



Seaton Primary School

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

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Head of School: Nic George

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01.05.20

Dear parents and carers,

We come to the end of another week. I am sure all of you are following the news at present and realise there is no ease up in the lock down at all. The Government has announced that schools would likely to have a phased return but there is no indication when that might start. The term ‘phased’ return could mean a number of things – some year groups, part of year groups, part time timetables etc. It certainly won’t mean opening the door again for all on a set Monday morning. There are lots of things to consider e.g. availability of staff, the physical space, supplies, social distancing etc. It is unlikely to be a straight forward process even though I wish it could be! We will wait to see what the government announces over the forthcoming weeks and what this means for Seaton Primary School.

STAFF VIDEOS

A number of staff have made short and quirky ‘hello’ videos for the children to watch. We are currently editing them but they will be out soon!

HOME LEARNING

Many thanks for the many positive messages we have received about our home learning approach. There have also been a number of good suggestions sent into us, especially in relation to teacher comments. We would very much welcome your feedback as to how this is working for you and your child/children, please send this to homelearning@seatonprimary.org.uk. You can also contact us for support with Google classroom through the following emails: passwordrecovery@seatonprimary.org.uk – for lost or forgotten usernames or passwords technicalsupport@seatonprimary.org.uk – queries regarding accessing the site activitiesupport@seatonprimary.org.uk – questions about the school work that has been set

SEN LEARNING SUPPORT

In relation to specific learning support Maeve Kay and Ed Hunt have been providing lots of useful pointers for parents. We also have a whole team of staff contacting various families throughout each week and teachers have been keeping in touch too.

The link below has been designed to support children in these uncertain times on the autistic spectrum but there are many useful resources on here that would support all children.

<https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/autistic-spectrum-disorder/>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-with-send-continue-their-education-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

MATERNITY LEAVE

Maeve Kay is now on maternity leave and Ed Hunt will officially take over her role as SENCo from Monday. We hope that she has a chance to relax and enjoy this precious time, we wish her and her family all the very best.

ONLINE USE AND SAFETY

Whilst the children are at home and using the internet for learning and playing we thought it would be good to share some useful resources to support families with internet usage.

Please see these links below - they contain sections for you as a parent and also children’s sections to explore. There is useful advice regarding apps and age limits of apps which are often not well published.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://swgfl.org.uk/resources/online-safety-guidance-for-parents/>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/How-can-CEOP-help-me-YP/>



<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

I would also recommend these videos from NSPCC

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T9LHeHuVFWo&feature=youtu.be> - Be Share Aware

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGIEKGJRWEo&feature=youtu.be> - Safety Advice from a 10 Year Old

We also have an online safety area and safeguarding section on our school website for more information.

Annie Eriksson (Assistant Head)

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHER SCHEME

Many families have now been set up with the Government Free School Meal Voucher Scheme, this is through a company called Edenred UK. Due to the exceptionally high demand, there are long delays with receiving eCodes and redeeming vouchers. There have also been a number of instances where their website has crashed due to the high volume of people trying to access it, both school administrators and parents. Please allow a few days before receiving your eCode, once you receive it, there is another waiting period to redeem it. If you are still having difficulty redeeming it then please go onto **edenred online ordering** and click on **Free School Meal vouchers**, here you will see a tab enabling you to **redeem** your voucher. You will then be taken to their website and placed in a queue, or to avoid the long wait, please visit their website at less busier times (normally evenings). If you do need further advice on receiving your eCode, I can try and help with this, however I am unable to speed up the process of receiving them. There is also an email address that you can contact them on - freeschoolmealsparentscarers@edenred.com

ELIGIBILITY

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, many families are now struggling financially due to being furloughed or not having any work. This means that more families are now entitled to **Free School Meals** as a result of this. If you think that your child/children may now be entitled to Free School Meals, then please click on the link below for more information on eligibility and how to apply.

<https://www.devonnewscentre.info/families-urged-to-check-if-their-children-are-eligible-for-free-school-meals/>

Once we receive confirmation that you are eligible, I will then be able to add you to the Government Free School Meal Voucher Scheme.

Cath Brenton (School Administrator)

AFRICAN SAFARI LIVE

Join expert-hosted live safari in the heart of the African wilderness. Children (and adults!) can experience one of the most beautiful places on Earth and interact with the animal experts in real time. Live tours run twice a day and you might spot elephants, leopards, lions, cheetah, hippo and much more! For more details visit: <https://wildearth.tv/kids/>



Kids – WildEarth

Connecting kids with nature Inspiring the next generation of conservation ambassadors Book A Free Session What we do We take kids ages 4-18 on free, live and interactive safari experiences, transporting them from wherever they are

wildearth.tv

Or Facebook: safariLIVE

THINGS I'VE NOTICED THIS WEEK

- My neighbour has not run out of DIY jobs as I thought – he has re-felted his garden shed
- Seagulls are nesting on at least three houses down my road including mine
- A Jaffa Cake has 1g of fat in it – I am trying to cut down
- Grayson Perry is a brilliant artist and his Channel 4 series 'Art Club' is well worth watching
- The electric bike is a brilliant form of efficient transport (I tried one this week)



RECIPE

Many of us are taking to home baking with the children. Try our family favourite if you get a chance – The humble Welsh Cake. There are lots of recipes out there and they are great fun to make with the children (very tasty too).

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/welsh-cakes>

Ingredients –

225g of plain flour

85g of caster sugar

Half a teaspoon of mixed spice

Half a tea spoon of baking powder

50g of butter

50g of currents or sultanas

1 egg

A splash of milk

BALANCING LIFE, FAMILY AND WORK

What a highly bizarre time we are living through. The adjustments we are having to make are considerable to say the least. Individual circumstances vary greatly and that certainly effects how straight forward individual lives are at present. Many of us are having to work remotely while juggling family members around us, some of whom are vulnerable. Others are self-isolating at home or even self-isolating within the work place. We are also having to get used to social distancing when out and about etc. Life is far from normal and we are having to create a new 'normal' as we come to accept that things are not going to go back to normal quickly. The day can go slow at times, but make sure you make time to look forward to little things that might have seemed less significant in the past. Acceptance is an importance part of overcoming initial frustrations I suppose, and at that point we find new ways to go forward to meet this new norm. Along with this, patience has to overcome frustration in order to keep an even keel in life.

I wish everyone a happy safe weekend. Try and get some fresh air and exercise in and try something new!

Nic George

Head of School

