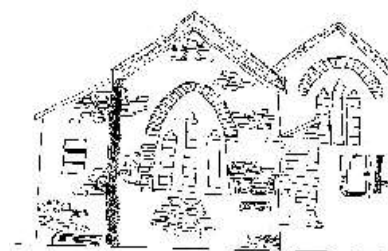




BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 15/16 31

Friday 13th May 2016



Achievements to Celebrate Branscombe Waves Award:

Millie: Excellent concentration and effort in Literacy and across the curriculum.

Rachel: An excellent effort on work and commitment to learning.

Felix: Consistent commitment to learning and great concentration.

Dear Parents,

We are all really proud of our Year 6 children, who have worked hard on their SAT tests this week. They have managed to maintain a positive attitude and continued to try their best. Thank you to parents for your support in ensuring that they were well-rested and calm approaching this challenge.

In Class 1 this week, as part of their topic 'Under the Sea', the children have spent some of their time finding out about the lives of artists J. M. W. Turner and Katsushika Hokusai. Having learnt about the stories, history and music behind some of their work, the class experimented using similar tools and techniques to create their own masterpieces. Whilst painting, they listened to Claude Debussy's composition *La Mer*, which was inspired by Hokusai's *The Great Wave*, as well as other pieces by the composer - a favourite being *Claire de Lune*. At the outset of the project, children tried 'sponging' to produce a watercolour effect for the background to *Seascape 1 - Sky and Sea*, blending orange, yellow and blue to create a multi-toned wash. Following on from this, they were asked to investigate using water colour palettes and salt to create *Seascape 2 - A Stormy Sea*, which was based on different hues of grey, blue and green. Finally, they got out the liquid water colours, teaming these with black oil pastels to design *Seascape 3 - The Great Wave*, which was a more abstract piece. Well done Class 1, the results were stunning and very striking indeed!

Last weekend, several of our children took part in the Beer Blazer. Their parents have told me that they were a great team and really supported each other. We are very proud of all of them, and they looked fantastic in their new yellow Branscombe t-shirts!



Earlier this week, Miss Moss and Miss Harvey-Jones attended a twilight course entitled, "Resilient or Fragile Learners: Embedding a Growth Mindset in your Classroom". A growth mindset is an attitude that says that everyone can grow and get better, as opposed to a fixed mindset which is a belief that some people are just more intelligent than others in particular areas and that's just the way it is. This course was helpful in making us think again about the way we communicate with children. So, rather than using self-limiting language such as, "I just can't do Maths" or "Spelling just isn't my thing", we encourage children to develop the understanding that intelligence can be

developed, by praising their effort rather than their achievements. The three main messages of the course were:

- 1) Mistakes are good! We can learn from them.
- 2) The power of "yet!" "I can't do that..." "...Yet! What could you do to get there?"
- 3) Rather than praising intelligence or abilities, praise effort or development.

While these are messages we already try to apply in our classroom culture, over the next weeks and months you may be aware of us trying to develop these attitudes more explicitly, to try to encourage each child in our school to become a resilient and motivated learner with a growth mindset and not a "fixed mindset".

Next Thursday morning, for our Collective Worship, we will be going to the church for a school Eucharist (Communion) service, led by Reverend Hilary. We have been teaching the children about how and why this service is an important part of the life of the church and we are keen for them to experience this as part of our teaching them about Christian worship. We will be using a liturgy that has been especially developed for children and including hymns and prayers chosen with the children. We would welcome any parents or friends of the school who would like to join us for this service, which will start at approximately 9.10am and last for about 20 minutes. We hope to make this a regular feature of our school worship, several times a year.

Thank you for all your continued support.

God bless and have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Branscombe CE Primary School

Questions of the Week:

Class 1: What does it mean to be a good learner? *(Please also find separate homework in homework books).*

Class 2: What is the most special journey you have been on or the most special or sacred place you have ever visited?

Key Dates:

Mrs Gray will be in school on Monday next week.

Thursday 19th May	Eucharist service, 9.10am, St. Winifred's Church.
Monday 23rd May	Class 2 trip to @Bristol
Thursday 26th May	May Day celebrations
Friday 27th May	National Trust Session Last day of half term
Monday 6th June	First day back after half term

A Message from Bishop Robert

As you know, last week Bishop Robert joined us at school. This week we have received a letter from him thanking us for welcoming him into our school and community. He says "*I was delighted to be with you today and would like to thank you very much for your generous hospitality. I was thrilled to see such a thriving school*".

Bags-2-School

Thank you to all of those who brought old clothes etc. in for the bags-2-school collection yesterday. £12 was raised for the school.

Collective Worship



FAMILY FOCUS

Building a Wall of Wisdom

Everyone has a favourite proverb or wise saying. Talk to family members about proverbs that they think give **wise** advice. Ask them to explain the meaning of the proverb and add it to a 'wall of **wisdom**'.

Build your wall by writing each proverb on a 'brick' cut out of paper. Blu-tack the bricks on to a wall.

You can find lots of proverbs on www.phrases.org.uk



To start you off here three well-known proverbs:

"A chain is only as strong as the weakest link"

"Many hands make light work"

"Don't count your chickens before they hatch"