Energy & School Grounds. The team split into three groups and chose 2 targets for each area.

They are hoping to achieve:

- Plants in classrooms
- An outdoor learning area
- Energy Savings days/hours
- Turning off unused equipment and lights
- Litter picking
- Creating posters to raise awareness.

House Charities

This year, the Greeks, Saxons, Romans and Vikings have decided to work together to support one charity. This eliminates any competitiveness and puts the focus solely on supporting a good cause.

This year, we will be supporting LifeShare. Lifeshare is a voluntary organisation established to help meet the needs of homeless and vulnerable people in Manchester and Salford. You will have spotted on ClassDojo that Miss Barger and Form 5 will be working with Year 5 pupils in Cleveland's Prep to create Winter Care Packages. Full details of how you can support can be found on the your child's ClassDojo page. Throughout the year, our house teams will be looking at ways to support this worthy cause.

For further information, please visit:

[Lifeshare | Homeless Charity Manchester](#)



Extra Curricular

Fabulous Footballing Family!

These two brothers achieved sporting success over half term.

Oliver got his 1st ever player of the week for getting involved at Dean Holding Group & was super proud of himself.

Tom was awarded MOTM for stepping in as goalkeeper for his Sunday team, Monton Raiders, making lots of top class saves against tough opposition.

Well Done Boys



Celebration Assembly

Our weekly assembly is our way to celebrate all the success of our pupils. These are the commendations for this week.

KG1 – Stars of the week – Yucheng & Esmerelda

KG2 – Saoirse and Freddie

Form 1 – Alyssa & Isaac

Form 2 – Lyan & Anthony

Form 3 – Rayyan & Lucy

Form 4 – Ava-Grace & Luke

Form 5 – Edward & Ella

Form 6 – Rezana & Isaac



Eco Tips

With Bonfire Night and Diwali approaching please consider the following:

- Burn natural materials such as wood, leaves and cardboard. Burning plastic, rubber or toxic paint can release dangerous chemicals into the air. Buy Eco-friendly fireworks. The plastic in traditional fireworks disintegrates into smaller pieces and litters the land and water, threatening wildlife.
- Buy quiet firework. Bonfire night can be a distressing time for animals, as well as people with PTSD, young children and the elderly.
- Never release sky lanterns. Sky (or Chinese) lanterns may look pretty in the sky. But once they fall back to earth, they're deadly to wildlife. Animals can become entangled in their metal wire frames and trapped. And, when ingested, these frames can tear and puncture an animal's throat or stomach.
- Clean up thoroughly afterwards.

Happy Bonfire Night and Diwali from the Eco-Team

Please see more of what we are up to on social media

Social Media



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