



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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NEWSLETTER and UPDATE

12.6.2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We come to the end of another week at school and the very successful integration of a number of Year 1 pupils back into school life. We have Year 6 pupils returning next Monday and at that point we will feel quite different than we have been for the last few months. The routines we have established have worked well. We have had to make a few minor adjustments but that is to be expected once the children are in situ. The Re-Opening Video had well over 560 hits over last weekend and many parents said it gave both them and their children confidence.

The Government has announced this week that their ambition to have all children returning by the end of this academic year is unrealistic, especially under the current rules / guidelines. These would have to change considerably before further years can be safely allowed back into school. We did notice last week that when we re-organised the classrooms and spaced the desks out, that some could not accommodate the maximum number of 15 pupils. So some pods have had to be smaller than we first anticipated but the staffing of the pod still needs to be maintained.

Parents expressing an interest in their children returning to school have been informed that we have started a **waiting list**. We need to consider **how** and **if** we can accommodate further pupils. We are reviewing this every two weeks at present I need also to say that we are **not back up to full staffing at present**.

ESSENTIAL WORKERS' PUPILS

This group has grown over the last two weeks. Presently we can accommodate **15 reception / Y1 pupils** and **30 Key Stage 2** children on any given day. Every parent who has signed up to one of these groups **MUST now say what days they want their child to attend right until the end of term**. We need these numbers firmed up by Tuesday of next week please. Administering these groups is becoming harder and harder so we need to know ASAP.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

This week, staff training has focused on the new 'Relationships, Sex and Health Education' syllabus which the Government wants in place by September. Parents will receive further information about this from school but here is a link from the Government for parents to view –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-sex-and-health-education-guides-for-schools>

Looking Forward to September - REMINDER

As per last week we are working hard behind the scenes in readiness for September. This includes staffing, school projects and teaching / learning initiatives. We are focusing on how to successfully support pupils moving forward given the lock down and loss of a considerable amount of normal schooling.



Every teacher will need to know where their pupils are within their learning and their level of maturity. A clear starting point will need to be established to help plan all children's future learning. Each teacher will assess their children very early on in the term and plan very carefully to ensure that any gaps are filled.

Please feel assured that Seaton Primary has this firmly in its mind and we fully appreciate that lock down will have had a range effects on pupils when they return.

LEARNING

This week we have been reviewing home learning and learning that takes place within school. We are hoping to run a series of projects for pupils both in school and at home to participate in. Teachers are also being asked to look at a variety of ways of keeping in touch with pupils through the virtual. We have already produced a number of videos for our YOUTUBE channel and google classroom and these have been very well received and there is further work to come.

PUPIL MEDICAL LIST

Last week I wrote to you about how we are updating our medical list. We have a comprehensive list in school of pupils with medical needs, food allergies etc.

We are continuing update this list. If your child has developed any new conditions or has a change in an existing condition over the lock down period, then we need to know what they are so we can update our records. Please email Cath in the office on admin@seatonprimary.org.uk ASAP.

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, if you do need any help with accessing your eCode then please do get in touch.

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/>

If you feel you may need some help with how to apply, then please do contact the office.

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

THINGS I HAVE NOTICED THIS WEEK

- My neighbour's camper van door has sprung a leak and he has excess runner bean plants from his garden
- I am having limited success in growing sun flowers with 3 out of 10 seeds germinated
- Road works are abundant
- The sea feels colder this week (though it probably isn't)
- My wife is a far better runner than me
- There is a call for second hand camping equipment
- There is little point in trying to maintain the grass in my garden. The dry weather, dog and children have won the battle!
- This is the longest I have ever gone without a hair cut!

STAFF VIDEOS

Roald Dahl is known for his fiction books but he also wrote many memorable poems. This week's poem is 'The Lion' which is featured in his book 'Dirty Beasts.' The video will be out on the weekend due to a production issue (lack of face paints). I do hope you enjoy it when it is released.

THE EVIL PEA READS ANOTHER SUPERTATO STORY...

Veggies in the Valley of Doom

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ENLzEniL600>



My very best wishes to you all and stay safe.

Nic George

Head of School

