BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 11 / 12 03 Friday 23rd September 2011







Dear Parents

It was lovely to see so many children and their families at the Harvest Festival on Sunday. The performance of the Enormous Turnip was very entertaining and had a lovely ending when the vicar was the person strong enough to make all the difference and pull the turnip up! The children's costumes were great and the children spoke very confidently. We have had a lovely email from Sylvia Clayton (Secretary to the PCC) which I have included below:

"The PCC have asked me to thank you and your staff for bringing the children to the Harvest Service yesterday. It was enjoyed by everyone and the children were a delight. Their interpretation of the psalms and the Gospel was lovely - there had obviously been a lot of work put into the presentation.

Please convey our gratitude to your staff and our love and congratulations to the children.

We look forward to the next time."

This week we have had some visitors to school. On Tuesday I met with our adviser from Devon County, Mr Brad Murray. It was a very positive meeting. He was very complimentary about the school and the progress the children are making. He also enjoyed seeing the children in Class 2 enjoying a visit from some lace makers from Beer, who explained about the history of lace making and told the children about 200 local people getting involved to make lace for Queen Victoria's wedding dress. All the children had a go at the two main stitches that are used in lace making. This visit was in connection with the topic this term about local traditions and customs and there will soon be a display in Classroom 2.

Unfortunately Mrs Gray has just received some disappointing news from Endemol, the TV production company that had approached us asking for children to take part in a programme about the Jurassic coast. They have informed her that they have chosen to use children from a different school. We are very disappointed as they did not make any suggestion in their original correspondence that there were any other schools involved or that there was any type of selection process. We are truly sorry for the disappointment that this will cause.

God bless and we hope you have a lovely weekend. Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Branscombe School.

Key Dates

Mrs Gray will be in school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next week.

Tuesday 27th September – Spanish Club starts

Thursday 29th September – Jump Rope for Heart. Please see below for details. Thursday 29th September – Fun Day afternoon at the Village Hall and Playing Field. Friday 30th September – Class 2 will be doing some apple pressing with Lucy from the National Trust.

Saturday 1st October – National Trust Apple Day at the Village Hall and Orchards. From 11am until 4pm. Orchard exhibits, apple lanterns, storytelling and guided walks. **Monday 3rd October** – cookery club starts for KS2 children. See details below.

Monday 4th October - Cross Country Club starts.

Thursday 20th October - last day of this half term.

Monday 31st October - first day of next half term.

Monday 21st November - Class 2 Dental Hygiene session

Monday 5th December - Christingle Service 6pm at St Winifred's Church.

Thursday 8th December - Christmas Play at Branscombe Village Hall at 6.30pm.

Wednesday 14th December - Children's Christmas Dinner at Branscombe Village Hall.

Friday 16th December - last day of the Autumn Term.

Thursday 5th January - return to school after Christmas.

Clubs

Spanish: Those who expressed an interest in Spanish Club should have now received full details. The club will be held on Tuesdays after school, until 4.15pm, starting on Tuesday 27th September. Please send a payment of £10 (cash only) for the first 5 sessions to school by Monday please.

Cookery: Mrs Crawford will be leading a Monday lunch time cookery club for Class 2 children. This will start on Monday the 3rd October and children will be given a list of ingredients that they will need to bring with them. The aim will be to produce something tasty that they can eat immediately for their lunch. Please complete the consent form below if you would like your child to take part.

Cross Country: Mrs Crawford will be organising a Tuesday lunch time cross country club (Class 2 children only please). Please complete the consent form below if you would like your child to take part.

Photographs

Hopefully you have all had a chance to look at the lovely photographs that were taken last week. If you wish to place an order please make sure that the order and money are returned to the office by the morning of Monday 26th September. Thank you.

Parent forum

We are in the process of arranging a date for the parent forum. Please let your year rep. know if you have anything you would like discussed.

Apple pressing

On Friday 30th September Class 2 will be working with Lucy from the National Trust to pick apples from the school and bakery orchard and press them to make apple juice. Children do not need to wear school uniform and should be in clothes and footwear suitable for being outside in the orchard.

Apple Day

The National Trust will be running an Apple Day on Saturday 1st October at Branscombe Village Hall. There will be apple picking, orchard exhibits, apple lanterns and story telling as well as guided walks. The event will take place from 11am until 4pm and is free although a donation for apple juice would be gratefully received.

Sidmouth Rugby Club

Class 2 will be experiencing a fun session with Sidmouth Rugby Club as part of their PE lesson this afternoon. Please find attached a flyer from Sidmouth Rugby Club with contact details if you are interested in becoming more involved.

Jump Rope for heart

Our "jump off" will take place at school on the morning of Thursday 29th September. Please ensure that children bring their sponsor forms with them on this day in order that they can be signed by a member of staff to show that they have completed the event.

Fun Day - Thursday 29th September

The children in Class 2 will be creating the usual fun day stalls. These will be set out in the school playground for the children to play immediately before lunch. It would be helpful if all children could bring some small change (no more than £1 please) to allow them to play the games. All proceeds will be donated to the British Heart Foundation. In the afternoon the children will congregate at the Village Hall for a 1.30pm start for the races. Please ensure the children have their PE kit at school on this day. Children are to be collected from the Village Hall at 3.15pm please. Parents and friends are welcome.

Sickness absences

Please ensure that you provide written detail when your child has been away from school due to illness. There are forms in the document rack just inside the front door that can be used for this purpose. Nicola will send a form home if we have not received one and this will be followed by a letter. If, after this, we have still not received confirmation from you then the absence will be recorded as "unauthorised".

PTFA

The PTFA AGM will be held on the 28th September at 9.15am at school. Please could you complete the form below if you will be attending. Also if you are interested in taking on the role of Chair (this could be a shared role if you wish) or Treasurer, please let us know.

Class 2

Mrs Crawford would like to confirm that spelling tests take place on a Wednesday for children in years 3 and 4 and on a Thursday for children in years 5 and 6. Could you please ensure that maths games and times tables are in school on a Friday as this is the day that they will be changed. Thank you.

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