



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

29.1.2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thankyou to everyone who has written in with more positive comments about the online lessons. We really do appreciate all of the time, effort and engagement you are giving to your child/ren helping to support them with their online learning.

Mrs Hodkinson has sent out two surveys this week on home learning. One for pupils (older ones) and one for Parents. This is a really important evaluation we are undertaking, as we want to know what home learning looks like from your end. Thank you to all of you that have completed this.

The Prime Minister has announced this week that schools could re-open as early as the 8th March with at least a two-week prior notice of this going ahead. I wouldn't go pencilling this into your diary quite yet! The opening of school will be guided by a number of factors and many of these are still unknown.



COVID UPDATE

LATERAL FLOW TESTING of school staff is starting next week. Staff will be conducting home tests twice a week very soon to see if they are positive / asymptomatic. *If we do have a positive case then there will be some disruption and unfortunately you will have very little notice.*



TEACHING and LEARNING

This week, teams have been revising their learning environments and re-organising them.

We have made a good start looking at revising the reading approaches we use in school. Kelly Hodkinson (Deputy Head) is facilitating this with Miss Curnock (English), Mrs Bateman (Reading) and Miss Mabin (Early Years). They are looking at how we teach the very earliest reading skills right through to how we support our most advanced readers in Year 6. This will be an ongoing project and a number of significant, new initiatives will be introduced in phases. There will also be a huge investment in reading resources for the entire school.

Mrs Hodkinson has taken the opportunity to zoom in on home learning lessons this week for every class. She is really pleased with how teachers and teaching assistants are embracing this way of learning and has offered some great tips for staff.



KS1

KS1 have had another exciting week this week, beginning with a Farm Tour at Miss Broom's on Monday and a very well attended Pets afternoon! It was lovely to meet and hear about all your cuddly creatures. We have ended the week with another Fun Friday including a live pizza making class and a party for doing so much great work! The children created some delicious looking pizzas and we hope the children enjoyed the party! We have also had a special visit from Mrs Molloy's bearded dragon, Sparky! It was great to meet him and the children had some super questions.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

Work to renovate the school library has continued this week. It is starting to come together and colour samples for the carpets have arrived. Again, a huge thankyou to our **PTA** for supporting this project.

LAPTOPS

We have received a further 18 laptops to support our curriculum this week. We now have over 25 machines on loan to families. Please do contact the office if your child needs one for their home learning.

PE SHEDS

Our new PE shed is now on order and will be here before the start of the Summer term. There will be an audit of existing PE equipment to ensure we have great apparatus to teach with.

PASTORAL SUPPORT

Whether pupils are in school or at home, these times provide additional challenges to families. We fully appreciate that and juggling the pressures of work, children being at home and not being able to see friends / family can be stressful. Our **Pastoral Care Manager (Tracey Salter)** and **Acting SENCo (Ed Hunt)** are always available for you to contact by email pastoral@seatonprimary.org.uk or by phone **01297 20922**

Below are some links that you may find useful-

[Mindfulness Jar \(nowandbeyond.org.uk\)](http://Mindfulness Jar (nowandbeyond.org.uk))

[Resources for schools and colleges - Mental Health UK \(mentalhealth-uk.org\) \(mentalhealth-uk.org\)](http://Resources for schools and colleges - Mental Health UK (mentalhealth-uk.org) (mentalhealth-uk.org))

support@griefencounter.org.uk

Next week **1st-7th of February**, is **Children's Mental Health Week**. Awareness of this has never been more important, especially during these difficult times. The current situation is taking a toll on most of our mental health, but for children these times are confusing, many are feeling that they are missing their family and friends and everyday life is certainly not the usual! On the **3rd of February** we are having an 'Inside Out Day' and it would be great if everyone could wear an item of clothing inside out, to encourage us all talk about how we're feeling on the inside and get it out!

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

We are making good progress with recruiting a new school governing body. Currently we have an interim governing board, including some Seaton parents, but the interim governors need to eventually relinquish their roles so others can take over. School governors are made up from volunteers and the school /wider community who support the school team and all of the pupils.



We are particularly looking for not only parents but **MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY WHO WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE**. Please get in touch with me if you would like to find out more about this exciting and very

rewarding role

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Many families' circumstances have changed due to COVID-19, this means that you may now be entitled to receive free school meals for your child. If you think that you may be eligible, then please do apply. When you receive notification that you are entitled please do notify the school office to let us know that you have been successful with your application.

[Citizen Portal - Sign in \(devon.gov.uk\)](http://Citizen Portal - Sign in (devon.gov.uk))



CONGRATULATIONS

We are delighted to hear the news that Mrs Burkill has given birth to a beautiful baby boy- **Joshua Alexander Burkill**, we wish them much happiness at this very special time.

SEATON FISH BAR

Last Friday we had a staff 'Fish and Chip' lunch and a huge delivery from the Seaton Fish Bar. I would like to say a huge thankyou to the staff and owner of the Fish Bar for their great service and delicious food.

Very best wishes to everyone, thank you for your continued support and stay safe.

Nic George

Headteacher

