



Seaton Primary School

Valley View, Seaton
Tel: 01297 20922
www.seatonprimary.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

15th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now at the end of the second week and I'm starting to get to grips with all the routines Seaton Primary School has. There is a huge amount of information to take on board but I'm steadily getting organised and beginning to tackle the priorities. Very soon each of the year groups will be posting their termly class projects on the school website and they are well worth taking a look at. I know that a number of great first hand learning experiences are being planned for the term ahead and I'm sure you will support them. Forest Schools is back and running for years 3 / 4 initially with Chris Holland and swimming lessons too.

I've got a number of ideas to help move things forward here at Seaton Primary School but the priority for school improvement this year will revolve around **writing** and helping pupils get even better at it. One area we would particularly like to work on is encouraging younger boys to get into writing. The latest national curriculum that came in during 2014 sets pretty high standards for pupils to attain, so we need to work both hard and smart to get pupils up to these.

Hot off the press today is that the Government will be introducing a new **times tables test** for pupils in year 4 in 2018 and at the same time today **Key Stage 1 SATs for year 2 pupils will end in 2023**. Some **new baseline assessments** will come in to replace them and these will assess pupils starting in reception but will not take the form of a test.

Every Friday starting next week we will be holding awards assemblies for pupils not only in Key Stage 1 but 2 as well from now on. This will be a great opportunity to celebrate a variety of both academic and personal achievements that have occurred in the week. We have 5 potential certificates here in school –

- The **Bigger Picture** award with an **owl** logo
- The **Curiosity** award with a **fox** logo
- The **Keep Going** award with a **snail** logo
- The **Making Links** award with a **spider / web** logo
- The **Working Together** award with a **bee** logo

Finally congratulations to **Bailey** and **Flora** in Year 6 who are this term's **Head Boy** and **Head Girl**.

1ST SEATON RAINBOWS

1st Seaton Rainbow are hosting an open night on **Wednesday 20th September** at Seaton Methodist Church on Scalwell Lane from 3.30pm to 5pm. Rainbows is part of Girl Guiding and is for girls aged 5 to 7 years and its aim is to develop self-confidence, build friendships, try new things and have lots of fun. Please feel free to come along and join us for some or all of the session or contact Gail Welsh on 07956 255130. Alternatively email seatonrainbows16@gmail.com If you have emailed or tried to phone before, please note the amendment to the email address and phone number and try again. The girl guiding movement is brilliant organisation! They have such fun and participate in great events so give it a go.

FLU VACCINATIONS

Children in years R,1,2,3 & 4 are being offered a nasal flu vaccination which will be given at school in October. Information packs are being sent home today. Please read it carefully and return the consent form clearly indicating Yes or No as to whether you would like the vaccination to be given to your child. Consent forms must be returned by Friday 22nd September.

DOGS

We love dogs but **please ensure they stay off** school premises. This includes **the woods near the school car park** that are part of school grounds.

CLUBS

Information about our lunch time and after school clubs will be sent out via Parentmail in the next few days. Please remember when signing your child up for a club that they should be committed to attending the club regularly and if they are unable to attend for any reason they should speak to the member of staff organising the club in advance. This is particularly important regarding after school clubs because if a child fails to turn up at the club our staff need to know that the child has been collected and is safe.

FAMILY PHOTOS

The school photographer is visiting on Tuesday 14th November to take individual pupil photographs. From 3.15pm onwards he will be available for family group photos. These make ideal Christmas presents! If you would like to book a slot please contact the school office.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest Festival takes place on **Thursday 5th October**. The children will be going to St Gregory's church to celebrate. Unfortunately due to the size of the church and the large number of pupils in our school we cannot accommodate parents and carers. We would like to ask for donations towards the Seaton food bank and will provide a list of suggested items in next week's newsletter.

JEANS 4 GENES DAY

Children and staff are invited to wear jeans next **Friday 22nd September** for a suggested donation of 50p (Please wear your school **uniform** on top – trainers or casual shoes are fine). I will be leading an assembly on the theme this coming Monday.

HOLIDAY REQUESTS

We cannot authorise holidays in term times unless these are exceptional circumstances. (e.g parents of forces children). Devon County Council are now tightening their rules on this issue and fines are again being issued for 5 or more days absence. I totally understand some of the circumstances on the request forms, however, rarely can a holiday be authorised. Any time off school must be requested via the absence request form available from the office.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

To qualify for free school meals parents need to be receipt of one of the following –

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

If you qualify then please, please see the office. They will help you with the application process. Not only will your child will benefit from a dinner each day but the school receives **£1320** towards supporting your child's education!

NUTS – ALL YEAR GROUPS May we respectfully ask parents NOT to provide their child with nuts for their mid-morning snack or lunch as some children have severe nut allergies.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 22 nd September	(Previously stated as Thursday 21 st but correct date is Friday 22 nd Sept). Jeans 4 Genes Day. Children and staff invited to wear jeans for a suggested donation of 50p. Flu vaccination reply slips should be returned by today at the latest.
Monday 25th September	Training Day – no children in school.
Tuesday 26 th September	Clubs Start this week. (Further details to follow).
Thursday 5 th October	Harvest Festival at St Gregory's Church 10am. (Sorry due to the size of the church we cannot accommodate parents. Donations towards the food bank please.
Friday 20 th October	Break up for half term

Flu vaccinations in school for R,1,2,3 & 4

Monday 30 th October	Children return to school.
Monday 4 th November	Last week for clubs led by teachers and Seaton Primary staff.
Tuesday 14 th November	School Photographer in school to take individual photos. Family group photos slots are available from 3.15pm onwards. Please contact the office to book a slot.
Tuesday 5 th December	KS2 Carol Concert at the Methodist Church (ticket arrangements will be announced nearer the time).
Wednesday 6 th December	KS2 Carol Concert at the Methodist Church (ticket arrangements will be announced nearer the time)
Monday 11 th December	2pm & 6pm Foundation and KS1 Nativity Play (ticket arrangements will be announced nearer the time)
Tuesday 12 th December	9.30am & 6pm Foundation and KS1 Nativity Play (ticket arrangements will be announced nearer the time)
Friday 15 th December	Break up for Christmas holidays.
Wednesday 3 rd January	Children return to school.
Friday 18 th May 2018	School Photographer in school to take class group photos

Best wishes,
Nic George
Head