



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

8.1.2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone is managing as best as possible during these testing times and looking after yourselves. Seaton Primary School, like every other school in England will be closed to all pupils until **at least** February Half Term. It is quite incredible how quickly situations can change, with little or no notice for families or businesses to make major adjustments. I know that this can cause considerable stress to all of us and hopefully life will settle down quickly again, as we establish our new routines.

Those families who have a key worker, thank you for your patience this week. I have written some very direct letters to you to ensure that you have the places/days you are fully entitled to. Office staff have also had to follow up the information you initially sent to reaffirm that everyone is following the government guidelines. All schools currently have more pupils attending this time than in the previous lockdown. This is partly due to the essential workers list being broad and more employees requesting their staff to continue working through the lockdown. If there is someone who can support home learning rather than sending your child into school, then that does help to reduce numbers in school.



TEACHING and LEARNING

COVID, 101 government directives landing in my inbox each day, provision of school meals and spreadsheets of pupils are all very important things I am dealing with but **TOP OF THE LIST** for me is **TEACHING AND LEARNING FOR ALL PUPILS!** We are very fortunate to have Kelly Hodkinson and Bethan Turner working with us who have both used online learning effectively in their previous teaching posts. Both have provided a great input this week to all our staff on how to run live lessons for pupils that are learning at home. Staff are already very familiar with ZOOM for professional meetings and it is great to see them now deploying their skills in live learning sessions.

The initial feedback we are receiving is really positive and staff are doing really well adjusting to this way of working. Everyone will need breaks and hopefully the pace for pupils is working well. Feedback is most welcome from parents, as we want to make this experience as positive as possible but please remember this is early days and we are all still learning.

Those pupils learning at home and those in school are having the same lessons delivered to them as much as possible. This enables there to be a high degree of continuity and shared experience. All teachers are carefully planning the learning sequences together every day.



SATs TESTING

The Government has cancelled all primary school SATs tests this year in both key Stages 1 and 2 as well as the Year 1 phonics tests. Teachers and children up and down the country will probably be letting out a sigh of relief at this news!

STAFFING

Mrs Bethan Turner will continue to work with us until Spring Half term and she will be leading the Year 3 online learning. In the meantime, we have interviewed for a replacement teacher and further information on the successful candidate will follow shortly once the paper work has been completed.

VACANCY – CLERK to GOVERNORS

We need a new Clerk for our Governing Body. This is a really important, paid role and details of the job can be found on the school website/Devon Gov jobs pages.

What does the clerk to governors do?

- *Provide professional advice to the governing body on governance, constitutional and procedural matters.*
- *Provide effective administrative support to the governing body and its committees including minute taking and convening meetings.*
- *Ensure the governing body is properly constituted.*
- *Manage all governing body information effectively in accordance with legal requirements.*
- *Provide support the governing body in order to meet all of its statutory duties.*



COVID UPDATE

Please remember pupils need a **minimum of items** being brought to school. No big bags please!

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

Nic George
Headteacher

