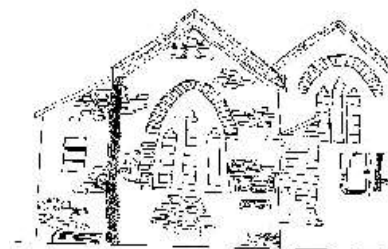




BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 15/16 26
Thursday 23rd March 2016



Dear Parents,

In our last week before the Easter Holidays, there have been some fabulous activities going on. On Monday Class 2 visited the Wildside Experience with the children from Farway School. It was an extremely muddy, but very enjoyable day and the children had a wonderful time. During the day they used maps to explore the woods and learnt how to recognise the traces that woodland creatures leave behind. They also played a game of "Dragon's Keys" which involved trying to creep very quietly across the forest floor, then exploring blindfolded while guided by a partner and then following an "Un-nature trail" noting things in the woods that really did not belong.



On Tuesday this week Class 2 completed their Design and Technology project. Their design challenge was to work in teams to design and build a self-propelling model boat. To do this they used solar kits, which contained a solar panel, motor and motor holder, a propeller shaft, propeller and connecting wires. Having previously investigated boat designs and practised



building boats out of disposable materials such as tin foil, they decided on their design criteria: that each boat must be stable, waterproof and must have power to help it move in the water (while keeping the electrics out of the water!) They discussed ideas, sketched designs and wrote a plan of works, before starting the build. We were grateful to be joined by several parents, who helped the different teams to build their boats and attach the solar panels and motors.

When they were complete, the children checked that the boats floated before taking them down to the stream for a proper test. All four boat designs seemed to work well, the solar panels were kept safe and they had great fun floating our boats down the stream.



Yesterday we had our Easter Service. The children told the Easter Story through drama around the schools grounds. We started our journey inside where they acted out The Last Supper and then moved outside where the story of the Crucifixion and Resurrection felt very spiritual in the idyllic Branscombe setting.

After the Easter Service the children and staff made their way down to the Village Hall to a very special tea party in honour of Mr Ford. The PTFA had made the hall look lovely and provided all the food, which was amazing! It was all a complete surprise for Mr Ford, so well done to all the



children who hadn't given the secret away! We presented Mr Ford with a book of memories. We included photos and portraits of the children as well as all the lovely messages from pupils (past and present), parents and staff.

Today the children have enjoyed an Easter egg hunt organised by the PTFA and many of the children have made amazing Easter gardens for our competition today. There were a huge variety of gardens, well done to all those who entered.

We return after half term on Tuesday 12th April. I hope you all have an enjoyable Easter break.

Thank you for all your continued support.

God bless and have a lovely Easter Break.

Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Branscombe CE Primary School

A Message from Mr Ford

"I would like to say a big thank you for my surprise party on Wednesday afternoon. It was wonderful to see the children enjoying their cakes and the party atmosphere at the end of a busy term. Thank you also for your cards and generous gifts. As I explained at the time, I am taking many happy memories away with me and will greatly miss the children and families at Branscombe and of course, my colleagues. Thank you."

Sport Relief

As you know, the children participated in various activities for Sport Relief last Friday at Farway School. The class one children practised their skills of dribbling, passing and shooting at goal, scoring points for each activity. The teams that won the most points were awarded with prizes of Sport Relief balls or socks. The Key stage 2 children, in mixed Federation teams of 5 or 6 children, took part in a mini-football tournament. The total money raised, from sales of Sport Relief merchandise, sponsorship from the run on Thursday, and payments for non-uniform on the Friday came to an amazing £417! Well done everyone.

School Clubs after Easter

All after school clubs will resume the first week back after Easter.

Beer Blazer

This will take place on Sunday 8th May, starting at 10.30am at the Pecorama car park. It will be a multi terrain, traffic free course. There will be a 5K run for over 11s and a Junior run of 1 mile for under 11s. If your child would like to get involved further information and an entry form can be found on the Beer CE Primary website.

Message from Claire and Nikki:

Claire and Nikki would like to thank everyone for the support and sponsorship they received for doing the Grizzly.