



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

19.6.2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we had the successful integration of Year 6 back into school. They have settled back in really well and also managed to follow all the new rules. Next week Year 1 and 6 pupils will be having 4 full days back in school and this will continue until the end of term.

There are some important points for you to absorb in this newsletter going forward, so please have a good read.

GOVERNORS

The Governors of the Axe Beacon Federation are working hard with a number of items at the moment. They have set an individual school budget for Seaton and have co-opted several Seaton parents to help with the process of moving from de-federation, to going forward with Seaton Primary having its own governing body. This is a really important and exciting move for Seaton Primary School.

PODS and GROUPS

Parents who are expressing an interest in their children returning to school have been informed that we have now started a **waiting list**. There are no guarantees that we can from now on accommodate all 'essential workers' children, due to the increased demand for spaces.

It is clear now, that we will **not be back to full staffing this year** with the current restrictions in place **and this has a direct effect on the number of pods we can run within the school**. Yesterday we reviewed the pods that we are currently running within school. In the light of an **increased demand** for essential workers' children to return or existing needing additional hours to meet increased work demands, and more vulnerable children requiring school places, we have to provide additional pods to meet this. At that point we are at our maximum capacity which reflects our risk assessments. **We foresee no further pods opening this term under the current rules.**

Very recently you would have received a letter from Dawn Stabb (Head of Education and Learning) outlining that similar patterns are occurring across Devon. The Government's priority is to place vulnerable children and those of keyworkers as priority groups for those attending school. Some schools have reached capacity with these children alone and are no longer able to make an offer to wider year groups. Seaton has managed to make an offer for Years 1 and 6 but it still leaves me feeling frustrated in many respects. I know that we have done all that we can to accommodate as many pupils as possible especially given the restrictions and rules we



have had to adhere to. Safety underpins in every decision we have had to undertake over the last 3 to 4 months.

The situation we face is far from ideal and I fully understand that.

Seaton staff will continue to provide home learning for all those children who will still not be in school until the end of term. During this unprecedented time I have always aimed to be open with our school community in order to keep you fully informed. I am really hoping that September is a fresh start and we can welcome back all our pupils.

Seaton Primary School requires a **School Kitchen Manager**

This is a permanent job. Grade E: (£23369-£26317 pro-rata, £12.11 - £13.64 per hour pay award pending)

Hours per week: **30** Weeks per year: **40**

For an application, please visit our website at <http://seatonprimary.org.uk> to download an application pack.

All applications to be completed on the DCC application form. CVs will not be accepted. Completed forms should be sent to admin@seatonprimary.org.uk. Closing date: **Noon, 1st July 2020**

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEPTEMBER

In the news there has been a great deal of discussion about schools starting back in September and what that might look like. Nothing has been confirmed as yet from the government and we await further instruction. However, yesterday the Government announced a substantial finance package to support pupils and to help them catch up on their missed education

We are working hard behind the scenes in readiness for September. 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 our children's future learning. Each teacher will assess their children at the start and plan very carefully to ensure that any gaps are filled.

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 to update this list. If your child has developed any new conditions or has had 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

MARCUS RASHFORD – FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Many of you will have heard this in the news regarding Marcus Rashford. The Manchester United star has campaigned for the Government to agree to fund **free school meal vouchers** in the summer holidays, please click on the link below for the full interview that he did with the BBC.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-53065806>

ELIGIBILITY

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, more families are now entitled to free school meals. If you think that your child/children may now be entitled, then please click on the link below for more information on eligibility and how to apply. Once we receive confirmation that you are eligible, we will then be able to add you to the Government Free School Meal Voucher Scheme.

<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 contact the school office.



THINGS I HAVE NOTICED THIS WEEK

- I am envious of my neighbour's new hedge trimmer – it's so much faster than my set of shears
- Walking over pebbles in bare feet is a painful experience!
- My three sun flowers are beginning to shoot up
- Peco make model train tracks in Beer
- I can't cope with not having short hair and I've taken action (see the second poem below)

STAFF VIDEOS

I hope you enjoyed my poem from last week, 'The Lion' by Roald Dahl. Here is the link in case you missed it – <https://youtu.be/T09shX-RODE>

I have not had a haircut for over twelve weeks. I normally have short hair and I have come to the conclusion that something needs to be done about my mop and this has inspired the poem for the week. I hope you enjoy the video!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5wS4ERoY4k>

My very best wishes to you all and stay safe.

Nic George

Head of School

