# BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 12 / 13 13

Friday 7th December 2012









#### **Dear Parents**

Now that the season of Advent has arrived the children are certainly getting into the Christmas spirit! The Christingle service on Monday, at Branscombe, was a lovely way to begin Advent. I thought that the children read and performed brilliantly and the lack of heating in the church somehow seemed to add to the Christmassy feel! Thank you to all those of you who joined us for the evening. The Broadhembury Christingle service is this Sunday at 11am at St. Andrew's Church.

Over the last two weeks of term there are lots of special events at both schools. Please do support them if you can. Details are included in the rest of the newsletter.

God bless and we hope you have a lovely weekend. Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Branscombe School.

**Key Dates** –Mrs Gray will be in school on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next week

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December** – After School Clubs finish for Christmas

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Branscombe Village Pantomime, 7.30pm

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December –** Broadhembury Christingle Service, St. Andrew's Church, 4pm

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December –** Christmas Messy Church, 4pm – 6pm

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – School Christmas Play, Branoc Hall, 6pm

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – PTFA's Pub quiz at the Fountain Head

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – School dinners Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Branscombe School Christmas Lunch at the Branoc Hall

Thursday 20th December – PTFA's trip to Snail and Whale

Friday 21st December – Last day of term

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – PTFA's disco, Branoc Hall, 3.30pm – 5.50pm

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Church Carol Party, Branoc Hall, 6.30pm – 8pm

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December** – Carol Service at St. Winifred's, 11.15am

Christmas Day – All age service and shortened Holy Communion, St. Winifred's, 11.15am

#### **Hey Ewe!**

We are performing our Christmas Nativity play, entitled Hey Ewe, next Wednesday at 6pm in the Branoc Hall. Children need to be at the hall for 5.45 to prepare. All our Children have a part to play and we hope everyone can come and see us perform; parents with small children are welcome to attend the dress rehearsal starting at 10am on the same day.

Contributions of mince pies and raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated on Wednesday morning. Raffle prizes that are alcoholic or contain glass should be brought to the office by parents and not children.

## **Christmas activities at Messy Church**

This month's Messy Church will have a Christmas theme; with creative activities, games and a party! You can join in the fun at the Reece Strawbridge Youth Centre, Colyton between 4pm and 6pm this Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December. Children must be accompanied by a parent or carer; please bring some party food to share.

## **Snail and the Whale Theatre Trip**

The PTFA have kindly suggested paying for the whole school to attend The Snail and the Whale at Northcott Theatre on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December. The trip would have cost approximately £13.00 for each child so we are very grateful to the PTFA for suggesting the visit and agreeing to pay. The PTFA are asking that if parents would like to make a contribution (a suggested amount being £5) then this would obviously help PTFA funds for supporting other events. Please give contributions to PTFA committee members or bring them into school in a **labelled**, **sealed envelope marked PTFA Theatre Trip Contribution**, so that money doesn't get muddled with school funds. The envelopes can be placed in the box in the entrance hall. Please make cheques payable to Branscombe School PTFA.

Please could children bring a packed lunch for the trip. If you are eligible for free school meals the school kitchen can provide a packed lunch providing you tell the school office you would like one by Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Children may also bring a healthy snack for the afternoon. They will be eating lunch early in order to get to the theatre on time; therefore, they may be hungry on the journey back to school. So that we don't make a mess on the coach please ensure the snack is not sticky!

SOE3 Permission Forms will be sent out at the beginning of next week.

#### **Christmas Lunches**

Christmas lunch (provided by Sidmouth Primary Kitchen) is served on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. We should have all your orders by now but if you would still like to order one please let us know as soon as possible.

Branscombe School Christmas Lunch, cooked by our own staff members Pauline Phillips and Glynis Newman, will be served the following day, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, at the Branoc Hall. The PTFA have kindly funded this meal for all children so there will be no charge. No packed lunches should be sent to school this day.

## **Morning Routines**

We understand that morning routines are difficult especially in this cold weather. Please note that **children should not arrive at school before 8:40am** unless they are attending Breakfast Club. Once Breakfast Club attendees have arrived the school gate will be locked before 8:40am for safety purposes. Breakfast Club starts at 8:00am.

#### **Christmas Pantomime**

The Branscombe Players are performing Jack and Jill today and tomorrow starting at 7:30pm. Tickets cost £5 for adults and £2.50 for children; these can be purchased from Branscombe Post Office or on the door.

#### **Church Carol Party**

This will be a fun evening with mince pies, mulled wine, games, quizzes, entertainment, carols and a bar. It runs from 6.30pm to 8pm on Friday December 21<sup>st</sup> at the Branoc Hall. Admission is free and there will be a collection for the Children's Hospice South West.

#### **PTFA Disco**

The PTFA's disco is Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December from 3.30 to 5.50 in the Branoc Hall. Please remember to return any outstanding permission slips. Children will not be permitted to attend if they have not returned their slip!

## Buy a Christmas tree and raise money for our school!

Sidmouth Garden Centre will give the school £2.50 for every Christmas tree purchased with a token. Children took tokens home in their book bags last week and we have plenty more in the school office. Please give tokens to Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, friends and neighbours.

#### **After School Clubs finish today**

Please note that after school clubs have now finished for Christmas. This is because we have after school events starting next week.