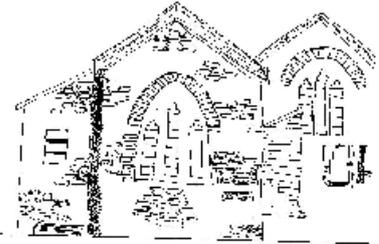




The Branscombe Waves



**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL**
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER 17/18 21
Friday 23rd March 2018



Branscombe Waves

Michele: For outstanding effort and perseverance, leading to incredible improvement in reading.

Grace: For working hard to improve the quality of her writing - noticing, revising and being absorbed in her learning.

Samuel V: For persevering to improve the presentation of his work.

Rachel: For consistently working hard in school, and also completing homework tasks.

Dear Parents,

We welcome to Rupert and Frederick who have joined us this week.

This week, Class 1 have been looking at famous castles, for example Hogwarts from Harry Potter is Alnwick Castle in Northumberland. The children also imagined living in Windsor Castle, versus Sleeping Beauty's Castle, and Castle Dracula versus The Castle of the Forest Sauvage, from The Sword in the Stone.

The children have learnt about different roles in the castle, by reading about the different occupations that existed, during medieval times. They discussed the different things that each member of the team would have to do, and role-played the different inhabitants at work, before being interviewed by the rest of the class.

Having shared the image 'Castle and the Sun' by Paul Klee in our art sessions, the children described what they could see in the painting. They made individual sketches of the image, paying attention to the lines, shapes, and other characteristics they saw. The children thought about the tone, mood, and the overall sense they get when looking at the painting, as we talked about how Paul Klee shows his personal feelings within his abstract art. The children talked about how they thought he felt, when he created this image. He used warm colours, so perhaps he was happy? They thought about how it made them feel, to look at the picture.

In Class 2's Literacy lessons this week, the children have begun a short series of lessons about poetry, in which they will be learning a poem, reading and discussing the features of different poems, and writing their own poems on a space theme. In particular, they will practise identifying and writing metaphors, and they will look at the form of a haiku poem.

In their Science learning this week, the children of Class 2, have begun to explore the topic of light and shadow. While the Year 6 group developed a display to consider what they already know about light, the Year 3 and 4 children used a box to simulate a dark room and experimented to see which colours and objects could most easily be seen, in varying degrees of light. They observed that shiny and bright objects were, as expected, easier to see than dark or dull ones, and have begun to explore the reasons behind these observations.

The children will be learning more about how light travels in straight lines from a light source, and is reflected from objects around us into our eyes, so that we are able to see them- correcting a common misconception among children, that light travels from our eyes to objects, to enable us to see them.



In this week's Art lesson, the children were challenged to work independently to produce their own space-themed artwork, based on the work of the Science fiction artists, we looked at earlier in the term (Peter Thorpe and John Conrad Berke). The children selected which medium they wished to use, from a range of materials, including pastels, paints and ink marbling, to create a background for their picture. They designed their own rockets or other spacecraft to display on these backgrounds.



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: If you could build your own castle to live in, what features would you be sure to include and why? Think about how your castle would be your home, so the location is important for protection, but it is also an opportunity to display your wealth.

Class 2: What makes a good poem? What is your favourite poem and why?

Key Dates

Spring Term 2018

27th March – Class 1 Castle Day see below for further information.

28th March – Easter Service at 9.15am.

29th March – Rock Stars Wear a Hat Day

Last Day of Spring Term: Thursday 29th March.

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

Class 1 Castle Day

Miss Harvey-Jones would like to invite all of the children in Class 1 to come to school wearing medieval costume/regal party outfits fit for a king, queen or knight on Tuesday 27th March to celebrate the end of our spring term topic. On the day, the children will have the opportunity to take part in a range of exciting medieval challenges both within the classroom, as well down at our Forest School area. Please do ensure that your child arrives at school with **sensible footwear and a warm, waterproof coat**. Maths, reading and literacy problem solving challenges will be carefully threaded into each task, allowing children to apply the skills learnt in the classroom to practical situations. Some of the exciting activities planned for the day include designing and building a medieval castle (complete with defensive features) out of biscuits, building and testing a model trebuchet, jousting, directing remote control horses and performing Kenn Nesbitt's poem entitled, "There's a dragon in the playground". Should you have any concerns regarding providing a costume for your child, please rest assured that we

have a number of outfits at school that can be adjusted to ensure that all children are able to participate in this aspect of the day.

