

BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 05-28
Friday 7th April

Fish Club

Fish Club will start after Easter on Tuesday 2nd May.

Coats

The school coats that some parents ordered a few weeks ago have now arrived in school. Please see Dawn in the office.

In future we will do **one** coat order each year. We will send this off towards the end of each Summer term, so that coats will be delivered in the first couple of weeks of the new Academic year. In June we will send an order form out to parents. No payment is required until the coats arrive.

Stepping Stones

The children starting our school in the next Academic Year should have received a letter from me about Stepping Stones. However, if this hasn't yet arrived the start date for Stepping Stones will be Monday 8th May. This, because of the non – pupil day and bank holiday, will be our first full week back in school.

May Day

The school May Day celebrations will be happening this year on Thursday 18th May. Although this is slightly later than the traditional date, we felt it was fairer on the Year 6 children to get SATs out of the way first – then they can really enjoy the day! Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

School Meals Policy

Please read the attached School Dinner Money Policy which will be adhered to strictly after half term. This new policy was agreed by the Governors at a recent meeting.

The cost for school dinners next term will be:

£1.60 each day

£8.00 for a full week

£36.80 for the first half of term if having hot lunch every day

£56.00 for the full Summer Term if having hot lunch every day

Homework for Class 2 and 3

To assist our geography work for the Summer Term please could all children in class 2 and 3 look for the following things over the holidays and bring them to school on the first day back:

- An item that, to them, represents Great Britain
- A picture that, to them, represents Great Britain
- An item that represents another country
- A picture that represents another country (the same country as the item!)

Tea Towels – Hurry Hurry!

The Tea Towels will be available to buy in the school office until the end of April. After that they will be available from the PTFA.

Swimathon

Vicky, Janet, Harriet and Susannah would like to thank all of those who generously sponsored their team for the Swimathon 2006. The total raised is about £200. They completed 202 lengths of Sidmouth Swimming Pool in under 55 minutes. Please could those with outstanding donations please see Vicky or leave the money in a marked envelope in the school office.

Football Club

A reminder that Football Club will start on Wednesday 26th April at 3.30pm at the Village Hall. If any parents can help walk the children down to the hall we would be very grateful. On this occasion there will be a small charge of only £2.00 per child for the whole of the 5 week course. Please bring this to the first session.

Please ensure that you are at the Village Hall by 4.20pm **at the latest** to collect your child at the end of each session.

Sponsored Walk

We had a lovely day on Wednesday afternoon. Thank you to all the friends and family who supported and helped us on the walk. Thanks also to the PTFA for providing very welcome refreshments.

Please could all sponsor money be returned to school by the end of May. Money needs to be returned to school in a labelled envelope. **Any cheques must be made payable to Devon County Council.**

Mrs Holman

Mrs Holman will be leaving today to start her maternity leave. We wish her all the best and look forward to seeing her, and the new addition to her family, very soon. Mrs Sarah Roberts will be taking Class 1 after the holidays. She has been working with the class for several Tuesdays and she is really looking forward to having the class full time.

Swimming

Swimming has been booked for children in **Years 3 and 4** during the summer term. We will let you know the exact dates at the beginning of next term. Please could you fill in the attached slip confirming the latest certificate your child has received (in or out of school) for swimming. This will help us to sort out the swimming groups and ensure that your child is asked to swim at a depth that is safe for their individual ability.

Easter Service

Thank you to everyone who supported our Easter Service. Sorry for the last minute alterations (due to the late running of building works inside the Church). However, I'm sure you'll agree the service had a wonderful atmosphere and the children will remember it for a long time.

We hope that you all have a lovely Easter Break and we look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 25th April. (Monday 24th is a non-pupil day)

Branscombe Pre-School

We are pleased to welcome Helen Miller as our new Preschool Leader. This is not a new role for Helen, as she was the Preschool Leader at Branscombe 11 years ago. Helen is qualified in preschool practice and has worked in many early years settings, some of you will know her from Branscombe Nursery and most of you will be aware that she currently works as a teaching assistant in Class One.

Helen will join the preschool in September. In the interim, Gillian will act as preschool leader. We would also like to thank Louisa for all her hard work as preschool leader over the last two years. Louisa wishes to continue supporting the preschool and has kindly offered to remain on the committee. If anyone would like more information about our setting, please contact Louisa, Gillian or Jo Hemery.

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Name of Child (in Year 3 and 4 only).....

I confirm that my child has obtained the following level of swimming.....

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This would be an appropriate level to consider when grouping him/her for swimming with the class.

Signed.....Parent/Guardian

DINNER MONEY ARREARS POLICY

This new policy that has been adapted from Devon County Council has been compiled to simplify and clarify the process for payment of school meals.

- Payment for school meals should be made on the Monday BEFORE the meals are taken.
- The school is unable to provide change, parents will be regularly informed that the correct money is required.
- Parents are welcome to pay for schools meals for half a term, or a whole term or for a number of meals at a time allowing flexibility.
- The school will inform parents via the newsletter the cost of meals for each half term if parents wish to pay in advance. Any meals paid for but not taken will be credited into the next term.
- Where dinner money is outstanding but a debt of less than £20 accrued the school may allow a meal to be provided where it is felt that this is a temporary situation, eg money lost on the way to school, minor domestic problem, etc.
- If a debt of more than £20 is accrued the parent will be asked for immediate payment of outstanding debt before further meals are ordered.
- Where a pupil continues to require meals and no payment is made, the matter will be referred to the headteacher who will consider the individual circumstances of the pupil and parents.
- If a cheque is not honoured by the bank, payment must be made in cash in full by the parent within 3 working days.
- If two cheques have not been honoured on different occasions no further cheques will be accepted from the parent.