



The Branscombe Waves



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 17/18 33
Friday 29th June 2018**



Dear Parents,

Class 1 have been busy gardening out in the sunshine this week! We will soon be judged on our entry for the 'Sidmouth Rotary Primary School Gardening Competition'. This year we have used our recent learning on endangered Bats to inspire 'Branscombe's Bat-friendly Garden'. We have planted bat-friendly flowers, and herbs such as lavender, to encourage the right insects for bats to eat! We are also maintaining our compost heap and growing some vegetables.

The children have been fantastic, getting hands on with digging: weeding, planting and watering, to create a safe-haven for the bats, whilst using their learning from our 'Global Gardens' topic on what conditions plants need to grow. If there are any green-fingered parents out there that have any ideas or contributions towards the garden we would be extremely grateful! Do pop up and have a look at our progress so far!

This week, Class 2 at Branscombe have continued their topic studies, by finding out more about Egypt and comparing aspects of life in modern and Ancient Egypt, especially looking at the importance of the Nile river. In Maths, some of the year 3 and 4 children have plotted graphs to show the rainfall and maximum or minimum temperatures in Cairo or Giza, and have compared these with similar data for London. Others have plotted bar graphs to show the average annual rainfall in different cities around the world, which revealed just how low the rainfall is in Cairo, compared to a range of other places in the world. The children have also researched and found out more about subjects such as transport links, food and major industries in Egypt and practised using a range of geographical vocabulary to describe the features of the country.

Meanwhile, in their Literacy lessons, the children in Class 2 watched several short films about the life of Cleopatra VII, the last pharaoh of Egypt. They then used the information they had gleaned from these videos to plan and write a biography of the famous queen, endeavouring to introduce an "authorial opinion" into their writing, as well as learning to structure the writing and use a range of sentence structures, appropriate to formal writing. Over the next week or so, the children will be researching and writing the biographies of a range of other famous figures from history, linked to their work in History and RE in particular.

Thank you for all your continued support.

God bless and have a lovely weekend.

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

Question of the Week

Class 1: What kind of shelter do bats need to sleep in safely?

Class 2: Whose biography would you really like to read? Why?

Key Dates - Summer Term 2018

5th July, & 12th July. Swimming Lessons.

Sunday 1st July - Exe Valley Challenge.

12th July 3.25-5pm – Open Evening.

16th July – Class 1 Beach School.

20th July (pm) - Branscombe Summer play.

23rd July – Federation Sports Day and Race for Life.

24th July – Last Day of Term.

Life Skills

Year 6 joined other schools in the local area at a 'Life Skills' event at the Donkey Sanctuary. In total the children took part in seven sessions, all focusing on how to keep themselves and others safe. The sessions included watching a video on



Internet safety and protecting personal data, a quiz about being a responsible dog owner, discussing and drawing what happens when we are scared and how to cope with this, water safety including using ropes to rescue someone and preventing dangers around water, a fire safety quiz with the fire brigade and beach safety with the RNLI. The Fire Officer commented that the children in the Federation gave the most correct responses out of all the schools on the day. The children all joined in with the discussions and had a good knowledge of how to keep themselves and others safe. The afternoon ended with a bang when the fire brigade demonstrated what happens when you put a small amount of water on a hot chip pan.



Federation Sports Day and Race for Life

On Monday 23rd July, all of the children will be taking part in our annual Federation Sports Day at the village field. As part of this event, we will be holding a 'Race for Life' to help raise money for the Cancer Research charity. We hope that you will aid us in raising money for this worthy cause, and give the children something to feel really proud of. Thank you.

Class 2 PE

Please could all children have a pair of long trousers or leggings in their PE kit? Often the PE class takes place on the tennis court which is a slightly gravelly surface and longer trousers may help protect against a knee injury if a child falls over.

Ticks:

As Branscombe is known to have a tick population and they are now in their most active season, please make sure that you are checking your children regularly for ticks. See the NHS website for information on how to safely remove ticks. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/insect-bites-and-stings/treatment/>

Collective Worship Activity

This term we have been focussing in school on the value of Hope. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together. If the children bring back something that you have done at home linked to the Collective Worship activity, or can talk about a discussion they've had at home linked to it, then Mrs Gray will award them with a new special sticker.

THINK TOGETHER
ABOUT WORDS OF WISDOM

"Learn from yesterday, live for today,
hope for tomorrow"

Albert Einstein