



Seaton Primary School

Valley View, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2HF

Tel: 01297 20922

www.seaton-primary.devon.sch.uk

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

3rd April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Even though we are partially closed, I am going to try and keep the weekly newsletter coming to you each Friday. I feel it is important to keep you all up to date and to reassure you that we are still very much here, working either in school or at home.

STAFFING

Mrs Maeve Kay our Special Education Needs Co-ordinator, will be starting her maternity leave soon, her last working day will be Thursday 30th April. Her role will be taken over by Mr Ed Hunt for the period she is on leave. Mr Hunt has covered Mrs Kay for this role before and knows our families and the workings of SEN very well.

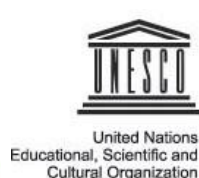
At the end of the summer term, Miss Lucy Wilkinson (Year 1) will also be going on maternity leave. I wish both staff the very best for the future and I will update you when I get some further news.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN SCHOOL

In the last two weeks we have had to reinvent the school. This has involved –

- Offering child care to a restricted number pupils
- Setting up new staff rotas during holiday and term time
- Introduce a whole new range of policies and recording methods from central Government and the County Council
- Formulate and adhere to new health and safety guidelines
- Start setting out the future methods to ensure children continue to learn
- Keeping in touch with a number of families who have special circumstances on a regular basis

Going forward there are many other things that we need to consider, that would have normally been done in school with the children and staff working together. This presents a range of



challenges and again we will have to go about things very differently as the summer term progresses.

HOMELEARNING

This week the school staff, have been hard at working looking at various home learning proposals and platforms. Our preferred one is 'Google Classroom.' You will be receiving lots more information about this in the very near future, including the guidelines in regard to how we are arranging learning. These are the main principles we are working on for home learning going forward –

- Provide a safe and secure online learning environment
- Ensure that fundamental learning activities are provided for home learning each week – especially within the core areas of English and maths
- Provide opportunities for extended learning
- Provide a learning opportunity linked to a topic each week

What we are not going to do is overawe you on a daily or weekly basis. We have taken into account a number of things here in supporting both you and our staff going forward. We appreciate that all parents and carers (including teachers and other school staff) are having to live and work under completely new circumstances. Many of you at home with the children 24/7 are having to juggle a whole range of roles all at once e.g. parent, cook, cleaner, worker, educator, friend, carer, etc... This is not an easy task and we appreciate that a fair and workable balance has to be struck between all these roles.

3DChild

We are all adjusting to the changes in our normal life, brought through the challenges of coronavirus. Longer times spent at home and children being more restricted in expending their energy can bring challenges. It may be helpful to remind children of the **3D** Child facets, aiming to get a balance of different types of activities across the day or week, helping to reduce boredom and frustration. Ideas to help have recently been updated on the <http://3dchild.uk/home.html> web page.

Mr S Lewis

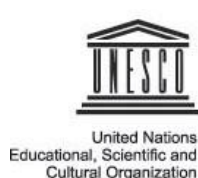
FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS

We have recently been sent information on the new government free school meal voucher scheme. We are currently in the process of setting this up and will have more information for those families in receipt of this shortly. It means that schools can now provide every eligible child with a weekly shopping voucher to spend at supermarkets while schools are closed due to coronavirus.

Parents will receive the voucher through school, which can then be redeemed online via a code, or sent to their house as a gift card and used at a participating supermarket convenient to you. Once this has been sent out, we will update those families.

Competition Time!

The participation team from the County Council are offering an art competition each week to all children in care and care leavers. This week's theme is **Garden**. Young people can do anything creative this includes: drawing, painting, photography, poetry and junk modelling. To enter the competition please email a picture of what they have done with the young person's name and age to participation@devon.gov.uk The entries will be shared on the SuSu Instagram page (so please avoid photos of faces) and we will contact the winner by email. **Follow us on**



instagram@standupspeak. Although we may not be able to send the prize straight away, we will make sure that we will send it when it is safe to do so.

Guidance for parents and carers: keeping children safe online

The Government has updated its information for parents and carers to include a section on keeping children safe online. It provides links to online resources that will help support parents and carers in keeping their children safe online.

Full details can be found in section 6.3 of the guidance for parents and carers on the closure of educational settings:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>

Lastly I hope I find you all as well as can be during this turbulent and unsettling time. Thank you for your patience, I have just heard that a number of parents have had a whip round and bought the staff some goodies to see us through! Your kind words and gifts are much appreciated by all the Seaton Primary School staff.

Best wishes,
Nic George
Head of School

