



Seaton Primary School

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Head : Mr Nic George



“Caring now, for the future of our community, those in need, our lifestyles, one another, our education and the future itself”

NEWSLETTER

9th March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have managed to get through a full week at school without any major disruptions! I have to admit that last week was pretty unusual to say the least. Being a keen windsurfer I am pretty much up to date with the weather but I have to say for at least six days I was glued to the BBC and Met Office forecasting apps on my phone. At times these didn't tally very well which was pretty frustrating and makes decisions very hard to make. However, we made the right calls with the snow coming in late on Thursday morning and by the end of lunch time East Devon had ground to a halt with many abandoned cars littering the roads. Our Year 6 teachers and pupils on residential near Weymouth managed really well and had an extended stay until Saturday lunchtime until the roads were safe to travel on again. Many thanks to the school and PGL staff plus the coach company for all their efforts and good sense. Lots of parents came to see me regarding how effective 'parent mail' was and I'm glad we managed to keep you up to date. On days like these, local staff who can walk to school do manage to make it in so we can pick up any messages or check emails. I am now on the lookout for burst pipes!

STAFFING

In September 2018 Mr Lewis (Year 4 teacher / Phase Leader) will be seconded for one whole year to work across all four schools in the Axe Beacon Federation in order to enable us to meet the new data protection regulations coming in. The way we hold all information will need to change and this is a substantial job to say the least. He will also be working on the purchasing and installing of new IT systems to support staff and pupils' learning. Alongside this he has been asked to act as a specialist ICT teacher / training officer for all the schools and I'm sure that his skills as a specialist music teacher will also be utilised! This secondment is for one year and while Mr Lewis is undertaking this new role his teaching commitments will be taken on by Miss Hollie Flemming. When Mr Lewis eventually returns to Seaton Primary School as a class teacher in September 2019 he will continue to be the Data Protection Officer / ICT specialist for the Axe Beacon Federation. We now have an opening for a new Lower Junior Leader / Teacher as of September 2018. This post has now been advertised and we are aiming to interview on Wednesday 18th April.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

As part of our work on school improvement we have been working closely with Primary Support Officers from Devon County Council over the last few weeks to help us to reflect on the various roles leaders undertake across the school. This has been really useful and helped sharpen our focus even further. We have a keen, dedicated staff here at Seaton Primary School with our results for pupils currently very good but we are not complacent at all. Our last OFSTED inspection was in 2012 which is quite a while ago but the local education authority have offered us the chance to undertake a mock inspection a week today so we have grasped that opportunity. It won't quite cover all the aspects of an OFSTED inspection but it is an exciting opportunity and I know we will have a very positive outcome.



TERRIFIC SCIENTIFIC

Our school has been actively taking part in the BBC's 'Terrific Scientific' initiative. Our pupils joined in with others from across the country to undertake a series of investigations. These took the form of undertaking how exercise can improve on cognitive function and memory, how electricity is produced and testing how flexible we are. Many thanks to Dr Trew for leading this with Years 5 and 6. The pupils had a really great time and learnt so much from this hands on approach.

FOSSILS

Many thanks to the Year 3 staff for organising the recent visit to Charmouth Heritage Centre. Unfortunately they didn't find a plesiosaurus but the ammonite fossils on the beach were very exciting still! Everyone came back laden down and all the wiser.

PTA THANK YOU

The PTA would like to thank Kim Abbott for her generous donation of polystyrene cups. These will be used at the refreshment stand for upcoming PTA events, including the Science Fair, Easter Assembly and Summer Fete.

FOUNDATION & KEY STAGE ONE EASTER ASSEMBLY

Parents of children in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2 are invited to an Easter Assembly on the last day of term (Wednesday 28th March) starting at 9.15am. This will be a chance for the children to share the work they have been doing this term as well as some Easter songs. The PTA will be providing tea and coffee upon arrival, as well as an Easter raffle.

FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER WORKSHOPS

Gerry Fry, our family support worker is running two workshops this term.

13th March on Managing Tantrums

20th March on Children's Self Esteem.

Please ring 07496398656 for further details.

SEATON'S BIG CLEAN

Seaton's Big Clean takes place on Saturday 10th March from 10.30am to 12 noon. Please come along and volunteer. Meet at Pebbles café. Prizes for the youngest and oldest volunteers plus volunteers receive a free coffee after the clean-up.

JUNIOR GRIZFEST

The Grizzly is fast approaching (17th & 18th March) and there's an opportunity for youngsters to get involved too by taking part in the Junior Grizfest. Entry forms will be handed out on Monday and Wednesday after school from 3pm so please make sure you pick one up from Mrs Grigg if you want to take part. Mrs Grigg will be wearing her Grizfest support t-shirt so you'll be able to spot her. Children can take part in a choice of races

2k Fun Run for under 8's starting at 2pm

2k Junior Cub for aged 8-11 (primary school yrs 3-6) starting at 2.45pm

4K Junior Grizzly for over 11's (no upper age limit) starting at 3.15pm

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We have a significant number of families who are entitled to free school meals. If you fit the criteria then not only will your child receive a free school meal but the school gains a whopping £1320 towards supporting your child's education. This can also help pay towards trips, uniform, clubs etc and many families have seen the benefits of it. If you think you may be entitled then please log on to the Devon County Council Citizen Portal.

STAFF VACANCIES

We are still looking for casual meal time assistants, kitchen assistants and cleaners who are willing to help us cover sickness and other short notice absences. Mealtime assistant hours are **12.15pm to 1.30pm**, kitchen hours will vary but are mornings and cleaning is for 2 hours after school. If you are able to help us out, please pop in to the office, phone or email to register your interest. (Hourly rate of £7.78 per hour). Casual hours often lead to permanent positions.

SICKNESS & DIARRHOEA

If your child suffers with sickness and diarrhoea please remember to keep them off school for 48 hours after the last incident to prevent the spread of the infection.



ABSENCES

Parents and carers are reminded to contact the school by **9.30am** if their child is going to be absent from school due to illness. Please use the Parentmail app, leave a message on the answerphone (01297 20922) or email admin@seatonprimary.org.uk. If your child has an appointment that you know about in advance, please ensure you have informed the office. Please do not rely on children to pass on messages - instead please write a short note to the office staff or let us know by phone or in person at the counter. The school has a duty of care to know the whereabouts of children and when we have not been informed of the reason for a child's absence the office staff have had to spend a great deal of time phoning various contact numbers to find out why a child is missing from school.

NUTS – ALL YEAR GROUPS May we respectfully ask parents NOT to provide their child with nuts for their mid-morning snack or lunch as some children have severe nut allergies.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 19 th March	Reception Parent Involvement morning 9 to 11am.
Wednesday 21 st March	Year 3 & 4 Play 6pm (Further details to follow)
Thursday 22 nd March	Year 3 & 4 Play 2pm & 6pm (Further details to follow)
Wednesday 28 th March	Easter Assembly for Rec, year 1 & year 2
	Break up for Easter. (Normal time).
Tuesday 17 th April	Children return to school
Monday 7 th May	Bank Holiday – school shut
Week Commencing 14 th May	Year 6 SATS week
Friday 18 th May 2018	School Photographer in school to take class group photos
Friday 25 th May	School closed
Mon 28 th May to Fri 1 st JUNE	Half term
Monday 4 th JUNE	School closed (training day)
Tuesday 5 th JUNE	Children return to school
Saturday 7 th July	Summer Fete 11am to 3pm
Friday 27 th July	Break up for summer holidays

Best wishes,
Nic George

