

BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 08/09 5
Friday 3rd October 2008

Parents Evening

The confirmation slips stating the times of parent evening appointments are being sent home with this newsletter. Unfortunately, Mrs Akay, who is still recovering from her recent illness, feels she is unable to stay late at school next week. We will offer various times before half term when Mrs Akay can see individual parents. More information next week. Sorry for the confusion regarding this.

Lunch Time Help

Please, please, please consider offering to help at school during lunch times. Several of our Meal Time Assistants will be leaving us shortly due to gaining full time employment elsewhere. After October we will only have one meal time assistant on two days of the week. There are two ways you can help - either by just doing one or two sessions a week, or by becoming more of a consistent member of staff. We do have a position available where someone who is able to come in each lunch time could start work at 11.30 and continue until 1.30. This will cover the lunch time break but also enable equipment to be prepared in the playground and tidied away at the end. Such a member of staff could also help teachers make resources, listen to readers or help in the library during the time before and after lunch.

If you are interested in either of these paid positions please contact Mrs Gray as soon as possible.

If you yourself can't commit to this, please think of anyone else you know who may be interested – we are desperate! Thank you.

Provisional Christmas Dates - times to be confirmed nearer the time!

8th December - Christmas Play in evening. PTFA providing refreshments & raffle.

10th December – Christmas Lunch for children and the parents of Year 6 children

15th December - Mince Pies open afternoon at school for parents to view term's work. PTFA providing refreshments.

16th December – Christingle Service in Church

19th December – School breaks up

School Allotment

Our allotment was a real success last year and the children thoroughly enjoyed planting, caring for and picking the crops! Unfortunately, Lyn Cattlin is unable to help with the allotment this year and we are looking for another team of parents and friends of the school to work with the staff and children. Please contact Mrs Gray if you know of anyone who could assist. Thank you.

Christmas Cards

Just to give you advance notice that we will be arranging for the children to design their own Christmas cards again this year which will be professionally printed and available for parents to purchase. We had some really positive comments about these last year and we hope they prove just as popular this Christmas. Further details coming shortly.

Year 1 Children

Next Thursday – 9th October, Year 1 children have the opportunity to take part in a sports festival at Sidmouth College. They will need to leave school at 12.50. Children will need picking up from Sidmouth College at 2.45pm as we will not be returning to school. Children will be able to wear their PE kit and trainers so please ensure these are in school on the day. Mr Ford will be accompanying the children.

If you are able to help with transporting children to the college please indicate this on the permission slip. Please note that if you are transporting children other than your own you will need to have adequate car safety seats and we would ask that you come to fill in an insurance form in the office. If we don't get enough offers of help with transport the trip will, unfortunately, not be able to go ahead.

Please could all Year 1 parents fill in the permission slip below?

Year 6

Just to remind parents the final deadline for internet applications for secondary schools is 24th October. If you have any problems please don't hesitate to ask Dawn for help.

Remembrance Day

We will be taking part in the Remembrance Day Service at Church on Tuesday 11th November. Parents are welcome to join us. The provisional start time is 10.45.

New Librarians

Just to let you all know, following librarian interviews this week, we now have several new Pupil Librarians. Chloe, Fred, Millie, Jessica and Ella all answered the interview questions really well and had clearly thought about the skills required. Well done to them all, we look forward to seeing them in the library helping other pupils and keeping the books tidy!

PTFA news from April

Thanks to all the Mums who made it to the Meeting on Tuesday - minutes should be circulated in next week's newsletter. Straight after school seemed to work well. As you will see - there's a lot happening to make this term really special so I hope you find a little time to get involved. Because the meeting was organised at short notice, we were unable to get the full Committee on-board - and so there will be a 30 minute AGM on Thursday 16th October to swear all members in and get all the serious stuff out of the way for another year.

- **Cake Sales**

Yes! The cake sales are back! Apologies for not running one this week - but we will make up for it next Wednesday (8th October). I've drawn up the rota for the whole year and am distributing it at the moment. You'll notice that only 2 people are donating/baking each month, but I hope that 60 cakes will still be enough to go around. As always thanks for your support baking, donating - and buying of course!

- **PTFA Dates for your Diary (also see Christmas dates above)**
 10th October - CHRISTMAS FAIR PLANNER MEETING at Hazel's from 6pm - please, please do support and come along.
 4th December (to be confirmed) - Christmas Craft session from 3.15 at school with Hazel - details to follow
 12th December (to be confirmed) - Christmas Fair at school (legendary!)
 17th December - Children's treat from PTFA - Theatre production performed by Theatre Alibi
 15th January 2009 - Spring Term PTFA meeting. Everyone welcome.

Also To Be Confirmed - fund-raisers this term:

LATE OCTOBER - Pub Quiz, Branscombe - more details next week

MID NOVEMBER (hopefully) - Pamper Evening - more details next week

Many thanks, APRIL 07973 202441

Year 1 Trip to Sidmouth College

I give permission for my child.....to attend the Sports festival at Sidmouth College on Thursday 9th October. I understand that children will be transported to the festival in the cars of volunteer parents and that I will have to arrange for my child to be collected from Sidmouth College at 2.45pm.

Signed.....parent/guardian

Years 5 & 6 Skills Session

The children in Class 3 have been invited to Sidmouth College on **Thursday 23rd October, 4.00 – 5.00pm** to take part in a volleyball, hockey, netball and basketball skills session.

Parents will be required to transport their children to and from the event.

Please return the slip below to Mrs Crawford if you would like your child to take part.

Name of pupil _____

Yes I would like my child to take part in the skills session

----- will transport him/her to Sidmouth College.

-----will pick him/her up at 5.30pm.

Please meet Mrs Crawford & Mhairi at the entrance to the college.