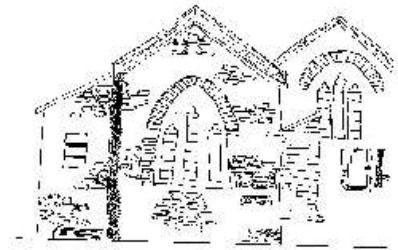


**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**NEWSLETTER 13 / 14 03**  
**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013**



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



The Branscombe Waves

Dear Parents,

I must start this week's newsletter by saying a massive 'thank you' to everyone who helped to make our Macmillan Coffee Mornings such a success. Our two Clerical Assistants across the federation did a super job organising the events and I have had some really positive comments from across the two communities about how visitors to the schools really enjoyed themselves. Together the schools made over £600 for the charity. This is an incredible result for such small schools. Thank you for your generosity.

Both schools have had their harvest festivals this week. The Branscombe performance of The Little Red Hen was super and was enjoyed greatly by the congregation. Broadhembury heard the story of The Hungry Hen and created some art work of a hen house and lots of escaping hens that were placed around the church! Thank you for all your donations of food produce. Thank you to all the parents, friends and family who supported the children at Harvest.

God bless and have a lovely weekend.

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

**Key Dates** – Mrs Gray will only be in school on Wednesday next week as she is attending the Devon Headteacher's conference at the end of the week. If you need to talk to Mrs Gray towards the end of the week please speak to a member of staff who can get a message to her. THERE WILL BE NO NEWSLETTER NEXT WEEK AS MRS GRAY WILL BE AWAY.

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October** – Coldharbour Mill Trip – Coaches leave at 9am

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October** – School Photos 9:00am

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November** – Half Term

### **Industrial Action**

You may have seen on the news this week that two teaching unions NUT and NASUWT are taking industrial action in phases across the country this month. The South West will be affected on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October. **I need to inform you that Branscombe School will be closed on this date as staff at the school will be taking part in this industrial action.**

Although we do not wish to disrupt the children's education, and our support staff will be working on that day, it is a requirement that the children are taught by qualified teachers or a teacher is on-site to supervise members of support staff. Therefore the governors have taken the decision that we will need to close the school.

### **Coldharbour Trip – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

Class 2 pupils will be stepping back in time to experience aspects of Victorian factory life including rules and regulations, Victorian attitudes, hours and rates of pay and some of the tasks children faced during the last century. If possible the children will need to come to school on that day dressed as a poor Victorian child. Please ensure your child will be warm as the Mill can be quite cold. Children will need a packed lunch.

This trip is subsidised by the School and the PTFA, so we have asked for a voluntary contribution of £5 per child. To date we have not received all contributions. Please let the class teacher or office have these as soon as possible. Cheques should be made payable to DCC. If we do not receive sufficient contributions then the trip may have to be cancelled.

### **Please help!!!**

Please could I encourage all parents who think they may be eligible to claim **Free School Meals** for their children to fill in the enclosed form. Your children do not have to take up the meals if you still wish them to have a packed lunch, however, for each child who is in receipt of Free School Meals the government gives school an extra **£900** for our budget and this amount is increasing to **£1300** next year. This money is vital for us to provide specific intervention sessions for the pupils.

### **School Photos - Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

We would like to ask for a volunteer to help with the individual school photos. If you are able to assist please can you speak to Nicola in the office.

### **Parent Governor Elections**

There are now two vacancies for Parent Governors and so the deadline for nominations has been extended to Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October. This is a very rewarding role, please fill in the form that was sent home last week if you would like to join the governing body.

### **Livery Dole Colouring Competition**

Please remember to send in your colouring entries. This competition is to win £100 for the school to spend on equipment of their choice, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes will be book tokens for the winning children. The dealership will be displaying the pictures on the walls of their

showroom for judging. Winners from each school will be invited to a prize presentation at their showroom.

### **Kevin Lucas' Leaving Present**

We said goodbye to our caretaker Kevin Lucas who retired at the end of the Summer Holidays and we are intending to invite him into school later this month for a proper send off. If you would like to contribute to the leaving present for Kevin please hand these into the office.

### **Gardening Club**

We are really grateful to two of our parents who have volunteered to start a Gardening Club on Wednesday lunchtime. The teachers will ask the children next week if they would like to help with the school garden.

### **Cake Stall – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

Please remember your 50p's, Monday's cakes will be provided by Ruth and Tanya.

### **Volunteers needed to help with Class 1's outside area**

As I'm sure you know it is very important that children in Class 1 can access their curriculum through role play, small world play and lots of imaginative talk. We are looking to involve parents/grandparents/villagers into the afternoon sessions in Class 1. If you or any of your friends has a free afternoon where they could help Mr Ford by playing with the children and encouraging their imagination please let the office know.