

Seghill First School Newsletter January 2017 edition 1

Welcome back

I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to our children and families following the Christmas break, and hope you enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

New Chair of Governors

I am delighted to announce our new Chair of Governors is Mrs Steph Hall. Mrs Hall is an existing member of the governing body and brings a wealth of experience of teaching and leading schools in Northumberland. I am very much looking forward to working with Mrs Hall in her new role as Chair. She will be attending the key stage 1 coffee morning on Friday 13 January.

Mrs Hall takes over from Mr David Street, who will no longer be Chair of Governors, but will continue to support the school as a member of the governing body. I would like to thank Mr Street for all of his work as Chair of Governors and look forward to continuing to work with him.

Class coffee mornings

Class coffee mornings will be taking place next week on Wednesday Thursday and Friday. Reminders were sent home yesterday.

Christmas jumper appeal

Thank you to children and staff who wore their Christmas jumpers on the last day of the autumn term. We raised **£89.40** for the Save The Children appeal.

Bags2school

We have organised a collection from Bags2school on **Thursday 26 January**. Bags have already been sent home. We would be delighted to receive your donations of clothes, shoes, hats, belts, handbags, ties and soft toys by this date. We receive an amount for school funds based on the combined weight of the bags. Please see Mrs Elliott if you need extra bags.

School meal on Thursday 19 January

We are serving a special school meal on **Thursday 19 January** for children in Early Years class 2 and Years 1 to 4. Children will be served burger and chips in a Star Wars themed boxed, with a muffin and carton of juice. Golden tickets will be hidden in some boxes and lucky winners will be a bale to pick a prize. Please complete and return the attached order form by **Monday 16 January** so we know if you want to order a special school meal or provide a packed lunch for your child.

Creative day for Chinese New Year on Monday 30 January

We have organised a whole school creative day to celebrate Chinese New Year on Monday 30 January. Children in all year groups will be learning about traditions and customs relating to the Chinese New Year celebrations. We will also be serving a Chinese themed meal for lunch for children in Early Years class 2 and Years 1 to 4. The menu for the meal and an order form is attached. Please complete and return the order form by **Monday 16 January** so we know if you want to order a Chinese themed meal or provide a packed lunch for your child.

Building work

- Preparation for improvements to the building have already started. A hording has been put up in the corridor outside Year 1 to ensure the work being done on the corridor windows is kept completely separate from the children and to allow the corridor to remain in use.
- Work to remove and replace the existing windows is due to start on Monday 09 January.
- The first phase of work will be the removal and replacement of the existing windows in the Year 1 classroom and the corridor outside Year 1. A new classroom door will also be built in to the Cheviot View side of the classroom.
- The same work will be completed in the Year 2, 3 and 4 classrooms.
- While this work is taking place the Year 1 class will be based in the ICT Suite and the Club Room. **Please drop off all Year 1 children at the Club Room every morning and collect them from the bottom yard at 3:15pm for the duration of the building work.**
- We have a plan for where each class will be located while the work is being done in their classroom. The plan is based on the children having the least amount of upheaval while the work is being done. We will let parents of children in each class know when their classroom is being renovated, where their children will be located and the arrangements for dropping off and collection.
- Work in the Early Years unit and the hall will be completed in February half term holidays.

Many of you have commented on how different the middle garden looks without the trees. These were removed during the Christmas holidays. The work to remove and replace the existing corridor roof would not have been possible due to the overhanging branches. The option to remove these branches and keep the tress was not possible as removal of major branches would have made the remaining limbs unstable and potentially dangerous. The trees were all around 80 years old and without the protection they had from being in the enclosed middle garden, they would have been unlikely to have survived this long.

After school football club

After school football club will start on **Tuesday 10 January** for boys and girls in Years 2 and 3. The club will be run by Mr Dowson, who will also be teaching football to Years 2 and 3 in their PE lessons on Tuesday afternoons. Mr Dowson has worked with us already on a number of occasions. A separate letter has been sent out to Years 2 and 3.

After school homework club

After school homework club will start on **Monday 09 January** for some boys and girls in Years 1 to 4. The club will be run by a teacher each week. A separate letter has been sent out to parents of children who have been invited to attend. At this time, homework club is only for those children who have received an invitation to attend.

Keeping you informed

The spring term diary was sent home at the end of last term and is also on the school website. Newsletters are sent home fortnightly to ensure parents and carers are kept up to date with what is happening in school. Mrs Elliott will be emailing newsletters and other letters when possible and sending text reminders. Please make sure you have given us your **new contact number** if you got a new mobile telephone for Christmas. Thank you.