

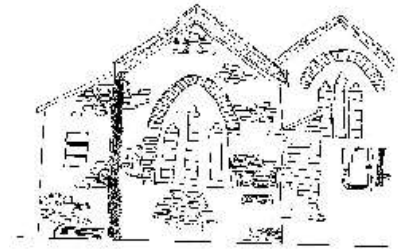
BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 13 / 14 11
Friday 17th January 2014



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



The Branscombe Waves



Dear Parents,

Yesterday was a super day for our federation of schools. It was the first week of our gymnastics programme for this half term and we were joined by the whole of Broadhembury School.

Throughout the day all children spent time in classes at Branscombe taking part in literacy and maths activities as well as some more creative time. Class 2 pupils all began a unit of art work related to their 'Space' topic where they were designing an alien.

The focus of the joint work was gymnastics and all pupils participated in lessons led by the Devon PE adviser Mr Steve Kibble.

Some of the Year 5 and 6 pupils spent time with the Devon Behaviour Support Adviser who was training them to be peer mentors (Buddies) at playtimes. This work will continue in a fortnight. The adviser commented on how well developed the pupils' listening skills were. He really enjoyed working with children from both schools together and observing a different sort of group dynamic.

I spoke to several of the Branscombe staff and pupils after Broadhembury School had got back on their coach. Everyone was very positive about the day. In relation to the gymnastics sessions pupils said "Mr Kibble was kind and very good at gymnastics", "He taught us that we could stretch whilst travelling around the hall", "It was nice that we could learn different balances", "He taught us how to be like real gymnasts". Mr Ford said "It was lovely to hear Mr Kibble praise the Key Stage 1 children for their spatial awareness".

Daisy said, in relation to the peer mentoring, "He was a very fun teacher. We got to know the Broadhembury pupils more and together we thought of more ideas".

The children also commented on how it had been good to see their Broadhembury friends again and to gain more ideas for their work when there were more people to

share thoughts with. Mrs Crawford said "The children made an excellent start on their alien masks, they worked very well together".

Class 2 had their first percussion session this morning which everybody enjoyed. Josh said "I liked it because it was really loud" and Mrs Crawford agreed. Felix said, "the different rhythms were very challenging" and Daisy said "I liked learning the names of all the instruments".

This weekend we are holding the Branscombe Wassail. Please join us if you can at the Branoc Hall and in the orchards. If you want to practice the Branscombe Wassail song that the children wrote a few years ago we are sending it home with the children tonight! Do bring good voices as well as pots, pans and wooden spoons with you tomorrow night. There will be some refreshments, the bar will be open and children will be entertained with circus skills activities.

God bless and have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Branscombe School

Key Dates:

Mrs Gray will be in school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday next week.

Saturday 18th January – Wassail, 5.30-8pm in Branscombe.

Wednesday 22nd January - Gardening Club restarts

Monday 27th January (note date change) – Dentist visit to Class 2

Thursday 30th January – Second Godly Play club.

Friday 7th and Saturday 8th February – Branscombe Pantomime: *Two Hoods are Better than One* (Details below)

Tuesday 5th March – Parents Evening

A request

Please could we request that parents wait outside school until the end of the school day at 3.15pm when the door will be opened for the children to come out (and reception parents to come in). Our entrance hall is often used for teaching individuals or small groups of children so it is important that this is kept clear until the end of the school day.

Wassail

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Wassail tomorrow night. Don't forget your torches, pans and wooden spoons so that we can make as much noise as possible! The event will start at 5.30pm in the Bakery Orchard where we will sing the Wassail song that the children composed in 2011 and carry out some of the traditional wassail activities. We will then walk through the fields to the school orchard at Manor Mill before returning to the Branoc Hall for soup and cakes. There will be some circus skills activities in the hall to entertain the children, and the bar will be open until 8pm. If you are helping by providing cakes, these can be dropped off at the Branoc Hall from 5pm.



Dentist Visit to Class 2

On Monday 27th January Ben Pearson Dentistry will be visiting Class 2 (please note the change in date). Please could all permission slips be returned by the 24th January – a permission slip must be returned in order for your child to take part. The children will need to bring in their toothbrushes on the day.

Gardening Club

Amanda and Jenny will be starting up gardening club again on Wednesday 22nd January.

Sidmouth College Talk

On Tuesday 28th January at 3.15pm Kenny Duncan, Principal of Sidmouth College, has kindly agreed to come and talk to Year 4 and 5 parents about the College. If you would like to attend please fill in and return the permission slip (now attached) so that we can gauge the level of interest. The talk will only take place if parents are interested in attending.

Seaton Tennis Club Coaching

Seaton Tennis Club has sent us details of their after school coaching programme and their holiday clubs. This information will be sent out in book bags today.

Adult Literacy Course

Devon County Council are offering a free English Literacy course for adults starting on Monday 27th January. This first session will be a drop-in session at the Exeter Guildhall between 12.30 and 2.30pm, where you can meet the tutor and find out more about the course. Further information can be found on our noticeboard.

School Meals Changes

The kitchen have informed us of some changes to the school meals menu for Chinese New Year and Valentine's day. On Thursday January 30th the menu will be as follows:

- Battered chicken balls or Vegetarian battered nuggets
egg fried rice, noodles
sweet and sour dipping sauce (optional)
- Chinese New Year cake, yoghurt, fruit salad.

The Valentine's menu (Friday February 14th) is as follows:

- Heart shaped pizza (Suitable for vegetarians)
Chips, pasta, salad sticks, vegetables
- Heart shaped biscuit, fresh fruit, yoghurt

Year 4 and 5 Parents:

Talk from Kenny Duncan – Principal of Sidmouth College

I / We _____

would like to attend the talk from Kenny Duncan on Tuesday 28th January at 3.15pm.