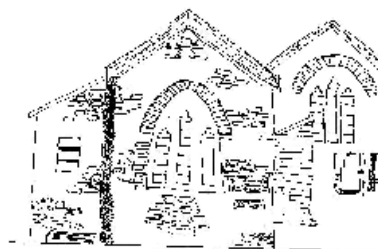




The Branscombe Waves



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 18/19 1
Friday 7th September 2018**



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year. It is lovely to see all the children again, especially our new reception pupils. They have settled in so well in their first week. It's been great hearing about everything they've been getting up to over the summer. A warm welcome too to our new members of staff – Mrs Arlene Bailey who is a teaching assistant in Class 1 and Mrs Jenna Finn who is the teacher covering Mrs Harvey's planning time. It's also lovely to welcome Candice back now that her arm has recovered!

The children in Class 1 have made an excellent start to the new school year, they have settled in extremely well and have been busy discussing the rules that they would like as their class charter for this year. Part of this involved the children talking about the kind of environment they feel able to learn in and how they like to be treated by others.

Class 1 have spent some time thinking carefully about what makes them a unique person. This involved discussing how they might be the same in some ways but different in others, and that this is ok. Having read the story 'What Makes Me a Me?' which is about a little boy who asks this question, the children went away to think about all the things that make them unique.

Class 1 will be starting their topic on Monday which is based around the theme of 'The Great Fire of London'. Amongst other things they will learn all about 1666 London and how the fire started, spread and finally stopped.

All Class 1 and 2 children have been given a reading book to take home and the expectation is that they will read to an adult at home for at least 10 minutes a day, this is very important to help them make progress in their reading. We appreciate your help with this.

Class 2 have made an excellent start to the school year. They will be working hard this year to develop the neatness and accuracy of their handwriting and presentation, as it is our aim to give pen licenses to the majority of Key Stage 2 children by the end of this year - but they have to earn it with neat, consistent, joined handwriting! It was good to see this week that several children have even been practising and improving their handwriting during the school holidays.

Class 2 began the term by discussing once again the different things they come to school to learn and considering, among these, the importance of learning, how to learn and how to collaborate with others. They have considered ways of expressing a "Growth Mindset" in their self-talk, such as saying "I can't do this yet" rather than "I'm not good at this" or saying "Is this my best work yet?" rather than "This work is good enough".

They have also begun to explore their new theme for this term, "RAF 100" by investigating the roles and history of the Royal Airforce. Next week, the children will begin a new Literacy text set in World War 2 and will develop their theme learning, by finding out more about World War 2 and the role of the RAF in that war. Later in the term, they will go further back to learn more about World War 1, before finding out more about the development of aircraft and events in RAF history during the latter part of the last century, and then looking forward towards how the RAF might develop in the future.

Next Friday afternoon, the children will be starting their new "Extracurricular Time" activities, which they heard a little about this week in order to make their choices. This term, some of the children will work with Mrs Harvey, applying their Art and Design skills, to create a collaborative book with moving parts. Meanwhile, Miss Moss will be leading a "Make Do and Mend" group, which will practise their sewing skills, with the aim of taking old clothes and using their skills to redesign these into stylish new outfits. Any old clothes that you have lying around and are happy to donate towards this endeavour (whether adult's or children's) would be greatly appreciated. Finally, Fiona's group will be working on a theme of the "Land Army". They will start by tidying up our school garden and harvesting some of the fruits and vegetables there. They will then be investigating recipes that they could make using the produce they have harvested and practising their cooking skills, using our own home-grown fruit and veg.

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 are you looking forward to the most this year at school?

Class 2: What do you think it would have been like to be alive at the time of World War 2? Can you find out anything about how members of your own family, such as grandparents or great-grandparents or great aunts and uncles, were involved in the World Wars?

International Cross of Nails School

We are very excited to share with you the news that we have been accepted as an International Cross of Nails School – linking with Coventry Cathedral. During the second world war Coventry Cathedral was bombed. In the ruins the following morning two charred beams were found laying in the shape of a cross. Later, this was displayed in the preserved ruins with the words 'Father Forgive' inscribed in the surviving stonework behind it. A local priest also made another cross from three of the many fifteenth century nails that littered the scene. It was quickly decided to preserve the ruins and build a modern cathedral next to them. I visited this over the summer and it is a very inspiring place. In the earliest days after the bombing the Cross of Nails, which is now displayed on the new altar, became a symbol of peace and hope. The Cross of Nails Community includes schools, communities, parishes and other organisations who have shown a commitment to the values of peace, hope and reconciliation. We shared some of the work we have been doing in worship and throughout our school and federation with the cathedral team and we will be presented with our own Cross of Nails in a very special service in a couple of weeks.

