



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL**
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 17/18 16
Friday 2nd February 2018



Dear Parents,

Last week we had a very special visit from The Archdeacon of Exeter, The Venerable Christopher Futchter. He joined us for our school Eucharist and presented the school Ethos Team with our 'outstanding' SIAMS inspection certificate which is now in the entrance hall at school. The Ethos Team from Broadhembury also came to the service, as did the new vicar of Broadhembury. We are going to start having Eucharist services at Broadhembury too and so they were coming to experience the liturgy we use at Branscombe.



This week, Class 1 have been investigating the question, *'How do we know that dinosaurs actually existed?'* The children learnt that a fossil is the remains of an animal that once lived on earth. They listened to the story 'Stone Girl, Bone Girl', and talked about what Mary discovered and why this discovery was so exciting.

Using the iPads, FizzBooks and information books, the children were asked to carry out further research about Mary Anning, to be able to create a fact file. First, they selected the facts that interested them, and then they chose how they wished to record these. They were given an image of Mary Anning, underneath which the children wrote an explanation of her work, explaining why she was famous, and about some of the fossils that she found. More advanced members of the class were then asked to write a diary entry, as if they were Mary, to record what they have found.

In Science lessons this week, the children have been combining their learning from multiple subjects, to gather and present their findings, following several scientific investigations. Having been on material hunts around the school, where the class were asked to think about what different materials feel like, look like and can be used for, the children collected some of their favourites and what they considered to be most interesting.

They then tested them, to learn more about the benefit of materials that are transparent, opaque, particularly strong or flexible. Using their Mathematics skills they sorted the data that they collected, into Venn Diagrams and Bar Charts. They then used their writing skills, to present their thoughts on the suitability of a particular material, for a purpose of their choice.

This week the children in Class 2 have been researching and writing reports about different aspects of Space. Some have found out more about the Sun, Moon or one of the planets, while others have researched the International Space Station or other space phenomena such as nebulae. Having written their reports, the children worked with a peer partner to proof-read and

edit their writing, before redrafting and publishing for display. The space to watch for these is just inside the classroom door!

The week ended for Class 2 with a space-themed workshop in the village hall, together with the Key Stage 2 children from across the Jubilee Federation. They were visited by a space dome and also found out more about the history of space exploration, completed craft activities around the constellations and then worked collaboratively in teams to collect resources they might need for a space mission, in a specially designed game.

Also, Class 2 have been working hard to learn the songs that some of them will be performing, along with children from other local schools, at the Sidmouth Learning Community Music Festival next Thursday.

Next Tuesday, we will be completing a range of activities to mark "Safer Internet Day 2018". This year's theme is "Create, Connect and Share Respect: a better Internet starts with you." This is a great opportunity to link the work the children are doing in school with the way they use the Internet at home, so we would encourage you to take the opportunity to talk to your child about the rules and guidelines that will help to keep them safe online and also make the Internet a safer place for others. A pack of materials to support parents in talking to their children about online safety is available from the UK Safer Internet Centre at www.saferinternet.org.uk

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: What can you do to 'make someone else's day'?

Class 2: What are you looking forward to when you become an adult? What do you think are the best and worst things about being a child or being an adult?

Key Dates

Spring Term 2018

9th February- Last day of School before half term

12th-16th February- Half term

19th February- First day back after half term

Helpers required Monday morning

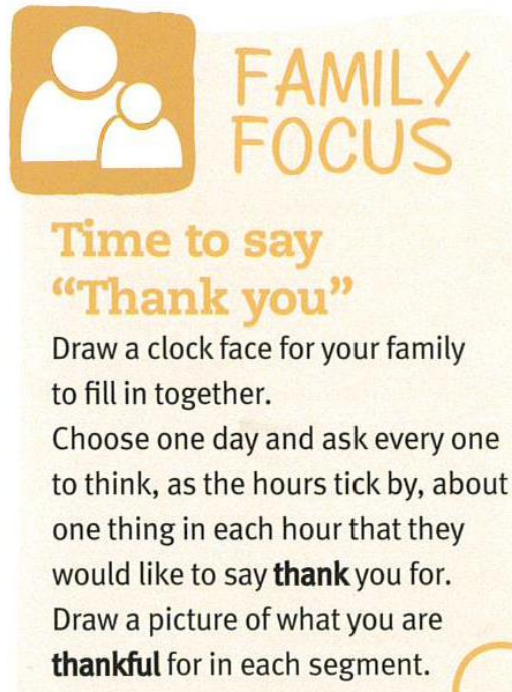
We have a new trolley for our gymnastics mats, and need some help to wheel it down the hill and then lift it into the cupboard at the Village Hall. If anyone is available to help straight after drop off at 9am, we would be very grateful. We probably need 2 more able bodies. Thank you.

Spare Clothes

Please could ALL children in Preschool and Reception have a spare set of clothes with them every day, in case of toileting mishaps! Also, if you have any spare pants, socks or trousers that may fit our younger children, and that you would be willing to donate to school, we would be very grateful for these. All Class 1 children should have wellies and a waterproof coat in school every day please.

Collective Worship Activity

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



YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2018

ORGANISED BY HONITON CAMERA CLUB

www.honitoncameraclub.co.uk



Age groups: 8-11 or 12-16

SUBJECT: WILDLIFE OR PETS

Up to three entries per person, size 7 x 5 in. as either colour or black and white prints. Each photograph must have a title and the name, age and contact number of the entrant. Please send your entries to Mrs. J. Stephens, Sidbury Mill, Sidbury, Sidmouth EX10 0RE before 31st March 2018. Free entry. Must be your own work unaided. No late entries can be accepted.

All entries (subject to the discretion of the judges) will be exhibited at the Prize Giving at The Gallery, Sidbury Mill, Sidbury, on **Saturday, 5th May at 2 p.m.** All exhibitors, with a parent/guardian are invited. No unaccompanied children please.

PRIZES of £60, £40, £20 for the 3 winners in each group

Our very grateful thanks to all our local sponsors.

Winter in Wild East Devon

<p>Mon 12 Feb 10am to 12 noon Bird watching for children at Tower Hide, Seaton Wetlands</p> <p> wildeastdevon</p>	<p>Tues 13 Feb 10am to 1pm Nest box building at Reed Base, Seaton Wetlands</p> <p> wildeastdevon</p>
<p>Wed 14 Feb 2pm to 4pm Bird feeding fun at Cranbrook</p> <p> wildeastdevon</p>	<p>Sat 10 and Sun 11 Mar 10am to 4pm Mother's Day treats at Seaton Wetlands</p> <p> wildeastdevon</p>
<p>Sat 10 Mar 6am to 8am Dawn chorus walk at Holyford Woods</p> <p> wildeastdevon</p>	<p>Sat 17 Mar 10am to 12 noon Take a walk in the park at Cranbrook</p> <p> wildeastdevon</p>

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