

SEATON PRIMARY SCHOOL
Valley View, Seaton
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6th May 2010

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents

Next week the children will be undertaking the Key Stage 2 SATs as usual. I support the action that SATs should be scrapped. However, with the result of the vote for action coming very late in the year, I felt it was right to recognise the hard work that teachers and children have put into preparation and no boycott will take place at Seaton Primary School.

I am not a supporter of the SATs test. The test is too simplistic, poorly marked and totally unreliable. However, it is used as the main measure for judging a school's performance. Teacher assessment, backed up by careful pupil-tracking, and supported by tests is a better, more reliable measure – but this is ignored by the league tables.

The SATs narrow the curriculum in Year 6, are stressful for some children and undermine the morale of too many children. SATs results are ignored by the secondary schools who carry out their own tests in Year 7. I hope that the new government listens to what professionals in education have been telling them for many years and scraps the SATs from 2011.

NEW SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Some Year 6 children have decided they would like to produce a newspaper: *“Hi! We are going to get short and snappy with a new idea . . . a school NEWSPAPER!!! However, ‘The Primary Tide’ will be constructed by you! If you have any ideas, write them down and give them to Alexandra or Jonathan in Year 6 and the paper will soon be running like clockwork. Look forward to hearing from you soon.”* by Alex, Jonathan, Harriet and Victoria.

SEATON'S GOT TALENT COMPETITION

Entry forms and full details regarding this competition are now available from the school office. Every child in the school can enter if they wish to and they will be grouped in their school year. Entry forms should be signed by all parents and returned to the office by Friday 14th May 2010.

SWIMMING

Unfortunately the children have not been able to swim this week because the temperature of the water is not high enough. This will continue next week, but we expect the week after it will be up and running. We will keep you posted.

AXMOUTH BUS

We have been informed that due to a road closure next week in Axmouth, Parnell Coaches will not be able to pick children up from their usual bus stop by Stepps Lane. These children will need to walk down the road to the next bus stop.

GARDENING CLUB

Things have really been happening this week at the lunchtime Gardening Club. Mrs Winnett, Mrs Anning and Mrs Bee went to Sidmouth Garden Centre on Sunday afternoon and bought a large selection of vegetable seedlings, as well as several growbags. Sidmouth Garden Centre gave us a discount and we were able to buy these things thanks to the generosity of the PTA. The children enjoyed planting the seedlings out in the raised beds and some were put in growbags in the new greenhouse.

Otter Nurseries have also given us free pumpkins for a competition. More details to follow on this. Finally, on Wednesday, thanks to Carl Beckett, we had a delivery of free topsoil so now our previously empty raised bed can be planted up too.

PTA NEWS FROM Liz Price

A note for your diaries, the Summer Fete this year will be held on Saturday 10th July.
Liz Price

Yours sincerely

Alan Simpson
Headteacher

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