The service will take place on Monday 24th September at 1.30pm. It would be lovely if lots of parents and members of the community could join us for the service. We would like to have refreshments back in school afterwards so we would be very grateful for contributions of cakes and biscuits on the morning.

The children will be able to tell you more about The Cross of Nails Community, and there is a lovely display in the entrance hall – please have a look.

P.E. Lessons

Class 2's PE lessons will recommence on Monday morning. All of the children will need P.E. kit in school, which should include a white T-shirt, navy blue shorts and jogging bottoms, as well as suitable trainers and socks.

Netball Club

This will restart on Monday for KS2 children. It takes place in the playground at school until 4.15pm. If your child would like to take part, please complete the slip at the end of this newsletter and return it to the office.

Coats and Water Bottles.

All children should have a water bottle and a coat in school with them every day as the weather is now becoming increasingly changeable. We appreciate your help with this.

Parent SIMS

Last term we sent home invitations to register for our new parent SIMS app. This app will help us comply with the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and introduces an easier and more convenient way to update parent and student contact details. Thank you to all of you who have signed up. If you have signed up, please follow the links that have been sent to you to complete the registration process. If you have any changes to contact details, medical information or dietary requirements, please don't forget to update them on the app. **Due to GDPR we would prefer not to send home paper data collections sheets any more, so if you need to update personal information, and you do not have the app, please come and speak to someone in the school office.** Thank you.

Harvest Fair - Saturday 15th September

The PTFA are in need of volunteers to help on the day. There will be a clip board in the school foyer for people to sign up. Any donations of raffle prizes (items suitable to go into hampers), as well as donations of cakes and quiches suitable to be sold from the Pavilion on the field, would be gratefully received. Any donations of cake or quiche to be sold on the day will need to be brought on the day with a list of their ingredients. Thank you.

Race for Life

Well done to everyone for taking part in our school 'Race for Life' at the end of last term, you all did brilliantly! We are now collecting the sponsorship money from this event, so please return your sponsorship forms to school as soon as you are able. Thank you.

Child Assault Prevention Training

This term all of the schools in our federation are taking part in child assault prevention training, which will give our children positive messages, on how they can protect themselves and build safer communities. As part of this training we are holding two parent sessions, on September 27th, one at Branscombe School from 1.30-3.30pm, and one at Broadhembury School from 6.30-8pm. **Any parent/carer, from any of our federation schools, are welcome to attend either session. We would love to see you there!**

Tesco Bags of Help scheme

We are delighted that our federation school Farway has been included in the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme. Voting for our project to resurface the preschool playground is now underway in Tesco's in Honiton. We would be grateful for your help in encouraging friends and family to vote for us

Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest Festival will take place at 11.15am in the Branscombe Church on Sunday 16th September. There will be a 'bring and share' lunch afterwards in the church. Please can you let us know if you are able to attend by filling in the slip at the end of this newsletter, so that we can plan the children's involvement in the service.

X-plorers Club

We are very pleased to announce that from Friday 14th September X-plorers club will restart. It will be taking place during the lunch hour, and will be run by Linda Joy from the Holyford Mission Community. The club will initially be open to pupils in Year 2 and above and will largely be run outside. We hope that many of our children will want to take part. Here is a little bit of information from Linda:

