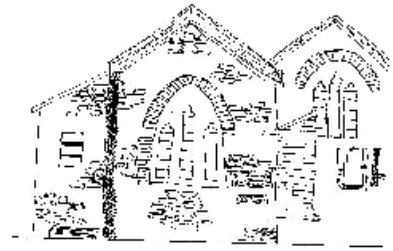




The Branscombe Waves



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**  
**WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL**  
**NEWSLETTER 17/18 14**  
**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018**



**Branscombe Waves**

**Ben** –For choosing to take part in phonics, and consequently making good progress and learning new sounds.

**Beau**- For working hard to ensure work is produced to the best of her ability.

**Sam**- For embracing our new space topic with enthusiasm.

**Tom**- for consistently working hard in all areas.

Dear Parents,

We welcome Miss Moss back to the new school term. We are all pleased she is now feeling much better!

On Thursday next week we would like to invite you all to our termly Eucharist service in church at 9.45am. This will be an extra special service because the Archdeacon of Exeter will be joining us to present the school with their 'Outstanding' SIAMS certificate. It would be lovely to have parents and friends of the school at the church.

In prehistoric P.E./dance lessons this week the children in Class 1 have enjoyed using their bodies to become dinosaurs! They began by discussing the different types of dinosaurs, and their features. They noticed that some were big, whilst others were small; some slow and some fast; certain dinosaurs were solitary, whilst others hunted in packs, and much more! They thought about how some dinosaurs could fly, whilst others swam, walked or ran. After choosing six dinosaurs to mimic, the children thought about what they would look like and how they would move in the wild: A T-Rex is big, fast and fierce, and a Stegosaurus is a slow, spiky pack animal, whilst an Ammonite lives in a curled shell with squid-like tentacles, to propel himself along.

After a little practice, the music was turned on and the children were asked to move around. Their focus was to concentrate on maintaining good spatial awareness, changing direction and levels, whilst also listening for instructions to get into the character of the appropriate dinosaur. Following this, the children were put into pairs to make up their own dance moves, to demonstrate being the creatures that they imagined would have lived under the sea, 150 million years ago! The children did so well with their choreography throughout the sessions that Miss Harvey-Jones did wonder at times if she had a classroom of children, or pterosaurs!

In Music, the children have been talking about the pulse in our body, and how it makes a regular pattern, sometimes getting faster and sometimes slower. They compared their own pulse, to the pulse or beat of a piece of music, whilst they listened to a variety of pieces of recorded music. Developing upon this, the children were asked to sing some songs with a strong pulse, such as 'The Grand Old Duke of York', and 'Mary had a Little Lamb', patting their knees to the beat, as they practised keeping in time with it. They learnt the dinosaur version of '10 Little Indians', and used soft percussion instruments to beat in time to the pulse. For a second time this week, the

rhythm of the music took over, as the children noticed that music with a strong pulse/beat, makes you want to move along with it, tapping your feet and dancing!

In quieter circle-time sessions, the children have been talking about how they feel and thinking about the words that they know, to describe different feelings, as they investigated the British Value of Individual Liberty. They looked in a mirror to make different faces, to represent their feelings, and then showed them to their partners, discussing what they noticed about how a person's face changes, when you show a different emotion. The children talked about times that they might have felt different emotions, and drew pictures of themselves using light and dark, to show how they felt.

The children were also particularly enthusiastic to take part in the R.E. session this week, where they thought about bridges, and what their purpose is. After listening to the story of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff', and thinking about how the bridge saved the goats, the children looked at pictures of bridges, and used them to consider different reasons and situations, when a bridge might be needed or be useful. They thoroughly enjoyed completing their challenge to 'bridge' gaps by building their own bridges, and Miss Harvey-Jones was impressed with their contributions to a debate, upon whether or not a person could 'bridge a gap'.

