

SEATON PRIMARY SCHOOL
Valley View, Seaton
Tel: 01297 20922 www.seatonprimary.co.uk

23rd April 2009

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents

The children have started their summer term with summer weather – long may it continue! The first half of the term is very short (5 weeks) and includes the May Day Bank Holiday on 4th May. However, it will be a very busy time in school with Year 6 SATs taking place in the week beginning 11th May and the Year 2 SATs also being undertaken at the same time and continuing into the following week. Year 5 will be taking their end of year tests during this period. Years 3 and 4 do their tests after half term in the week beginning 8th June.

HEADTEACHER'S SABBATICAL – VISIT TO INDIA

This year is my 20th year as a head teacher and my 9th year at Seaton Primary School. The governors asked me to look for an opportunity to take some time to refresh myself and extend my experience in a venture that would help the school to develop further also. This has coincided with an invitation for me to be part of a team that will be visiting Bangalore in India to look at work amongst the Dalits (untouchables) to provide education, health care and support in raising their status. The Dalits are the poorest of the poor in Indian society and I know the experience of working with the children, seeing their homes, visiting the schools and learning about their life styles will be interesting, but also very challenging.

The visit will take place from 27th May (during half term) until 10th June, so I will be missing seven days of school. During this time, Ms Kate McFarlane, the Deputy Head, will be responsible for the school.

In the next few weeks I will be involving everyone in my preparations for the visit. I want our children to learn more about India and the places I will be visiting. I want them to write letters and draw pictures about themselves and Seaton so that I can take them with me to share with the children in India. I will also be asking for teaching materials and equipment from all schools in the area and from County to take or send on to the schools in India. They require help with consumables, eg paper, pencils, paint, sports equipment, etc. I also hope to raise funds to help them improve their building and provide furniture.

I hope the schools I visit will want to develop a permanent link with us for the future and that we can continue to communicate and share with one another. I will obviously want to share my experience with the children and others that are interested once I return. Our world is a big place but opportunities like this bring people together. It is vital that our children are

more aware of multi-cultural and world-wide perspectives. No doubt, you will be hearing more from me about this over the next few weeks!

PARK WITH CARE

There have been complaints from our neighbours regarding careless parking of cars across their drives or on pavements, therefore blocking them from getting in and out, or getting past. Please park with care! Better still, now the summer is here, walk to school and enjoy health and education benefits for your children. Did you know a ten minutes walk to school gets the blood moving through the brain and helps your child to be more ready to learn?!

SCHOOL DATES

With this newsletter today is a copy of the school dates for the remainder of this academic year and for the next year commencing in September 2009. Please keep this for reference. Key Stage 1 Sports will be held on the afternoon of Monday 6th July and Key Stage 2 Sports on the morning of Wednesday 8th July.

YEAR 3 / 4 PRODUCTION 'DRAGON'

We are pleased to report we collected a total of £254.10 after the performances of 'Dragon'. Thank you to all who supported us.

CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

Next Friday, 1st May 2009, the school photographer will be taking class photographs. These will be available for you to buy in the same way as individual photographs.

FAMILY GROUP PHOTOGRAPHS

As previously advised, the school photographer will also be coming to school to take family group photographs on Saturday 6th June. We are writing to all those who have already expressed an interest regarding a time for their photo. If you have not been in contact with us and would like a photo, please fill in the slip at the end of this newsletter. The cost is the same as the individual school photo packs.

HEAD GIRL AND HEAD BOY

Congratulations to Chloe and Thomas who take over Head Boy and Head Girl responsibilities this term. We would like to thank Millie and Charlie for their help last term.

CLUBS

School clubs will start week commencing Monday 4th May and will finish on Friday 26th June, apart from Art club which will not start until Monday 11th May. Details of the clubs will be sent out early next week.

SCHOOL LINK BOOKS

Orders placed for School Link books have now arrived and are in the office awaiting

collection. Any books not collected by Monday will be sent home with the children.

MAY DAY CELEBRATION

Celebrate May Day from 2.00pm until 5.00pm on Monday 4th May at The Spiral, Combe Farm, Axmouth. You can dance around the Maypole, walk the Spiral, visit the Library and take part in many more activities. Entrance £1.00, children free. For more information phone Christina on 01297 23822.

PTA NEWS from Claire Ross

Bag2School: There will be a Bag2School collection on Thursday 7th May. Bag2School collects various items for re-sale, such as secondhand clothing (adults' and children's), bedding, curtains, soft toys, shoes, belts and handbags. Additional bags are available from the office, or you can use any non-black plastic bag. Bric-a-brac and items unsuitable for reuse must not be included in the bags. The filled bags can be brought to school from 3.00pm on Wednesday 6th May, but if you can, please delay until 8.30am on the Thursday as we have a limited storage area! The PTA receives 25p per kilo, so this is a great way of raising funds without asking families to dip into their own wallets!

Secondhand Uniform Sale: There will be a sale of secondhand uniform after school on Friday 24th and Monday 27th April. If you have any uniform in good condition to donate, please bring it along – boys' trousers of all sizes always seem to be in short supply!

Committee Meeting: There will be a PTA committee meeting on Tuesday 28th April at 3.25pm.

Claire Ross

Yours sincerely

Alan Simpson
Headteacher

If you wish to receive a copy of this Newsletter via email, please email news@seaton-primary.devon.sch.uk and we will arrange for it to be sent to you.

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FAMILY GROUP PHOTOGRAPHS – Saturday 6th June 2009

I am interested in having a family group photograph taken.

Name of child: _____

Signed: