



Seaton Primary School

Valley View, Seaton, Devon, EX12 2HF

Tel: 01297 20922

www.seaton-primary.devon.sch.uk

Head : Mr Nic George



“Caring now, for the future of our community, those in need, our lifestyles, one another, our education and the future itself”

Friday 28th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's the end of another week here at Seaton Primary School! Mr Lewis has just about finished putting up all of our new interactive boards. They are really great and will offer us lots of opportunities to enhance teaching and learning across the school.

STAFFING UPDATE

Mrs Fontes is expecting her first baby! We have started the recruitment process for her temporary replacement and we will be interviewing just before half term. Mrs Fontes is due to go on maternity leave in January 2019. There has already been some positive interest in the post to cover her absence.

BEE UPDATE

The bank near the front entrance is home to a family of Miner or Mining Bees. These bees burrow into the soil, the queen lays an egg in the hole and then the worker bee attends to and feeds the bee. I have spoken to East Devon Council, the East Devon Bee Association and several pest control companies. Bees are a protected species. Nearly all the females have stingers, but the stingers are often too small to penetrate human skin. Yes, some do sting, but the stings, especially in lawn-dwelling species (which we have), are light—nothing like a wasp or honey bee. They are non-aggressive. The advice I have is to leave them alone. I believe they have lived in the bank for a number of months and they need to be left to get on. The workers will soon die off and then a new batch of bees will appear next Summer.

STAFF TRAINING

This time last week a number of staff at Seaton School were updating their Level 3 Safeguarding Qualification. All of our staff are trained in safeguarding but here is our lead team that hold the higher qualification.

Designated Safe Guarding Lead - Mr Nic George (Head)

Pastoral Care Lead - Mrs Lindsey Russell

Designated Teacher For Children In Care - Miss Lucy Wilkinson

Pastoral Support / Speech and Language - Ms Tracey Salter

Safe Guarding Governor - Mr Alan Morbey

SEND Co-ordinator - Mrs Maeve Kay

Family Support Advisor - Ms Gerry Fry (Axe Beacon Federation)

Other Safe Guarding Team Members

Mrs Lizzie Fontes (KS1)



Mr Ed Hunt (KS2)

ICT Safe Guarding Officer - Mr Simon Lewis (Axe Beacon Federation)

Yesterday all the teachers were involved in a training session related to the teaching of grammar in writing. It was not as straight forward as it sounds!

Mr Johnson our Upper Junior Leader has taken on an additional role for the remainder of the year. He now leads English across the Axe Beacon Federation. On occasions he may be leading work in other schools. Good luck to him in this new role.

POOL UPDATE

Our new caretaker is keeping on top of pool maintenance. Our swimming coaches come from 'South West Swim' and are not part of our school staff. South West Swim will do their utmost to provide cover staff if one of their swimming coaches is off. They have a number of coaches working with us at present and lessons will continue for the remainder of this half term.

PTA NEWS

Recently a newsletter from our PTA was sent out. They have a busy year ahead but they need volunteers. During the last academic year the PTA was able to donate a whopping £11209 to the school paying for a range of different resources and activities to enrich the education of the children.

The PTA continues to work closely with Mrs Fontes (PTA liaison officer) and myself to fund resources that the school may not otherwise be able to afford. They have some exciting ideas to enrich the learning environment of the school, and we look forward to sharing more information with you about this, as these ideas develop. Therefore it is vital we raise the necessary funds, and so we are pleased to announce that this year's Christmas Bazaar will be held on Friday 30th November. More updates to follow but very well done to our PTA.

GARDENING CLUB

Gardening Club takes place on Tuesday lunch times for children in Year 4 and above who have previously attended last term. If you would like to help tidy the garden please go along.

MARBLES WANTED

Do you have any glass marbles that you no longer want? We would be very grateful of any donations. Please bring them to the office.

WANTED FOR RECEPTION CLASSES

Reception would like donations of empty, clean plastic soap dispenser bottles (hand wash pump bottles). We are also looking for any donations of dressing up clothes and Playmobil. Please drop them off to the Reception teachers if you have anything you'd like to donate. Thanks.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER - FAMILY PHOTOS

The school photographer is visiting on Tuesday 13th November. After school, from 3.30pm he will be available to take family group photos. If you would like to book a family photo please contact the office to book a slot. (Please note siblings are normally photographed together but the after school slots are for families where the whole family can be photographed together). Family group photos make ideal Christmas presents!

HALF MARATHON

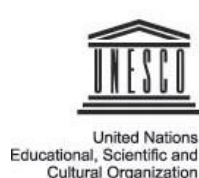
Congratulations to Mr Delfosse, Mr Johnson, Miss Curnock and Mrs Bee who ran the Bristol Half Marathon last weekend. Despite awful weather conditions during the early part of the run, they all completed the event with great times and really enjoyed it.

