BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 11 / 12 04 Friday 30th September 2011







The Branscombe Waves

Dear Parents

I was delighted to attend an award ceremony this week at County Hall with Mrs Crawford (our healthy school co-ordinator) and two representatives from the school. Last term we were awarded the Healthy School Plus Award and over the summer we were informed that our submission achieved an Outstanding rating. Only 29 schools were judged as outstanding out of the 120 schools that completed the Healthy School Plus Process. During the ceremony we were able to look at posters made by all the 'outstanding schools' to see the projects which had been completed across Devon. We were also able to watch a cookery demonstration. I was very proud of Josie and Isy who accompanied us; they behaved impeccably throughout the morning.

Theresa Lawless from the Healthy School team emailed yesterday and said 'The Celebration was in recognition of all the hard work that you and your school put into the Programme - we hope that you felt special, because you really are!' We hope to receive an official photo from the event shortly.

Continuing the healthy theme, we have had lots of sporting events this week.

Rugby - On Monday we had a visit from Sidmouth Rugby Club. The children in KS2 took part in a range of activities culminating in a very exciting game. The club welcome any children who wish to take this activity further.

Skipathon - At 10.00am on Thursday all the children in the school took part in the sponsored "Skipathon". It was wonderful to see them all enjoying the activity, Mrs Crawford, Mr Ford and Pauline also joined in - briefly! Please remember to bring in your sponsor money - all proceeds to The British Heart Foundation.

Fun Day - What a fantastic fun day! The children in class 2 ran fun day stalls in the morning that were enjoyed by all the children and some adults too. They raised almost £25 towards the BHF. Mrs Crawford was really impressed by the effort and determination of the children, especially those in class 1, during the sports activities.

The event was won by "Figure of Eight" but praise should go to all the children who took part. Thanks also to all the parents and friends who supported Fun Day, and to the PTFA for providing refreshments. Even the weather was good to us this year- well done everyone!

Next week is Children's Book Week. There are lots of information sheets for parents coming home tonight and lots of reading based activities going on in school next week. More information is written below but please do support your child with their reading, particularly next week!

God bless and we hope you have a lovely weekend.

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

Key Dates

Mrs Gray will be in school on Thursday and Friday.

Saturday 1st October - National Trust Apple Day at the Village Hall and Orchards.

From 11am until 4pm. Orchard exhibits, apple lanterns, storytelling and guided walks.

Monday 3rd October - cookery club starts for KS2 children. See details below.

Tuesday 4th October - Cross Country Club starts.

Wednesday 5th October - Carnivals in Somerset Project @ Broadhembury School

Thursday 20th October - last day of this half term.

Monday 31st October - first day of next half term.

Wednesday 2nd November - 2.45pm Parent Forum meeting

Monday 21st November - Class 2 Dental Hygiene session

Monday 5th December - Christingle Service 6pm at St Winifred's Church.

Thursday 8th December - Christmas Play at Branscombe Village Hall at 6.30pm.

Monday 12th December - 2.45pm Parent Forum meeting

Children's Book Week

Next week is Children's Book Week. As explained previously, as a school we are focussing on the promotion of reading this year so we have planned an exciting week of reading based activities. We will be placing a Poetree in the entrance hall for children, parents and staff to hang their favourite poems on. The children will be reading with pupils from the other class. Glynis is organising 'Reading by the Railings', where excerpts from books will be hanging on the railings and fences around school for people to stop and enjoy. Staff will share their favourite stories and we will also be holding a book swap. For this we would like you to have a sort out of any children's books you no longer use then bring them into school on Wednesday. Glynis will organise them and then on Thursday we would like the children to bring in a £1 donation (for library funds) and choose a book to take home that someone else has brought in.

Coming home tonight are several age appropriate leaflets of ways to encourage your child to read and also some book lists. We realise it is often difficult to help your child to choose something to read, particularly as they get older, so these leaflets (produced

by Devon Library Services and the Devon Literacy Team) are a great starting point. Do let us know if they have been helpful.

Parent Forum

We had planned to hold the parent forum this week. It was a shame that so many people could not make it as we were going to introduce our new format and discuss some topics that would be of great help to school improvement. We will hold future forums on Wednesday 2nd November at 2.45pm, Monday 12th December at 2.45 pm, Wednesday 11th January at 2.45pm and Thursday 2nd February at 2.45pm. If you are a year group rep please pop these dates into your diary. We still need a rep for the new Reception Class. Please see Nicola or Mrs Gray if you are interested in this role.

Headlice

A case of headlice had been brought to our attention. Please check your child's head tonight and ensure that you continue to check your child's head regularly and treat appropriately. We do have copies of information provided by the school nurse regarding effective treatment. Please pop into the office if you would like a copy to keep at home.

Textile Club

There will be no textile club on October 13th.

Apple Day

The National Trust will be running an Apple Day on Saturday 1st October at Branscombe Village Hall. There will be apple picking, orchard exhibits, apple lanterns and story telling as well as guided walks. The event will take place from 11am until 4pm

PTFA

The PTFA AGM took place on Wednesday. Thank you to those who made the effort to attend the meeting. Minutes of the meeting will be sent out shortly.

Cake Sale

A big thank you to Ruth Thomas who has very kindly offered to do a cake sale on Monday after school. So bring your money and buy some yummy cakes.

Cookery Club

Monday's session will involve preparing recipes for the rest of the term therefore children will need to make normal lunch arrangements (either school meals or packed lunch). If parents or children have any favourite recipes Mrs Crawford would be very grateful to receive copies in time for this planning session.

Carnivals session at Broadhembury School

If this trip is to go ahead then we do need more parents to help provide transport. If you are able to help please complete the slip below and return it to school by Monday morning. In the hope that we are able to go we have provided and SOE3 permission form for completion. Please ensure this is returned on Monday.

Carnivals trip to Broadhembury School

| Name | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| I will be | willing to | transport | children | to E | Broadhen | nbury | School | on | Wedr | nesday | 5th |
| October. | I have | | | _ pa: | ssenger | seats | with | shou | ılder | belts | and |
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