

Branscombe C of E Primary School
Children's Aims
We will try to:



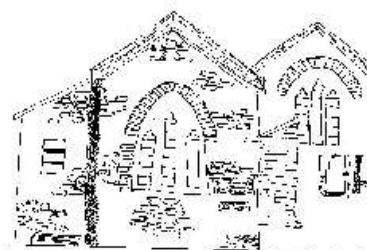
The Branscombe Waves



BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 14 / 15 19

Friday 6th February 2015



Dear Parents,

This week we have had a number of visitors to the school, including Jay's Grandma, the National Trust, and ChildLine.

Jay's Grandma came on Thursday to talk to Class 1 about her experiences as a child, and the children were able to ask her lots of questions about how things were different when she was their age. They were very interested in her answers and found several very surprising, particularly when they found out that most people did not have a telephone in their house, and that there would have been a telephone box at the end of the street for all the houses to share. They were also told that most houses did not have an indoor bathroom, which stimulated much discussion about what it would be like to have to go outside to use the toilet, particularly at this time of year.

Today the National Trust came and did their monthly session with both classes. This time Helen Parr from the *Greater Horseshoe Bat Project* ran part of the session indoors, and the children went outside to plant hedges at Manor Mill Farm for the other part. These sessions are proving to be very positive. The sessions are providing the children with valuable experiences as well as good learning opportunities and they seem to be getting a lot out of the sessions.

ChildLine came on Monday for their Safeguarding assembly with Year 5 and 6 children. The session was very successful and the children seemed to respond well and take the information on board. ChildLine will be returning next week for a follow-up workshop with the same children.

Looking forward to next week, Tuesday is *Safer Internet Day* when both classes will be discussing how they can stay safe while using the internet, and on Wednesday Class 2 will be visiting the Church with Revd. Hilary Dawson to look at symbols of faith.

Thank you for all your continued support.

God bless and have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Branscombe School

Questions for the week

Class 1: Can you write your parents and grandparents' names?

Class 2: What is your favourite food and where in the world does it come from?

Key Dates:

Mrs Gray will be in school on Friday next week.

Monday 9th February

ChildLine safeguarding workshop (Y5 & 6)

Tuesday 10th February

Safer Internet Day

Thursday 12th February

KS2 PE performance

Friday 13th February

Pancake races

Deposits for Eden Project due

End of Term

Monday 23rd February

First day back after half term

Deposit for Beam House due

Tuesday 3rd March

Parents Evening

Wednesday 4th March

World Book Day event (see details below)

Pancake Day races

As you know, our annual pancake races will take place from 2pm on Friday 13th February. Please can each child make sure they bring a **small frying pan** and a **pancake** for the races and could each family also contribute 6 pancakes to be eaten afterwards. Any donations of lemons, lemon juice or syrup would also be welcome. If you are able to help to set up before the races, or help serve pancakes afterwards, please speak to Claire Graysmark.

World Book Day

Officially world book day falls on the Thursday 5th March, but because Class 2 are out all morning for PE on this day, we will be running our book day event on **Wednesday 4th March**. Our theme is "Story Bears". We will be looking at bears made famous through stories (such as Paddington, Pooh Bear and Rupert) and writing our own bear story. We are planning on a day of cross-curricular activities around the theme. Children are welcome to dress up as a bear if they wish and we will be encouraging them to bring their own bears to school (as we will bring ours!). We would love to hear from any parents who may be interested in joining us at some point during the day to talk with the children about their own favourite bear stories.

New Menus

The kitchen have informed us that there will be new menus beginning after half term. These are attached to this newsletter. They are quite different so please do take a look. Please note that for the jacket potato option, there will only be one choice of filling each day, and that the packed lunch option is not available under the Universal Free School Meals (i.e. KS1 free school meals) unless the children are going on a trip over lunchtime.

Half Term Events with EDDC Countryside team

Monday 16 February – Bird box making at Cranbrook Younghayes Centre.

10am – 2pm. Celebrate National Nest Box Week by making your own bird box to put up in your garden. Suitable for all ages. £7.50 per bird box made. **Booking essential**, call 01395 517557 or email Countryside@eastdevon.gov.uk.

Monday 16 February – Birdwatching for children, Tower hide, Axe Estuary Wetlands

10am – 12 noon. Back by popular demand! Experienced and knowledgeable birdwatcher Ian Waite has very kindly agreed to lead another event for us, following its huge popularity last October. Free event but donations welcome. The event will be split into 2 x 1 hour slots, as space is limited, so **booking is essential**. Call 01395 517557 or email Countryside@eastdevon.gov.uk for more information.

Wednesday 18 February – Wildlife gardening at the Wetlands.

10am – 2pm. Bird boxes, bug hotels, compost cottages and more. Help the rangers to develop the Wetlands wildlife garden, and pick up some tips on making your own garden more wildlife friendly. **No need to book** – just drop in. The Wetlands car park is through the entrance to Seaton cemetery. Walk along the track, following signs to the Field Studies base, and you will find us. Free event, but there is a charge for some materials / items if you want to take them home with you.

Friday 20 February – Family adventure day, Knapp Community Nature Reserve, Sidmouth

10am – 3pm. Join the Education Rangers for a fun, hands-on day learning outdoor skills like shelter building, campfire cooking, woodland crafts and more. £8 per child. **Booking essential**. Call 01395 517557 or email Countryside@eastdevon.gov.uk