



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”

7th December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is soggy to say the least out there! As one young pupil said to me this morning ,“I love muddy puddles!” “But you’re not wearing wellies like Peppa” I say. “Not for me!” was the reply and the pupil promptly jumped in the puddle..... Bless Peppa Pig eh mmmmmmmmmmmmm

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT NEWS

This has been a busy term for looking at ideas with the staff on new initiatives to improve teaching even further. Recently we have been examining our approach to teaching handwriting. Miss Curnock has been leading this and she is coming up with some good ideas on how to revamp our ‘Nelson Handwriting Scheme.’ On Wednesday Miss Curnock and I visited Sidmouth Primary School to look at their approach to teaching phonics, early reading and writing. We picked up some great approaches at the school which could benefit Seaton. After the Christmas break we will be looking to revamp our phonics teaching in Reception, Year 1 and 2 so it ties in with our approach to writing.

All classes now have an approach to maths and writing that involves pupils undertaking an elicitation task at the start of a maths or writing sequence or project. This task is fairly short. The teachers check what the children understand and what they need to get better at. They then start teaching a sequence of lessons and ensure that they incorporate ideas / approaches to help them improve. At the end of the maths or writing sequence pupils undertake a final application task to show what they have learnt. This is then compared to the starting application task and teachers assess the children on how they have progressed from then.

PTA NEWS

A huge thank you to our PTA for organising a highly successful Christmas Bazaar last Friday. To say it was busy is an understatement! Everyone had a great time and the coppers flowed in! All funds raised will go towards projects to enhance the learning environment for the pupils.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT MORNING YEAR 2

Well done to everyone who came along to our Year 2 parent involvement morning in the hall today. There were some fantastic Christmas decorations being produced in collaboration with the children. It was great to see all the parents and extended family members getting stuck in. I am a huge fan of these events as they really bring our partnership together.

BUILDINGS

After the recent roofing work during the summer, we just about have all the leaks under control. We have a few sky lights being replaced very soon which is good news but all is pretty water tight. The money we recently gained from the building projects in the community is starting to be ear marked, starting with the Year 5 / 6 block and the Reception, Year 1 / 2 areas. Norse Property Services who look after Devon County Council buildings will be leading these projects.



The Co-Op grant has been set aside to build a second adventure playground which caters especially for children from Reception to Year 3. I have booked in several companies to quote for this project. The PE sheds definitely need replacing. I have started to look into this and hopefully we will have a replacement building in the very near future.

XMAS JUMPER DAY

On Wednesday 19th December (School Christmas meal day) we invite the children and staff to wear Christmas jumpers. Don't worry if you don't have a Christmas jumper - just wear something festive – maybe you could attach some tinsel or baubles to your clothes.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR KS2 CAROL CONCERT

The KS2 Carol Concert takes place on Tuesday 11th December at 6pm, Wednesday 12th December at 2pm and again at 6pm. We have a few tickets still available for Wednesday 12th December. If you would like some of these tickets please contact the office.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR KS1 NATIVITY

A pink letter was sent home 2 weeks ago with full instructions on how to apply for Nativity tickets. The same letter was also be sent by Parentmail. We have a few tickets still available for Tuesday 18th December at 9.30am. If you would like some of these tickets please contact the office. Also, if you have any tickets that you are unable to use, please return them to the office so that we can offer them to other people. If you want to be put on a waiting list for returned tickets please contact the office.

MICROBITS FOR YEAR 4

An email was sent on Wednesday regarding Microbits that we are able to sell to year 4 pupils at the end of term. If you would like to purchase one, please log in to Parentmail to pay.

STAFF VACANCIES

We have vacancies at Shute Primary school for a Teaching Assistant and Before School Club Supervisor. It is hoped that these two roles would be performed by the same person. For further information please see the Axe Beacon Federation website.

RUPERTS OPEN MORNING

Ruperts Pre-school are holding an open morning on Tuesday 8th January from 9am to 11am. If you would like to attend, please call them on 625621.

SCHOOL MEALS MENU FOR LAST WEEK OF TERM

The kitchen have made some changes to the menu for the final week of term.

