



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**NEWSLETTER 11 / 12 11**  
**Friday 25th November 2011**

**Achievements to Celebrate**  
**Branscombe Waves Award:**

**Tabitha:** for sharing with her friends.

**Theo:** for making great progress, particularly in maths.

**Bethany:** for improvement in maths

**Daisy:** for producing some lovely descriptive writing.

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



**The Branscombe Waves**

Dear Parents

I spent a lovely time in Collective Worship today with the children where they told me all the things they had been thinking about linked to this half term's value 'Compassion'. It demonstrated, once again, what a lovely, kind and caring bunch of children we have here at Branscombe.

This week we welcomed Miss Reed, the Class One teacher from Broadhembury, to our school. She spent a day with Mr Ford and his class. The two teachers were able to share good practice and think about new ideas together. I know that Miss Reed found the day really valuable and thanks the children for looking after her!

I know that Christmas must almost be upon us because Mary Meadows is in school today for her annual Christmas Pudding making visit! We would like to thank Mary for her help once again and thank you to all the parents, staff and friends of the school who are helping to prepare things for our Christmas activities.

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

**Spare wool please**

The children will be getting involved in a large scale public art project called FLOCK. The idea is to produce pom-pom sheep for an exhibition in 2012 to celebrate sheep farming and the wool industry. Any yarn used should include some wool content and they are asking people to avoid using 100% synthetic yarns. Therefore we would really appreciate any odd bits of wool that you may have lying around at home. To read more about the project please go to [www.jointheflock.co.uk](http://www.jointheflock.co.uk)

### **Key Dates**

Mrs Gray will be in school on Monday next week, there is a Sidmouth Learning Community headteacher meeting that she will be attending later in the week.

**Saturday 3rd December** - Branscombe Village Christmas Fair at the Village Hall.

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

**Tuesday 6th December** - last Spanish Club

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

**Friday 9th December** - Christmas Theatre trip for the whole school. See below for further details.

**Wednesday 14th December** - 2.45pm Parent Forum meeting

**\*\*Tuesday 13th 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.

### **School Closure**

A reminder that, unless a national deal is reached regarding the 'Public Sector Pension Changes' our school will be closed for pupils on Wednesday 30th November. Once again we are very sorry for this disruption.

### **Rubella**

A precautionary note for any mums who may be pregnant; we currently have a pupil who is away from school ill - there is a possibility that this child has German Measles.

### **Arrangements For Bad Weather**

Now that the weather is beginning to turn colder we thought we would remind you of the arrangements for letting you know of any school closures that may be necessary if there is snow or ice. A member of staff will try to phone each family as soon as a decision is made about the school being closed - it is therefore vital that we have up to date phone numbers. Announcements will also be made on Radio Devon and Heart Radio. Once the school is closed updates will be posted on the school website.

During icy mornings we may have to cancel breakfast club, although school itself may still be open. This is so that the limited number of breakfast club staff don't feel rushed to get into school in difficult driving conditions. You will be informed of this the evening before if possible.

### **Christmas Theatre Trip**

We have organised for the whole school to attend a performance of *We're Going on A Bear Hunt* at the Northcott Theatre on Friday the 9th December. The children will travel by coach to the performance in the morning and return to school for lunchtime. The PTFA have kindly agreed to subsidise the trip and therefore we ask parents for a voluntary contribution of £5 per child. Please note that if we do not receive sufficient contributions then the trip may have to be cancelled. Please complete the attached SOE3 form and return it to school by Friday 2nd December.

### **Parent Forum**

Please note a change in date. The next meeting was meant to be on the 12<sup>th</sup> December; however this will need to be changed. It will be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 2.45. The parent representatives are as noted below. There is currently a vacancy for Reception, if you are interested please speak to Nicola or Mrs Gray.

Year One - Nikki

Year Two - Judie

Year Three - Claire

Year Four - Jo

Year Five - Amanda

Year Six - Carolyn

### **School coats**

In past years we have ordered school coats for those parents who have wished to purchase them. The coats are reversible with a fleece layer and a waterproof layer and with the school logo on both sides. The cost of the coat is £17.95. Please return the slip below with a cheque for £17.95 payable to Devon County Council by Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November please. We will also be ordering some more PE shirts so let Nicola know if you would like one of these too.

### **Netball Match**

The netball team have been practising very hard this term and Claire has arranged for a match with Sidmouth Primary School on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January. Netballers will be sent home with an SOE3 form to give permission for them to attend this match. Please complete and return this to school. If any parents are available to help transport children from Branscombe to the match please speak to Nicola in the office. Please note that children will need to be collected from the Woolbrook Road site (old St Nick's site) at 4.45pm.

### **Road Safety**

Thank you so much for helping to improve the safety of pupils by not parking in the passing place behind school or driving down school lane at the start and end of the school day. It really is appreciated by us and by our neighbours. As you know we really encourage the pupils to walk to school or up the school path. It is lovely to know that several children are now ready for another award on the 'Walking the Wizard Way' scheme. Mrs Gray will be presenting these in assembly on Monday so if your child is ready for the next sticker please ensure the star charts and certificates are in school on Monday morning.

On a similar note please could we remind drivers about the need to drive carefully through the village for the safety of all the pupils and their families? Thank you for your consideration.