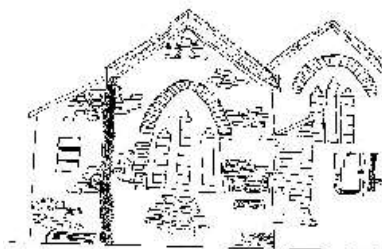




BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 15/16 04
Friday 25th September 2015



Achievements to Celebrate Branscombe Waves Award:

Hayden: Settling well into your new school

Mason: Working with great effort and making improvements in Maths and Literacy

Taliesin: A positive attitude and consistent friendliness

Dear Parents,

The Branscombe Harvest Fair was a great success, and what perfect weather we had! The community spirit was evident and everyone involved in organising and running it had obviously worked extremely hard to make it such a wonderful, fun-filled afternoon – thank you to you all. It was lovely to see so many of you there, as well as lots of ex-pupils and their families. It is always so nice to see how children are getting on after they leave us to go on to secondary school.

This week at school the children have been working hard to get ready for the harvest festival on Sunday. Children attending should wear school uniform and be in the church by 11.05 if possible. They have also been enjoying their topic work and related lessons. Class 1 have been reading a story called *The Knight and the Dragon* and had a related science lesson this week where they thought about materials such as metal, where it comes from and how it can be turned into objects like armour. Class 2 also had a very interesting science lesson working on identifying trees from their leaves, and classifying living things into kingdoms.

This term, across the Federation, we have begun teaching spelling from Devon's new spelling programme called "No Nonsense Spelling". Following on from the "Letters and Sounds" phonics programme in Foundation stage and Key Stage 1, from Year 2 onwards, children will be taught spelling in approximately 3 twenty-minute sessions per week. Whenever they are writing, they will be using a spelling journal to 'have-a-go' at spelling unknown words as well as to record new words they are learning to spell. They will be taught a variety of strategies to learn to practise and learn new spellings.

Children will be given a home spelling book in which they will be given a small number of words to learn each week. Some of these may be taken from the statutory lists of words that children should be able to spell at different stages of their school career, which were produced with the introduction of the new curriculum in 2014. They will not be tested on these spellings in a 'traditional' spelling test. However, after the words have been sent home to learn, children will be expected to spell these words correctly in their writing. Teachers will monitor their learning of these spellings in a variety of ways, including games or dictation of sentences as well as in the context of their written work. As the children encounter new strategies for

practising their spelling words, these may be highlighted in the home spelling book. Thank you for supporting your child to ensure they learn these spellings.

Thank you for all your continued support.

God bless and have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Branscombe School

Question for the week

Class 1: Suits of armour were made of metal because it is a strong material that provides good protection, but it was very heavy to wear! Please find some metal things around your home. Look carefully at the metal and feel it. Can you think of 3 things to say about what it looks or feels like? Please write down your ideas to share with your friends back at school.

Class 2: What habitats does your garden provide?

Key Dates:

Mrs Gray will be at Branscombe on Thursday and Friday next week.

Miss Prince will be spending her Head of Teaching & Learning day (Thursday) at Farway next week.

Sunday 27th Sept

Harvest Festival – 11.15am, St Winifred's Church

Friday 2nd Oct

Class 1 trip to fire station (details below and to follow)

Thursday 22nd Oct

Parents evening

Friday 23rd Oct

Last day of half term

Friday 20th Nov

Individual photos

Free School Meals

For those children who are eligible for universal free school meals (KS1), please note that this only applies to hot meals. **If the packed lunch option is taken, this is chargeable at £2.30.** The only exception to this rule is if the children are out on a school trip, in which case a free packed lunch can be ordered in advance. Thank you.

Lunchtime Volunteer

We are in need of a volunteer to help with lunchtime duty on Tuesdays. If you have an hour spare each week between 12 and 1pm to help the children with their lunches and supervise them at play time, we would be very grateful of your help. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Emailing of Newsletter

We would like to try and cut down on the amount of paper we send home, so would request that you consider whether you could receive our weekly newsletter by email rather than a hard copy. Many of you already do this. It would be helpful if you could complete and return the attached form if you would be happy to receive the newsletter by email only each week.

Class 1 Fire Station Trip

On Friday 2nd October Class 1 will be visiting Middlemoor fire station. Further details will follow, but the children will require a packed lunch on this day. If you would like to order

your child a free packed lunch from the kitchen, you will need to do so on Monday. The options available are as follows, please specify which option you would like on the usual lunch order form:

1. Ham Roll
2. Tuna Wrap
3. Cheese and Crackers
4. Chicken roll



HALL OF FAME

Aung San Suu Kyi

For many years the nation of Burma was ruled by their ruthless army which refused to allow the ordinary citizens to have free elections to choose their leaders. If Burmese people spoke openly about politics they were thrown into prison or even killed. But a tiny brave woman called Aung San Suu Kyi refused to be silent about the **truth** of what was happening in her country. She campaigned openly but peacefully in the streets and around the world for Burma to have free elections. For this the army put her under house arrest, keeping her prisoner in her own home for 20 years! Whilst under arrest she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for being 'an outstanding example of the power of the powerless'

In 2010 Aung San Suu Kyi was finally freed by the army just after free elections were held in Burma for the first time. On her release thousands of people gathered to welcome and thank her for standing for **truth** and democracy and helping to bring about change in Burma.



Collective Worship Activity

Please read the article as a family.

We would love to have the 'question marks' from last week brought in to the school office so that we can display them in our Collective Worship area.

PTFA NEWS

Branscombe Harvest Fair

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Harvest Fair such a success. The event turned into a magnificent community occasion and the feedback has been absolutely fantastic. Lots of people have commented how wonderful it was that the school, preschool, YOBs, church, other organisations and individuals all worked together to organise such a special day. The Harvest Fair has certainly helped to raise the profile of both the school and pre-school and, hopefully, this will help to attract new families to join our small community. At the Harvest Fair the PTFA raised £1035. For such a small school this is a fantastic result and we certainly couldn't have done it without your support. THANK YOU.

PTFA AGM

This will take place on Friday 9th October at 3.20pm in the park/village hall. There will be an election for a new Chair and a new secretary. Please do make an effort to attend, all welcome.

Email Newsletter

Iwould be happy to receive my copy of the newsletter
by email from now on.

Or

Iwould be happy to receive my copy of the newsletter by
email from now on, but would like any permission slips to be sent home on paper.

My email address is: