

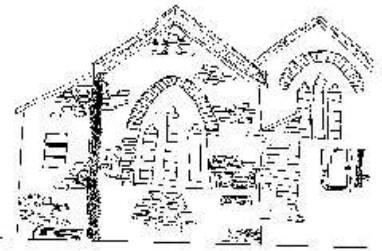
BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 10/11 27
Friday 6th May 2011



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



The Branscombe Waves



Dear Parents

I hope you all enjoyed the long weekend. I would like to congratulate the PTFA on raising £335 from their Live Music event with 'Real World' last Friday. Thank you to everyone involved for giving up their time to help with arrangements. The PTFA also made £25 with the cake stall yesterday. A date is currently being arranged with the secretary of the PTFA to hold the meeting which had to be postponed a few weeks ago because of the lengthy input from the PE Adviser. We will inform you as soon as a date has been confirmed. The minutes from when the PE Adviser came are attached to this newsletter.

Next week is our assessment week for Key Stage 2. We try to make this as calm and relaxed as we possibly can and we give support, as much as we are able, to those children who need extra reassurance. We would be grateful if children could have early nights next week and come to school having eaten a good breakfast. It would also be good if the children brought a bottle of water every day too. This should help to ensure they are able to do their very best in the tests.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

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

Key Dates - please note some of these dates are only provisional at this stage.

Thursday 12th May 3.30pm - Meeting of parents of Year 5 and 6 pupils attending the Residential Course.

Tuesday 17th May - After school Spanish club starts

Friday 20th May - Residential course for Year 5 & 6 pupils

Friday 27th May - last day of school before half term holiday.

⊕ **Monday 6th June** - Non - pupil day.

Tuesday 7th June - Return to school after half term holiday.

Wednesday 8th June - Class 2 Girls Kwik Cricket tournament (further details in due course)

Tuesday 28th June - Class 2 visit to Seaton Marshes (further details in due course).

Wednesday 6th July (provisional date) - New Parent meeting at 3.30pm.

Wednesday 6th July - Class 2 Life Skills event (further details in due course).

Monday 11th July - Smugglers of Gold. Theatre event for whole school and local community at Branscombe Village Hall (further details in due to course).

Tuesday 12th July - New Parent meeting at Sidmouth College for parents of those children moving to Sidmouth College next year.

Friday 15th July (provisional date) - End of year school play at Branscombe Village Hall.

Monday 18th July (provisional date) - 2.45pm. Transition meeting for parents of pupils in Year 2 who will be moving into Class 2 in September.

Monday 18th July (provisional date) - 3.15pm. Open evening for all parents.

Monday 22nd July - last day of summer term.

Sun Protection

Please see the attached letter regarding sun protection.

Clubs

The Cricket Club got off to a good start on Wednesday. Unfortunately, Robotics is still on hold due to the equipment having not yet arrived. Mr Ford is going to start a lunch time Ukelele Club for Year 2 to Year 6 children on Wednesdays. Spanish Club will start on Tuesday 17th May, if you have registered an interest please ensure that you send the payment of £8 for the 4 sessions (cash only please). If any other parents are willing to help with netball club on a rota basis **please fill in the slip below and return to the school office**. We will then use these slips to create the rota and also these will help us ensure we comply with Child Protection/Safeguarding records.

There will be no cooking club this half term.

Milk Bottles

Please could children bring empty plastic milk bottles to school next week to help with some project work Class 1 will be carrying out?

Have You Made A Will?

We have had a letter from Beviss and Beckingsale Solicitors saying that if you use their team to help you write a will or for other legal services they will donate 25% of their fee to Branscombe School. If you choose to use them please do remind them of this offer! Their details are 01297 626950.

Exe Estuary Big Spring Clean

We have received details from the Exe Estuary Management Partnership detailing their Spring Clean at the Exmouth Local Nature Reserve. If you are interested it is on Saturday 14th May from 10am until 12pm, meeting at the Imperial Recreation Ground Slipway. Gloves and spades are provided and you would need to wear wellies or old trainers. There will be a free cruise and buffet for all volunteers. To get involved please contact Stephanie Clark on 01392 382236, 07967 456376 or exeestua@devon.gov.uk

Parent Forum - A Message from Amanda and Jo

Firstly, Jo Hemery and I are planning to run a Parent Forum this term. For those new parents who have not yet been to a Parent Forum here is a quick introduction - At Branscombe School we are always keen to hear the views and comments from all stakeholders. In particular governors wish to engage with parents to hear feedback that can help identify priorities for the whole school. This is why we hold a termly Parents' Forum - it is an opportunity for parents / carers, governors and school staff to discuss issues relating to the continued development and improvement of our school. The Parent Forum was originally set up by Jo during her time as Chair of Governors and Jo has kindly agreed to continue to help. Since the last meeting, we have been looking at ways to improve the current format of the Parent Forum and have studied other schools' formats as well as discussing options with Devon Governor Services. Jo and I both feel that the forum would work well if each Year Group had a representative who would attend the meeting thus enabling people who are unable to attend their chance to have their say. Parents will be asked for any items or issues they wish to include in advance of the meeting then Jo and I will produce an agenda. It would be great if the parent forum became more interactive with opportunities for brain storming ideas as well as discussion. Also, if there are any areas in which you think the school is doing particularly well then please tell us - positive feedback is also welcomed! If you would like to be a Year Group Representative, please speak to either Amanda or Jo or hand in a form at the office.

