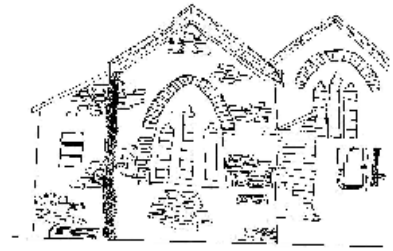




The Branscombe Waves



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 17/18 31
Friday 15th June 2018**



Branscombe Waves

Samuel: for Hard work, enthusiasm and improved presentation, especially in science

Reginald: for Encouraging others (e.g. at swimming lessons)

Dominic: for Persevering with his writing

Oliver: for Persevering with his writing

Dear Parents,

In Literacy this week, the children in Class One have been planning and writing instructions for 'How to Catch a Wolf'. They have thought carefully about a 'you will need' list and have written some step by step instructions using imperative verbs. They have enjoyed learning the text using a text map and actions.

In Maths the children in Class One, have been busy measuring and comparing lengths using a ruler and a metre stick. They have had a go at measuring each other, and have talked about who is the shortest/tallest and how they know. They have also been busy measuring the height of our lettuce plants to see how well they are growing.

In Science the children have been involved in planning and setting up an experiment to test their ideas on what plants need in order to grow and stay healthy. Over the next few weeks they will be watching to see if their predictions are correct.

In our topic work, the children in Class One have been looking at rainforests and finding out about the different layers of a rainforest and the animals that make their homes in each layer. They have started to make a rainforest collage, to show what they have learnt.

This week, Class 2 at Branscombe have begun a new Literacy sequence of work, in which the children will be reading a range of biographies of women who have changed the world. This week, the children discussed the celebrations in London last weekend to celebrate one hundred years since women in Britain were given the vote. The topic will inevitably give the children the opportunity to develop their awareness of contributions made by some impressive women in history but also the chance to discuss ongoing issues of justice and equality.

Following last weekend's Soccer Aid football match, the children began the topic this week by finding out more about the past life and future ambitions of the famous sprinter Usain Bolt, and then had a go at writing his biography, giving them a chance to write about at least one man before immersing themselves in biographies about women! The first biography the children explored was that of Hatshepsut, who ruled Egypt as pharaoh for twenty years in place of her infant nephew.

On Wednesday, Class Two joined together with the Key Stage 2 children from across the Federation on a visit to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum in Exeter. During this visit, a group of volunteers guided the children in a range of activities to develop their knowledge and understanding of the Ancient Egyptian civilisation. The children attended 'Scribe School', where they learned more about hieroglyphics, as well as the materials used by ancient Egyptians for writing. They were able to handle papyrus, looked at a replica of the famous Rosetta stone and learned that, while Egyptian writing could be written in just about any direction, there is a special trick to knowing which direction to read in...!



The children also learned to play a version of the Ancient Egyptian strategy game, Senet, although they did not gamble on the outcome as the ancient Egyptians used to do! They were given the opportunity to practise their skills of mummification on a cloth dummy, removing its brains through its nostrils and its organs through a slit in its lower abdomen, before wrapping the organs, reinserting them in the body and wrapping the mummy in bandages. Finally, the children were taken on a tour of some of the Ancient Egyptian artefacts in the Museum, where they saw a real (three thousand year old) mummy in a mock tomb, as well as various other ancient treasures. During the tour, many of the children were fascinated by glimpses into other rooms in the museum and many of them expressed an interest in visiting again.

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 School

Question of the Week

Class 1: Where does chocolate come from?

Class 2: What would you ask someone who was going or had been to Egypt on holiday to find out more about what the country is like?

Key Dates

Spring Term 2018

19th June School Photographs

21st June, 28th June, 5th July, & 12th July. Swimming Lessons.

22nd June- Exe Valley Practice Walk.

26th June- Year 6 Junior Life Skills at the Donkey Sanctuary.

Sunday 1st July- Exe Valley Challenge.

20th July (pm) - Branscombe Summer play.

23rd July – Federation Sports Day and Race for Life.

24th July – Last Day of Term.

School Photographs

Please note, our school photographs will now be taken next Tuesday morning, on the 19th June.

Federation Sports Day & Race for Life

On Monday 23rd July, all of the children will be taking part in our annual Federation Sports Day. As part of this event, we will be holding a 'Race for Life' to help raise money for the Cancer Research charity. Each child will receive a medal on completion of the race. We will shortly be sending home sponsorship forms for each child which will need to be returned to school after the race. We hope that you will aid us in raising money for this worthy cause, and give the children something to feel really proud of. Thank you.

Ticks:

As Branscombe is known to have a tick population and they are now in their most active season, please make sure that you are checking your children regularly for ticks. See the NHS website for information on how to safely remove ticks. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/insect-bites-and-stings/treatment/>

Summer Play - Change of Date

Due to unforeseen circumstances we have had to change the date of the Summer performance. This will now take place on **Friday 20th July at 1.30pm**

Exe Valley Challenge Practice Walk

If your child is due to take part in the Exe Valley Challenge on July 1st, then they will be travelling to Exeter on 22nd June to take part in a practice for this walk. A separate letter has been sent home about this. Please can you return the SOE3 permission form, promptly. Without this form your child will not be able to take part in the practice walk. Thank you.

Collective Worship Activity

This term we have been focussing in school on the value of Hope. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together. If the children bring back something that you have done at home linked to the Collective Worship activity, or can talk about a discussion they've had at home linked to it, then Mrs Gray will award them with a new special sticker.



FASCINATING FACTS

Rainbows

After a shower of rain we sometimes see a magnificent rainbow arched across the sky.

- rainbows are the reflection of the sun in the rain droplets in the sky
- they are curved because raindrops are round
- they are multi-coloured because each raindrop splits the sunlight into a spectrum of colours
- the colours of the rainbow are always in the same order – red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet – and red is highest in the sky
- an easy way to remember the order is using the mnemonic '**R**ichard **O**f **Y**ork **G**ave **B**attle **I**n **V**ain'. The first letter of each word is also the first letter of the colour.

