

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

3rd September 2009

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents

Welcome back. I hope that you have all had an excellent summer break. Certainly all the children look like they have grown several centimetres! (Perhaps it was all the rain!)

Yesterday was a good day and everybody seemed to settle into their new classes very quickly. Already I can tell this is going to be another excellent year for the school. I can see it is going to be a very busy term. Please ensure that you read the newsletter every week. You should receive a copy every Thursday. If you do not receive one, check your child's book bag, a classroom tray or collect a copy from the foyer. You can also see a copy of the newsletter on our website www.seatonprimary.co.uk. Communications are vital and it is my intention to ensure all communications are good this year.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENTS

Other priorities for the 2009 – 2010 academic year are as follows:-

- * Review of Teaching and Learning throughout the school and in every subject to promote excellence and enjoyment.
- * Review of Assessment for Learning, Marking, Recording and Reporting.
- * Improving attendance (see below).
- * Provision of covered play area in Foundation Stage playground. (Plans already drawn up.)
- * Resurfacing of the school playground.
- * Achievement of National Excellence Awards for aspects of school life, eg the Primary Quality Marks, Investors in People, etc.

The school will be continuing to push for Phase 2 of our building programme for four classrooms and a second hall and will continue to offer excellence in all aspects already recognised by OFSTED.

ATTENDANCE

One of the issues raised by our OFSTED inspection back in the summer was to improve attendance from 'satisfactory' to 'good'. This means reducing our absence by at least 1% over the year. Our attendance target for this year is 96%. Attendance is important because all absences create gaps in learning that can make a big difference in standards achieved. In order to raise the importance of attendance we will organise a weekly competition to find the best class (in terms of their attendance) and awards given each half term for the best attenders.

The school will continue to keep a careful check on attendance and will send letters out to parents of children when their absence rate falls below 90%.

The current arrangements for holidays will remain. However, I will no longer authorise holiday absence if attendance is not above 90%. Please remember that by law I cannot authorise holiday or emergency leave of more than 10 days in any year. (Note that 10 days is approximately 5.3% absence and does not allow much for other absence due to illness in the year.) Please read the back of the holiday form carefully before applying for holiday leave and if possible attach any holiday planned to a school holiday to reduce absence as much as possible.

DINNER LADY REQUIRED

We are looking for an extra dinner lady to look after a child in the Reception class who has Special Needs. The hours of work would be 12.15 – 1.15pm. If you are interested, please inform the school office.

TERM DATES

Dates for this academic year are attached to this newsletter. Please keep them for reference.

SCHOOL DINNER MENU

The school dinner menu for this half term is being distributed today. Please let the Kitchen staff know if your child has any special dietary requirements, and if he/she does not want to have the dinner of the day, a jacket potato can be provided – please let the Kitchen staff know at the beginning of the day.

SCHOOL CLUBS

Details of school clubs will be sent out soon. Clubs will start week commencing Monday 14th September.

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

The school photographer will be coming to school on Monday 28th September to take individual photographs of the children. Children with brothers and/or sisters at the school will be photographed together. If you wish to have separate photographs, please write a note requesting that to your children's class teachers. If you have pre-school children you would like included, please come into school from 8.15am.

HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

Congratulations to Jacob and Amber who will be carrying out Head Boy and Head Girl duties this term!

KIDZ@PLAY

A reminder that our extended school club is open every day for all children aged 4 – 11. Term time sessions are:

Breakfast Club	8.00am – 8.50am	£3.60
After School Club	1 hour only	£4.00
	1 – 2 hours	£7.00

Full session (until 6.00pm) £9.00

For more information, call Faye Webb on 07875953144

PTA NEWS from Claire Ross

Seaton Carnival procession is on Saturday evening. Please consider volunteering to collect money during the procession. (You can collect a box from the Esplanade, normally between 6.00pm and 6.30pm.) The carnival usually donates money to the PTA so it is good if we are seen to be helping them in return.

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.