

JULY 2019



Headteacher's Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well, we have reached the end of another fantastic year of learning and progress for our children at Bransgore. Thanks so much to everyone who has made our school a wonderful place to learn and grow. Thanks so much to our teachers who work so hard to provide the best for our pupils and to our support staff who help our most vulnerable children, clean, cook, keep the site safe and manage the administration of school. Thanks also to you, the parents and governors for giving up time to volunteer to help us teach, accompany us on trips and sports events, encourage your children and visit for special events. Finally, thank you to our fabulous and amazing children who come to school every day, do their best, look after each other and learn and grow before our eyes. It is a genuine joy to be around them all. Thanks to everyone for the part you play in making our school amazing!

Goodbye and Hello!

As always at this time of year we have staff coming in to our school ready for September and we have others leaving us.

Mrs. Graves will be leaving us at the end of this week. She is moving away from the area and we wish her all the very best in her exciting new adventure in the North. Mrs. Graves is an incredibly kind and creative teacher who has always delivered brilliant learning experiences for our children in a calm, gentle and precise way. As a result she has always managed to develop our most able pupils but also those who find learning a challenge. You will be missed Mrs. Graves.

Also leaving us will be two of our most experienced teaching assistants. Mrs. Halls who has served our school as a TA and later an HLTA for almost 20 years left us at the end of June. She had such warmth and care for the children as well as fantastic awareness of individual needs and an excellent grasp of French. Thank you Mrs. Halls.

Mrs. Couchman has been with us for 22 years and has seen many changes in our school over the time. She has cared for our youngest children and helped them develop their early literacy and number skills as well as supporting our struggling pupils with additional catch up support. Thank you Mrs. Couchman. It is impossible to replace such experience and these two legends of our school will leave a big hole in September.

Finally, our NQT, Miss. Cambridge, has completed her maternity cover for Mrs. Robertson who has now returned to work.

Miss. Cambridge has a new post in Greenwich where she will be teaching a Year 1 class. Miss. Cambridge has been a lovely teacher to her pupils this year and we wish her well in her new job. Replacing these staff we have Mrs. Kirby who will work in Giraffes class alongside Mrs. Robertson in a job share. Mrs. Kirby was a SCITT trainee and she already knows the school really well having worked closely with Mr. Richards this academic year.

We also have some new helpers as TAs and Breakfast and After School Club Helpers. We have two new teaching assistants in Mrs. Todman and Mrs. Collins who will be a huge boost in Jungle Team. Miss. Lloyd and Mrs. Thomas will be joining us to help support the running of Breakfast and After School Clubs. We welcome you all to our school and look forward to working with you in September.

Parental Survey

We would really appreciate it if you would be kind enough to complete our parental survey. We value your input and we really do try to act on your comments and suggestions and it also helps us plan for the future and evaluate what is working or not working so well. The survey can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XNWGYBK>. Please complete the survey as we want the most comprehensive and balanced picture of our school. If you only have positive things to say, please fill in the survey because sometimes we can get the impression that things need to improve because happy and contented parents tend to be less likely to complete a survey! Whatever your views about school we really want to hear them. The survey will be open over the whole summer and will close on Friday 6th September 2019.



Parking

Thank you for being helpful and parking more considerately in the church car park after school and also in the pub car park. We are really grateful to have use of these extra parking facilities but they are granted by

consent and kindness and they could be withdrawn if we are not respectful in our use of them so it is great to see parents trying to park in the marked bays.

SCHOOL LUNCH PRICE INCREASE- Reminder that from September 2019 the cost of a school lunch increases to £2.40.

Late Payments!

A gentle reminder to please pay invoices at the beginning of each term, the office team are having to spend far too much time debt collecting!

PLEASE NAME LABEL ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING, WATER BOTTLES, LUNCH BOXES & SHOES!!!! The amount of unnamed lost property that ends up in the foyer is crazy!



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Keep the skills sharp

Six weeks off school is a long time so if possible could all children do 10 minutes of reading per day and learn their times tables and number facts. Any learning around time or units of measure is also really helpful. Pupils might like to keep a diary of their summer learning. If you have been asked to do a home learning project, please support your little one to join in so that their new topics get off to a flying start in September. Don't forget the library service reading challenge as well. It's a great way to encourage the children to engage in reading for pleasure. Some children need a little additional support because they are not quite where they should be by the end of the year in their reading, writing or maths. Teachers are directed to plan transition work to support these children to catch up as they move to their new year groups. If your little one is sent home with this type of work, please complete it to the best of your ability with your child, it will make such a difference. Thanks so much for your support.



Key Stage 1 and 2 SATS

Key Stage 1:

Subject	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: Bransgore School	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: nationally
English reading	83%	75%
English writing	72%	69%
Mathematics	80%	76%
Science	74%	82%

Well done to all our Year 2 children !

Key Stage 2:

Subject	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: Bransgore school	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: nationally	Average scaled score: Bransgore school	Average scaled score: nationally
English reading	90%	73%	108	104
English grammar, punctuation and spelling	94%	78%	109	106
Mathematics	92%	79%	108	105
English writing (teacher assessment)	90%	78%	N/A	N/A
Science (teacher assessment)	90%	82% (2018)	N/A	N/A



Congratulations to our Year 6 pupils on their amazing results – we are so proud of you all. We wish them all the best at their new secondary schools.

Story Writing Competition

Children can do the online lessons with a parent and then have a go at writing an adventure story based on an amazing rail journey. The competition is sponsored by GWR and there are some lovely prizes. Once the story is written you can post it off using the entry form. I think it might keep the kids busy for an hour over the holidays, especially if you get a rainy day! Here is the link!

https://www.younggreatwesterners.com/teacher/storytelling-adventures?utm_source=NSP&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=GWR4&utm_content=GWR4-008&dm_i=4C71,F7GE,235FTU,2KMEB,1

Dates for your diary:

Thurs 5th Sept- Children return to school

Tues 10th Sept -Foundation children start school



Finally, thank you for being a brilliant community and for all you do to support our school, for the beautiful cards and words of support you have sent to us. They mean so very much. We asked you not to buy gifts but some of you flouted our rules and bought us gifts anyway or baked amazing cakes. We would never expect any of this but it is greatly appreciated. I hope that you all have a happy, safe, fun and sunny summer!

Paul Brown - Head Teacher

