

Seghill First School Newsletter September 2021 edition 1

Attendance target 96.3%

Welcome back

We hope you have enjoyed a happy and peaceful summer break. We would like to extend a warm welcome back to everyone. It is lovely to see all of the children looking so smart in their school uniform. We are very happy to be starting a new school year where we can hopefully return to many of the activities that we did before Covid restrictions, including inviting parents and carers into school on a regular basis.

We would like to say a special welcome to Sophie, who has joined our Reception class. We are also looking forward to meeting our new Nursery children who will be joining us next week.

We would also like to welcome our new staff. **Mrs Jones** is now working alongside Mrs Watson as the Year 3 class teachers.

Mrs Thomas is our new Nursery teacher who is covering for Mrs Askew while she is on maternity leave.

Miss Elliott will be providing additional support to learning in Early Years.

Mrs Askew welcomed a beautiful baby girl called Rosie during the summer holidays. Mum and baby are doing well, and Alfie is a very excited and helpful big brother.

Mrs Bell has had her operation during the summer holidays and is recovering well. While she recuperates, Mrs Knowles will be the class teacher for Year 2.

Our classes and staff are arranged like this-

Year group	Class name	Staff names
Nursery class	orange class	Mrs Thomas and Miss Elliott
Reception class	yellow class	Mrs Kembrey
Year 1 class	red class	Miss Neal and Mrs Miller
Year 2 class	green class	Mrs Knowles and Mrs Ellison
Year 3 class	purple class	Mrs Jones and Mrs Watson
Year 4 class	blue class	Mrs Lyons

The school office is currently closed as **Mrs Elliott** is absent from work. Please use School Gateway or the admin email address to send us messages, or leave a message on the school answering machine.

PE days for the autumn term A

Class	Autumn term A PE days
Reception yellow class	Tuesdays and Wednesdays
Year 1 red class	Tuesdays and Thursdays
Year 2 green class	Tuesdays and Thursdays
Year 3 purple class	Mondays and Thursdays
Year 4 blue class	Mondays and Thursdays

Children should wear a **plain white t-shirt, plain black or navy shorts or joggers, sandshoes or trainers and their school sweatshirt or cardigan** to school on their PE days. Please ensure long hair is tied back for PE. Children cannot wear earrings for PE. If your child cannot remove their own earrings they should not wear them on PE days. Staff are unable to remove earrings for children.

Autumn term coffee mornings

Class teachers will be providing class coffee mornings during **week beginning Monday 20 September**.

Years 3 and 4

Monday 20 September at 8:45am

Years 1 and 2

Tuesday 21 September at 8:45am

Nursery and Reception

Wednesday 22 September at 8:45am

Jeans for Genes

Staff and children are invited to wear **denim** and pay a minimum donation of 50p on **Friday 17 September** to support the Jeans for Genes charity. This charity does amazing work to support families where a child has a genetic disorder. We will be learning about genetic disorders and the work of the charity in assemblies in the next few weeks.

School uniform

As we have said, it is lovely to see the children looking so smart in their school uniform. In order to ensure that your child returns home with their own uniform, **please ensure that all items are named**. We have already come across a number of issues, particularly with jumpers and cardigans, because they are not named.

Macmillan Coffee Morning Friday 24 September

We will be hosting our annual **Macmillan coffee morning** on **Friday 24 September** in the school hall from **8:45am**. This is always a wonderful event and we are delighted to be able to be hosting it again.

We will be selling **cakes and cuppas**. Children in **yellow, red, green, purple and blue class** will be brought to the hall to join you for a cake and cuppa. Parents of children in orange class are very welcome to join us but we will not be bringing Nursery children to the hall. Experience tells us that this is just too much for the children to deal with during their first fortnight in school.

Cake pledges will be sent out soon. We are very much looking forward to supporting the Macmillan charity again this year and to seeing parents and carers in school.

Dukeshouse Wood meeting

There is a meeting about Dukeshouse Wood for parents, carers and Year 4 children on **Tuesday 05 October at 3:15pm**. We will be sharing information about the visit, which will be taking place in June 2022.

Punctuality reminder

We have made a super start to the new school year with all children arriving at school on time. Please support us to make sure your child has the best possible start to the day by **arriving at their classroom by 8:50am**. Gates are locked at 8:50am and children who arrive after this time will not be allowed in.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Breakfast Club and an **After School Club** continue to operate in the Club Room.

Breakfast Club opens at **7:30am**. Please take your child to the Club Room. Staff from Breakfast Club will take your child to their classroom at the start of the school day. This costs **£3.50** per child and includes breakfast.

After School Club runs from **3:15pm to 5:30pm**. Staff from After School Club will collect your child from their classroom at 3:15pm. Please collect your child from the Club Room. This costs **£7.00** per child and includes tea.

Bookings for Breakfast Club and After School Club must be booked and paid for in advance on School Gateway; children cannot turn up on the day without a booking.

We hope that this service will be well used and will support families in our village.

Reading books

Last academic year we bought a whole set of new **reading books** for school, paid for from our fundraising account. The reading books for children in Reception and key stage 1 are **closely matched to our phonics scheme**, so children will read books at home which will revisit and revise the sounds they have been taught in school. We have also bought a range of more **challenging and interesting texts** for our older children.

We will be giving out reading books next week. Do not be alarmed if your child brings home a reading book from a colour band that they have already read- we have reorganised the reading book bands. Teachers will explain about this at the class coffee mornings and at workshops that we have planned for this term.

Information for parents and carers

With this newsletter we are sending out a pack of information for parents and carers. This will include the following information for you to keep-

- Copy of the school calendar including training days and holidays;
- Copy of the 2021 – 2022 diary;
- E-safety information;
- Information about Operation Encompass and Operation Endeavour.

We are circulating the diary dates for the whole academic year to give you advance notice about all of our events between now and the end of July 2022. Please keep this at hand to make sure you know what is happening. Extra events may be added as the year progresses, but we hope you find this useful.

We also need some information from you. We are sending home some forms that we need you to complete and return to school. They are-

- Home school agreement- please sign and return **ONE** copy;
- Admissions form;
- Medical conditions form- only return this if your child has a medical condition;
- Local visits form;
- Photograph permission form.

Please complete and return the specified forms by **Friday 17 September**. It is very important that we have the correct contact details for you and your permission for activities.

School Gateway

We are sending out a paper copy of today's newsletter along with the information for parents and carers. From now on, all newsletters will be sent out via **School Gateway**. School Gateway is the method for paying for clubs, school meals and milk and for giving consent. It is also used to send out text messages and emails.

We have been using this system for over a year now. If you have not downloaded the School Gateway app, please do so. We will try to help you to resolve any issues that you have, but cannot do so unless you have the app.



