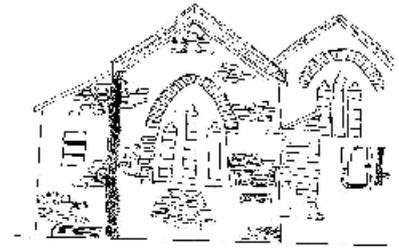




The Branscombe Waves



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**  
**WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL**  
**NEWSLETTER 17/18 9**  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017**



**Branscombe Waves**

**Yasmine:** Friendship - building strong relationships with others - and focus in lessons.

**Leo:** Rising to the challenge and completing written tasks in Literacy and Science.

**Beau:** Always being positive and motivated, she listens carefully to advice and perseveres to put this into action.

**Annabelle:** Always being respectful in the classroom, around the school and towards her peers. She is trying hard to be the best that she can be.

Dear Parents,

The children in Class 1 thoroughly enjoyed kicking off the week wearing their odd socks and finding out more about Andy Day and his band Andy and the Odd Socks; the beginning of a PSHE learning journey, in which they have maintained a focus on being unique, and because of that, very special and wonderful.

As part of their learning the children watched the video for, and learnt the actions and lyrics to, Andy's song 'Unique'. This helped them to understand the positive and inclusive message of the song- that it's good to be different- and to better comprehend the definition of the word 'unique'. In circle time they had the opportunity to share something that makes them unique, before imagining a world where everyone was the same!

The children decided that they wanted to make sure that everyone within the class knows that they are valued by everyone else, and respected as part of the school community. They played a game in which they collected words and phrases from their peers, describing those things that their friends thought makes them special. They chose their favourite from the collection, to make a rainbow reminder.

Later in the week the children thought about how a school is like a puzzle – when one of us is missing, the puzzle is incomplete and feels wrong. They drew pictures and wrote statements on puzzle pieces to identify theirs as a special piece, and one which represented them. They compared similarities and differences, discussing how the puzzle was all the more interesting for how unique each part was.

In art they investigated what types of colour you can create with the three primary colours. The children explored using different amounts of colours to create other colours, before drawing a picture of a desert island. They illustrated it with all the things that they would take with them, and who would be there. They compared their drawings to show how different everyone's island was. Following this, the children designed keys with advice for 'the key to being a good friend', and began making friendship books to document the bonds that they share.

In literacy and theme work, Class 1 began our new text 'The Jolly Christmas Postman'. Having mapped the journey of the story and that which the postman takes, they looked at maps on a

wider scale. In a geography session the children used simple compass directions and locational and directional language, to describe the location of features and routes on a map. They enjoyed reviewing aerial photographs to recognise landmarks, and basic human and physical features, and are beginning work on devising a simple map, using and constructing basic symbols in a key.

Class 2's week began with Odd Sock's Day, in celebration of national anti-bullying week. The children were encouraged to think about how they are "all equal, all different", like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle. Just like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, one missing piece can make a big difference!

In Collective Worship, linking with this theme, Miss Moss read the children a passage from 1 Corinthians 12, which talks about the church being like one body, made of different parts. The children had a giggle at verses such as "If the whole body were an eye, the body would not be able to hear. If the whole body were an ear, the body would not be able to smell." However, this helped them to think about the way that each person in school is uniquely special, and to celebrate differences.

Later in the week, the children explored a little further what bullying is, as well as what it isn't, and considered how each one of us can do our part, to ensure that Branscombe C of E Primary School is a no-bullying zone! The children have been working towards producing a school leaflet on the theme: "Say NO to bullying and YES to friendship".

This week, Class 2 have begun a new sequence of work in Literacy in which they have been challenged to write two different points of view, about a subject. The chosen subject for their first piece of "discussion" writing in this sequence, was the topic, "Should all school meals be vegetarian?" The very suggestion provoked an outraged reaction from some of the children, so it was quite a challenge for them to be able to empathise with, and report on different points of view, about the subject!

Over the next few weeks, Class 2 will look at discussion texts linked to our topic work, examining questions such as "Was the British Empire a good or bad thing?" and the children will practise writing a balanced argument, in an appropriately formal style.

Most of Class 2 have also begun a new sequence of work in Maths, involving multiplication and division, and are busy brushing up on their knowledge of times tables facts. In this week's topic lesson, the children learned more about a range of Victorian inventions and also about the Great Exhibition of 1851.

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:** What and where is your soul?

**Class 2:** In the past, people were only able to eat fruits and vegetables when they were in season. Nowadays, with modern transport links, foods can be shipped quickly from other countries and kept refrigerated, so most fruits and vegetables are available all year round. What do you think are the pros and cons of being able to buy food that is 'out of season'?

## Key Dates

### Autumn Term 2017

- 4<sup>th</sup> December – Christingle service (evening)
- 12<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch
- 18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Play 6pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> December- Carol singing and end of Term

### Class 1 Outdoor Learning Time

On Mondays Class 1 will be doing outdoor learning time every Monday afternoon. Therefore ALL children in Class 1 MUST have the following in school on Mondays:

- A waterproof coat.
- Wellies.
- A change of clothes (non-uniform, suitable for working outside, and possibly getting dirty).
- Waterproof trousers or overalls if possible.

### The School Library

In order to give the children the opportunity to visit the school library with their parents, Rachel will be available to open the school library after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays, until 3.45pm. Please feel free to visit the library with your child at these times if you would like to help them choose a book to borrow.

### Branoc Hall Christmas Fair

The annual Branoc Hall Christmas Fair, will take place on Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 2pm-4pm. The children will be opening the fair by singing some Christmas songs, so it would be great if as many children as possible could be there. The children will need to be at the hall from about 1.45pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Collective Worship Activity

This term we will be focussing in school on the value of Justice. 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.

## HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



### Design a weighing machine

Before electronic weighing machines were invented, scales often had two pans that were balanced when each held an equal weight.

Design and make a simple balance from junk materials that can weigh small objects.