Monday 17th December

Meatballs in Tomato Sauce, Cheese Omelette with Potatoes, Diced Potatoes & Mixed Vegetables, Ice Cream
Sponge Roll, Fresh Fruit, Yoghurts

Tuesday 18th December

Spaghetti Bolognese, Macaroni Cheese, Garlic Bread & Peas, Blackcurrant Jelly, Fresh Fruit, Yoghurts

Wednesday 19th December

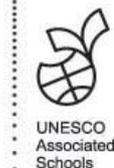
Christmas Lunch

Thursday 20th December

Grilled Pork Sausages

Spinach Chickpea & Tomato Casserole, Creamed Potatoes, Spaghetti Hoops or Peas, Flapjack, Fresh Fruit, Yoghurts

Friday 21st December Chicken Nuggets, Baked Cod Fillet, no breadcrumbs or batter, Chips, Baked Beans or Sweetcorn, Chocolate Yule Log, Fresh Fruit, Yoghurts



INFORMATION SESSIONS

(Parents, teaching assistants, teachers, child-minders and all other interested parties very welcome.)

1:30 – 3pm repeated 3:30 - 5pm in the community room at

WITHYCOMBE RALEIGH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Topic	Date	Notes
Executive functioning	Friday 2 nd Nov	Looking at working memory , reasoning, organisation, time management, flexibility, problem-solving as well as planning and task completion. Recognising working memory failure. Games and activities to develop auditory memory . How to build attention, focus and concentration. Experienced retired Educational Psychologist co-presenting.
Learning to Wait Language development	Friday 9 th Nov	Why is it so important to be able to wait? It is the basis of resilience , social interaction (turn-taking) and self-control (internal discourse). We will also consider undetected language problems. Retired Ed Psychologist co-presenting.
How can I help a child who may have autistic traits? (e.g. Asperger's/Autism/PDA)	Friday 16 th Nov	As anxiety is at the root of so many behaviours, anyone wanting a greater understanding of these would benefit from attending. We will look at strategies including social stories, ideas for in & out of the class /at home. Retired E.P. here.
Preparing for Christmas for those children who have suffered loss or any change	Friday 23 rd Nov	How to help a child suffering from one of these debilitating issues, in the classroom or at home, including working through the stages of grief. How loss, grief, separation and change are linked. Ways you can help a grieving parent. How children of different ages react. Covers divorce and bereavement too.
Aspects of DYSLEXIA – 'Can you be a bit dyslexic?' and 'How to help children learn to read better'	Friday 30 th Nov	Hints and tips for empowering those who struggle to read. Straightforward and effective strategies for school and home, resources supplied . Also ideal for volunteers hearing reading in school.
Understanding boys' learning and motivation	Friday 7 th Dec	Boys can under-achieve, show disruptive behaviour and lack motivation for learning. We will learn about boys' brains, matching needs to activities and creating boy-friendly lessons, classrooms and homes. We'll look at shame too.
Preparing for Christmas; keep calm and MISP	Friday 14 th Dec	Children who overreact /are not maximising their potential; could this be the way forward for your child (in class/at home)? Learn strategies to keep yourself and the class calm . Message in Schools Programme – feel free to ring for more details.

☺ NO CHARGE – REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED! ☺ PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE OTHER TOPICS ☺

To book a place or ask for further information, please ring 01395-263397 ext 2 (do leave a message) or email chollingsworth@wrpschool.org. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS DINNER ALLERGY LIST

The allergy list for the Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 19th December is on display at the school office. If you would like a copy to be sent home please call 20922.

NEXT TERM'S MENU

Every child will be bringing home a copy of next term's lunch menu over the next few days. Please keep it in a safe place for next year.

MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones have their uses of course but we have recently been inundated with requests from older pupils to look after their phones in the front office each day. Mobile phones are **NOT** allowed in school. The office has looked after the odd one in the past due to a special request from a parent but the general rule is..... please keep them at home!

DATA PROCESSING CONSENT

As a school, under GDPR, we need to have clear consent to use your child's personal information in ways that fall outside our legal obligations. You may give and update your consent at any time by completing this short form: <https://www.axebf.org.uk/information/privacy-policy/consent-form/>

Should access to this form online be difficult, paper copies are available from the school office.

STAMPS

Don't forget we collect used postage stamps at school for the Children's Hospice South West. The box is on the shelf outside the office. Thank you.

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 11th December
Wednesday 12th December
Monday 17th December
Tuesday 18th December
Wednesday 19th December
Friday 21st December
Monday 7th January
Tuesday 8th January

Carol Service for KS2 at 6.30pm
Carol Service for KS2 at 2.30pm and 6.30pm
KS1 Nativity 2pm & 6pm (Ticket allocations 23rd Nov onwards)
KS1 Nativity 9.30am & 6pm (Ticket allocations 23rd Nov onwards)
Whole School Christmas Lunch. Wear a Christmas Jumper if you like.
Last day of term (**School finishes at 1pm after an early lunch**).
Training Day
Pupils return to school

Mr Nic George HEADTEACHER

