

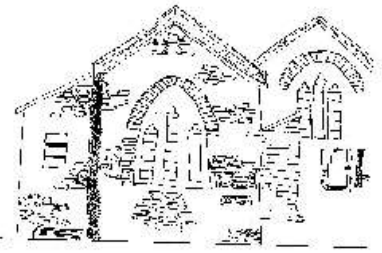
BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 10/11 14
Friday 7th January 2011



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



The Branscombe Waves



Dear Parents

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a lovely holiday. We're sorry we had to close on the last day of term; it felt like we hadn't finished the term properly. The school play will take place later this month (see details below) albeit with a slightly different ending!

Lucy from the National Trust came into school again this week to work with Class 2 on some batik work to decorate the barn for the Wassailing Event next weekend. We do hope lots of children and families will be able to attend. More details below.

At the end of term, Class 2 wrote a poem altogether about the snow. We have written it out below for you all to enjoy.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Branscombe School.

Class 2 Snow Poem

As I slowly unlocked my tired eyes,
And carefully rolled out of my warm bed,
I looked out of my icy, bedroom window,
To see a sparkling, white blanket of shimmering snow.
I scrambled into my warmest clothes and rushed outside.

The freezing, cold air hit my face,
And the howling wind whipped my cheeks.
Footprints marked the snow like ink blots on a white page,
As I trudged, cautiously, through the deep, crunching snow to reach the top of the glistening hill.

A winter wonderland stretched out before my eyes,
And sparkled like diamonds in the brilliant sunlight.
I breathed in the cold, pure air,
And puffs of smoke billowed from my icy nose,
As I stared in awe at the stunning, snowy scene.

School Play

The rescheduled School 'Christmas' Play will now take place on Monday 24th January. There will be a dress rehearsal in the afternoon at 1.15pm. Parents are welcome to bring small children to this performance. The actual performance will be held at 6pm the same evening.

Swimming

A reminder that swimming lessons will begin for the whole school next Thursday. We would be really grateful if any parent helpers could come with us and possibly get in the water with the children. If you could do this either on a weekly basis or just for one or two of the Thursdays please fill in the form below. Thank you.

Wassailing

The Wassailing event will take place on Saturday 15th January. The children have composed a song and completed art work for the event which will start at 6pm. Please park in the Village Hall car park and meet at the National Trust Visitors Centre. Please wear warm clothes and suitable footwear. Bring a torch and something to bang - such as a wooden spoon and pan lid. The cost is £3 per adult and £2 per child. From 12 noon until 4pm the same day there will be a lantern making workshop in the Village Hall. Please bring a mincepie foil case or something similar or a small torch. All other materials will be provided. The cost is £3 per child. Adults are free.

School Dinners

The new school dinner menus were sent home earlier this week. Please could all dinners be ordered and paid for at the beginning of each week, or for the whole half term. Thank you.

Sickness Absence

If your child is absent from school we need you to write a letter or complete a form (available in the leaflet tray in foyer or from the office) explaining why they have been absent. This allows us to correctly identify the type of absence on their attendance records. If these are not completed their attendance will be recorded as unauthorised absence. As there were a number of children off in the last couple of weeks of last term we have sent forms home with those children whose parents need to complete them - please return them to the office at the beginning of next week.

Flu Advice

We have been reminded of the need for high standards of personal hygiene to prevent the spread of flu. Influenza is most infectious when symptoms start until about 3-5 days later. There are no recommended times of exclusion from school for an infected child: a child should return once they are well enough. Department of Health advice is that children who have a fever and are exhibiting flu like symptoms should be kept off school until the fever has subsided; this can take between 2 and 7 days.

Meningitis Day

As many of you will know a few years ago Pete Lovell, Nicole's father contracted meningitis. On 21st January we are going to hold a 'yellow day' to raise money for The Meningitis Trust. Children can come dressed in yellow if they bring in a donation for the charity. We also hope to raise awareness of this awful illness, especially as this is the most common time of the year when people contract meningitis. We also hope to have a very special visitor in school - Monty the Duck!

Plastic Bottles

Class 2 will be making something very exciting linked to their topic of 'Recycling' this term! If you have any 1 litre or 2 litre plastic bottles please could you send them into school - we need lots!

Battery Recycling

There is now a box in the entrance hall for battery recycling. If you have any types of batteries including things like mobile phone and laptop batteries please bring them into school.

Peninsula Medical School Questionnaire

We have been asked by the Peninsula Medical School to invite parents of 2-4 year olds to complete a questionnaire about Early Years Development. If you have a child at school or pre school in the relevant age group you will receive a separate envelope today containing a letter explaining the research and a parent consent form. The questionnaire is entirely voluntary.

Speakeasy Course

Speakeasy is a course aimed at helping you talk to your children about relationships and growing up for parents of year 5, 6 and 7 pupils.

- Do you feel comfortable and relaxed talking to your children about growing up?
- Want to be prepared for the kind of questions your children may ask?
- Are you sure of all the facts?
- Speakeasy is a fun and relaxed course that will help you build on what you already know about relationships.
- Speakeasy is an FPA course for mums, dads and carers.

If you are interested then find out more by calling Tracey Tipton on 01395 572949 or 07540 668525 and book a place on our taster session taking place on Friday 14th January at the Youth Centre in Sidmouth from 12.30 until 2.30.

Clubs

Netball club will start again on the 12th January 2011.

There will be no construction club on Wednesday 11th January due to staff training. This will commence again on 19th January. Construction club is open to those who haven't already made a commitment to netball club.

Cross Country will take place on Monday lunchtimes starting on the 10th January.

Cookery Club will commence on 10th January for years 3 and 4. There will be 5 sessions (with no session on the 24th January due to the play). The cost is £1 to cover all 5 sessions.

We are currently in the process of discussing arrangements for football club with Andy Widger. This is unlikely to start until after half term due to the dark evenings. It would be helpful if you could indicate any interest on the form below.

Please complete the form below to indicate which clubs your child(ren) will be taking part in.

PTFA Cake Stall

If you would like to be on the next rota to bake cakes for the PTFA cake stalls please fill in the form below. A new rota until the end of the summer term will then be produced.

Clubs

Name _____

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Monday (lunch time) | Cross country | |
| Monday | Cookery (£1) | |
| Wednesday | Netball | |
| Wednesday | Construction | |
| | Football (when arranged) | |

I give permission for my child to attend the above clubs.

Signed _____

Swimming

I _____ can help with swimming on the following dates:

| Date | Tick | I would be willing to get in the water with the children (please tick) |
|------------------------|------|--|
| Thursday 13th January | | |
| Thursday 20th January | | |
| Thursday 27th January | | |
| Thursday 3rd February | | |
| Thursday 10th February | | |
| Thursday 17th February | | |

PTFA Cake stall

I would like to be added to the cake bake rota.

Name _____
