

BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 06/07 26
Friday 23rd March 2007

Red Nose Day

We all had great fun last Friday whilst raising money for Comic Relief. We would like to thank everyone who supported the day but especially to the children who helped to organise events. They were so enthusiastic! We raised a brilliant £98.05 which, when I paid it into Natwest, they said they would double. A photo of some of the children is in today's Sidmouth Herald.

Easter Events

At 9.30am on Wednesday 28th March we will be having an Easter Service in Church after the children have been registered in school. Parents and friends of the school are all welcome to attend. If any parents are able to help walk the children down to the church it would be very much appreciated.

After the service the children will take part in an Easter Egg Hunt around the school grounds.

In the afternoon we will be holding Pancake Races in the tennis courts behind the Village Hall starting at 2.15pm. The children will need to bring an old pan with a pancake for tossing and also each parent needs to provide 3 pancakes that will be served with a drink in the village hall. **The children will then return to school for collection as usual.** They will also need to have trainers or plimsolls to run in. Please come along and join in the fun we usually have an adult race as well! **If any parents are able to help walk the children down to the village hall it would be very much appreciated.**

The launch of the PTFA cake sales will also be on this day. There will an opportunity for parents and friends of the school (not children) to buy some cakes straight after the church service – the stall will be in the pre school room. At the end of the day, once the children have been walked back up to school from the Pancake Races there will be an opportunity for parents and children to buy cakes.

Thank you to the PTFA for all their assistance with these events.

Breakfast club

Attached to this newsletter is the booking form for next term.

Wall

The work to the wall in the back playground is now completed and today they will hopefully finish replacing the play equipment. We look forward to being able to re-open the area in the next couple of weeks once all the safety checks have taken place.

If you have any plants which you could donate to enable us to fill some tubs to brighten this new area we would be very grateful. Please bring them to the school office.

PTFA

The Summer Ball tickets are now on sale (see PTFA minutes) and are selling fast!

Could Children's Disco forms please be returned by 28th March. Thank you.

If anyone is able to help with further cake stalls please contact April as soon as possible on 07973 202441.

Sponsored Walk

Our annual school sponsored walk will take place on Thursday 26th April, we hope that many of you will join us. All the children will be taking part in the walk along with members of staff. We sent a sponsor form home with the children last week but if you need more forms please collect one from the office. The school council will shortly discuss with their class mates what we could use the money for to improve facilities in school.

Important changes to School Lunches

Starting at the beginning of **next term** there will be some changes to the way meals are ordered and paid for.

In line with Sidmouth Learning Community on Monday we will order all the meals for the week. It will be possible to make slight amendments, if for example your child is ill or away from school. (Money paid for meals not taken will be credited and refunded if requested.)

Under normal circumstances it will not be possible to decide on e.g. Tuesday that a meal is needed on Wednesday.

Copies of the form below will be distributed before the end of term to each family. The form will fit perfectly into the plastic wallets and should be brought into school each Monday with the payment for the meals. We will return the wallet to your child each Monday afternoon.

Branscombe C of E Primary School					
Name of child					
Please tick relevant box for each meal required and include total amount due for the week (unless you have previously paid for the half term by cheque)					
Cheques payable to Devon County Council					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main meal					
Vegetarian Option					
Snack meal (inc vegetables)					
Total amount of meals x £1.65 = (money enclosed)					

For parents who would like to pay, and possibly order termly, there is a separate form you might find more useful. The forms will be on the school website in the 'Parents' section www.branscombe.devon.sch.uk

If you have any concerns regarding this new system or comments on the forms please call into the office to see Dawn next week.

Branscombe C of E Primary School

Name of Child:

Please tick relevant box for each meal required and include total amount due for term.

Cheques payable to Devon County Council

W/C:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal					
Vegetarian Option					
Snack Meal (inc. vegetables)					

W/C:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal					
Vegetarian Option					
Snack Meal (inc. vegetables)					

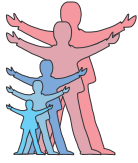
W/C:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal					
Vegetarian Option					
Snack Meal (inc vegetables)					

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Main Meal					
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Main Meal					
Vegetarian Option					
Snack Meal (inc. vegetables)					

W/C:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal					
Vegetarian Option					
Snack Meal (inc. vegetables)					

Total number of meals x £1.65 =



BRANSCOMBE PTFA

(The Parent, Teacher, Friend Association of Branscombe School)

Branscombe PTFA - Spring Term 7th March 2007

Present: Chair & Treasurer: Julie Webb, Vice Chair: Tracey Coles Secretary: April Rose-Turley, Katie Gray, Faith Richards, Gillian Cole, Hazel Goodier, Vicky Harper.

Apologies: Helen Millar, Jane Snowling, Jo Hemery, Denise Thomas.

