

Seghill First School Newsletter October 2017 edition 2

Whole school attendance 95.6%. Attendance target 96.3%

Halloween party Tuesday 31 October

Our Halloween party in the school hall which will include-

- devilish disco
- gruesome games
- freaky fancy dress competition
- spooky snacks and witches brew



The party will start at **4:00pm** and **end at 5:30pm**. Please bring your child to the main entrance at the school office at 4:00pm and collect them from there at 5:30pm.

Tickets have been on sale for two weeks and no tickets will be available after the end of today.

Divali week

Our **Divali topic week** has been taking place this week. It has been lovely to see the children to come to school wearing their **party clothes** in line with people celebrating Divali around the world. The official date for Divali was yesterday but we are celebrating today to fit in with the end of our topic.

Children have had some wonderfully enriching experiences this week and it has been an absolute pleasure to see how engaged our children have been with their learning. This was also commented upon by all of the governors who have been in school this week to share our Divali experiences. Thank you, governors.

I would also like to thank all the staff who have made tremendous efforts to ensure that children have experienced social, moral, spiritual and cultural opportunities this week linked to Divali.

I am sure that our **celebration assembly** this afternoon will bring this week to a close in style. We will try to get the photographs on the website as soon as possible for you to see what the children have been learning this week.

Reminder for Year 4 parents about middle school applications

If your child is currently in Year 4 please remember to apply for a middle school place for September 2018 by **31 October 2017**. The admissions portal on the Northumberland County Council website is open.

We sent a reminder out earlier this week. Please do not miss this deadline date. If you need help, please ask. We can make a computer available for you in school to access the internet if this will help.

Request from Early Years

Mrs Murdy and the Early Years team would be very grateful for donations of **wellies, knickers, underpants, trousers and skirts** in smaller sizes that your child no longer wears. Please take donations to the school office. If your child comes home with spare clothes from school, **please wash the items and return them to school**. We have already run out of clothes to lend out as those items lent out have not been returned. Thank you.

Moss clearing

Thank you to Mr Taylor for completing the mammoth task of clearing the moss from the paths around our school site. Hopefully this will make movement around our building much safer.

Reminder of our collection of children policy

We have recently had a number of issues, including-

- parents collecting children from school significantly later than 3:15pm or 11:45am for children in orange class;
- parents not informing staff about collection arrangements, including children being collected by Spinning Tops;
- parents informing staff at home time that they have been asked to collect someone else's child without school being informed by the child's parents;
- parents expecting children to leave school and be sent to cars on Cheviot View or Barrass Avenue.

We fully acknowledge that the vast majority of parents collect their children on time every day and comply with the expectations in our collection of children policy. However, all of the issues raised above have happened in the last couple of weeks.

We understand that parents travelling to school for pick up time can be delayed for a number of reasons, including the heavy traffic. **If you are going to be late**, please contact us and let us know. Staff will wait with your child until they are collected. However, parents are responsible for collecting their child on time and **we are not a free child care service**.

If your child is collected by **Spinning Tops**, it is the responsibility of parents to inform the class teacher and to tell Spinning Tops if your child is absent from school and therefore does not need to be collected from school.

Parents who want their child to be collected from school by another parent must inform the class teacher when they drop off their child in the morning or telephone school to let us know. **We will not continue to allow children to go home with someone else's parent without being informed in advance.**

Children must be collected in person from the top yard or directly outside the green, yellow or orange classrooms. If you are collecting a child from red or blue class, **please wait near the classroom door**. Mrs Knowles and I are struggling to see some parents behind the trim trail apparatus, standing at the wall of the big club or at the gate next to Barrass Avenue.

A copy of our **collection of children policy** is available on the school website in the policies section of the virtual office tab. All of the measures we have in place explained in this policy are to ensure that we keep your child safe and ensure they leave our school with the right adult. If you have any concerns about the collection of children, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me.

Autumn term A attendance update

The **class with the best attendance** in the autumn term A is **red class** with 97.9 % attendance. They will receive an afternoon of Golden Time with Mrs Knowles after half term. Well done, red class.

The draw for the individual pupil of the half term will be made in celebration assembly this afternoon.

Overall attendance for this half term is 95.5%. Attendance for each class is-

	% attendance	Number of late marks	Unauthorised absences (number of days)
Yellow class	97.4	18	2.5
Green class	93.4	16	31
Red class	97.9	8	6
Blue Class	96.4	32	3.5
Whole school	95.5	74	43

Fundraising and community news

Bags2school

We have arranged a **Bags2school collection** for **Monday 13 November**. Bags will be sent out after the half term break for donations of clothes, bedding etc. The bags are weighed by the Bags2school team. The heavier the bags, the more money we raise for our school. The money raised will be used to subsidise the **Christmas treat** so all children experience a special opportunity free of charge.

Daft As A Brush ambulance

I am delighted to announce that we have been asked to work with two local first schools to **provide the art work for a new Daft As A Brush ambulance**. Daft As A Brush is a charity which provides free transport for cancer out-patients to and from the Freeman and RVI hospitals in our region.

The ambulance has been paid for by **Coty (formerly Proctor and Gamble)** and they nominated our school to be involved. Partners from Daft As A Brush lead a whole school assembly last week. Children are currently thinking of a name for the ambulance. The most popular choices will be sent to Daft As A Brush, and they will pick a name from our suggestions and the suggestions from the other two schools involved.

November 2017	
Tuesday 07	Keep on riding session 2 for blue class
Wednesday 08	Full governing body meeting at 6:00pm
Friday 10	Non uniform for Christmas fayre Two minutes silence at 11:00pm
Monday 13	Resource management committee meeting 5:00pm
Tuesday 14	Meetings for parents with class teachers 3:00pm to 5:00pm
Wednesday 15	Meetings for parents with class teachers 3:30pm to 5:30pm
Thursday 23	Environment for Learning committee meeting 5:00pm
Friday 24	Non uniform for Christmas fayre
December 2017	
Monday 04	Santa's reading challenge
Friday 08	Non uniform for Christmas fayre
Monday 11	School choir singing at the Freeman Hospital
Friday 15	Christmas fayre at 3:15pm Santa's reading challenge
Monday 18	Christmas performance 9:15am yellow and orange class Christmas performance 2:15pm red, blue and green class
Tuesday 19	Christmas performances 9:15am red, blue and green class
Wednesday 20	Christmas lunch Film night at 3:15pm (blue, red, green class and year 1 children in yellow class)
Thursday 21	No orange class this morning Christmas party 1:00pm yellow and orange class
Friday 22	Celebration assembly at 8:45am Santa's reading challenge awards Christmas party 1:00pm red, blue and green School closes for the Christmas holidays at 3:15pm

Keep on riding for blue class

The second **Keep On Riding** session will take place for children in blue class on the morning of **Tuesday 07 November**. Children should come to school dressed in clothes and footwear suitable for cycling outdoors all morning. Children do not need to bring school uniform to change in to for when they are not cycling during the afternoon session.