

# “Natter and Chatter”

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Welcome to the Spring newsletter of 2019.

**‘Unseasonably warm’; wet; cold; storms; etc. Who can keep up?! Well we are simply going to judge it as Spring and plan for the things we would normally plan for, hoping for the best!**

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Another busy term at Seadown School. One of our HLTAs, and member of the Pastoral Team, has moved on to pastures new. Debby and her partner found their dream home and, sadly for us, it is many miles from Seadown School. We wish her lots of luck in her new venture.

We welcomed Lorryn to our team just a few weeks ago. Lorryn is actually a very experienced teacher but, currently, she has joined us as a full time HLTA. We also have another new, part-time, staff member called Natasha and you may have already seen another Adam, who has been with us for a few months now. *Be sure to say ‘hi’ to all our new staff!*

### **Dates and Events**

On the right you will see dates for your diary. Please make a note of them but remember that if you mislay the newsletter there will soon be a copy on the school website, to refer back to.

### **Keeping in Touch:**

It is essential for the continual wellbeing and consistency of support for our students that we stay in touch with home. As you know, you can call us, email us, or message us via Bloomz.

We still have a few parents that have not signed up to this electronic communication – **it is essential that we have everyone available for quick updates in the event of sudden change or urgent information.** Please ask if you'd like to set this up and haven't yet done so: it is free.

### **Medicines and First Aid:**

Seadown now has quite a few students that take regular medications. We are, also, often asked about applying creams or giving painkillers etc.

We do have a medicines and first aid policy that you are welcome to have a copy of, should you want it. However, here are some key points for you, that may prove to be useful.

*In December 2015, the Department for Education produced the following guidance – “Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions”*



### Dates for your diary

#### **7th March**

World Book Day

#### **15th March**

Red Nose Day

#### **2nd April**

Parent / carers evening

#### **4th April**

Last day of half term

#### **23rd April**

Summer term begins: *return to school*

#### **13th May**

Science Week

#### **27th May 2019**

Half term week begins

#### **4th June 2019**

Return to school (*INSET 3rd June*)



This guidance includes the several statements relating to medicines, and the relevant sentences are outlined below:

- Wherever possible, children should be allowed to carry their own medicines and relevant devices or should be able to access their medicines for self-medication quickly and easily.
- Children who can take their medicines themselves or manage procedures may require an appropriate level of supervision.
- If it is not appropriate for a child to self-manage, relevant staff should help to administer medicines and manage procedures for them. This highlights that children should be allowed to self-medicate wherever possible
- No child under 16 should be given prescription or non-prescription medicines without their parent's written consent – except in exceptional circumstances where the medicine has been prescribed to the child without the knowledge of the parents. In such cases, every effort should be made to encourage the child or young person to involve their parents while respecting their right to confidentiality.

Schools should only accept prescribed medicines if these are:

- in-date
- labelled
- provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include instructions for administration, dosage and storage.

**These rules around medications have been taken into account by our school. Seadown's medicines policy goes on to state that:**

- **Non-prescription medicines**

Medicines which have not been prescribed by a medical practitioner will not be administered in school *without parental consent*. Children must not bring such medicines (e.g. Paracetamol, Ibuprofen, throat lozenges) into school without prior agreement.

- **Prescription medicines**

Prescription medicines should only be taken during the school day when essential.

Parents/carers will be encouraged request from doctors, where possible, medicines which can be administered outside of the school day.

Prescribed medications for things such as a health need or diagnosis like ADHD or Epilepsy will only be administered as it is written by the health professional.

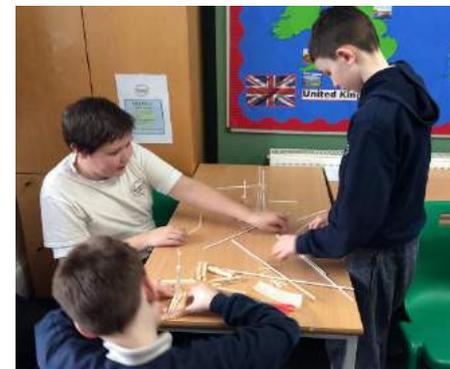
- **Medicines will only be administered according to the instructions on the pharmacy label.**

### **Social Media & Mobile Phones**

Like many schools up and down the country we are often being made aware of difficulties between students with regard to communication through the use of their mobile phones or social media.

Whilst we can do all we can about making pupils aware of their online safety there is obviously a limited amount we can do outside of school hours.

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) is a great website, endorsed by Childline and The National Crime Agency, written in age-appropriate, but informative, styles. There is a wealth of information for young people and their parents or carers. Here is some example information:



**Conduct:** children may be at risk because of their own behaviour, for example, by sharing too much information:

Children need to be aware of the impact that their online activity can have on both themselves and other people, and the digital footprint that they create on the internet. It's easy to feel anonymous online and it's important that children are aware of who is able to view, and potentially share, the information that they may have posted. When using the internet, it's important to keep personal information safe and not share it with strangers. Discuss with your child the importance of reporting inappropriate conversations, messages, images and behaviours and how this can be done.

**Content:**

Some online content is not suitable for children and may be hurtful or harmful. This is true for content accessed and viewed via social networks, online games, blogs and websites. It's important for children to consider the reliability of online material and be aware that it might not be true or written with a bias. Children may need your help as they begin to assess content in this way. There can be legal consequences for using or downloading copyrighted content, without seeking the author's permission.

**Posting pictures and videos:**

A few years ago most people only took a camera to special occasions like parties or holidays. Now we carry cameras all the time - on our phones.

You can take some snaps or shoot a video anywhere and share them online in no time. Photos and videos can be a great way to show your friends what you're up to.