Chair's Report:

- Thank you to April for organising the Christmas Fayre - and to all parents who helped contribute to a fantastic evening. Total raised on the night was £329.00. Thank you also to all the gift contributors and cake makers.
- Spring/Summer term Disco to take place on 22/5 straight after school (3.45 to 6pm) with a £1 donation to PTFA. Parents to bring children down to the Village Hall after school and sign children in and then out at 6pm.
- Summer Ball 9/6/07: Tickets will be on sale from 21/3 priced at £70 per pair (i.e. £35 each but sold in pairs). School office will hold a list of single ticket requests to help pair up individuals. Next Ball meeting will be on 21/3/07 at Julie Webb's house in Sidmouth from 7.45pm - everyone welcome as always. This year the evening will start from 6.45pm with pre-dinner drinks on the lawn at the Knowle Council Offices - accompanied by a live jazz band. Dinner, Live Band and Disco to follow until 1am
- Proposal for an End of Year Family Evening (e.g. a Barn Dance) with details and venue tbc.
- Julie also prepared the PTFA for her departure at the end of the Summer Term. Tracey Coles (Vice Chair) will also be stepping down from her position at this time, too. If any parent would like to become either Chair, Vice Chair or Treasurer of the PTFA as from next academic year, please could they contact Julie on 01395 512087 as soon as possible - in order to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Head Teacher's Report:

- Katie thanked April and parents for all their hard work at the Christmas Fayre. Thanks also to the African Drummer. The staff and Children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in an excellent workshop. Video footage can be found on the school website.
- Plans for a "Parent Workshop" are progressing - which will include information on the use of the Interactive Whiteboard (IWB). A Government ICT grant has helped to enable the school to order 2 more Interactive Whiteboards. These will be installed

over the Easter holidays - and will mean that every child will have an IWB in their class.

- Thanks to Sophia, Scarlet and Julie Webb for raising £340.00 from their sponsored Pony Ride –for the school library. A request by Katie was made for more picture books as a basis for group discussion for Class 3 children.
- Charity Work: This forms a key part of the Curriculum and the school has supported both a local-need charity (Devon Air Ambulance) and also an International Children's fund , namely our sponsorship of Grace in Ghana. If any parent wants to view a breakdown of how this fits into the curriculum, then this documentation is available from the School Office.
- Proposal by Katie to take advantage of the Devon Arts In School Initiative (DAISI) by inviting an artist into school to work collectively with all children over 2 days - in order to produce an outdoor piece of artwork/sculpture etc. which reminds us of the Napoli disaster - but in a positive way. Details and costings to be confirmed with PTFA before artist is booked.

Forthcoming events:

- Mini Pancake Race and Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Wednesday 28th March. There will also be an Easter Church Service at 9.30am on this day. The Classroom Equipment Cake Sale will then launch that day.
- PTFA Sponsored walk takes place on 26th April. PTFA providing drinks afterwards.
- In the School Improvement Plan, the Classroom Audit indicated that some of the everyday equipment is in need of replacement. Katie asked for a contribution from the PTFA - and we agreed that the proceeds from the forthcoming Cake Sales would be put towards this "Classroom Equipment Fund" in 2007.

Treasurer's Report:

- At present the PTFA current account balance is £2,471.47 + £2,571.50 is in the savings account earning interest. TOTAL = £5,042.97
- Since September '06, approx. £1,380 has been donated to school by the PTFA and spent in various ways: on Class 1 Role-play area (£397.75), Devon Air Ambulance Junior Crew Membership (£100), School Christmas activities (£500), Experience Africa (£220) and the donated Library money (£100).
- Jam Jars: Plea to all parents to please keep these coming - as they have generated £320 to date. For all new parents to school - empty Jam Jars can be collected outside the school office. If they can be filled with small change over time and brought back into school full, then this will allow a significant total to build even higher over the coming months (but without making a big hole in pockets all at once). For any other jam-jar questions, feel free to contact April on 07973 202441.
- Cake Sales: Suggestion to run a monthly "Classroom Equipment" Cake Sale. These will take place immediately after school and be well advertised. Parents and Children will be able to buy cakes priced from 50p each - with all money going into the PTFA for use to replenish Classroom equipment in 2007. Volunteers will be asked to bake/donate cakes. Initial sale will take place on 28/3 - from May onwards it will then be the 1st Weds in the month, after school.

- Garden Plant Tubs: Julie to approach Mole Avon/ Sidmouth Garden Centre etc.. for donations of plants/compost. This will allow all Year 5 and 6 children to plant 2 tubs of summer plants each. The idea is that these tubs give colour to the school playground throughout the summer - and then can be purchased by parents for approx. £8.00 at the end of the Summer Term. Details and prices tbc.
- May Day Celebrations: 25th May. PTFA to organise tea/coffees & raffle.
- Additional Fund-raising idea was suggested in the form of an Easter Activities Day at the Village Hall (to include games, biscuit making, decorating eggs etc.) Katie to advise on go-ahead this year as timings are short and the curriculum is quite full already this term.

Any Other Business:

****URGENT**** Still an urgent request for storage space for PTFA equipment. PTFA is willing to pay for a shed if anyone has accessible land that it can go onto. If you can help - or know anyone that might be able to- then please contact Julie, Tracey or April ASAP. Many thanks.

BRANSCOMBE BREAKFAST CLUB

Application form for Summer Term 2007

Name of child.....

Contact no's between 8 and 9 am

Allergies / Medical needs.....

Please tick those days you would like your child to attend

Each session costs £2.00 and must be paid in advance

We will only credit for sessions where a child is ill or if we are advised about non attendance 48 hours before.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
w/c 23/4					
w/c 30/4					
w/c 7/5					
w/c 14/5					
w/c 21/5					
HALF TERM					
w/c 4/6					
w/c 11/6					
w/c 18/6					
w/c 25/6					
w/c 2/7					
w/c 9/7					
w/c 16/7					
Total sessions :			@ £2 each	Total payment £	

I give permission for my child to attend the above sessions **and enclose full payment in advance.** (Cheques to Devon County Council).

I will telephone the school if my child is unable to attend a pre booked session.

Name of parent/ guardian.....

Signature Date