



The Branscombe Waves



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL**
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 17/18 18
Friday 23rd February 2018



Branscombe Waves

Tilly: For taking care to present work to a high standard.

Ian: For being friendly and looking out for others.

Lily: For making progress in reading.

Dominic: For outstanding effort and perseverance in all work.

Dear Parents,

This week the children in Class 1, have begun their new literacy sequence, based on the text '*The Paper Bag Princess*' by Robert Munsch. They have enjoyed listening to the story and learning to recite it, using the paper bag puppets that they made in craft sessions. After working as a group to produce a story map, they also designed their own comic strips, to retell the tale of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Ronald. The children realised that the dragon in the story, claimed that he could burn up to ten forests with his fiery breath; he also claimed to be able to fly around the world - in just ten seconds. What a show off!

They enjoyed a creative writing challenge, preparing for their own bragging contest, using their imaginations to come up with exaggerated responses, in which they claimed the most ridiculous brags!

In Maths, the children have been working with money, as they use their additive reasoning skills to solve problems, finding the totals of prices and giving change. The children have enjoyed exploring some online games, to stretch their mental maths skills, as well as hunting for treasure in the sand, and buying and selling items in the role-play area.

In theme sessions, the children have begun our learning about crumbling castles. They have been discussing what they already know about castles, before ordering, on a timeline, different types of castle structures. Using their learning, the children designed and created their own castle structure for our new roleplay area, complete with painted portraits to decorate the walls, and drawings of scenes out of the windows into the enchanted forest!

Making use of the iPads and various books, the children have also been finding out a little more about the different roles of people living within a castle and the grounds, as they prepare to write an advert and job description to be able to employ suitable staff, to join our castle!

This week, Class 2 have been learning more about different parts of the world and particularly the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, as well as exploring how the seasons are created by the tilt of the Earth's axis. In their Literacy work, the children have explored the story "Weslandia" by Paul Fleischman, as an example of a story set in an imaginary world. They have begun to explore the impact of some of the different sentence types and practise using similar sentence

constructions in different contexts. Next week, the children will continue this sequence of work in order to develop the way they introduce and describe characters and settings in their own story writing.

Today, for our latest "Ready, Steady, Write" themed day, the children explored the nursery rhyme, "Hey Diddle, Diddle" with Class 1. Having generated questions about the rhyme, they imagined different stories behind the events described (eg. Why *was* the cow jumping over the moon?). Then, class 2 explored the style of newspaper reports and wrote a report about one of these stories. Some of the older children in the class were challenged to create the front page of a newspaper, presenting a range of different reports about the different characters or objects in the rhyme.

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

What makes a good bedtime story?

What sort of story would **not** be a good bedtime story?

What do you think are the possible advantages/ disadvantages of reading at bedtime?

Key Dates

Spring Term 2018

1st March – World Book Day.

21st March – Parents' Evening.

29th March – Wear a Hat Day.

Last Day of Spring Term: Thursday 29th March.

Breakfast Club - An Important Reminder

Please could all parents be aware that Breakfast Club begins at **8 o'clock each morning**. We are required to provide 2 members of staff to supervise the children during this time, and no members of staff are paid before 8 am. Therefore, the door will be kept locked until this time. At 8 o'clock the front door will be unlocked and you will be able to come into school and sign your child in. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

World Book Day

On Thursday 1st March, the children and staff of Branscombe CofE Primary School will once again be celebrating World Book Day. This year, in an effort to promote reading for pleasure, we are asking members of our school community to consider their favourite bedtime stories. Children are invited to come to school on the day dressed ready for bed (and bring a favourite teddy bear if they wish). In the coming week's homework, we have invited the children to think about their favourite bedtime stories and on the day, we will be exploring some of these and discussing further what makes a good bedtime story. In particular we will look at stories with a bedtime theme, such as "Can't you sleep little bear?" and "The Boy Who Climbed into the Moon". During the day, the children will work in groups to design a reading den or other cosy place to read. The Class 1 children will then create puppets linked to their favourite stories to put in the den and will carry out a survey to select favourite books to put in the reading den. Meanwhile, Class 2 will continue to work on creating a concept board and persuasive speech to promote their reading den, including measurement work on the area and volume of available spaces and creating and researching a budget proposal for the materials needed to make their den. At the end of the day, the children will present their ideas to one another and vote on which reading den they would

Music Lessons

Spare Clothes

Village Hall Chairperson

Collective Worship Activity

FAMILY FOCUS

Random Acts of Kindness

Kindness is often appreciated most when it is offered at unexpected times.

Choose one week this term for your family to have “a random acts of kindness” week, and do something kind for someone each day. Try to do it without telling people it was you!



www.randomactsofkindness.org