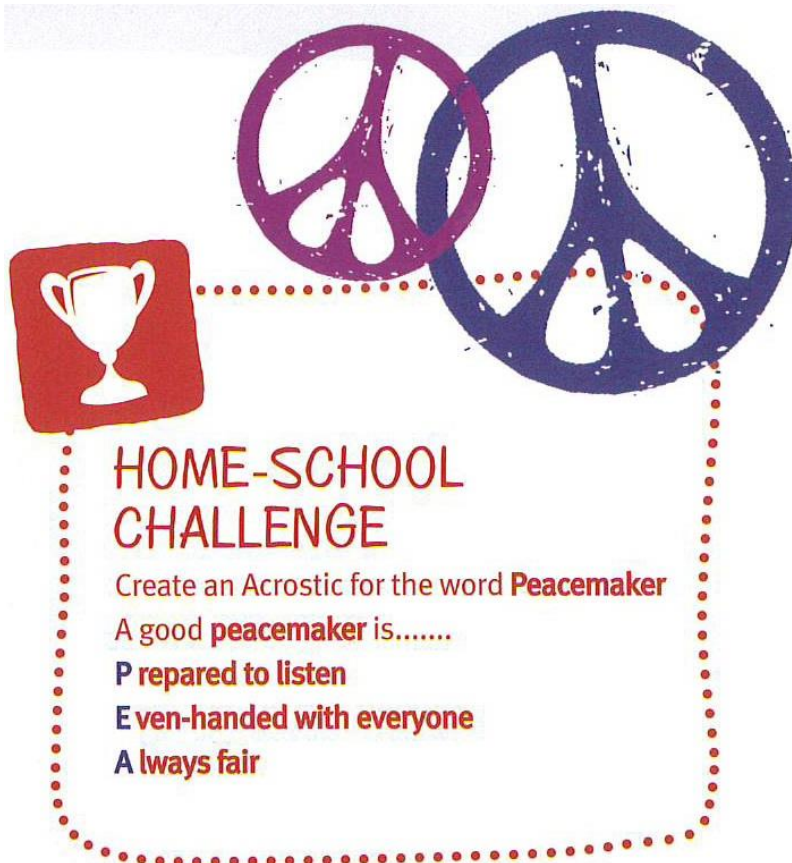
Hi, my name is Linda Joy and I have recently moved to Devon from Northamptonshire. I am an Early Years Teacher and Forest School Leader, and I have a passion for the 'Great Outdoors.' Since arriving in Devon, I have joined the Holyford Community Mission working as their Children & Families worker. I am delighted to say that part of this role will be running a lunch time club at Branscombe School, where I hope to explore the Christian faith through Forest School sessions with the children. I look forward to getting to know everyone and to lots of fun times with the children.

Because the club is now going to be during the whole of lunch time we would ask that pupils attending bring a packed lunch, or choose the packed lunch option on the school lunch menu. This will enable the pupils in the club to have a picnic lunch outside.

If you would like your child to attend please could you indicate this on the slip at the bottom of the newsletter.

Collective Worship Activity

To link with our Cross of Nails presentation we will be focussing in school on the value of Peace this half term. 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.



Netball Club (KS2 Monday 3.15 – 4.15pm)

I give permission for my child to attend Netball Club on Mondays after school. I will collect my child from the playground at 4.15pm.

Signed..... Date

.....

Harvest Service

My Child **will be** attending / **will not be** attending the Harvest Festival, in Branscombe Church on Sunday 16th September at 11.15am.

Signed.....(Parent/ Guardian).

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X-pplorers Club (Y2 and above)

My child..... would like to attend X-pplorers club on Friday lunchtimes.

Signed.....(Parent/ Guardian).



Festival Workshops for Children.

Saturday 22nd September, 10.30 am - 4.00 pm & Sunday 23rd September 10.30 am - 2.00 pm.

Pirates Ahoy! Mini Marquee, A wide range of free activities and events will be offered throughout the day, such as Craft activities, Drawing competition, Story reading, Treasure Hunt & Cake decorating. FREE!

Saturday 22nd September, 1.30 pm.

Tracey Corderoy, Fairy Tale Pets.

Bob has decided to be a pet-sitter. He just can't wait for all the cute hamsters and bunnies to arrive! But when Goldilocks asks him to look after her grumpy bear, the fairy tale chaos begins. Whatever will he do? Tracey Corderoy brings her hilarious story to life with songs, dressing up and craft. Make a grumpy bear glove puppet to take home. Suitable for ages 5 to 8. £3.

Katie Cleminson, Otto The Book Bear, 3.00 pm.

Katie's charming and beautiful books create a magical world for children. Her 'Otto the Book Bear' was a Sunday Times Children's book of the week as well as one of their 100 Modern Children's Classics. Join her workshop to hear her read, see her create a drawing and make your own break mask. Suitable for ages 3 to 7. £3.

Dan Metcalf, Dino Wars, 4.00 pm.

Come and explore the exciting world of dinosaurs as Dan Metcalf leads a Dino Wars Workshop based on his thrilling adventure book. Suitable for ages 7 to 12. £3.

Friday 21st September.

Bounce and Rhyme, Mini Marquee on the Green, 2.15 - 2.45 pm.

Come and enjoy a fun session with nursery rhymes and stories. This is aimed at babies and toddlers up to the age of three. FREE!