



BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 13 / 14 12
Friday 24th January 2014

**Achievements to Celebrate
Branscombe Waves Award:**

Tilly: Working hard and doing her best
Lola: Sustained effort in maths lessons
Matthew: Working hard on his maths
Sid: Perseverance and a good attitude to learning



Dear Parents,

Thank you to all those parents who attended our first Sharing Assembly last Friday afternoon. We hope you enjoyed it.

Thank you also to everyone who braved the weather and came to our Wassail on Saturday. I would particularly like to thank Bill for being a brilliant Master of Ceremonies and Nicki for helping with the hall. Some of our Governing Body were also a super support and the event wouldn't have been the same without the children taking part in 'apple events' on Friday in school. Thank you to Amanda and our Clerical Assistant Alice for helping the children create the lanterns.

It was lovely that some of the villagers also joined the event and enjoyed the delicious homemade soup and apple cakes. Thank you too for bringing all the yummy cakes! The children (and adults) really seemed to be enjoying the circus skills – we have lots of talent within Branscombe School! I believe that our Wassail will be in the Sidmouth Herald either today or next week.

You may have noticed in the children's homework or reading record books that we are giving pupils in each class a 'question of the week'. We hope that these will encourage discussion at home around an 'open' question which may not have one correct answer. We hope you enjoy talking about these within your family. We would really value your contributions – whether that be written, drawings, photos, artefacts or discussion points. We will aim to include the questions for both classes within the weekly newsletter too.

God bless and have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes from Katie Gray and the staff at Branscombe School

Questions for the week

Class 1: Are animal senses different to ours?

Class 2: What do you think it would be like to be weightless?

Key Dates:

Mrs Gray will be in school on Tuesday and Thursday next week.

Monday 27th January – Dentist visit to Class 2 (bring toothbrushes and toothpaste)

Thursday 30th January – Gymnastics for whole school

– Second Godly Play club

– Chinese New Year school meal

Friday 7th and Saturday 8th February – Branscombe Pantomime: *Two Hoods are Better than One* (Details below)

Monday 10th February – Service at St Winifred's Church, 2.45pm parents and friends welcome.

Friday 14th February – Last day of term

Monday 24th February – First day back after half term

Tuesday 5th March – Parents Evening

Tuesday 11th March – Class 1 visit to Donkey Sanctuary

Dentist Visit to Class 2

On Monday the dentist will be visiting Class 2. Please could all children make sure they bring their toothbrushes and toothpaste in a named bag.

Cake sale rota

Caroline will be putting a rota in the entrance hall (near the Sainsbury's Active Kids box). Please sign up if you are able to make cakes or help sell them.

Gymnastics – 30th January

The pupils at Broadhembury will be joining us again on Thursday for the second of our gymnastics sessions. Please could we ask that the girls in Class 1 wear socks rather than tights on Thursday to speed up getting changed for PE! Thank you for your help with this.

Village Pantomime – Friday 7th February

The PTFA would like to thank parents who have sent in permission slips for their children to attend the pantomime. All of the reserved tickets have now been used, and any parents wanting to purchase further tickets can do so from the village Post Office. The pantomime starts at 7.30pm and will finish by approximately 9.30pm. There will be one interval and refreshments will be available. Please could parents bring their children to a member of the PTFA at the front of the hall at 7.15pm and be prepared to collect them at 9.30pm.

School Meals: Chinese New Year

Just a reminder that next Thursday, January 30th the kitchen are providing a Chinese New Year meal instead of the normal menu. This will be as follows:

- Battered chicken balls **or** Vegetarian battered nuggets
egg fried rice, noodles, sweet and sour dipping sauce (optional)
- Chinese New Year cake, yoghurt, fruit salad.

Visit from Kenny Duncan

Due to a number of parents being unable to attend the talk for year 4 and 5 parents on this date we are cancelling this event, and will look into making alternative arrangements with Sidmouth College.

Village Hall Committee Secretary

The village hall committee are in need of a new secretary. It would be a great opportunity for somebody to support the local community, and if anyone is able to offer a few hours each month please contact Helen Fielden on 01297 680444.

Sainsbury's Active Kids

Sainsbury's are running their Active Kids promotion again, and vouchers will be available for you to collect from Sainsbury's stores from Wednesday 29th January until Tuesday 20th May. The vouchers can be used by the school to purchase cooking and sports equipment, so we would be very grateful for any you can collect. We have placed a collection box in our entrance hall for you to donate your vouchers.

Family Orienteering Event

Devon Orienteering club have asked us to let you know that they are running a family orienteering day tomorrow, 25th January, on Woodbury Common at Wheathill Plantation. It is an afternoon event followed by a night event. There will be a variety of courses from easy to difficult, between 1.5km and 5km. Entry is on the day, £1.50 juniors and £3 seniors. Further information at www.devonorienteeringclub.co.uk