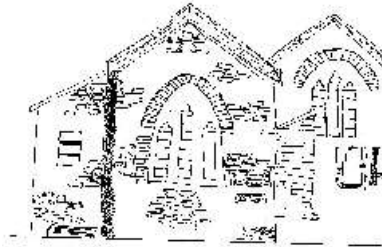


**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**NEWSLETTER 14 / 15 1**  
**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Sep 2014**



Branscombe C of E Primary School  
Children's Aims  
We will try to:



The Branscombe Waves

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope you all had a super summer break and you all feel refreshed.

It's a very exciting time at school with Farway CE Primary joining the Jubilee Federation. The teachers have been working hard over the holidays planning for the new term and I know they have found the support of their colleagues across the larger federation a real support. You will see from the topic webs that will be coming home with this newsletter today that there are lots of exciting things planned for the Autumn Term. The topic for Class 1 is 'Food and Farming' and this will be launched next week with a trip to West Town Farm for all the Reception/KS1 pupils across the federation. Class 2 will be studying 'Britain Since 1930' and they will be having a joint federation experience in a few weeks where they will be creating a 'musical in a day' based on WW1, they will also be going on a trip to Castle Drogo to learn about life at the Castle during WW1. After half term this topic will be based on the decades of British history following the war.

I mentioned last term that there were going to be several changes across the country within schools. There is a new National Curriculum that we are now following. This has been followed when planning the new topics. There has also been a change to the way we are asked to assess the children. The system of 'levels' that most families will be familiar with has been removed and schools have been asked to devise their own ways of assessing achievement and progress. We are on track with these changes across the federation and we will provide you with more information about the way we are assessing children once we have some put our new system into practice.

Over the summer we had our new boilers fitted. We have moved from LPG fuel to oil. We are looking forward to a warm and cosy winter!

There is a lot of information in this newsletter about the topics and some new systems within the classes. There are also dates for some of the events in the 'Key Dates' section.

We welcome Caleb, Hayley, Reggie, Harvey and Tom to the school this term. We hope they have settled in well this week and already feel part of the 'Branscombe Family'. We also welcome three new members of staff, Rachel Moss, Mark Hastie and Beth Walker this term.

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*

### **Questions for the week**

**Class 1:** What is your favourite meal time and what do you most like to eat for this meal?

**Class 2:** How would home life have been different in 1910?

**Key Dates:**

Mrs Gray will be in school on Tuesday and Wednesday next week.

<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September</b>	KS1 trip to West Town Farm
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	Branscombe flower festival, St Winifred's Church
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	Harvest Festival service, St Winifred's Church, 11.15am.
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Sports Day (more details to follow)
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Parents Evening
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Class 2 trip to Castle Drogo (details to follow)
	Last day of term
<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov</b>	Children return from half-term
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Nov</b>	School Photographs

**Term Dates 2014/15****Autumn Term 2014**

27th October - 31st October Half Term  
Monday 3rd November Non Pupil Day  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November Term begins for children  
Friday 19th December Term ends for children

**Spring Term 2015**

Monday 5th January Non Pupil Day  
Tuesday 6th January Term begins for children  
16th February - 20th February Half Term  
Friday 27th March Term ends for children

**Summer Term 2015**

Monday 13th April Term begins for children  
26th May - 29th May Half Term  
Wednesday 22nd July Term ends for children

**Harvest Service**

There will be a harvest festival service at St Winifred's Church on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September. It would be lovely if the children could get involved in this and it would be helpful if families could notify us if they are intending to be at the service. Please complete the slip below and return to the office next week, so that we have an idea of who will be attending and can therefore give children parts to read etc. Thank you.

**Class 2 Homework**

In Class 2 homework will be set on a Friday and the children will be expected to bring their book back to school with their homework completed on the following Thursday. Each week they will have two pieces.

The first will be the weekly question that will be stuck into the back of their homework book and the children will need to discuss it with friends and family and then write down their responses in a format of their own choosing. The question will also appear on the newsletter. The aim of this is to get the children talking about their learning, there aren't usually right or wrong answers to the questions – it is to promote discussion.

