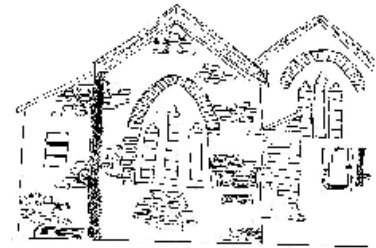




The Branscombe Waves



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL**
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 17/18 21
Friday 20th April 2018



Branscombe Waves

Jay: For being friendly and kind, especially in looking after a new pupil.

Tilly: For consistently showing respect to those around her.

Dominic: For outstanding improvement in writing and maths.

Dillon: For improved engagement in independent activities.

Dear Parents,

Spring has truly 'sprung' in Class 1! We have begun our new 'Global Gardens' topic by getting outside in the garden and enjoying the beautiful sunshine. The children have explored garden flowers and wild flowers and recorded their findings in a table as part of our science work. We have also looked at gardens around the world and begun to compare them to ours at home.

In Literacy, the children have been introduced to our new class text *'The Tiny Seed'* by Eric Carle, which looks at the journey of a seed throughout the seasons. We have story mapped the entire story with actions - ask them to show you! We also used our ICT learning to discuss algorithms as instructions for growing a plant, we learnt that the instructions must be very detailed and specific.

The EYFS children have used our gardening topic as inspiration for their maths work this week, by exploring doubling, using a ladybird and her spots! They have also had the chance to open their very own Garden Centre in our outside area, and have begun to grow some seeds in damp cotton wool. We will watch them closely in the classroom to see if they grow!



This week, the children of Class 2 have begun to explore their new topic, Ancient Egypt, by locating Egypt on a world map, identifying some of its geographical features and looking at photographs of Ancient Egyptian artefacts, to see what they could deduce from these about life in the ancient civilization. In Literacy, the children have begun to explore a humorous information text about mummification, presented in the style of an Instruction text. As well as using this to learn about the Ancient Egyptian practice of mummifying the dead, the children have explored

the features of an Instruction text and discussed the impact of using this text type, for an unusual purpose (presenting information). The children followed up this work in Art by beginning to use card to form a 3D structure of a mummy case, which they will later decorate - as well as making a model 'mummy' to put in it!

On Monday next week, we will be carrying out a range of learning activities in celebration of St. George's Day. As well as being reminded of the story of St. George and the dragon, the children of Class 2 will review the core British values of democracy, the rule of law, respect and tolerance for the beliefs of others and individual liberty. Beginning with these core values, they will explore what it means to be English. For homework this week, the children have been asked to collect words, images or objects to explain what "English-ness" is all about. These might be pictures of famous places in England, famous English people, aspects of English culture or history, English foods, celebrations or customs...the possibilities are endless! Each of the children will then be asked to present what they have chosen, explaining their reasons, before planning and writing a humorous information text using the style and features of an instruction text, about "How to be English".

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: We have been thinking about the signs of spring that we can see all around us; how does this make you feel and what makes you say 'wow'?

Class 2: On Monday 23rd April, we will be celebrating St. George's Day, England's national day. But, what does it mean to be English? What customs, traditions and behaviours are 'typically English'? What are you most/ least proud of about our country?

Key Dates

Spring Term 2018

23rd April – St George's Day Celebrations

26th April – KS1 Visit to Bicton Gardens

7th May- May Day Bank Holiday

14th May - KS2 SATs Week

25th May - Non Pupil Day

28th May –1st June - Half Term

Free School Meals

As part of the new universal credit system, that is being rolled out across the country, the criteria for claiming free school meals is changing. This may mean that previously ineligible children, now qualify for free school meals. In addition any child who qualifies for free school meals will then be eligible until 2022, regardless of circumstance, and without the need for reassessment. We are therefore encouraging all parents to go online at <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals> and check their eligibility. As well as you as a family gaining free meals, school gets extra money into its budget for every child who is entitled to free school meals. So please check your eligibility and apply if able.

Key Stage 2 Trip to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter.

Unfortunately, we have had to delay this trip until later in the term because the Museum have a lack of staff and volunteers on the date of our initial booking. We will of course keep you informed, and let you know when we have arranged another date. We apologise for this postponement.

Collective Worship Activity

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



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE

- Use your imagination to make the best **friendship**
- bracelet ever – using knotting, threading beads,
- twisting ribbon, whatever you can think of. The more
- original the better!
- or, if you prefer...
- make your own large version of the picture
- puzzle (over the page), joining 5 or 6 words about
- **friendship**. Either draw pictures or cut them out of
- magazines.