



The Branscombe Waves



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL**
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 17/18 21
Friday 11th May 2018



Branscombe Waves

Frederick: Being friendly, respectful and polite.

Corey: Being very kind and caring towards his sister.

Beau: Concentrating really well in all her learning.

Reginald: Always being hardworking and trying his best to complete all work on time.

Dear Parents,

In Class 1 this week, following our study of 'The Tiny seed', the children have been planning their own stories, based on a journey of, for example, a Bee. They have been thinking of adjectives to use to describe their main characters, and places that they will visit on their journey.

In Maths we have been identifying 3-D shapes and discussing their properties. The children have been sorting 3-D shapes according to criteria given to them, e.g. flat faces/curved faces, and then they have gone on to set their own criteria for sorting.

As part of our topic work we have been looking at gardens from different countries around the world. We have discussed how the climate in each country is different, so the plants growing in them will also vary.

We have also started rehearsing for May Day, which we hope will be a fantastic celebration.

This week, the children of Class 2 have begun to practise dancing in preparation for our May Day celebrations on 24th May. In their Literacy lessons, the children have completed the research they began last week, finding out about different aspects of life in Ancient Egypt. They then completed the challenging task of presenting the facts they have discovered, in the form of 'unusual' instructions, telling someone how they might live as an Ancient Egyptian. As they have been thinking about how to explain through the medium of instruction writing, the children have also been challenged to consider how they might add detail to their sentences, by adding further information about how, when, where and why things might be done.

Meanwhile, in their Maths work, the children have begun work on a "Pyramid Maths" display, in which some of them have compared pyramids with prisms, noting the similarities and differences between them, before making model pyramids, using different construction materials. Others have applied their recent learning about co-ordinates, to complete and then invent challenges, involving locating the position of pyramids on a co-ordinate grid, or plotting points to draw pyramids and then translate them into another position.

On Thursday 10th May, Class 2 took part in workshops to develop their understanding of key issues of Internet safety. Our thanks to the parents who attended the after-school workshop. We hope you found it helpful in supporting an area of parenting that seems to be increasingly challenging to negotiate.

Year 6 have been preparing for next week's SAT tests. We are grateful to parents for all the support they offer the children at this time, especially in ensuring that the children come to

school well-rested and having eaten a healthy breakfast, so that they are suitably energised and physically and mentally prepared, to do the best that they can in these statutory tests.

We look forward to celebrating with Year 6 at the end of the week, when we will be marking the occasion of the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle with a special party. On Friday morning, the children will be involved in preparing food and drink for the party and making decorations, such as special bunting. They will have the opportunity to learn more about our current Royal Family and Class 2 will compare the role of an Ancient Egyptian pharaoh, with that of a modern British monarch.

On Friday 18th May, the children are invited to dress up in red, white and blue or in royal-family-inspired clothes to celebrate the wedding. Our tea-party will begin at approximately 2.00pm and will involve some games and activities with a royal theme, before we share the goodies prepared in the morning. Contributions to the tea-party will be gratefully received and parents are invited to join us from 2.45pm, when we will end the day with a brief time of sharing, and some toasts to the royal couple! We would also like the children to bring a donation for charity which will be used to support our Federation Community Fund which is used to sponsor a child in Ghana, and to give to Macmillan Cancer Support.

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: Why are bees important?

Class 2: Why do people eat 'unhealthy' foods? How might different people be supported to make their diet healthier?

Key Dates

Spring Term 2018

14th May - KS2 SATs Week

18th May – Royal Wedding Celebrations - please see notes above.

25th May - Non Pupil Day

28th May – 1st June - Half Term

13th June – Key Stage 2 trip to the RAMM Museum, Exeter.

7th June, 14th June, 21st June, 28th June, 5th July, & 12th July. Swimming Lessons.

Sunday 1st July- Exe Valley Challenge (more info. to follow soon)

19th July (pm) - Branscombe Summer play

Exe Valley Challenge

We are hoping to enter a federation team in the Exe Valley Challenge walk against the clock, on Sunday 1st July. The event is open to all children in years 2 to 6. A separate letter has been sent home about this. If you would like your child to take part in the walk, please can you let us know as soon as possible? Thank you.

Class 2 Reading Records

In order to promote regular reading at home in Key Stage 2 and to reward those children who do regularly read at home, we are re-introducing reading record books for the older children in the school. We recognise that most of the children in Key Stage 2 are able to read independently and they will be encouraged to take responsibility for recording their own reading each day. However, we would be grateful for parents' support in checking and signing the reading record to verify that the children have completed their daily reading. Please feel free to use this record to communicate with us regarding any questions or concerns you have regarding your child's

reading. The reading record, together with the child's current reading book (whether this be a library book, a scheme book or one of their own) should be in school each day and will be checked on a weekly basis. We will be creating a tally chart to record how often the children read, and we will use this to reward those who read regularly. The children should be encouraged to read on a daily basis and each week, they need to complete a short piece of writing about their reading in their reading journals. These will be collected and checked, together with home learning books, each Monday. Thank you for your support.

We've Won!