Spanish Club

I give permission for my child _____ to attend Spanish Club on Tuesday afternoons from 3.15pm to 4pm.
I enclose £8 for 4 sessions (cash only please).

Netball Club

I _____ am willing to help run netball club on a Wednesday after school. I would be available to help on the following dates - please tick.

4th May	
11th May	
18th May	
25th May	
8th June	
15th June	
22nd June	
29th June	
6th July	
13th July	
20th July	

Parent Forum

I, _____ am interested in being a Year Group Representative for the Parent Forum. My child is in Year _____.

PTFA meeting 1st April 2011.

Present

Nikki Butler, Julie Giles, Judy Lovell, Christine Hosking, Vicki Goodman, Amanda Bentley, Alice Tremlett, Carolyn Pinnock, Lynley Doulton, Sarah Miller, Katie Gray, Ray Hennessy

Apologies

Louisa Merritt, Catharine Willerton, Caroline Reynolds

Ray (Lead PE consultant LDP) kindly came to chat about PE. Netball has been a keen area for development. Two parents have been kindly running the netball club on site. The facilities, however, are too small and ideally would like to use the courts at village hall.

Ray is keen to ensure that children have access to broad and balanced curriculum & to enhance provision for PE/sport.

PE- educating & facilitating opportunities for children to access physical activity. It is governed by the National Curriculum. Purpose is to provide that for all children. PE is a foundation subject & therefore the statutory requirement is to learn knowledge, skills and understanding (within the broad context of PE). As a foundation subject, the aspiration is 2 hours a week (there is no minimum).

In Branscombe school the general provision is –

KS 1- Leap into Life daily

KS2- Monday and Friday afternoons.

Ray discussed the link between physical activity & the development of skills and other opportunities eg extra curricular provision.

Breadth of study is the main focus. For further information see Department For Education website & Devon LDP website (Ray has also offered parents an opportunity to contact him).

Primary School – Games are statutory. Schools are then able to choose from other 5 areas eg Dance, Gymnastics, Swimming etc

Swimming- before the end of KS 2 (to be able to swim 25m)

Sport- formal organised competitive clubs. The main outcome is to get the best team to win. PE in contrast is to allow all the children to take part- inclusion. PE is the curriculum subject & therefore it is inclusive.

The curriculum experiences should be aspirational and of quality.

Query- re. Netball club. Off site activities should always have a coach/qualified person. Mrs Gray has a duty of care to ensure safe keeping of all pupils and the parents leading the activities. The insurance levels of the school come under the Devon County Council policy and this stipulates what is required. Judie stated that they have offered to get insurance. If club is a commissioned activity of the school there is a possible risk of litigation.

However, if it is a club that is privately run by parents it does not fall under the jurisdiction of the school. Appropriate safeguards must still be in place. IE supervisor is CRB checked, level 2 coaching qualification, first aid, appropriate level of insurance.

DCC and school want to support the vision for the netball club. If working independently from the school (eg through the Netball national body) it is essential that all the criteria is in place. If school commissioned then it is a **requirement** that everything is in place. Mrs Gray has to ensure that all protocols are in place. Level

2 qualification must therefore be undertaken and school are currently investigating access to funding eg Active Devon to provide the coaches to access this. Judie stated that England Netball will fund such opportunities. Mrs Gray stated that Active Devon are currently working alongside this organisation and Mrs Gray has contacted England Netball for advice.

If coaches have been running extra curricular club after school eg netball club and they want to also work during the school day there must be a qualified teacher present.

Ray gave an analogy of football club. School can facilitate this but once payment is made it is the responsibility of the football coach.

Everything must be covered to ensure that all involved are appropriately protected (children & adults) especially for health and safety reasons.

At present netball club can be held on Wednesday on school site because there are teachers present on site. However, no teachers are available to go down to the courts because staff meetings are held on Wednesday. (Ray discussed level of supervision eg direct or distance). Judie enquired whether they are covered & whether there is adequate supervision. Mrs Gray stated that at present it is adequate. She does want to extend the children's opportunities but it takes time to find out requirements and courses do not run very regularly. Ray stated that DCC/school doesn't want to hinder the club but needs to ensure that everything is in place.

Claire has agreed, if possible, to go on 4 day course in the Summer term (if funding possible eg through grants). Mrs Gray is trying to ensure that everything else in place eg CRB, first aid etc. Judie said that at present she does not have time to undertake the course but may look into it at a later date.

Mrs Gray has been sent a book re. safe practice in PE. This book can be referred to if school have any queries & they can also contact Ray.

Mrs Gray has asked for clarification re. Christina (Sports coach). This is still an area for further clarification. Curriculum issues need to be taken into account. School need to look into level of qualification and suitability from national accredited body. A qualified teacher must also be present. It is important that the statutory programmes of study are taught within PE to ensure that there is appropriate coverage. Mrs Gray will have to ensure that the duty of care is in place, through the presence of the qualified teacher. School will need further clarification re. level of expertise & main area of qualification.

Ray will need to seek further clarification from Steve Kibble re. off site opportunities eg at the village hall courts (that are currently commissioned by schools) once coaches have level 2 qualification & insurance. This will be given on Monday. Pitch at village hall needs to be discussed at a later date. re its suitability. At present it is not felt to be fit for purpose.

Mrs Gray is keen that the PE policy's next review (there is a cycle of policy of reviews) with the Governing body will be through consultation with parents. It will have to be noted that in the next year there will be a curriculum review & things will be discussed in light of this. This may help to clarify parents' perception of what is going on and what they aim to achieve.