

Seghill First School Newsletter Febuary 2019 edition 1

Whole school attendance since September 2018	94.2%	Attendance target	96.3%
Attendance this term so far	91.5%	Number of late marks this term so far	72

Advance notice of our World Book Day book and toy sale and coffee morning

Our **World Book Day book and toy sale and coffee morning** will be taking place on Thursday 07 March from 8:45am in the school hall for children in yellow, red, green and blue class.

We dress up for World Book Day on alternate years. As we did not dress up last year, we are asking the children to dress up this year if they want to. Children and staff are asked to come to school dressed as their **favourite book character** on Thursday 07 March. Please try to make a costume from existing things you have at home rather than buying a costume. Prizes will be awarded for the most original costume in each class.

Our coffee morning will start at 8:45am. Children from yellow, red, green and blue class will be brought to the hall by their class teacher so you can buy them a book and/or toy if you want to. Hot drinks, cold drinks and biscuits will also be on sale.

Children and parents in orange class are invited to the World Book Day book and toy sale and coffee morning in the **Nursery classroom from 11:00am.**

We will let you know about donations of toys and books in our next newsletter.

Children will be bringing home their £1 World Book Day book token at the beginning of March. The list of ten books available for free by swapping the book token is available at [£1 world book day books](#)

Star of the week

Our stars of the week for week beginning Monday 21 and 28 January are-

Blue class star Jamie and Mason;

Green class star Daniel and Rachael;

Red class star Holly and Mitchell;

Yellow class star Callum W and Klay;

Orange class star Emily and Esme;

Support staff star Olivia and William;

Miss Chappell's star Joey and Daniel;

Miss Chappell's staff star Mrs Elliott and Mrs Miller.



Advance notice about Mother's Day Lunch on Friday 29 March

Mams, grandmas, aunties and special ladies in your family are invited to attend our Mother's Day lunch on **Friday 29 March**. Tickets will go on sale at the beginning of March.

A **roast beef lunch** followed by a **muffin** will be served to all our guests (one per family). **Tea and coffee** will be available to buy and we have a brilliant **raffle** organised for the event.

This year we will be giving you the option to order a **very special extra gift** when you order your Mother's Day Lunch ticket for a special female adult. This gift will be personalised from your child (or children). We won't be providing specific details in order not to spoil the surprise, but I can **GUARANTEE** that anyone ordering this very special gift will not be disappointed on Mother's Day (guarantee not legally binding, obviously!).

Please watch out for order forms for Mother's Day Lunch being sent out, as we must apply a very strict deadline for orders to be received to meet food ordering deadlines.

Reminder about requests for leave of absence during term time

Legislation states-

“Section 7 of the 1996 Education Act states that parents must ensure that children of compulsory school age receive efficient full-time education suitable to their age, ability and aptitude to any special educational needs they may have, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.”

It also states, “From the 1st September 2013, Headteachers **shall not** grant a request for a leave of absence unless an application has been made in advance to the school and, when such a request is made any leave can only be authorised if there are exceptional circumstances relating to that application.”

If you make a request for leave of absence during term time, it must be made **in writing at least two weeks in advance. Evidence of exceptional circumstances must be provided.** If the application is made less than two weeks in advance and/or evidence of exceptional circumstances is not provided, the request will not be authorised.

Explanations about leave of absence being requested such as holidays being booked as a surprise, holidays being booked by other family members, not being able to afford to go during the school holidays etc are reasons for making the request but are not examples of evidence of exceptional circumstances.

Parents and carers are reminded that in addition to the absence being unauthorised, a **penalty notice** may also be served. This is a fine of £60 per child per parent.

A copy of our **attendance policy**, which is shared by all eight Seaton Valley Learning Partnership schools, is on our school website.

Reminder about punctuality

Our doors open at 8:35am and close at 8:45am. Children who arrive at school after 8:45am will be marked as present but will be given a late mark.

Children who arrive after the registers have closed at 9:15am will be recorded as late after registration and this will count as an absence for that school session. This absence will not be authorised.

