



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”

NEWSLETTER

8th March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

On today's national news there will be a feature on the current funding issues in all schools across the country. Mr Rolls has written to each of you to explain the current situation. We were hoping that Devon would have an improved funding formula but this has not been the case. When you hear the government mention that school funding is better than ever it doesn't take into account that school outgoings in terms of wages, pension contributions, utility bills, payment of services etc have greatly increased which now takes up a larger proportion of the school budget. Special educational needs funding has also dropped significantly in the last year. I have worked in education for 27 years and 18 of those have either been as a Head or Deputy. These are tough times and I want the best for our children. A good level of school funding is imperative and needs to be a top priority for the Government. There are only so many cutbacks to be made so please email the local MP Neil Parish.

<https://www.neilparish.co.uk/>

PARENTS' EVENINGS

Many thanks for attending parents' evenings this week. If you have not had chance to catch up with your child's teacher then please do. We have a great reputation for positive partnerships with parents and parents' evenings are a key event in the school calendar.

ATTENDANCE

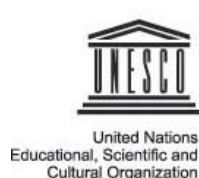
Two pieces of good news here –

1. School attendance is up to 96.2% which is great. Last year at this time in the academic year we were at 95.4%. Currently we are above the national average for school attendance.

2. Year 1 – Miss Wilkinson and Mrs Bartlett's class.... They have had NO absences this week and every child has been present on every day. A rare occurrence for any class.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Yesterday and throughout the week we have been celebrating World Book Day. The character of Miss Trunchbull (the dreaded Head Teacher from Roald Dahl's Matilda) was spotted on several occasions during the day and got booed in assembly! Many thanks to Miss Curnock for organising events and promoting reading across the school. We are currently looking into revamping our reading schemes across the school and I have given the green light to Miss Curnock to put together a purchase proposal.



BUG HOTELS

Last week I wrote to you saying that we have started developing a bug hotel near the car park out of wooden pallets. We need MORE PALLETS though! Roughly about 10. If you can get hold of any (and they must be in good condition) then please drop them in. Pallets are laid on top of each other and filled with a variety of items to help bugs establish homes with them. Bug Hotel Number 1 has already been started!

ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

This week's theme has been Lent. Of course we discussed Pancake Day but also the meanings behind Lent, where the name Shrove Tuesday comes from and how this contributes and builds towards the festival of Easter.

FROGSPAWN AND NEWTS

We have an abundance of frogspawn and newts where the old pond used to be. If you can give them a home please bring a bucket and help yourselves.

EASTER ASSEMBLY FOR EYFS & KS1

Parents and carers are invited to Easter assembly on Thursday 4th April. This will take place in the hall at 9.15am. Please come along to hear and join in with Easter themed songs and to share the children's work.

SCIENCE FAIR

Reminder: This year's Science Fair will be on Friday 22nd March. Please respond to Mr Hunt's Parentmail message if your child intends to take part.

RED NOSE DAY DANCE-ATHON FOR COMIC RELIEF

Comic Relief takes place on Friday 15th March. We will be holding an all-day Dance-athon with each class having a dance slot throughout the day and a whole school dance party at the end. A letter and sponsorship form has been sent home this week with further details.

GRIZZLY VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

Are you free to Marshal at The Grizzly this Sunday 10th March 2:15pm - 5:00pm?

The PTA needs one more volunteer to cover a post at Old Beer Road / Beer Road Junction. If you can help or cover part of the slot please email marie.bower@live.co.uk who will provide full information. You will also receive a free T Shirt!

By providing a team of Marshals we expect to receive a donation of approximately £600 so your help is greatly appreciated.

AUTISM COURSE

Colyton Caterpillars are holding training on Autism: Making sense of sensory – This is a detailed insight in to the sensory world of children and young people with autism.

Date: Thursday 14th March 2019

Time: 10.00am – 2.00pm

Where: Colyton Caterpillars, Reece Strawbridge Centre, Coly Road, Colyton, Devon EX24 6PU

Price: £20 (or 2 for £30) – Parents/Carers – FREE

Call 01297 552567 for more information

WATER POLO

Chard & District Swimming Club are holding three sessions of Water Polo for confident swimmers aged 11 and over during March at the Flamingo Pool in Axminster. The sessions will run on consecutive Sundays (17th, 24th and 31st March) from 7pm to 8pm for £5.50 per person. To book your place or for more information please email chardswimmingclub@gmail.com

AUTISM FRIENDLY SOFT PLAY SESSIONS IN HONITON

A special autism & additional needs session is available once a fortnight at Playdome in Honiton where the whole place will only be open for these children. The first session started on Saturday February 16th and they will run every other week from this date from 9am to 10am. There is a Facebook group with all details and further dates called "Autism & Additional needs group- Honiton"

CANCER RESEARCH UK CAKE SALE & NON UNIFORM DAY

Louise Burridge (one of our pupil's Mums) is running the Virgin London Marathon in April in aid of Cancer Research UK.



She will be holding a cake sale on **Thursday 4th April @ 3:20pm** in the school hall. Please come and support this and any donations of cakes will be gratefully received.
We will also be having a non-uniform day that day for a suggested donation of £1.

ABSENCES

Parents and carers are reminded to contact the school by 9.30am if their child is going to be absent from school due to illness. **PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL EVERY DAY THAT YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT.** Please use the Parentmail app, leave a message on the answerphone (01297 20922) or email admin@seatonprimary.org.uk. If your child has an appointment that you know about in advance, please ensure you have informed the office. Please do not rely on children to pass on messages - instead please write a short note to the office staff or let us know by phone or in person at the counter. The school has a duty of care to know the whereabouts of children and when we have not been informed of the reason for a child's absence the office staff have had to spend a great deal of time phoning various contact numbers to find out why a child is missing from school.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

We have a significant number of families who are entitled to free school meals. If you fit the criteria then not only will your child receive a free school meal but the school gains a whopping £1320 towards supporting your child's education. This can also help pay towards trips, uniform, clubs etc and many families have seen the benefits of it. If you think you may be entitled then please log on to the Devon County Council Citizen Portal.

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.

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.

STAMPS

Please bring your used postage stamps to the office. We collect on behalf of the Children's Hospice South West. Many thanks

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day Danceathon
Friday 22 nd March	Science Fair
Thursday 4 th April	Cake sale and non-uniform day for Cancer Research UK
	EYFS & KS1 Easter assembly 9.15am
Friday 5 th April	Break up for Easter holiday (normal time).
Tuesday 24 th April	Children return to school.

Best wishes,

Nic George

Head

