

**BRANSCOMBE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
WITH LITTLE EXPLORERS' PRE-SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
4- 22/23
Friday 2nd December 2022**

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



The Branscombe Waves

Dear Parents,

As November draws to a close and the hectic month of December begins it's a great opportunity to look back on another very busy month. Earlier this month, the children had the opportunity to attend the Remembrance service outside St Winifred's church. Class 2 led parts of the service, remembering the people of Branscombe who had served the village during World War 1. They prepared readings and prayers and lead the reflections. They also performed the hymn, 'Peace, perfect peace', singing and playing this for those who gathered to share our act of Remembrance. Class 1 enjoyed watching this service, while the nursery children stayed in school, made their own poppies to wear and discussed what the different poppies stood for. They also watched Remembrance services from across the United Kingdom. They all did very well observing the 2 minutes' silence.



The children really enjoyed our 'Ready Steady Write' day. Class 1 joined Class 2 to explore the nursery rhyme 'Georgie Porgie Pudding and Pie'. As this special writing day fell within Anti-Bullying week, it offered a great opportunity to explore issues around bullying. Members of Class 2 acted out an interpretation of the nursery rhyme for Class 1 to observe. Class 1 were then interviewed by selected members of Class 2 who were 'reporters'. Class 2 then wrote a story, while Class 1 wrote eye witness accounts. In the afternoon, the children joined Class 2 again, to work in the knot teams to create anti-bullying posters which are now on display in the school. We were lucky enough to share these posters with parents during Friday's sharing assembly.

In addition to all this, the children had a 'Spotacular' Children in Need, where they were encouraged to wear something spotty. They have also begun to prepare for the nativity performance with many opportunities to practise songs.

Class 1 have just started their book 'Bringing the Rain to Kapatu Plain' which the children are enjoying. It also links nicely to their Science topic where they have been learning about different habitats and micro-habitats. Class 1 have been able to get outside (dashing between the rain!) and search the school grounds for creatures that live in micro-habitats and discover what conditions these creatures need live there. The children were also able to demonstrate their artistic skills, when drawing the habitats and the creatures found within them.

On 29th November, Class 1 from Branscombe C of E Primary School, Farway C of E Primary School, Broadhembury C of E Primary and Woodbury Salterton C of E Primary took part in a P.E. sporting event at Branscombe Village Hall. At the event, the children played lots of fun, team games which meant that they had to practise their skills of communication and teamwork as they were working, with children they hadn't met before. Sometimes they were in competition with each other or themselves. They also, played lots of fun games, which had them running, jumping, hopping, and moving around- sometimes working as a team

or alone. They all had a really fun day, there was lots of laughter and high fiving, they were all very tired by the time they got back to school!



In their Literacy work recently, the Class 2 children wrote a text of persuasive speeches or leaflets to accompany one of the World War II propaganda campaigns. Class 2 have also been busy in Design and Technology, making war-time recipes. Having made some delicious, seasonal apple and blackberry jam and researched fruits and vegetables that were seasonal at different times of year, the children turned their attention to cake. Last week, they made two sponge cakes, one with eggs (which were rationed during World War 2) and one using a wartime eggless recipe. The children enjoyed tasting the different recipes, filled, of course, with their own home-made jam.

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

Talking about Learning

When your child has had chance to process the day and is calm, maybe at dinner time. Please can you talk to your child about their learning. This could be done by asking what they have learnt? What lessons have you done today? What is the most interesting thing you've learnt? etc. In school we are working on the children being able to talk about their learning, retrieve information they have learnt and explain their thinking. The more practise they have at this the more it will help them. Thank you for your help with this, and they may share with you some of the great things they are doing each day.

Branscombe Waves

Class One:

Elysa - for trying her best in all that she does.

Ava – for persevering with her reading even when it's hard.

Jake - for working hard on his reading skills and sharing his ability.

Sasha - for marvellous maths!

Class Two:

Isla - for demonstrating great perseverance and managing distractions well to complete her work.

Sam - for working hard to catch up in Maths.

Barney - for an excellent guitar performance at Remembrance.

Sophia - for careful listening and good concentration.

Ben - for an excellent, well prepared 'Spot-tacular' presentation for Children in Need day.

Corey - for persevering with long division.

Dominic -for persevering with long division.

Olivia - for courage to face difficult conversations.

Question of the Month

Class One:

Where can we go to get good advice? Think of all the possible sources e.g. a parent.

Class Two:

For the sake of the planet, should more of us try to return to a diet of seasonal fruits and vegetables?

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed as a result of the Covid-19 crisis your child may have become eligible for free school meals. This will also bring extra funding to the school, which will be used to help your child. For an instant decision or to learn more please go online at <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>.

Key Dates – Autumn Term 2022

6th December - Year 5 and 6 Athletics at Honiton Community College.

6th December - Christingle 6.30pm at St Winifred's Church- all welcome.

14th December - Christmas play, 2pm at the Village Hall.

15th December - School Christmas Lunch and the Christmas party, organised by the PTFA.

16th December - Class 1 Carol Singing, 2.30pm in school and last day of term.

Tuesday 3rd January- Non-pupil day.

Wednesday 4th January - Children back to school.

9th January - Year 5 Sidmouth Science transition event.

13th January - Wassail celebration.


Wellbeing

There has been much press in recent months about children's mental health. As part of our drive to support this we are going to include something each month in the newsletter about Health and Wellbeing. We hope you find this section useful. If you have any topics you would like us to find some helpful tips about, please let us know.

Supporting children through difficult times can be challenging, ChildLine's website is aimed at children under 12 and provides age appropriate information on topics including bullying, family, friends, feelings, school, abuse and staying safe. It includes games and therapeutic tools for children to play and express how they are feeling. Please follow the website address below to access the information. <https://www.childline.org.uk/kids>

Collective Worship Activity

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




FAMILY FOCUS

Building a Wall of Wisdom

Everyone has a favourite proverb or wise saying. Talk to family members about proverbs that they think give **wise** advice. Ask them to explain the meaning of the proverb and add it to a 'wall of **wisdom**'.

Build your wall by writing each proverb on a 'brick' cut out of paper. Blu-tack the bricks on to a wall.

You can find lots of proverbs on www.phrases.org.uk



To start you off here three well-known proverbs:

- "A chain is only as strong as the weakest link"
- "Many hands make light work"
- "Don't count your chickens before they hatch"