



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 17/18 15
Friday 26th January 2018**



Branscombe Waves

Sean: for a consistently positive, polite attitude, showing respect for others.

Rachel: for persevering to improve her work.

Annabelle: for working extremely hard to learn to use the clocks, and make o'clock times.

Dominic: for outstanding progress with his sounds, well done.

Dear Parents,

In prehistoric P.E./dance lessons this week, the children in Class 1, explored the prehistoric jungle. First they talked about the way in which you move in a densely-packed forest. They had to remember to move aside branches, and climb under and over fallen debris. They practised creeping silently, as if they were frightened of what creature they might meet. Using their whole body they demonstrated getting through narrow gaps, and over crevasses in the ground.



Moving to music the children took turns to be explorers, and others to be obstacles in their way, as they tried to get from one side of the room to the other, using their jungle movements. Following this, the children were placed in pairs to become dinosaurs once more, as they choreographed another short routine. This time they were asked to use their dance moves to make clear if they were a carnivore, a herbivore, a predator or its prey.



In our literacy and theme work, the children have been working hard to create new pages for our text 'Dino Dinners'. First the children were asked to design a new dinosaur. After drawing their creature in a scientific manner, they labelled the features of their beast, to explain when it lived, what it ate, and what it looked like, amongst other things. Once they had gathered all of their ideas, the children thought about how best to organise their ideas, for their final piece of writing. In order to ensure that their pages would make the cut, they had to think about the two voices in the text– presenting information about their dinosaur in the same style. Using the text as a framework, they wrote a poem in the voice of the dinosaur, and a fact file using a more formal tone.

In their Literacy work on information texts this week, Class 2 have written and published reports about the tradition of "Wassailing", which they presented at this afternoon's special Sharing Assembly, following our annual Wassailing jaunt to the orchard, to encourage the apple trees to bear fruit! Many thanks to all the parents who were able to join us for this event, and especially to all those who helped to provide refreshments for our apple-themed tea party.

Later in the week, the children of Class 2 learned more about how to structure a paragraph. They related this to traffic lights, with a topic sentence at the start to explain what the paragraph is about (green for go); supporting sentences including facts and details (amber) and a concluding sentence to sum up the main ideas (red for stop). The children practised identifying the topic sentences in paragraphs of information, ordering the sentences in paragraphs, and redrafting or writing their own paragraphs, using this structure. The Year 6 children began to think a little more about different ways to link ideas, within or across paragraphs to create text cohesion.

In their Music lessons this week, Class 2 have begun to learn some songs in preparation for a special concert at Sidmouth College, with other schools from the Sidmouth Learning Community, on Thursday 8th February. This will be in the evening so please keep this time free in your diaries. We will send more information next week but if you know your child won't be able to attend please tell Miss Moss as soon as possible.

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: How do you show that you are thankful to those around you?

Class 2: Space travel is enormously expensive. Do you think governments should give some of the money they earn from the taxes we all pay to help support space travel?
Why/ why not?

Key Dates

Spring Term 2018

2nd February- Key Stage 2 Space Dome Trip to Branoc Hall

9th February- Last day of School before half term

12th-16th February- Half term

19th February- First day back after half term

Bag 2 School

There will be a Bag 2 School Collection on Tuesday 30th January. Bags should have come home to you last week. Please bring donations in by 9am on the morning of 30th January. All proceeds will go to the PTFA. Thank you.

Spare Clothes

Please could ALL children in Preschool and Reception have a spare set of clothes with them every day, in case of toileting mishaps! Also, if you have any spare pants, socks or trousers that may fit our younger children, and that you would be willing to donate to school, we would be very grateful for these. All Class 1 children should have wellies and a waterproof coat in school every day please.

Collective Worship Activity

This term we have been focussing in school on the value of Thankfulness. 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.

