

BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 07/08 07
Thursday 18th October 2007

Mrs Holman

As you know Mrs Holman is leaving today to start a new job in Exmouth. We're sure you would like to join us in thanking Mrs Holman for all the wonderful and exciting things she has done for Branscombe School and its pupils over the last few years. We are sorry to see her go but wish her all the best in her future role.

Thank you for the contributions that were sent into school. In the Church service yesterday we gave Mrs Holman a lovely fabric print that the children had made. This had a Branscombe theme and was professionally framed. We also made her some notecards with the children's designs on, a book of memories and we gave her some flowers. Mrs Colwill had practised a poem with the children which they performed magnificently.

Class 1 Teacher

On Monday we held the interviews for a permanent teacher in Class 1. We are pleased to tell you that the successful candidate has verbally accepted our offer and will start in January. Until the teacher has resigned from their current post we feel it would be inappropriate to publicise the name, however, I'm sure we will be able to let you know when we come back from half term. Due to the successful candidate's previous experience and abundant energy and enthusiasm for caring for the children and helping them to learn, the interview panel unanimously agreed the decision.

Eco Club

Three members of Eco Club were very brave this week when they did a presentation about all their Eco Work to the Full Governing Body. This must have been a very daunting task but they were excellent and I was very proud of them. I would like to thank Sarah Jones for all her help with the club and for preparing the presentation with the children. There is a section on the website and a display in school if you would like to keep up to date with all the Eco things that are going on.

Recipe Book

Just a reminder about our exciting project, which you may like to work on over the holiday. At the previous PTFA meeting the issue of healthy packed lunches was brought up and the parents suggested that the children could compile a book of healthy recipes. I have approached a printer who has suggested a format to follow. The time scale is quite tight as we want to be able to sell the books in time for Christmas. If you and your child would like to participate in this venture please follow these guidelines:

- Choose a healthy recipe that you would like to share - this could be something that could be brought to school in a healthy packed lunch
- Depending on age the children could write out the recipe or it could be typed and emailed to school. Don't forget to give the recipe a name and to put the child's name and age on it.
- The recipe needs to have the ingredients, method and a short paragraph about why you like it.
- Have a practice making it at home and take some photos of the children making the recipe, the finished product and eating it! The photos are vital to follow the printer's format. Please bring these into school to be scanned or e-mail them to admin@branscombe.devon.sch.uk. E-mails should clearly say they are for the recipe book, which recipe and again which child.
- All recipes and photos need to be in school by 31st October so you will have half term to practise your chef skills!

We really hope that this will be a success and that you will enjoy taking part.

Governors

At the Full Governing Body this week elections were held for the posts of Chair and Vice Chair. Mr Simon Turley is the new Chair of the Governing Body and Mrs Jo Hemery remains as Vice Chair. I would like to thank Rev Nick Edwards for all his work and invaluable support during his years as Chair. Although standing down as Chair, Nick will continue to be on the governing body.

MSC Napoli

A reminder that over half term the Branscombe Project will be holding their annual exhibition in the Village Hall. This year the theme will be the MSC Napoli and school will be displaying lots of the children's work in the entrance hall. This will include the whole school art piece that the children worked on a couple of weeks ago with a local artist. Please do take some time out of the holidays to have a look.

Walk to School

Thank you to those children who have bought poems and pictures etc to Mrs Gray about their walks to school. Please keep them coming in. We hope the children are enjoying completing their Walking the Wizard Way cards. We forgot to say in last week's newsletter that the children need 40 signatures for bronze, 80 for silver and 120 for gold. We look forward to presenting the first stickers soon.

Headlice

We are aware that these pests are rearing their ugly heads once again! Please check your child's hair regularly and ensure long hair is tied back.

Sponsor a Fish

If you would like to sponsor a fish for our fish tank please see Sheleen, Dominic or Mrs Gray.

PTFA

The cake sales have gone really well this year and we now need volunteers/donors to cover 2008. Please would parents contact April on 07973 202441 if they are happy to volunteer again for next year. The sales will run in the same format: approx 20 individual cakes/slices from 3 parents every month. Obviously the more parents that take part/donate, the more the load is spread across everyone. We are looking for about 30 volunteers (which was about the number we had last year) so that each parent need only donate once to cover the entire academic year.

100 Club ticket sales are off to a slow start. The idea was to offer good prizes - but, as importantly, generate a significant source of income for the PTFA coffers - which will then go on to be spent on interesting and fun activities for every child at school. Every £1 generated for the PTFA - once prizes have been allocated - is £1 extra for school funding. If anyone would like a ticket, please call April on 07973 202441, call into the school office, or e-mail April on aprilmtimoney@btinternet.com. If there is still a small uptake on tickets by mid-November, we will return cheques to parents that have already bought tickets and abandon the project (which equates to £1,800 lost over this academic year). Please ask friends and family to support as it would be lovely if the prizes went to people directly associated with school. Many thanks.

Sub committee meeting for the Christmas Fayre will be at Hazel's house (Hillview, Branscombe) on 16th November at 7.00pm.

Year 2

Advance notice that on Monday 19th November in the afternoon the Year 2 children have been invited to a Key Stage 1 gym festival being held at Sidmouth College. Further details will follow after half term.

Provisional Dates

7th November – Remembrance Service in St Winifred’s Church at 11.15am

10th December – Christmas Play in the Village Hall 6.30pm

14th December – PTFA Christmas Fayre 6pm in school

17th December – Christingle Service in St Winifred’s Church at 6.30pm

18th December – Children’s Christmas Lunch in the Village Hall.

20th December – Last day of term.



The **BIG KNIT** at Branscombe

We would like to say a really **BIG** thank you to everyone who has helped in our knitting effort, you’ve all been brilliant!

The result is **113 hats** which is absolutely fantastic!

Don’t forget to look out for Innocent Smoothies with hats, in Sainsbury’s during November. They are giving 50p to Age Concern for every bottle sold with a hat. **Thank you.**