

Mason: Rapid improvement in handwriting joins

Sid: Fantastic concentration and improvement in Maths (ordering fractions)

Dear Parents,

As you know we held our Bear themed World Book Day event on Wednesday this week. Many of the children came dressed as story bears or brought a bear to school for the day. The children took part in a number of different bear related activities in small groups, including making art work for the Branscombe Bear story that they wrote earlier in the week, reading bear stories together, making up their own bear stories and acting these out. All of the children took part in a "Bear Hunt" together around the school and had great fun going through the various obstacles the characters encounter in *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*. Thank you to all the staff who took the time to organise and carry out such a lovely range of activities, I am sure that the children are all inspired by their day.



Thank you to all the parents who attended our Parent Evening Consultations this week. If you didn't manage to make an appointment this week please have a chat to your child's class teacher to make alternative arrangements.

Next Friday we have the Life Education bus at Farway School for the day. As you know, we asked parents whether they would be able to drop off and pick up their children at Farway. A number of parents are unable to do this, so we have booked a coach to take all the children over there and bring them back. Please could parents make sure that children are waiting for the coach down at the **Village Hall by 8.45am**. Please do not bring your children up to school, unless they are coming to breakfast club – we will take breakfast club

children to the bus. The children will be leaving Farway at 3pm to come back to Branscombe, so you will be able to pick up your children **from the Village Hall at 3.20pm**. All children will need to take a packed lunch. If you wish to order a packed lunch for KS1 children / Free school meal pupils then please see the information below.

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

Questions for the week

Class 1: Could you make something which shows you which direction the wind is coming from?

Class 2: Why does a civilisation need rules?

Key Dates:	
Mrs Gray will be in school on Friday next week.	
Wednesday 11 th March	*Class 2 visit to Donkey Sanctuary
	- NOW CANCELLED
Friday 13 th March	Life Education bus – whole school to Farway (details above)
	Comic Relief
Sunday 15 th March	Mothering Sunday Service, 11.15am, St Winifred's Church
Wednesday 18 th March	National Trust session (Class 1 only – a.m.)
Thursday 19 th and	KS2 trip to Eden Project
Friday 20 th March Monday 23 rd March	Interim payment due for Beam House
Tuesday 24 th March	Easter Service, 9.15am at St Winifred's Church, all welcome.
Friday 27 th March	Last day of term

Eden Project Visit

I was hoping to send final information about this out to parents this week, however, I am still waiting for a couple of pieces of information from The Eden Project. So there will be a letter in your child's book bag either today or Monday regarding this. The letter will include a suggested kit list, however, you will not need to purchase anything special it will merely act as a reminder of things that you need to pack!

Life Education Bus – Lunches

If your child would like to order a packed lunch from the kitchen for this day, please make sure that you do this **on Monday morning**. The packed lunch options on this day are chicken roll, ham roll, tuna wrap or cheese and crackers. If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals, this is available free of charge.

Donkey Sanctuary trip

Sadly this event has now been cancelled, due to low uptake from local schools.

A Thank You

The children would like to thank PTFA members for the new play equipment. They have written a letter as follows:

"Dear PTFA members,

We're writing this letter to thank you for all our new play equipment. The boys are delighted with all the new balls and the younger ones love playing with the Nobbly Bobbly balls as well. The equipment is played with a lot more now, and used with care. All of us are very grateful because we now have a wonderful variety of toys to play with each lunchtime.

Thank you again for making lunchtimes more fun.

From

The Branscombe Children (Written by Hayley Taylor and Daisy Graysmark)"

Comic Relief

Comic Relief is next Friday. The children will be taking part in activities related to this during the day at Farway School between the Life Education sessions. In exchange for a donation to comic relief the children may come to schools with their faces painted or with a mask that they have made to make their faces funny for money.

Parking around School

Please could all parents of school and preschool children make sure that they do not park in the passing place on school lane opposite the school car park.