But remember, it can be really hard, sometimes impossible, to delete pictures or videos from the internet or other people's mobiles. Once you've shared something online or on your mobile you've lost control of it - it can be copied, shared and even edited!

If you send an embarrassing picture or video to a friend it could end up anywhere. If you post it online anyone could see it, including your parents, teachers or future employers!

Remember – it's never too late to get help if you've seen or shared something you regret. You can report photos and videos to the websites they are on or seek help from an adult you trust.

**Parent/Carer-Teacher meetings.**

Soon you will have return slips to complete regarding the upcoming parent/ carers evening. Be sure to make arrangements to attend if you can. It's great for the children to know that you are following their progress and the work done at school.

**A busy term is ahead, after Easter, and there are some exciting activities planned. The school council have great ideas for Science Week and we are all hopeful that the weather will improve so that we can get out more often, into the community.**

**Amanda Curry  
Headteacher**



## Upper School Updates:

### Yellow Class

Yellow Class have had a settled term since the festivities of Christmas. They have been working hard to prepare for upcoming Functional Skills examinations. They have been using role play to practice speaking and listening skills and the class have also designed pseudo "Dragons Den" products which they then delivered presentations about, to the rest of the class.

During the first half of the term pupils were looking at note-taking skills to help them with their further education placements. During our maths lessons pupils have been learning lots. For example, having lots of hands-on experiences with ratios, shape space and measure, fractions/percentages and decimals and scale drawings. Pupils particularly enjoyed working with calculators when working area and volume based questions. All pupils became very proficient with using the calculators and using formulas that they could remember to correctly answer questions.

Pupils have been working hard on their chosen ASDAN short courses: researching key aspects of their area of study then presenting their findings using a variety of mediums. Pupils have been running their own fire drills in the building then producing plans to improve aspects of them in the future. Some students have also been preparing furniture for a restoration project, or producing eye catching leaflets and posters on how to care for animals and livestock. All have been learning life-skills so that they know how to become more independent in the outside world.

In summary we have been working hard to get our young adults ready for college and beyond and we are delighted with the progress we see.

**Ben Kinslow**

### Red Class

Red class have recently been learning about Conspiracies. For example, in Photography pupils made a photo story about a UFO landing and aliens turning people into Zombies! They've read about the Bermuda Triangle and Julius Caesar, in reading comprehension. Students have also been learning about rhetorical questions in their writing pieces; about Fake Moon Landings and about play structure by writing their own dramas.

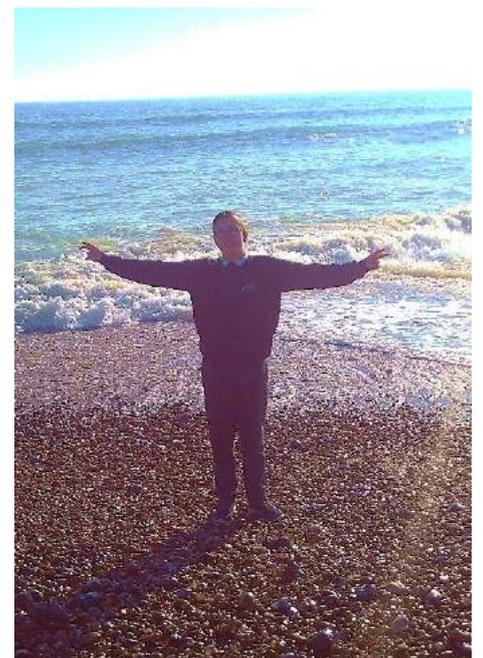
In Maths we've been working on shape, space and measure; learning about the properties of 2d and 3d shapes. In Science pupils have been learning about states of matter, solubility and how to separate mixtures using chromatography and filtration. *Ask them, to see if they remember how to do this!*

In Geography Red Class have been making maps of Worthing; learning about using a compass and co-ordinates to find locations on maps. In RE they've learnt about Lent in Christianity; in the lead up to Easter. In PE Red Class students have been 'honing' their football skills! In French they've been learning about how to talk *clearly* about hobbies and going on holiday. In PHSE they've been learning about fire safety, rules about friendship and how to be more *positively* assertive.

In Music students have been practicing their drumming skills on buckets, pans, trees and anything else they can find round the park and the beach! They they went on to record themselves and turn them into Scratch 'sound boards' on the computer. In computing Red Class have also been learning about how to avoid getting viruses and malware and what to do about it if they do.

So, a busy term, but an even busier one ahead!

**Liam Fletcher**



## Lower School Updates:

### Blue Class and Green Class

In Green and Blue class, we began our 'Home and Away' topic with a focus on *country comparisons*. We enjoyed learning about the country of Japan and making some of our own Japanese food by following traditional recipes.

As part of our English, we enjoyed reading books by the author 'David Wiesner.' His books helped bring our imaginations alive as we wrote fantasy stories about going on adventures under the sea.

The pupils enjoyed researching the geography of the United Kingdom and Japan, learning about all sorts of customs, cultures and landscapes. The pupils enjoyed researching about natural disasters and they used their research to design an earthquake-proof building. They had lots of fun building their designs and testing them on our very own shake table! It has also been fun to practice using different materials in art: we used clay to create very detailed samurai warriors and even painted with salt.

Recently we have been learning about local geography and exploring how maps are created. We are still planning to explore our local area by following maps and having a go at orienteering.

The pupils have been enjoying learning about the cycles of life in Science and have even had a go at dissecting a flower into its different parts. They have written their own scientific book for younger children; to share the knowledge they've learnt about animal life cycles.

In the summer term our topic will be 'Infinity and Beyond' where we will be exploring space and weather systems.

*Claire Johnson and  
Chris Allwright*