At the start of this academic year we found out that we had been anonymously nominated for the Environmental Youth Award that is given out each year at the Royal Bath and West Show. A judge visited in October, to look at the environmental work that we have carried out over a number of years across the curriculum and with local community projects. We found out this week that we have won the Devon category. We are delighted with this and we win a certificate, trophy and donation to the school. We are now entered into the final stage of the competition – where we are judged against youth organisations in other South West counties. The prize giving (and the result of the final category) will be done on Friday 1st June at the show itself. The organisers would love some school families to attend the day and collect the award. We have 2 free adult tickets and 10 free children's tickets available, but more are available on line. If you are able to go on the day please come and talk to Mrs Gray ASAP, so that we can tell the organisers that we have enough people attending. This won't be a school organised trip, as it is in half term, but we will all meet up at the showground for the presentation. It would be super if we had a good turn out and I'm sure it will be a great day!

Beer Blazer

This popular annual fun run, organised by Beer Primary School, will take place on 20th May 2018, in Beer, East Devon, over 'Grizzly' territory- fields, tracks, cliff tops and open common. The race will start at 10.30am from Pecorama, Mare Lane, Beer, EX12 3NA. Over the past 3 years we have had a team of runners from Branscombe School, and we would like to repeat this again, this year. The 1 mile fun run costs £2 to enter. The Beer Blazer Facebook page is BeerBlazer (without a space), and the online entry form is at <https://www.fullonsport.com/event/beerblazer/profile>

Sun cream and Hats

As the weather is becoming warmer, on warm days the children should have a sunhat with them, and have sun-cream already applied before they come to school. We are not able to apply sun cream for the children. If children can apply sun cream themselves, please send them in to school with a named bottle of cream, to put extra on during the day (we have noticed that there is now roll on sun cream, which is easy for children to put on by themselves).

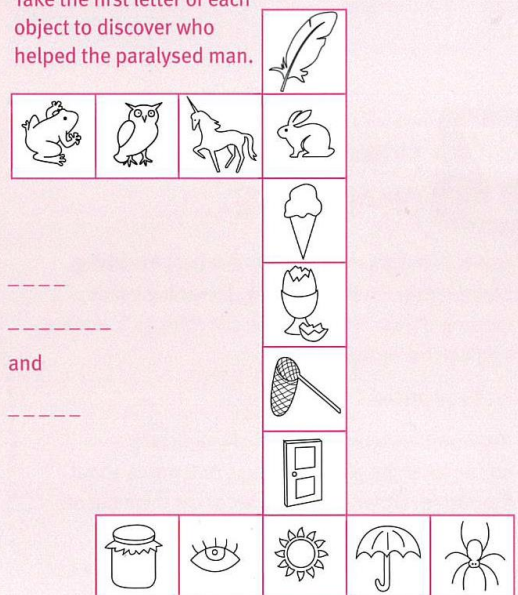
Collective Worship Activity

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.



QUIZ Picture puzzle

Take the first letter of each object to discover who helped the paralysed man.



Half Term East Devon Countryside Events.

Discover more at wildeastdevon.co.uk, 01395 517557, countryside@eastdevon.gov.uk

Exe Estuary Mud Walk, Sunday 27 May and Monday 28 May, 10.30am to 12.30pm, Exmouth LNR. As part of Exmouth Festival we are running two free mud walks! Discover what is living in the mud of the Exe Estuary. Dig for worms, search for crabs and shells and fish for shrimps. Wear wellies or old shoes that can get very wet and muddy. Not suitable for wheelchairs or buggies. Children must be accompanied. Booking required, Free.

Wildlife Safari, Tuesday 29 May, 10am to 12noon, Fire Beacon Hill. Bugs, butterflies, birds, dragonflies and possibly even some snakes! Put on your best safari gear and come for a ramble with ranger to explore the heathland and learn all about the creatures who call it home. Bring binoculars and a camera. Booking required, Free.

AVDCS family explorer day at Colyford Community Woodland, Wednesday 30 May, 2pm to 4pm, Colyford. Join the Axe Vale and District Conservation Society along with EDDC's Education Ranger for an afternoon of outdoor fun. Explore the site, find out about the wildlife that lives there and get creative! Children must be accompanied. Booking required, £5 per family group.

Bird watching for children, Thursday 31 May, 10am to 12noon, Island Hide at Seaton Wetlands. Borrow our binoculars and discover the birds along the Axe estuary with an experienced volunteer guide who will help you to spot different birds and let you use an amazing telescope for a really close view! Booking required, £2 per child.

Family adventure day, Friday 1 June, 10am to 4pm, Holyford Woods A fun, hands-on day with the Education Ranger at Holyford Woods. An opportunity for families to work and play together and learn outdoor skills. Den building, fire lighting, cooking and crafts. Children must be accompanied. Aimed at 7 to 14 years. Min age 5. Booking required, £13 per child.

What's that bird? Saturday 2 June, 11am to 1pm, Tower Hide at Seaton Wetlands. Whatever your level of experience, come and improve your bird identification skills with an experienced volunteer guide. Binoculars available to borrow. No booking required, Free.

Wildlife Day with Axe Vale & District Conservation Society, Sunday 3 June, 11am to 3pm, Seaton Wetlands. A day of wetland wildlife fun, exploring the nature reserve and wildlife of the wider Axe Vale. Trails, activities and walks for all ages. No dogs. No booking required, Free.