



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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NEWSLETTER

06.11.2020

Dear Parents and Carers,



COVID UPDATE

No COVID update to report this week! The coughs, cold and seasonal flu season is upon us, so please keep vigilant. Attendance is now **95.5%** and rising which is excellent given the times we are in.



TEACHING and LEARNING

The focus this week has been on how we best provide pupils with feedback on their learning. This was very successfully led by Miss Mabin who offered a number of excellent approaches. This also fits in really well with our current marking and feedback policy.

Over the next two weeks all teachers will be participating in lesson observation involving members of the senior leadership team. Here we focus on –

1. **Learning behaviours / attitudes**
2. **Assessment and responses**
3. **Adapting the lessons**
4. **Learning Environments**
5. **Learning in books**

Just a reminder again from previous. In terms of supporting pupils with learning at home **READING** is essential and constant practice is a must along with discussions about stories etc.

STAFFING UPDATE – Deputy Headteacher

As you know this week we recently interviewed for the post of Deputy Headteacher. We interviewed four very strong candidates and after much deliberation, we appointed **Mrs Kelly Hodkinson**. Kelly is a very experienced Deputy Headteacher, currently working in a large primary school in East London. She comes highly recommended and has an outstanding record around school improvement. This was very evident when I visited her school in London to see for myself the impact she has made. She will be joining Annie Eriksson (Assistant Head), Claire Redwood (Acting Executive Headteacher) and I in January.

Mrs Hodkinson will have a part-time teaching post in Year 3, working with Mrs Fontes. She has a young family and is very much looking forward to moving down to Devon and continuing her interest in karate (which she is a black belt at!)

Together, we will continue to drive standards at Seaton and work in order to achieve the best possible outcomes for all the children at Seaton Primary School.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

On Saturday 31 October the Prime Minister announced [New National Restrictions](#), which came into force on Thursday 5 November until Wednesday 2 December, to control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).



The government continues to prioritise the wellbeing and long-term futures of our children and young people **and will not be closing** schools. It remains very important for children and young people to attend, to support their wellbeing and education and help working parents and guardians.

Our school will continue to remain open for all children as they have since the start of the Autumn term for the duration of the national restrictions.

We will continue to undertake our risk assessments and implement the system of controls set out in this guidance. There is no change to the existing position within primary school.

The Government states that those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still **clinically extremely vulnerable** are advised not to attend education whilst the national restrictions are in place. Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, **but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend education.**

Parents of clinically extremely vulnerable children will be receiving a letter shortly confirming this advice.

STAFF

Any of our staff who are clinically extremely vulnerable have been advised to work from home and not to go into work. This will apply to a small number of our staff.

As I have previously stated there is going to be some unavoidable disruption to staffing while COVID restriction remain in place. This is the same for all schools up and down the country. At Seaton Primary School we are working tirelessly to support all our pupils and staff during this period and are doing our very best to ensure continuity during these very testing times.

Outdoor sports should be prioritised where possible.

Our extra-curricular **forest school** and **multi sports clubs** will continue as these are supporting parents to work.

MATHS WEEK ENGLAND

A quick reminder that we are kicking off Maths Week England next week with our dress up day on Monday 9th November. Key Stage 1 and Reception, we can't wait to see your robot costumes and Key Stage 2 we are looking forward to seeing you being rock stars! Numbots and Times Table Rockstars are fantastic online homework resources to support the learning of key skills in maths, opening the doorway to more complex mathematical content.

Your children will be taking part in a variety of maths activities throughout the week, on top of their usual lessons. We will be exploring estimation, position and direction (using maps) and patterns, colour and shape.

Look out on Friday for the family homework coming to you. It will be due on Tuesday 17th November and all entries will put you in the prize draw for some special family prizes!

Mrs Taylor & Mrs Fontes

PTA CHRISTMAS CARD UPDATE

This is a friendly reminder that our online shop for the Christmas Card Project closes **at midnight** on 09/11/2020.

Please visit the shop at <https://www.apfsorders.co.uk> where you can buy your children's cards, gift tags, wrapping paper and mugs and help us raise valuable funds to support the children and the school.

Any orders placed after this date will be classed as a late order and subject to a handling and postage fee. Please note that the PTA and school will not receive any fundraising for late orders.

Families who place an order must ensure the artwork is returned to school before the 12th November so it can be sent to the company to be scanned and transformed into your chosen product.

If artwork is not returned to school then parents and family members will not receive printed products of their artwork.

The estimated dispatch date for orders completed by the deadline is the 27th November.

Once again the PTA would like to say a massive thank you for your continued support in our fundraising efforts.



VACANCY – CLEANER

We have an opening for a senior cleaner here at Seaton Primary School. Please contact the office on admin@seatonprimary.org.uk

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We have a significant number of families who are entitled to free school meals. If you fit the criteria then not only will your child receive a free school meal but the school gains a whopping **£1320** towards supporting your child's education. This can also help pay towards trips, uniform and clubs etc and many families have seen the benefits of it. If you think you may be entitled then please log on to the Devon County Council Citizen Portal or phone **0345 155 1019** Please also pop into the office for more advice and information on how to apply.

NUTS

May we respectfully ask parents/carers NOT to provide their child with nuts for their mid- morning snack or lunch, as we have some children in school with severe nut allergies. We thank you for your co-operation with this.

NOTIFYING THE SCHOOL OF ILLNESS

There are three main ways of notifying the school if your child is going to be absent.

1. Telephone the school – 01297 20922 – Leave a message
2. Parentmail message.
3. Email the school – admin@seatonprimary.org.uk We require you to notify us by 9:00am if your child is not attending school that day.

Please keep us updated each day, otherwise we have to call for an update for our records and this can be time consuming. We currently have to legally advise the Department of Education everyday of any child that is absent due to either self isolating, COVID symptoms or a non-COVID related absence.

If your child suffers with sickness and diarrhoea please remember to keep them off school for 48 hours after the last incident to prevent the spread of the infection.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 9th November – Maths Dress Up Day

Wednesday 18th November – Flu Vaccinations

Friday 18th December – Pupils break up for Christmas

Monday 4th January – Non Pupil Day

Tuesday 5th January – Pupils return to school

Very best wishes and thank you for your continued support.

Nic George

Head of School