Illness

A reminder that if your child has been ill with either sickness or diarrhoea, please ensure that your child remains at home for 48 hours after the last episode before returning to school.

Reading

As you are aware, this year, we have undertaken a number of activities aimed at promoting the value of reading, such as our sponsored read and book fair last term, and our World Book Day celebrations this term. We would like to encourage parents to continue to make it a priority to support your child in reading at home, on a regular basis. We encourage all the children to read for approximately 15 to 20 minutes each day, whether that be independently (once they are able) or with a parent, sibling or friend. While the children in Key Stage 2 may be more independent in their reading, even the most able readers in Key Stage 2 can benefit from sharing this experience with their parents. This might be through reading together, discussing what they have read to check they have properly understood it, researching and practising using unfamiliar vocabulary, discussing their reading preferences or simply encouraging them to persevere! This not only helps to improve their reading fluency and vocabulary acquisition, but will also support the children in developing their writing, from the first stages of understanding what a sentence is, to being able to use a broader, more sophisticated range of vocabulary and sentence structures in their writing.

With the challenges of modern life, we recognise that it can be a challenge for parents to sit and read with their children on a daily basis - or even for the children to find time to fit it in to their increasingly busy lives. However, we would like to take the opportunity to emphasise just how beneficial a daily habit of reading can be to your child's learning, right across the curriculum. If reading for 15-20 minutes is not possible, even 5 minutes is better than nothing! Little and often is better than not at all, and is often more achievable for children for whom reading is a challenge.

We would also like to thank parents for the support you do give towards helping your children to develop a love of reading, by taking an interest in what they are reading, supporting them in making appropriate book choices, listening to them read and helping them to develop a habit of regular reading. The one-to-one support that you are able to give them is invaluable. Keep at it!

Times Table Rock Stars

On Thursday 29th March, which is the last day of school this term, we are planning a special dress-up day in school in the style of 'Rock Stars'. We will be collecting donations in support of the Brain Tumour Research charity, for 'Wear a Hat' day – so please include a rock star hat or wig in your costume!

Collective Worship Activity

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



QUIZ The Stranger on the road was kind....

Change one letter in the word to answer the next clue.

The traveller was attacked as he walked along the ROAD

Watching from the rocks was a small creature like a frog _____

The Samaritan _____ the innkeeper to look after the man _____

The Samaritan acted with courage. He was _____

We sometimes talk about the _____ of friendship (rhymes with pond) _____

Wrap tightly with a bandage (rhymes with find) _____

The Samaritan in the story was _____

BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

The information below is a consultation document relating to changing the way we incorporate the pre-school into the school. At the moment it is classed as additional governor led provision. By changing the age range of the whole school to be 2-11, the pre-school can be managed as part of the whole school. This change is purely a technical one for school management. Nothing will change on a day to day basis for pupils or parents.

Consultation on Change of Age Range of Branscombe C of E Primary School

Proposal

Consultation on the change of age range from 4 -11 years to 2 to 11 years with effect from 19th April 2018

Background

The objective of the proposal is to fully incorporate the current governor led Foundation Stage Unit into the school by officially changing the age range of the school from 4 to 11 years to 2 to 11 years, thereby creating additional spaces for children aged 2-4 years within the School. There will be no change in the way the children are currently accommodated, with the 2 to 4 year olds being overseen by the Key Stage One teacher and organised within the Foundation Stage Unit and Key Stage One class.

Capital

No capital funding will be required by the School from Devon County Council. The increase will not affect the net capacity of the School, nor the Planned Admission Number and will not put pressure on existing classroom space.

The Process

All responses to this consultation will be considered and the timetable is as follows:

Consultation: 4 weeks (16.3.2018 – 13.04.2018)

Governing Body to consider responses received (18.04.18)

Proposed Implementation: (19.04.18 (NB – this is possible as no practical changes are required))

Responding to the consultation

You can respond to the consultation by writing to: The Chair of Governors

Contact address: C/O Branscombe C of E Primary School, Branascombe, Seaton, Devon, EX12 3DA

Emailing: clerk@branscombe.devon.gov.uk