

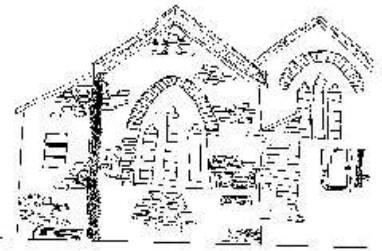
BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 11 / 12 01
Friday 9th September 2011



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



The Branscombe Waves



Dear Parents

Welcome back to the beginning of a new school year. I hope you all had a refreshing and enjoyable summer break; it's been lovely to catch up with you and the children and to hear the exciting things you've been doing throughout the holiday.

We are all looking forward to the new term and have some interesting things planned. Class 1 are working on a topic called 'Joining Together' which will involve discussions about friendships, becoming involved with community events and carrying out construction and material work in science. Class 2 will be working on a topic called 'Autumn and Local Traditions' which will involve, amongst other things, thinking about the history of harvest and lace making.

This week, of course, has also marked the official beginning of our Management Partnership with Broadhembury CE Primary School. Although the two schools will still very much keep their own identities there will be opportunities for some shared activities. Because of the building works at Broadhembury school, both sets of staff were able to meet here last week. This meant that staff could get to know their 'partners' with a similar role and also discuss some ideas for sharing topic work.

If you feel you can help in any way with anything that the children are doing in school, or can just spare half an hour or so to help with making resources or hearing readers please don't hesitate to talk to me or the class teachers.

It is lovely to welcome new children to the school this term. We hope they settle in quickly and soon feel like part of the Branscombe family.

God bless and we hope you have a lovely weekend.

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

Key Dates

Monday 12th September – Class 2 Dental Hygiene session. All Class 2 children will need to bring a toothbrush and toothpaste and return the attached permission form.

Friday 16th September – Individual & Family School Photographs. Smart uniform please.

Sunday 18th September – Harvest service at St Winifred's Church at 11.15am followed by a bring and share lunch.

Thursday 29th September – Jump Rope for Heart. Please see below for details.

Thursday 29th September – Fun Day afternoon at the Village Hall and Playing Field.

Thursday 20th October – last day of this half term.

Monday 31st October – first day of next half term.

Monday 5th December – Christingle Service 6pm at St Winifred's Church.

Thursday 8th December – Christmas Play at Branscombe Village Hall at 6.30pm.

Wednesday 14th December – Children's Christmas Dinner at Branscombe Village Hall.

Friday 16th December – last day of the Autumn Term.

Thursday 5th January – return to school after Christmas.

Exciting News

You may remember that last term we were awarded 'Healthy School Plus' status. We had a letter over the summer saying that the quality assurance group had considered that a small number of schools had demonstrated 'outstanding practice' in their 'Healthy School Plus' submissions and that Branscombe was considered to be one of these outstanding schools. This is a credit to all the staff and pupils at the school but in particular to Mrs Crawford for leading in this area.

Collective Worship

Our Collective Worship value this term will be 'thankfulness'. Glynis has put up a lovely display in the entrance hall. We have been talking this week about different ways we can say 'thank you'. Perhaps the children could make some thank you cards at home and tell us who they sent them to.



Dental Hygiene session

On Monday Class 2 will have a visit from a dentist who will talk to them about various aspects of dental hygiene. Please complete the attached consent form and make sure that they bring this in on Monday morning together with a toothbrush and toothpaste in a named bag please.

PTFA

A date needs to be arranged for the PTFA AGM. Please indicate on the form below whether mornings, afternoons before pick up/after pick up or evenings are best for you to attend. Also please let us know if you are interested in taking on a committee role e.g. Chair, Treasurer for the next year.

Elite Training

We have been contacted by Michael Baker of www.elitetrainingsouthwest.co.uk who offer flexible and free nationally recognised qualifications in English, maths and I.T. for parents. If you are interested we have a few fliers or log onto their website.

Clubs

Football - Andy will be running after school football sessions for boys and girls in all years. The sessions will run from 3.30pm until 4.30pm for 5 weeks starting on the Friday 16th September. The cost is £12 for 5 weeks. Please complete Andy's form. Payment and forms can be returned to the school office and will be forwarded to Andy.

Netball - will run after school on Wednesday until 4.15pm.

