

NEWSLETTER 5.4.2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's the end of another very busy week here at Seaton Primary School. This is a very important newsletter with a special message from the Governors. Please have a good read. I hope you find this newsletter informative and I wish everyone a happy and peaceful Easter.

STAFFING UPDATE

Mr Johnson in Year 6 will be departing for pastures new at the end year. He is looking forward to starting up a new career and we wish him the very best for the future. We also have some staff reducing their hours which makes for 2 more vacancies. We are currently advertising for an Upper Junior teacher, Lower Junior Teacher and Key Stage 1 teacher. All these posts are due to start in September.

GOVERNOR UPDATE

Change in Axe Beacon Federation Chair of Governors

At the end of last year, the leadership of the Axe Beacon federation governors changed. We thank Tim Leat for his leadership over recent times. For information, the chair position is now shared between Gill Jordan and Matt Heard. Gill has been involved in education for many years in a number of different roles – as a teacher, specialist adviser at local and national levels and as an Educational Researcher. She has been involved in School governance for the past 20 years. Matt is a principle scientist at the NERC Centre for Ecology & Hydrology. He has been involved in management and governance of Early Years and primary education for 10 years.

Both Matt and Gill are always interested to hear your views on any school matters please contact them via email: Matt Heard (m.heard@AxeBf.org) and Gill Jordan (g.jordan@AxeBF.org.uk). The governing body is also very interested in hearing from parents and other community members who might be interested in joining them - either as a full governor or as an associate (part time / special projects). Please contact our clerk Bec Davey (clerk@AxeBF.org.uk) – we are particularly interested in recruiting people with skills in Finance and Resource management, HR and communication / marketing.

NEWS FROM GOVERNORS

As you may know we have been a Federation of Colyton, Kilmington, Seaton and Shute primary schools since 2012. While on the surface it may appear that our schools are separate entities, behind the scenes in terms of governance and resourcing, we very much operate as one unit. We believe strongly that as a Federation we are stronger than the sum of our parts. This year the governing board are working more actively towards making sure that the collective Federation goals and vision (<https://www.axebf.org.uk/information/>) are transparent and embedded throughout all our teaching and business activities. The governors have thus asked Mr Rolls (Executive head) to restructure his team accordingly. We begin this process with a renewed commitment to operate as "one school, four sites". Our overall aim is to ensure that we continue to improve the quality and effectiveness of leadership and the professional development of all our teaching and support staff.

Most importantly, we believe it will allow your children to benefit from the strength and depth of excellent teaching and resources that we have across all our schools. We are excited about bringing us all closer together over the next year and hope you will help support all the staff in this time of transition.

Matt Heard and Gill Jordan

DIGITAL PARENTING MAGAZINE

All families will receive, via their child, a copy of the latest Digital Parenting magazine. We have distributed these in the past and it has simple and short articles about a wide range of issues, including, How to speak digital and Ten tech tips to bring you together. ParentZone, who contribute to Digital Parenting, have also collaborated with Google on their Internet legends programme. We have begun to use this in school and it is aimed at 8 year olds and over. To find out more visit:https://beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com/en_uk/interland/

RUPERT'S PRESCHOOL (Scalwell Lane)

We are holding an OPEN MORNING on Wednesday 24th April, 9-11am. Please drop in and see us or call 01297 625621 for details or leave a message and we will get back to you.

ART WORKSHOP

EASTER PRINTMAKING FOR KIDS

Easter is the perfect time for kids to get creative.

In this fun and easy print workshop, we will be exploring mark making, colour and shape to create a fabulous set of cards and gift wrap. 10 by 8 Print Studio will lead this specially designed kids' printmaking workshop at The Town Mill, Lyme Regis. Relax in the Courtyard Café, whilst we get messy in the Attic Bake house upstairs!

Qualified tutor and Printmaker Karen Bowskill, will share her enthusiasm for print, and help to develop your child's creativity. All materials will be provided. Old clothes need to be worn or bring an apron, thanks. Suitable from age 8 upwards.

Cost £8 plus booking fee. Go to Eventbrite website for tickets

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/easter-printmaking-for-kids-tickets-59190918631>

Workshop times are: 10.00-11.00 11.30-12.30 13.00-14.00 14.30-15.30

PARENT INVOLVEMENT DAY – YEAR RECEPTION

Many thanks to everyone who came along to support this excellent event today. Supporting your child and the school is so important and makes a great difference.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AFTERSCHOOL

At the end of school, please could all parents and children vacate the school site. Children should NOT be on the play equipment at all. I have mentioned this before but I hear things are starting to slip!

ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

The focus this week has been the Easter story and the meanings within it that help us to live and support our lives today. Many thanks to the Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils / staff who put on a great end of term assembly on Thursday.

ZUMBA

In March the super shining Seaton Little & Junior Starz supported 'Wear A Hat Day' and donated money towards Brain Tumour Research. The children all successfully achieved the challenge of wearing a hat throughout their energetic Zumba session!! Huge thanks to all involved. As a reminder, new children are welcome to join Johanna's ZumbaKids class after the Easter break. These classes will recommence on Monday 29th April as follows:

Every Monday 3.30pm - 4.15pm Seaton Little Starz* (4 - 7 year olds) - MAIN HALL 4.15pm - 5.15pm Seaton Junior Starz* (7-12 year olds) - MAIN HALL Summer Term Class Dates: April 29th, May 13th, 20th, June 10th, 17th, 24th, July 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd.

Summer Term Class Fee: £40 (£4 per class x 10 classes) Cash payments to be provided in a named, sealed envelope no later than the child's first class.

If you would like to book your child a place, please contact Johanna directly on 07739518587 or at johanna@jmdancefit.co.uk For further details on all JM DanceFit Adult and Children's Zumba and FitSteps classes held in Seaton, Sidford, Sidmouth Beer, Newton Poppleford, and Exeter please visit www.jmdancefit.co.uk

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

Wednesday 24th April Children return to school.

Monday 6th May No School.

Bank Holiday Monday Friday 17th May Ashley Wood Photos (class photos)

Best wishes,

Nic George

Head