



Newsletter October 2014

We have had such a busy time in school that September has flown by and we now find ourselves at the start of October! We have had such lovely weather that we have been out and about enjoying the school field and making the most of the sunshine. Our hens are laying and providing us with lots of lovely eggs too! We have even had a monster egg weighing in at an incredible 125g, a standard egg from our hens weighing about 57g!

Nursery lunch time collection

We have reorganised our lunchtimes and are finding that our nursery children are now finishing their lunches more quickly. Could we please ask that the adults collecting our nursery children come to school for 12.30, returning to the original time?

Harvest Festival

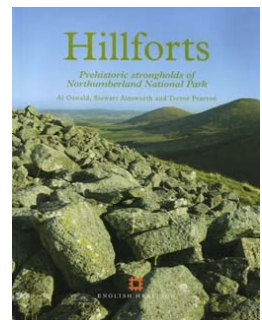


Our Harvest Festival will take place this Thursday 2nd October at 10am in Ingram Church. We have arranged with our nursery parents to meet us there in time to get into our places. This year we are asking for donations of tins, packets and boxes, non-perishable items, that we will leave as our contribution to the Ingram Church Harvest Service on Sunday 12th October. We look forward to seeing you there!

Our 'Goslings', the parent and toddler group will take place as usual on this day, from 9.30—11.00 am, Mrs McCann will be in school to welcome you.

Hill Fort Visit

On Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th October Our children from Reception to Year 4 will be working with Krissy Moore, a community archaeologist, looking at the hill forts in our local area. On Tuesday morning our children will be going to visit the hill forts, starting from Bulby's Wood, so will need suitable clothing and footwear on that day. We will return to school for lunch. More information about the Hill Forts is available at <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/research/landscapes-and-areas/protected-landscapes/other-projects/northumberland-hillforts/>



Earth Magic

On Thursday 9th October our year 2, 3 and 4 children will be working with Netherton and Harbottle First schools on Earth Magic. This is a learning experience led by Bruce Ferguson. This will be a whole day visit and we will be based at Ingram Hall for the day with a variety of activities for the children to take part in. We will leave school at approximately 9.30 and be back in school at about 2.45pm. Children will need to be appropriately dressed for a full day of outdoor activities. As the three schools will be taking part we ask that our children all wear their school sweatshirts or cardigans for easy identification.

Please return the permission slip attached for both visits.

Visit to Amble First School

On Monday 13th October We will be visiting Amble First School on Edwin Street in Amble. This visit allows us to visit a contrasting locality, where the children will have different experiences and develop understanding of diversity within our county. We will leave school as soon after 9 am as we can and return for the end of the school day. We will spend the morning in school with children of the same age group, supervised at all times by Branton staff, and then have an opportunity to explore a little of Amble in the afternoon. All children will need to wear their school uniform on this day. If nursery parents wish to take up the offered alternate session, could they please let Mrs McCann know by Friday 10th October.



Swimming

Swimming has been a real success and our children are enjoying their lessons at Rothbury pool. Swimming costs are now £3.50 per week. If requested, Mrs McCann can arrange a half termly bill, otherwise swimming money is collected on a Monday morning with Dinner money.

Friends of Branton First School

Our PTA held their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 23rd September. The following people agreed to take up posts on the committee for this year, Mrs Abi Wilson will continue as Chair, Mrs Coco Oates will be secretary and Mrs Helen Cowens will be Treasurer. Everyone is welcome to attend any of the meetings or even send suggestions into school to pass on if you are unable to attend. We know they have lots of plans for activities in the coming months so keep an eye out for any letters detailing events.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

A huge thank you for all the donations of cakes for our coffee morning last Friday. We are so fortunate to be well supported and we raised an amazing **£307.05** for Macmillan!



Morrison's Let's Grow Vouchers

We are collecting the Morrison's Let's Grow vouchers again this year, they will be given out up to 26th October and we need to send them to Morrison's by the end of November to redeem for items for school. The Sainsbury's Active kids vouchers were a big success and we were able to exchange our vouchers for some lovely equipment for the children to use, so we are hoping the Morrison's vouchers are just as successful!

Further dates for your diary

Thursday 23rd October Sharing assembly and coffee morning, everyone welcome! 10 am start. School will close at 3.15pm as usual (sorry, not 3.30pm as in last months newsletter!) for half term and reopen on Monday 3rd November at 9 am.

Friday 24th October Alnwick Partnership Training Day so school will be closed to all children.

The Branton First School team

Find us at www.branton.northumberland.sch.uk

Parental Consent Form for Outdoor activity days October 2014

I give consent for my child / children
to take part in the activities below.

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Earth Magic Day Thursday 9th October (Years 2, 3 and 4)

Signed Date

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