Lunch helper required

Do you have an hour to spare on Tuesdays to come and help at lunchtime? We require someone who can help the children with their lunches, and then help supervise them at playtime. This would be a voluntary position, and would require a DBS check which the school would organise. Please get in touch if you are able to help, and do pass this on to anyone else that you think may be interested.

East Devon District Council Countryside events for March

<u>Making Mothers' Day special</u> is a free event on Sunday 15 March - children are invited to make a natural present for mum at the Younghayes Centre in Cranbrook, EX5 7DR. Suitable for all ages; no need to book - accompanied children may drop in between 10am and 12.30pm to create a unique gift of wooden jewellery or stained glass windows with pressed flowers.

Little Ones' walks

Three **Little ones' walks** are coming up -discovery walks around the nature reserves with the education ranger with games and activities to inspire a love for nature and the outside world in the under 7s. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Donations are welcome to help us to continue to provide such events in the future. All walks start at 10am. **Booking is essential** as places are limited – book early to avoid disappointment, as these walks are proving very popular! Call 01395 517557 or email <u>Countryside@eastdevon.gov.uk</u> Dates are as follows:

- Wednesday 18 March Knapp Community Nature Reserve, Sidmouth (This date has been changed from the date shown in the autumn / winter events guide.)
- Thursday 19 March Seaton Marshes Local Nature Reserve.
- Tuesday 24 March Honiton Bottom Community Nature Reserve

Sidmouth Tennis Club Open Day

This will take place on Saturday March 21st. Come and give it a try and find out more about the club. 10-12.30 (Juniors) and from 1.30 (Adults) at the Pavilion, Fortfield Terrace, Sidmouth.

Message from the PTFA

Easter Bonnet Competition

The PTFA are running this competition on Friday 27th March, there will be prizes for the best and runner-up bonnets in Class 1 and Class 2. Please make sure your entries are in school by this date.

Guinea Pig Donations

Please make sure that any donations for the guinea pigs (runs, water bottles etc) are in school by 13^{th} March so that we know what we need to buy.

Pantomime ticket money

If you have not yet paid for your pantomime tickets, please make sure that you bring the money in to Claire or Amanda Darragh as soon as possible (£5 adults, £3 children).

Thank you,

The PTFA

** Job Available – please pass on to anyone you think may be interested **

Farway Primary School require a Catering Assistant on Thursdays and Fridays to collect meals from Honiton high street, serve meals and clear the kitchen. Farway have a newly fitted kitchen with a dishwasher, so clearing the kitchen afterwards is reasonably quick and easy. 2 hours per day from 11.30-1.30 @ £7 per hour, plus a mileage allowance, term times only.

A Mealtime Assistant is also required to supervise in the playground or indoors during wet weather from 12.30-1.30 on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday @ £7 an hour, term times only.

Previous experience is not necessary, just a kind disposition and plenty of enthusiasm is required! Please contact the school office on 01404 871239 if you or anyone you know is interested in the position.

Farway primary School are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A DBS disclosure will be required for this post.



FASCINATING FACTS

What a difference **compassion** and kindness can make! Numerous charities help people who have been hurt, are ill or suffer through lack of resources. Below are just 3:

• World Vision encourages individuals and groups to 'Sponsor a Child' in an area of the world where food, health and education cannot be taken for granted. For just 75 pence a day the life of a child, in for example Uganda or Bolivia, can be transformed by providing help to grow food, source clean water, improve health services and pay for education.

www.worldvision.org.uk

 Help for Heroes was set up after many British soldiers returned from war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. By giving to this charity the public show their compassion for the soldiers and their families and recognise the service they gave on behalf of us all.
www.helpforheroes.org.uk

• Help the Hospices. Sometimes when people become very ill they go to a hospice which will provide them with care and compassion. Often hospices are maintained by donations from people who admire

and value their service or who have had a relative who has been helped by the hospice.

HELP for

HEROES

Hospices

www.helpthehospices.org.uk

