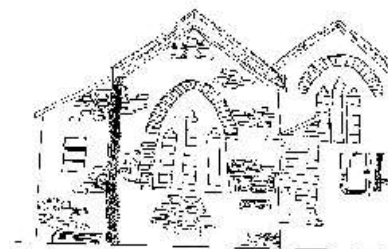




BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 15/16 14
Friday 11th December 2015



Dear Parents,

What a super week it's been across the federation, it seems that Christmas has arrived! I'm very lucky to be able to see so many productions of the Nativity Story and to eat several Christmas lunches! The children across the federation have done so well learning lines and acting their roles



with such confidence. I would like to thank all the staff who all work so hard at this time of year, above and beyond their usual roles, to ensure that the children have a super time.

In Branscombe many of the children opened the Branoc Hall Christmas fair on Saturday with some Christmas songs. It was a lovely start to the fair and we received lots of lovely comments from the local community. On Monday night lots of you attended the Christingle

service. It was, as always, a lovely event and the children did really well, with the younger ones performing a short nativity and the older children doing the readings.

On Tuesday Class 1 returned to the Church with Reverend Hilary, where they learnt all about advent as part of their RE topic. Hilary showed them the purple advent stole that she wears, and the advent wreath with its five candles.



All the children have been busy this week getting ready for Tuesday's performance of our Christmas play, "The Messengers" which I'm very much looking forward to seeing it. However, apologies in advance if I don't make it. My husband is having a minor operation that day so it depends whether he's well enough to leave at home alone! Miss Prince is looking forward to stepping into my role for the evening if required. Further details about arrangements for the play are written below.

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 for the week

Class 1: We have been learning about light this week. Can you find an interesting 'light source' somewhere at home? Please make a good picture of it and use colour to show us how bright it is.

Class 2: What are your family Christmas traditions? How have these developed?

Key Dates:	
Due to all the Christmas events across the federation Mrs Gray and Miss Prince will not be following their usual timetables next week. If you need to speak to them please ask staff to get a message to them and they will call you back.	
Tuesday 15th Dec	Sidmouth Kitchen (school meals) Christmas Dinner Christmas Performance (6pm, Branoc Hall)
Wednesday 16th Dec	National Trust Session (indoor session in the morning) Children's Christmas Dinner in Branoc Hall PTFA Christmas Party (pick up from hall at 3.30p.m. – no clubs)
Friday 18th Dec	Carols in Class 1 at 2.30pm Last day of term
Wednesday 6th Jan	Children return after holidays

Christmas Play arrangements

The children should meet at the Branoc hall between 5.30 and 5.45 to get into their costumes, ready for a 6pm start. The play will last just over an hour and will be followed by refreshments. The children should wear light clothes under their costumes, such as a t-shirt and shorts, so they do not get too hot. Towards the end of the play, many of them will take their nativity costumes off and appear onstage in their own clothes. We would also be grateful if each of them could bring some sort of Christmas decoration to use in the play, such as a piece of tinsel or a tree decoration - nothing too delicate or precious please! These should be brought into school on Monday for our technical/ dress rehearsals. We are very grateful for all the support you have given in learning lines and preparing for the play and we hope you will really enjoy our performance!

Clubs

Construction club and netball club will **not** be running next week, and will **not** run next half term. They will resume after February half term. Textiles club **will** be running next week for the last time, but will **not** be running next half term. We hope that we may be able to offer it again after February half term, although this may be on a different day. Football club will **not** be on next week, but Andy hopes to run another block after Christmas.

Children's Christmas Dinner

We would like to invite the children to wear Christmas accessories with their school uniform next Wednesday for the Christmas dinner at the hall. Please remember that children will not need a packed lunch.

Carol Singing Friday 18th December

We will be singing carols from 2.30pm in Class 1. Family and friends are welcome, please do come along and get into the Christmas spirit.

National Trust Session

This will take place in school on Wednesday morning, so the children will not need wellies and can wear school uniform.

Menu changes next week only

On Monday the kitchen will be serving Chicken nuggets or vegetarian nuggets. On Tuesday they are serving Christmas dinner (roast turkey or quorn fillet). Wednesday is our special Christmas dinner down at the hall, so no school meals will be served. On Thursday the school meal will be sausages or vegetarian sausages, and on Friday the normal menu will apply.

PTFA Notices

The PTFA will be serving refreshments after the Christmas performance on Tuesday night. They are asking for donations of **mince pies**, and any **raffle prizes** to be brought into school on Tuesday morning please.

The PTFA Christmas party for the children will run in school time on Wednesday 17th December, down in the village hall. The party will finish at 3.30pm and children should be picked up from the hall please.