Construction - will run after school on Wednesday until 4.15pm.

Textile - Glynis will be running a textile club after school on a Thursday until 4.15 for Key Stage 2 children.

Reading

Those of you who attended the PTFA meeting at the end of last term may remember that one of the areas we are focusing on this year is the promotion of reading. Over the next few months we will be celebrating reading through a lot of activities and special days. Children's Book Week is held early next month and we will be sending out a pack for parents then to help you to think of ways to encourage your child to read at home and to develop a real love of books.

Next Tuesday is 'Roald Dahl Day'. We are sending the KS2 children home with some Roald Dahl Reading Diaries in which they can set themselves reading challenges to become a 'Roald Dahl Revolting Reader!' We are hoping that as many children as possible can read 3 Roald Dahl books before December. There are also ten fun challenges at the back that the children can try to do on Tuesday e.g. wear something yellow (his favourite colour) or wear an item of clothing backwards! Please do encourage your child to take part in the day and the challenges. There is a display in the library about Roald Dahl. If KS1 children would like to join in with the dressing up that would be lovely.

Library Opening

The school library will be open after school on a Thursday to enable parents to spend time choosing books with their children. The library will close at 3.45pm. Please note children must be accompanied by an adult during this session.

School Meals

New menus and ordering forms were distributed at the end of last term, but if you require them there are spares in the document holder inside the front entrance. As you know, although the meals are still provided by the same school, the menu and organisation has changed. We will be monitoring the changes but if you have any feedback please let us know so that we can pass it on to the kitchen. Please note that if you are choosing the snack option for your child, this is a jacket potato with the choice of cheese, beans, salmon or tuna. Only one item topping should be selected and please make sure that you note your requirement on the order form.

Road Safety

As we start a new term we should like to remind you of the importance of keeping the children safe on the roads. Please use the village hall car park rather than parking outside the post office and please drive with care especially at the busy times. Please do not park in the passing place opposite the school car park.

Jump Rope for Heart

This year our school has registered with the British Heart Foundation's (BHF) 'Jump Rope for Heart' programme. This programme recognises the important role that regular physical activity plays in maintaining and improving health and aims to introduce students to the massive potential of skipping and associated health benefits through a series of structured PE lessons.

An important part of Jump Rope For Heart is the organisation of a 'Jump Off'. This is a sponsored event which will take place at the end of a progressive series of skipping lessons and will enable the children to demonstrate, through a number of activities, how they have developed their skipping ability.

The 'Jump Off' provides an ideal opportunity for your child to take part in an excellent heart health activity in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere and, at the same time, to raise valuable sponsorship money for the work of the BHF, the nation's heart charity, and the school. With your permission, your child will have the opportunity to participate in the 'Jump Off' and to find sponsors. 20% of the money raised will be retained by the school to boost our school funds. The rest of the money is sent to the BHF and will be used to fund pioneering research into the causes and treatment of heart disease among men, women and children, lifesaving cardiac equipment, BHF nurses and health education.

Our 'Jump Off' will be held on **29th September** in the morning at school. We would greatly appreciate any support you can give your child with their fundraising, e.g. by asking your friends and family to sponsor them. We have enclosed a sponsor form with this newsletter.

Headlice

A case of headlice had been brought to our attention. Please check your child's head tonight and ensure that you continue to check your child's head regularly and treat appropriately. We do have copies of information provided by the school nurse regarding effective treatment. Please pop into the office if you would like a copy to keep at home.

Secondary School Applications

The on line facility for secondary transfer opened on the 1st September and parents of Year 6 pupils will shortly receive letters if they have not done so already. The deadline for applications is the 31st October. One of the benefits of making applications on line is that on the morning of 1st March 2012 you can log on and see your offers.

Club form

I _____ give consent for my
child (ren) _____

to attend the following clubs:

Club	Day	Child initials	Child initials	Child initials
Netball	Wednesday			
Construction	Wednesday			
Textile	Thursday			
Football	Friday			

Signed _____ Date _____

PTFA form

I _____ confirm that the following
time of day is best for me to attend a PTFA meeting.

Morning		Before pick up		After pick up		Evening	
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I would be interested in taking on a committee role

☐

I would be interested in being Chair

☐

I would be interested in being Treasurer

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