This is our school policy and is in line with legislation for late arrival at school. Our policy on punctuality is included in our attendance policy.

There may well be a very valid reason why your child is late and we fully accept that this can happen. However, children who are not in school at 8:45am are marked as late whether there is a valid reason for their lateness or not. Children who arrive at school after 8:45am must be brought by an adult in person to the school office and an explanation for their late arrival must be provided.

Since September 2018 we have recorded 303 late marks; 292 late marks and a further 11 late marks when children have arrived in school after 9:15am.

Active Northumberland

Staff from **Active Northumberland** will be coming in to school to lead an **assembly next week** about all of **the activities that they have on offer over the half term holiday**. Many of these activities are **free and are in Seghill or one of the local villages**. Watch out for their flier, which we will send home.

Jim Clough

I am very sad to let you know that one of our former governors, Mr Jim Clough, passed away last week. Jim was a very well-known figure in Seghill and the local area as a whole. He was mayor of Blyth Valley twice and a committee member of the Seghill Treats Association for many, many years. I will be representing the school at his funeral next week along with Miss Meredith and Mr Catchpole.

February 2019	
Monday 04 February	Environment for Learning committee meeting at 4:00pm
Monday 04 February	Resource Management committee meeting at 5:15pm
Thursday 07 February	Gymnastics festival for Year 3 and 4 gymnastics squad
Friday 08 February	Personal challenge festival for Blue class
Friday 08 February	Blue class assembly at 2:30pm PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME
w/b Monday 11 February	Topic week with a focus on computing
Friday 15 February	Spring A celebration assembly at 2:30pm
Monday 18 to Friday 22 February school closed for February half term	
Monday 25 February	School opens for spring term B
March 2019	
Thursday 07 March	World book day book and toy sale and coffee morning at 8:45am
Friday 08 March	Green class assembly at 2:30pm
Thursday 14 March	Bags2school collection
Monday 18 March	Easter times table challenge starts
Friday 22 March	Six days of cycling with Mrs Bell and Richard from Cycling Generation starts
Wednesday 27 March	Full governing body meeting at 5:00pm
Friday 29 March	Mother's day lunch
April 2019	
Monday 01 April	Meetings for parents and children in red and green class with class teachers*
Tuesday 02 April	Meetings for parents and children in blue and orange class with class teachers*
Wednesday 03 April	Meetings for parents and children in yellow class with Mrs Kembrey*
Wednesday 03 April	Meetings for parents and children in all classes with class teachers from 3:30pm
Thursday 04 April	Spring B celebration assembly at 8:45am
Thursday 04 April	Easter egg competition judged in celebration assembly
Thursday 04 April	Easter disco at 3:15pm
Friday 05 April	School closed- staff training day
Monday 08 to Friday 19 April school closed for Easter holidays	
Monday 22 April	School closed- bank holiday
Tuesday 23 April	School opens for the summer term
Monday 29 April	Blue class coffee morning at 8:45am
Monday 29 April	Orange class coffee morning at 11:00am
Tuesday 30 April	Red class coffee morning at 8:45am
May 2019	
Wednesday 01 May	Green class coffee morning at 8:45am
Friday 03 May	Yellow class coffee morning at 8:45am
Friday 10 May	Red class assembly at 2:30pm
Friday 10 May	Games night from 3:15pm to 5:00pm for children in red, green and blue class
Sunday 18 May	Greggs Cancer Run
Wednesday 22 May	Tag rugby festival for blue class
Friday 24 May	Summer A celebration assembly at 2:30pm
Monday 27 to Friday 31 May school closed for May half term	
June 2019	
Monday 03 June	School opens for summer term B

Spring term topic homework

Class teachers will be sending home **spring term topic homework** next Friday. Children have at least three weeks to do this homework, including one week during half term. The responses to the autumn term topic homework were amazing and we are really looking forward to seeing a contribution from everyone this time. Children will still be given **spellings** to learn and expected to **read at least three times each week** but no other English or maths homework will be given while they are doing their topic homework.

