# BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 10/11 01 Friday 10th September 2010









Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back to the beginning of a new school year. I hope you all had a refreshing and enjoyable summer break; it's been lovely to catch up with you and the children and to hear the exciting things you've been doing throughout the holiday.

We are all looking forward to the new term and have some interesting things planned. All the children have a topic based on 'Themselves' this term which will involve learning about the body, healthy eating, cooking etc. We will also be working with the new National Trust Community Ranger on a number of local outdoor experiences, some of you, I know, have enjoyed her Stream Dipping and Rock Pooling over the summer.

Last term I asked for your help in completing a Community Cohesion Audit. Staff and governors have also been involved in this and I will update you in the coming weeks with our action plan for things we are planning to do to increase the children's understanding of local, national and international community.

We are already thinking about Christmas and all the festivities that school will be involved in towards the end of term.

If you feel you can help in any way with anything that the children are doing in school, or can just spare half an hour or so to help with making resources or hearing readers please don't hesitate to talk to me or the class teachers.

It is lovely to welcome so many new children to the school this term. Tabitha, Felix and Taliesin have joined reception, Theo and Samphire have joined Year 1, Michal has joined Year 3 and Beatrix, Josie and Max have joined year 4. We hope they settle in quickly and soon feel like part of the Branscombe family.

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

## Newsletter and Plastic Wallet Amnesty!

As a school we like to encourage the children to think about the environment and 'eco' issues. One way we can demonstrate this in school is by saving and reusing the school resources. We would like to send the newsletter by email to as many families as possible. From next Friday we will send the newsletter by email to any families who have provided us with their email address on registration forms. If you are unsure whether we have your address and you would like to receive an electronic email please give your email address to Nicola in the office or email her at <a href="mailto:admin@branscombe.devon.sch.uk">admin@branscombe.devon.sch.uk</a>. If you receive the newsletter by email next week but would prefer a paper copy please let Nicola know. When we get leaflets that outside agencies have asked us to distribute, these will still be given as paper copies to all children.

Some time ago we gave every child 2 small plastic wallets to use as reusable envelopes for dinner money, trip contributions etc. Please could you have a good look around your homes for any of these wallets and hand them in to the office so that we can redistribute them to all the families. Thank you so much for your assistance with this.

#### Dentist visit

As a link to our topic, a dentist will be visiting Class 2 next Thursday (16<sup>th</sup> September). He has asked that all children bring in their toothbrush (in a named toiletries bag) on the day.

#### Free School Meals

A reminder that if you are in receipt of any of the following benefits you are entitled to free school meals:

- o Income Support
- Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, without Working Tax Credit with an annual taxable income of less than £16,190
- o Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- o Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Even if your child does not wish to have school meals, please still apply as this can be beneficial to yourselves through other government initiatives as well as to the school. Many grants that schools can access are based on the number of children who have successfully applied for free school meals.

To apply please telephone the School Admissions Team on 01392 382761

#### Parkina

Please could I remind all parents not to park in the passing place opposite the school staff car park AT ANY TIME. If you park there it makes it difficult for farm vehicles and delivery drivers to pass and is also very inconvenient to our nearest neighbours.

### School Dinners

There has been some confusion with the dinner menu this week. Because some schools in Devon started back to school the week before we did we should have been following 'Week 2' on the menu for our first week. Please note, next week your child should be choosing from the 'Week 3' menu.

## Guinness "Roast Dinner" World Record Attempt

We are very excited to be able to join an attempt to achieve the Guinness World Record for the "largest simultaneous roast dinner", this event will take place on the 29th September and as parents you are very welcome to join us. Please see the attached details and return form.

#### **PTFA**

The first cake stall of the new term will take place next Friday ( $17^{th}$  September). From then on the stalls will be held on the first Friday of every month.

A reminder of the rota:

Christine and Mrs Drake - September

Louisa and Jo - October

Judie and Angie - November

Clare and Amanda - December

#### School Clubs

The clubs we have arranged so far this term are as follows:

Club	Day	Time	Available to
Cookery	Monday	After school until 4.15pm	Year 3
Cross Country	Monday	Lunch time	Key Stage 2
Year 6 Booster	Tuesday	Lunch time	Year 6
Modelling	Tuesday	After school until 4.15pm	Key Stage 2
Netball	Wednesday	After school until 4.15pm	Key Stage 2
Construction	Wednesday	After school until 4.15pm	Key Stage 1
Textile	Thursday Friday	Lunch time	All
Football	Friday	After school until 4.15pm	All

Cookery Club - This will be available to individual Key Stage 2 year groups on a half termly basis. THIS FIRST HALF TERM WILL BE FOR YEAR 3 CHILDREN

Football- further details to follow about this club, but please fill in the form if you interested

If you wish your child to attend any of the after school clubs please fill in the form below.

#### Year 6 Secondary School Admissions

All parents of children in the current Year 6 should have received a letter from the School Admissions Team. We have copies in school of the form that was sent to you. All secondary school applications must be received by Devon School Admissions Team by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Please note, forms should not be returned to the school office. The helpline number is 0845 155 1019.

#### School Office

The school office is not attended on Thursdays. Please be reassured that if no one is in the office the ansaphone will be checked before 3pm so that if there are any emergency arrangements about collecting your child they will have been heard by the end of the day.

#### Administration of Medicines

Please note that the Devon County form which we ask you to fill in when you ask us to administer medicines to your child has changed. A new form has been enclosed with this newsletter. Please note that if you bring us a medicine for your child it must be accompanied by the signed form, it must be brought to school and collected from school by an adult not the child, it must be a prescribed medicine only and be in the original packaging.

Please note that if your child has an asthma inhaler there is now a section of the form relating to these and we would ask that parents fill in a form in relation to this and bring it to school next week.

#### School Path

Several children are now walking down the school path at the end of the day on their own. Whilst we encourage the children to be independent we would ask that you sign the form below so that we know you agree to this arrangement. If we do not receive a signed form we will keep the children in school until you collect them. Similarly if you have any other regular arrangements about the collection of your child we would be grateful if you could write them on the notes section of the form. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

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Name of Child I would like my	child to attend the after schoo	· ·	Discountists
Name of Child I would like my Club	child to attend the after schoo	Available to	Please tick
Name of Child I would like my Club Cookery	child to attend the after schoo  Day  Monday until 4.15pm	Available to Year 3	Please tick
Name of Child I would like my Club Cookery Modelling	child to attend the after schoo  Day  Monday until 4.15pm  Tuesday until 4.15pm	Available to Year 3 Key Stage 2	Please tick
I would like my	child to attend the after schoo  Day  Monday until 4.15pm	Available to Year 3	Please tick
Name of Child  I would like my  Club  Cookery  Modelling  Netball  Construction  Signed	Day  Monday until 4.15pm  Tuesday until 4.15pm  Wednesday until 4.15pm	Available to Year 3 Key Stage 2 Key Stage 2 Key Stage 1	Please tick
Name of Child  I would like my  Club Cookery Modelling Netball Construction  Signed	Day  Monday until 4.15pm  Tuesday until 4.15pm  Wednesday until 4.15pm  Wednesday until 4.15pm	Available to Year 3 Key Stage 2 Key Stage 2 Key Stage 1	Please tick