The second piece will be completed in the front of their book. At the beginning of the term a sheet will be stuck into the front cover of their book with a variety of activities related to the class topic. These activities will use different learning skills and styles. Each week your child needs to choose one of the activities and complete it in their books over a double paged spread, it may include writing, pictures, photos, building or making something. The children will tick or highlight the activity that they have completed. In school on a Thursday and Friday the children will be asked to share their homework with each other. As the children will be doing different activities each week it will be interesting to see what the children have produced and hopefully inspire the other children to want to complete their next piece of homework. Children will be encouraged to choose activities which use different skills. We hope that this homework will be interesting and fun for all the family.

Children should also continue to read each night and practise their times tables.

## **Clubs**

Clubs will be starting up again next week. Details of each club can be found below. If your child(ren) would like to take part, please complete the relevant slip below and return to the office.

### Textiles Club

This is available to KS2 children, and will run on Thursdays after school, finishing at 4.15pm. Children must be collected from classroom 3.

### Ukulele Club

This will run on Wednesday lunchtimes for year 2 and above.

### Construction Club

This is available to children from year 1 and upwards on a Wednesday after school, finishing at 4.15pm.

### Netball Club

This is available to KS2 children, and will run on a Wednesday after school, finishing at 4.15pm.

### Gardening Club

The children in gardening club did some brilliant work last year. We would love to keep this club running – are there any parents or friends of the school who could help during a lunch time or after school? It would be great if we could get a rota of helpers, please get in touch with the office if you, or someone you know may be available to help.

## **Bag 2 School**

There will be another collection from Bag 2 School on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Bags will be handed out today, but please do not bring filled bags to school until the morning of collection. They will take clothing, paired shoes, belts, hats, ties, and soft toys. They **do**

**not** take bedding curtains, towels or house hold linen. For every kg collected, the school will receive some money.

### **Woodroffe Open Day**

Woodroffe School are holding an open morning for prospective year 6 children and their parents on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 9.30 – 12pm.

The Woodroffe School have 17 places available in the September 2015 Year 7 intake for students with an aptitude in the visual arts.

If parents do not live in the school's catchment area, do not have or will not have a child/children at the school in September 2015 or whose child does not attend one of the school's five primary feeder schools, but wish to apply for admission for The Woodroffe School in September 2015, they can register their child for the school's Visual Arts Aptitude Test. The test will be held on Saturday 27 September between 9am – 12pm. The exam is externally moderated and parents will be notified of their child's score and position within the group that sat the test before the Year 7 admission deadline of 31 October 2014.

An application form and information regarding the test can be found on the school website, or by contacting Mrs Payne on 01297 442232 or email [npayne@woodroffe.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:npayne@woodroffe.dorset.sch.uk)

### **Devon Roots Choir**

The East Devon Roots Choir is a singing group for 8 - 16 year olds that meets in Stowford Community Centre, Sidmouth. The group meets weekly on a Wednesday from 5pm - 6.30pm and several children from this school already attend.

On Wednesday 17th September 2014 the choir are running a FREE 'bring-a-friend' session. It will be a fun and welcoming session and hopefully some new singers would like to join us. To find out more, speak to Amanda Darragh or call the group leader Sarah on 01837 53754.

### **Sidmouth Rugby Club training info**

Sidmouth RFC have asked us to let parents know that they are looking for new players in the under 7s under 8s and under 9s. Training takes place at 10am on Sunday mornings at Blackmore in Sidmouth.

## **Harvest Festival - Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

Name of child / children: \_\_\_\_\_

**will** be attending the Harvest Festival service on Sunday 21st September.

---

### **Textiles Club** (KS2 Only)

I give permission for my child(ren) \_\_\_\_\_ to attend Textiles club on Thursdays after school until 4.15pm. I will collect my children from classroom 3 (upstairs) at 4.15pm.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

---

### **Netball Club** (KS2 only)

I give my permission for my child(ren) \_\_\_\_\_ to attend Netball Club on Wednesdays until 4.15pm. I will collect my child(ren) from the playground at 4.15pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

---

### **Construction Club** (Year 1 and above, but activities aimed at KS1)

I give my permission for my child(ren) \_\_\_\_\_ to attend Construction Club on Wednesdays until 4.15pm. I will collect my child(ren) from Classroom 1 at 4.15pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

---

### **Ukulele club** (years 2-6)

I give my permission for my child(ren) \_\_\_\_\_ to attend ukulele club on Wednesday lunchtimes.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_