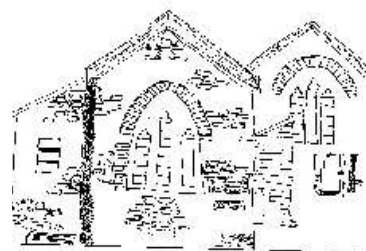




**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY  
SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 14/15 35  
Friday 17 July 2015**



**Achievements to Celebrate  
Branscombe Waves Award:**

**Tilly:** Taking great care when drawing

**Agatha and Mason:** Independent work as a team to build a model bridge

**Lola:** An excellent "Hagbane's Doom" poster

**Isabelle:** Taking responsibility and working hard

Dear Parents,

As we reach the final days of the academic year, it seems that we are busier than ever. On Tuesday the Branscombe Football team travelled to Farway FC for a re-match against Farway School. Unfortunately for Branscombe, Farway won the match this time, but the children all enjoyed themselves and it was good to see so many parents, staff and governors watching the match and cheering all of the children on.

On Wednesday the children took part in their last session of the year with the National Trust. These monthly sessions have given the children so many amazing experiences and we hope that the sessions will continue next year. This week, class 1 went to the beach to see what they could find in the rockpools. They found crabs and sea snails and enjoyed eating their lunch on the beach.



Class 2 were taken back to the Iron Age for their session, as a link to this term's topic. First they visited the Branscombe forge to see how iron can be heated, melted and forged into a range of shapes. The children then went to the orchard where they cut and stripped willow branches and turned it into charcoal over the fire. They learned that the wood needed to be heated without too much oxygen. In addition, the children learned to twist the bark they had stripped from the willow branches to make cordage,

which they made into bracelets and necklaces. They also sawed and drilled discs of wood to make pendants, decorated with charcoal. Finally, the children toasted marshmallows and made popcorn over the fire. It was a fun-filled afternoon of outdoor learning and we are really grateful to the National Trust for all the effort, imagination and care they have put into organising this and other similar days this year.



On Wednesday lunchtime two members of our gardening club attended the Sidmouth Rotary Club Primary Schools' Garden Competition awards ceremony. Thanks to the efforts of the



gardening club and its leaders Candice and Alice, the school was presented with an award for the "longest bean". Hayley and Lola accepted the award on behalf of the gardening club, and the shield and certificate are now proudly on display in our foyer.

Our open day this week was very successful, and I do hope that you enjoyed seeing all the excellent work the children have produced this year. Class 1 children were very pleased with their sale of tomato plants, tiles and fabric prints and managed to raise a wonderful £30 for the community fund to help sponsor Grace. I am so impressed that they came up with the idea of raising money this way, and with their generosity in selling items that they had made and grown themselves.

In writing this last newsletter of the academic year I have been reflecting on what a busy and successful year it has been across the Jubilee Federation. Since Farway joined us in September our federation has gone from strength to strength, with our staff working together throughout the year to plan shared topics and visits. It has been wonderful for the children that so many of our activities have been shared experiences for the three schools, and I look forward to another excellent year to come.

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*

#### Key Dates:

**Mrs Gray** will be at Branscombe on Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning next week.

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

Summer Play - "Hagbane's Doom" at 1.30pm in the village hall, followed by presentations and refreshments.

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

Class 1 – Beach and Park trip (**details below**)

Final KS2 Swimming session

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

Leavers' Service 9.15am

Final day of term

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

First day of Autumn term

#### Question for the week

**Class 2:** If you had a chance to make one of two possible trips in a time machine, would you choose to visit the Stone age or the Iron age? Why?

#### School Library Books

If you have not returned your library books, they **must** be back by Monday.

Thank you.

### **Class 1 Beach trip - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

Please can all children wear their **school sweatshirt** so that we can easily identify where they are. They may wear casual shorts, trousers, trainers etc as appropriate for their day's activities and comfort. All children will also need a waterproof coat, sun hat and a packed lunch with plenty to drink. A small back pack would be very useful, allowing your child to walk with hands free. Your child should arrive at school with sun cream already applied.

### **Morning Routine**

I spoke to the children in Class 2 last week about their morning routine. We are very proud of our 'open door' policy at Branscombe and enjoy seeing parents in the morning to hear news or to be able to share pastoral information about the children. However, we also need to ensure teachers have time to set up their rooms and activities and that confidential conversations can take place before the children arrive. We encourage the children to gain independence with routines at all stages of their time with us too and we also need to know who is in the building before registration takes place. We do understand that the younger children may need settling in Class 1 first thing, and Mr Ford or Pauline are available in Class 1 to support parents with this. We would really appreciate it if Class 2 children who enjoy their parents bringing them in to class could wait until 8.50 before coming in to hang up bags etc. Of course staff are always available before and after school to any parents/carers who need to pass on a message or chat through a concern.

### **Menu Change – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

The kitchen will be providing fish and chips/cheese wheels instead of curry on Wednesday. Jacket potato and packed lunches will be available as usual, and there will be choc ices for pudding.

### **National Trust free summer activities - Wild Wednesdays**

Tick off the 50 things to do before you're 11  $\frac{3}{4}$ . All events are free, no need to book, all at 1pm – 3 pm.

Fly a Kite, 29 July: Meet on the green by Sea Shanty. Make your own kite to fly on the hill above the beach. How many will get into the air?

Den Building, 5 August: Meet on the green by Sea Shanty. Bring a favourite toy or teddy and make a woodland home for them.

Stream Dipping, 12 August: Meet at information room opposite the Forge. See what creatures you can find in the stream that runs through Branscombe.

Rockpooling, 19 August: Meet on the green by Sea Shanty. Grab a net and check out the crazy creatures in a rock pool.

Bug safari, 26 August: Meet at Information room opposite the Forge. See what mini beasts you can discover hiding in the orchard.

Big Wild Sleepout 22 and 23 August. Free. Booking essential call 01297 680507. Camp out under the stars at Salcombe Hill. Pitch your tent in the orchard and cook supper on a campfire. Come on a nature walk at night, hunt for moths and stargaze on the beach.

## Collective Worship Activity



### FASCINATING FACTS

#### Rainbows

After a shower of rain we sometimes see a magnificent rainbow arched across the sky.

- rainbows are the reflection of the sun in the rain droplets in the sky
- they are curved because raindrops are round
- they are multi-coloured because each raindrop splits the sunlight into a spectrum of colours
- the colours of the rainbow are always in the same order – red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet – and red is highest in the sky
- an easy way to remember the order is using the mnemonic '**R**ichard **O**f York **G**ave **B**attle **I**n **V**ain'. The first letter of each word is also the first letter of the colour.

