

Seghill First School Newsletter July 2021 edition 2

End of term message

The end of a school year is always a time for reflection. This year has been one of the most challenging ever. Never before has keeping children and staff safe been more important. We have proved ourselves to be resilient, adaptable and creative in the face of rapidly changing circumstances that we had no way of controlling, or even really understanding.

Our children continue to be delightful and a credit to us. This is especially noted whenever we take them out, such as to Dukeshouse Wood. We are very fortunate to be so very well supported by so many parents who ensure their children are ready for learning every day.

I continue to be supported by a dedicated team of staff who I believe, do more than any other team in any other school to prioritise the safeguarding of children and their academic and emotional development. The staff put an unbelievable amount of effort into planning exciting opportunities, helping children with their work, sourcing and even supplying resources and equipment and planning bespoke opportunities to meet the needs of individuals. I do believe that our children would prosper so much less without the all-round care that they get from the adults in school and I am immensely grateful for that.

I also continue to be supported by a dedicated team of governors who are an effective group, able to use their strengths to good effect. These unpaid volunteers do a huge amount to support our continued school improvement. I must say a personal thank you our Chair of Governors, Mrs Hall. She does a great deal of work behind the scenes and always provides a listening ear for me to discuss any ideas, issues or concerns.

The work of our very small but extremely dedicated team of fundraisers and parent helpers must be mentioned. The fundraisers do a huge amount of work behind the scenes and give up a great deal of their own time and energy. It is no coincidence that our fundraising totals have increased so much since they volunteered as fundraisers.

It is impossible to look back at this year without thinking of Covid and the impact it has had on all of us. We nearly made it to the end of another academic year without a positive case in school, but not quite. Despite this, I would like to end this message by looking forward to next year. I know that the school is in as strong a position now as it ever has been. Next year we will continue work as hard as ever to recover the gaps in learning and get the children's learning back on track while providing the same level of care and support as we have done this year.

We will send our Year 4 children to middle school in September as well prepared as possible and a credit to their families and our school. Our love and very best wishes go to Katie, Adele, Sidney, Lucy, Bailey, Matthew, Jessica, Aurora, Emily, Kai, Emily, Tom, Lauren, Connor, Abbie, Layla, Jake, Lily, Alfie, Daniel, Isabelle, Evie, Stephanie, Alex and Rachael.

We also say goodbye and send love to Nieve and Zac who are moving to a Cramlington school and to Willow who is moving to a school in Blyth.

We also wish a very fond farewell to Miss Edmondson who is leaving the learning support team as she has secured a full time post in a neighbouring local authority. Thank you for all of your hard work and we wish you every success.

We hope you all have a relaxing summer and look forward to hearing about all of your adventures.

Best wishes from Miss Chappell

Staffing update

As we informed you in our previous newsletters, we will be increasing our current provision from 5 classes to **6 single aged classes** from September.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Mrs Thomas	Mrs Kembrey	Miss Neal	Mrs Knowles and Mrs Bell	Mrs Jones and Mrs Watson	Mrs Lyons

There will be a number of changes to teaching and learning support staff from September. Interviews have been taking place all week and our recruitment process finished yesterday.

The **Year 4** class teacher will be Mrs Lyons.

The **Year 3 class teachers** will be Mrs Watson and the newly appointed Mrs Jones. Mrs Jones is a very experienced teacher.

The **Year 2 teacher** will be Mrs Knowles for the beginning of the autumn term, followed by Mrs Bell. Mrs Bell is having an operation during the summer holidays and will not be fit to return in September. While she recuperates, Mrs Knowles will be the class teacher for Year 2. When Mrs Bell returns to work, Mrs Knowles will be leaving our school.

The **Year 1 teacher** will be Miss Neal. She will be moving from Nursery to Year 1.

Mrs Kembrey will continue to be the **Reception teacher**. The **Nursery teacher** will be Mrs Thomas, who will be taking over for Mrs Askew while she is on maternity leave. Mrs Thomas is also a very experienced teacher.

We are very much looking forward to working with our new staff team.

School closed over the summer

School will be closed to all pupils over the summer holidays. This includes the school office. Emails to the admin email account will be checked throughout the holidays. Staff may be in school preparing for next term. Essential maintenance and checks are also still carried out through the summer holidays.

We have received a large number of school uniform orders this week, which we have tried to process. Any new orders will be processed in September.

If you are worried about the safeguarding of a child, please ring school on 0191 237 0419 or our **safeguarding number 07785 180484**. This mobile number can also be used to report a Covid test result if you do not have email access. Your call may go straight to answer machine, but messages are checked every day.

Birthdays

Our birthday boys and girls in August are-

- Zac age 6 in Red class;
- Olie age 8 in Green class;
- Nieve, Aurora, Matthew, Stephanie and Alex in Blue class.

Happy birthday to you all. We hope your birthday is special and fun.



Covid update

In our last newsletter, we updated you on our **systems and protective measures** for September. We asked for your comments and questions. Today is the final day for comments and questions. I am meeting with our Chair and Vice Chair of governors, Mrs Hall and Mrs Gauld, on Monday, and we will discuss your questions and comments then. We will write to you again at the beginning of next week to confirm our systems and protective measures in light of comments and questions presented during the consultation period.

Fundraising update

We drew the **raffle** earlier this week. The fundraisers made up some fabulous hampers and prizes. The prizes and prize winners are listed below-

Prize	winner	class	Ticket number and colour
Alcohol hamper	Emily	Yellow	366 - 370
Chocolate hamper	Harry	Orange	596 - 600
Alcohol hamper	Emily	Yellow	366 - 370
Kids hamper 1	Declan M	Red	541 - 545
Kids hamper 2	Ella	Yellow	226 - 230
Kids hamper 3	Emily He	Blue	81 - 85
Gents hamper	Bailey J	Yellow	321 - 325
Kids hamper 4	Luciana	Orange	616 - 620
Ladies hamper	Holly	Blue	646 - 650
Gin and bubbles	Ann Douglas	c/o Miss Chappell	796 - 800
Family portrait and fizz	Joey	Blue	386 - 390
Jack Daniels gift set	Mason	Green	461 - 465
Bourbon and torch set	Ava	Red	521 - 525
Lego and sweets 1	Mr Dowson	c/o Miss Chappell	681 - 685
Lego and sweets 2	Dylan M	Blue	21 - 25
Hair wrap gift set	Jasmina	Green	896 - 900
Chocolate and wine 1	Callum	Green	771 - 775
Chocolate and wine 2	Noah	Yellow	396 - 400
Lush gift set	Adele	Blue	126 - 130
Slush Puppy gift set	Matt	Blue	31 - 35
Sports camp voucher 1*	Kaycee-Marie	Green	441 - 445
Sports camp voucher 2*	Layton	Red	561 - 565
Sports camp voucher 3*	Alexa	Green	331 - 335
Sports camp voucher 4*	Matthew	Blue	6 - 10
Sports camp voucher 5*	Orla	Red	501 - 505

All prizes have been claimed. If you have won a sports camp voucher with Mr Dowson, please contact Mr Dowson directly to arrange to arrange your child's free one day sports coaching session.

Thank you so much to everyone for the prizes that were donated and to the fundraisers for all of their hard work.

From the raffle and the mini tombola at the Year 4 leavers' party, we raised **£270** for school funds.

September dates

School is closed on Monday 06 September for a training day and re-opens to pupils from Reception to Year 4 on **Tuesday 07 September**.