This week, Class 2 have developed their understanding of the solar system, and have begun to create a computer simulation to demonstrate how the Earth orbits the sun. In Maths, as part of their current "Geometric reasoning" sequence of work, Year 6 have undertaken a challenge to make a 3D spacecraft or rocket out of card, by creating nets and using these to build a spacecraft design. They were challenged to create an **algorithm** (set of instructions), that others might use to recreate their design. The children in years 3 and 4 undertook a similar challenge, to create a 2D picture of a rocket or spaceship, and then label features such as the shapes, angles, lines (vertical, horizontal, parallel, perpendicular) and lines of symmetry, before writing their own step-by-step algorithm, to recreate their design. In Art, the children were challenged to use oil or chalk pastels to draw a picture of the moon from close observation of photographs of the surface of the moon.

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: Under what circumstances would you give up your most prized possession?

Class 2: What have been the most significant changes, or meaningful events, in your life so far? How did you feel when these occurred, and how did you mark or celebrate these events?

### **Key Dates**

#### **Spring Term 2018**

9<sup>th</sup> February- Last day of School before half term

#### **12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> February- Half term**

19<sup>th</sup> February- First day back after half term

Last Day of Term: Thursday 29th March

### **Wassailing**

As is our tradition each January, next week on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January the children and staff of Branscombe Primary School, will be inviting parents to join us, to go wassailing in the orchard, followed by an apple-themed afternoon tea, back at school, at which the children will share some apple-themed work! The celebrations will begin at 2.15pm in the orchard, followed by refreshments, and sharing from 2.45pm in Class 2. We would be grateful for any support in providing the refreshments- all apple pies, apple cakes or other apple snacks will be gratefully received (no nuts in the recipes thought please!). Drinks, including our 'traditional' wassail cup (spiced apple juice), will be provided. Also, we would like to invite children to bring to school a suitable "instrument", in the form of a sturdy pan and wooden spoon (we have learned from experience that metal spoons are likely to damage the pans when banged with enthusiasm!). These will be used as part of our wassailing ceremonies. Thank you.

### **Bag 2 School**

There will be a Bag 2 School Collection on Tuesday 30th January. Bags should have come home to you today. Please bring donations in by 9am on the morning of 30th January. All proceeds will go to the PTFA. Thank you.

### **Spare Clothes**

Please could ALL children in Preschool and Reception have a spare set of clothes with them every day, in case of toileting mishaps! Also, if you have any spare pants, socks or trousers that may fit our younger children and that you would be willing to donate to school, we would be very grateful for these. All Class 1 children should have wellies and a waterproof coat in school every day please.

### **Forest School**

For this half term, the children in Class 1 will not be participating in Outdoor Learning sessions on Mondays, due to the possibility of inclement weather conditions, so there is no need to send in non-uniform for this.

Instead they have been thoroughly enjoying getting started on their new STEM programme! The practical activities, challenges and investigations planned into these lessons, give them the chance to work beyond the constraints of the National Curriculum, and have been designed to increase motivation and self-confidence, as the children explore opportunities to be scientists, engineers, mathematicians and technologists, both indoors and outdoors.

### **Collective Worship Activity**

This term we have been focussing in school on the value of Thankfulness. 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.



### **Term Dates January 2017 – July 2018**

#### **Summer Term 2018**

Term Begins Monday 16th April  
Bank Holiday: Monday 7th May  
Non Pupil Day: Friday 25th May  
Half Term: Monday 28th May – Friday 1st June  
Children return to school: Monday 4th June  
Last Day of Term: Tuesday 24th July

#### **Autumn Term 2018**

Non Pupil Days: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September  
Term Begins: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September  
Half Term: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October  
Non-Pupil Day: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October  
Children return to school: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October  
Last Day of Term: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December

### **Spring Term 2019**

Non-Pupil Day: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January

Term Begins: Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January

Half Term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Last Day of Term: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

### **Summer Term 2019**

Term Begins Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

Bank Holiday: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Non Pupil Day: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

Half Term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

Children return to school: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Last Day of Term: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July



Branscombe Players  
present

Friday & Saturday 7.30

February 23 & 24

# Jack & the Beanstalk

*by Emily Miller*



**Tickets:**

**Nic & Kay Smith**

**01297 680 593**

**£6.50 Adults £3 children**

**Doors open: 6.45 pm Bar**

**Branscombe Village Hall**