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT CHECKS FOR RECEPTION AND YEAR 6 PUPILS

Parents of pupils in Reception and Year 6 will have received an email earlier this week regarding height and weight checks. Please read the email carefully and return the reply slip if you do NOT want your child to be checked.

FLU VACCINATIONS

Pupils from Reception to Year 5 will be offered a flu vaccination this term. Further information has been sent in a Parentmail email on Wednesday 19th September however the original link was incorrect. This is the correct



NON UNIFORM DAY – FRIDAY 23RD NOVEMBER

Children are invited to wear non-uniform on Friday 23rd November. We are asking for chocolate items to be brought in that day for the chocolate tombola at the Christmas Bazaar.

CHARITY FUNDRAISER

A ladies evening is taking place at Seaton Town Football Club on Saturday 20th October from 7pm. Tickets are £10 per head and your ticket gains entry into a £50 cash draw.

Dress code is "Think Pink" and the evening is in aid of Breast Cancer. If you would like a ticket or for further information, please contact Sharon Rooke on 07817911525

CHOCOLATE QUIZ

The closing date for Peter Johns' chocolate quiz is the 30th September. Please return completed entry forms to Quarterdeck Confectionary or Jane Johns.

ABSENCES

When children are absent from school we ask that you contact the school by phone (20922), Parentmail or email (admin@seatonprimary.org.uk) by 9.30am at the latest. If the phone is engaged please leave a clear message on the answerphone remembering to tell us the nature of your child's illness or other reason for absence. If your child is going to an appointment before school and likely to come in late, when leaving your message please remember to let us know if they need a cooked lunch booked for them. **When children are missing at register time we do not automatically book a lunch.**

If no contact by a parent is made to the school by mid-morning then members of school staff have to visit the home and if no response is gained then the police are informed of a missing child.

SINGING LESSONS

Singing lessons are available in school with Mrs Elliott on Friday afternoons. Please call 01297 624019 for further details.

PARENTS PLUS ADOLESCENT PROGRAMME

An 8 week course takes place at Axminster Hospital. The course will promote effective communication and positive relationships in families with adolescents aged 11 to 16. The course starts on Friday 28th September and finishes on Friday 30th November. For further information and to reserve your place please contact Lucy.A.Knight@devon.gov.uk or call 07580848808.

SEATON LIBRARY DRAMA GROUP

Seaton Library run a free drama group for children aged 8 to 11 which starts on 3rd October from 4.15pm to 5pm. Please go along to take part in a play to be performed before Christmas.

REALLY WILD LEARNING AT SEATON LIBRARY

During half-term week on Tuesday 23rd October the library invites you along to meet a variety of creatures from 10am to midday. Entry is £3. Please see the poster displayed near the office for more details.

ADULT ENGLISH AND MATHS COURSES

English and Maths courses covering the Axminster, Seaton, Honiton and Cranbrook area are starting soon. For more information please contact Cheryl.gibbs@devon.gov.uk or Lorraine on 07530 825413.

SICKNESS & DIARRHOEA

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.

HOLIDAY REQUESTS

We cannot authorise holidays in term times unless there 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 across the academic year. 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.

Unauthorised absences due to holidays is a concern for the school – please AVOID taking them!

PUPIL PREMIUM

To qualify for Pupil Premium (the old free school meals) parents need to be in receipt of certain benefits. Not only will your child benefit from a dinner each day (if they want it) but the school receives £1320 towards supporting your child's education. The money is primarily spent on our academic and pastoral support staff but each pupil is allocated **£80 per term** towards a variety of costs to support families e.g. subsidy of school uniform and trips. To see if you are entitled please log onto the Devon County Council Citizen Portal.

NUTS

ALL YEAR GROUPS.... 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

Tuesday 2 nd October	Optical checks for Reception pupils
Thursday 11 th October	Flu vaccinations for Reception up to Year 5 pupils. Please follow the link to register.
Monday 22 nd October	Half Term week
Monday 29 th October	Return to school after half-term Parent's evenings to be held this week.
Tuesday 13 th November	Photographer visiting school for individual pupil photos (and family photos after school.)
Friday 23 rd November	Non-uniform day in return for chocolate items.
Friday 30 th November	Christmas Bazaar in the evening
Monday 19 th November	Height & Weight checks for Reception and Year 6 pupils. (see email)
Tuesday 11 th December	Carol Service for KS2 at 6.30pm (Ticket allocations nearer the time)
Wednesday 12 th December	Carol Service for KS2 at 2.30pm and 6.30pm (Ticket allocations nearer the time)
Monday 17 th December	KS1 Nativity 2pm & 6pm (Ticket allocations nearer the time)
Tuesday 18 th December	KS1 Nativity 9.30am & 6pm (Ticket allocations nearer the time)
Friday 21 st December	Last day of term
Monday 7 th January	Training Day
Tuesday 8 th January	Pupils return to school

Mr Nic George
HEADTEACHER

