



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

11.9.2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Many thanks for supporting the school on our return this week and welcome back. I'd like to say a huge thank you to the Seaton School Staff for working their socks off, over not just this and last week, but during the Summer vacation to get the school back together and ready. It has felt a long time since we last saw many of you but we are delighted to be fully open again and getting on with school life once again.

I hope you find this newsletter both informative and useful. There a number of important things for you to take in as we begin a new school year.

COVID UPDATE

On the whole our school community has made a positive start but there are several very important reminders I want you to read.

Firstly - **WE DO NOT WANT ANY CHILD or ADULT COMING TO SCHOOL WITH A COVID SYMPTOM.**

The Government states the following –

If anyone in your school becomes unwell with

- *A new, continuous cough
- *High temperature
- *Loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child **displays any of these symptoms** then they **MUST** stay at home or if symptoms emerge in school then they will be sent home. You are advised to follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. This sets out that they must:

- self-isolate for at least 10 days
- arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)

Please also be aware that if your child has a temperature, giving them calpol or ibuprofen will only reduce it, therefore the temperature will still be present and considered a symptom. Do not attend school.

We now have 3 school cleaners working throughout the school day, as well as our regular team after school. Classes have established their routines of hygiene very well and are responding to social distancing requirements.



It is imperative that all parents **STICK** to their drop off and pick up times to help with social distancing at either gate. **If you arrive too early, wait away from the school or go for a walk.**

VARY the entrance you use and follow the one way systems.

Further advice and information can be found at
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>



TEACHING and LEARNING

Pupils are settling back into our teaching and learning at school. Staff are easing their classes in and getting back into the routine of lessons. The staff are ensuring there are plenty of opportunities for pupils to develop their social and emotional skills and their understanding, following the last few months.

We have applied for the **Government Catch-up Scheme** grant which will enable us to provide additional tuition for pupils. I read an article recently on the BBC that the average child in the UK is around 3 months behind in their learning since the lock down was introduced. We have much work to do and clubs are going to be very limited at the moment as there is a high expectation for staff to establish effective workings during the school day in order to support children with their learning.



CLASS CURRICULUM MAPS and CLASS PRESENTATION

The start of the year curriculum maps and presentations for parents will be out very shortly via Parentmail (Friday 18th September) and these will also be posted on the school website.

Normally we undertake a whole class parents meeting about this but due to circumstances they will be sent out electronically.

NEW STAFF

A warm welcome to the new staff that have started at Seaton Primary School:

Sarah Elliott is our new business manager and brings a wealth of experience to the role. She has a fantastic background in organisational and business management.

Emma Smith is our new Kitchen Manager. She has an in-depth knowledge of cooking to high standards, running and working within large scale kitchens (including 'River Cottage'). She has a whole feast of ideas - watch this space!

Very recently we appointed **Maria Tarring** as a new teaching assistant who will specialise in supporting pupils with educational and additional needs. Maria has a wealth of experience and training from working in a school in London. She is looking forward to being in the greener land of Devon.

Sophie Vigurs is our new meal time assistant. Sophie is part of a highly supportive team of staff who help lunch times run smoothly and she is very keen on sport and getting children active.



NEW MENU

As from 21st September we will be serving a new hot menu from the kitchen including locally seasoned food, prepared by our new cook Emma and her team. We are very much looking forward to the exciting new menu and do hope that you encourage your child to try a school dinner.





READING BOOKS

Reading books will be sent out on a Monday and Thursday **only** for every class, this is to ensure they can be quarantined before going to another house.

Please read any home books as well and if in KS2 children can supplement school books with using their own selection on accelerated reader.

If you have any old school books at home please return these to school ASAP as our collection is looking rather bare following lockdown when lots were sent home.

HEADLICE

Please be aware that there has been a case of headlice reported in KS1. We advise you to check your child's and close family member's hair and treat if needed over the coming weeks.

Thank you for your support with this.



TIK TOK and E SAFETY

We have had some enquires and concerns raised in regard the web site / app TikTok. These are in relation to the content of the site and messaging via it. The first thing to remember is the age limit for TikTok is 13 plus so **no primary school pupil should be using it**. The content can be an adult nature and highly inappropriate material has ended up on the site.

There is lots of information about TIKTOK -

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

Lots of information regarding E Safety can be found on our school website –

<https://seatonprimary.org.uk/safeguarding-2/>



MINER BEES

The Miner Bees at the front of school are quite active on warmer days. These are fascinating creatures and East Devon Council sent their bee adviser out a couple of years ago to see them. Bees are a protected species and these bees are quite special. Miner Bees are also referred to as digger bees, these flying insects are solitary bees which nest in burrows in the ground. Unlike many social wasps and

bees controlled by a queen they don't form long-lived colonies, nor do they live inside one well-defended nest. Instead, each mining bee female usually digs an individual burrow to rear her own young. Mining bees are not aggressive and are good for the garden. Most are active a very short time. After about four-to-six weeks of furious activity, they disappear for another year.



POOL

We are making progress with the pool. The Sothern Power has undertaken most of the work to upgrade our supply and they will complete their work by the end of the month. We have the necessary quotes to install a new pump and we will get on with this straight away once we get the green light from Southern Power and Devon CC

who are overseeing this. We are itching to get the pool open as you can imagine.

Best wishes,

Nic George

Head of School

