

Seghill First School Newsletter February 2023 edition 1

Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 07 September 2022	92.5%
Whole school attendance this week	93.5%
92.5%	98.0%
98.2%	95.0%
92.1%	86.7%

Class of the week for this week is **Red** class with 98.2% attendance. **Well done Red class.** You now have the attendance octopus and you all had a dip in the sweet box this morning.

Our winner for a **dip in the attendance prize box** as a reward for having 100% attendance and no late marks for the week is **Thomas** in Yellow class.

Star of the week

Our stars of the week are-

Mrs Lyons	James;
Miss Winter & Mrs Watson	Esme;
Mrs Bell	Layla Rose;
Miss Neal	Charlie;
Miss Porter	Jimmy;
Mrs Askew	Kieran;
Miss Chappell	Caleb;
Staff star	Mrs Bell.



Birthdays

We have one birthday in school this week. Happy birthday to **Hunter** in Reception who is now 5. Hope you had a lovely day Hunter.



Staffing in Early Years

Mrs Kembrey will be back at school from 13 February following her maternity leave. We are all looking forward to having Mrs Kembrey back.

Sadly, that does mean that **Miss Porter** will be leaving us at the end of this half term. We have loved working with Miss Porter and I know she has loved working here. She will have a week to handover to Mrs Kembrey before she leaves to ensure a smooth transition.

Seghill Gala Saturday 03 June

Plans for the **Seghill Gala** to take place on **Saturday 03 June** are well underway. I have met with two members of the committee who have shared some information with me about what is happening on the day. The road is being closed and a parade will walk through the village accompanied by two brass bands.

The Gala has either been cancelled or been much more low key over the last few years due to the global pandemic. It is great to hear that a new lease of life is being breathed into this event. There are plans to **include the children in the planning of the Gala** by consulting with them and asking for their views. Hopefully this will lead to the children being invested in the events and good attendance on the day.

Members of the committee are going to lead a **whole school assembly** and meet with a group of children to talk about the plans and get their ideas. We are also going to be completing some activities in school directly related to the Gala and in preparation for the Gala parade. We will keep you up to date with what's going on.

Reminder about jewellery in school

Earrings

Our uniform policy states that children can wear “**one pair of plain stud earrings**”. Some children are wearing more than one pair of earrings and earrings that are not plain studs. Please support us to keep everyone safe by ensuring that your child wears one pair of plain stud earrings if their ears are pierced.

Watches

We have noted that a number of children have started to wear a watch which also has a built-in camera that can take photographs and videos. Some of these watches also have games on them. We very much encourage children to wear a watch for school if they would like to do so, but **watches with cameras and games should not be worn for school**.

Hair colouring

We have also noted the increase in children, especially boys, with **dyed or tipped hair and tramlines** shaved in. Our school policy states-

“Our expectations for hairstyles reflect our high expectations for school uniform. With this in mind, extreme hairstyles are not permitted. This includes shaved shapes or lines, Mohicans, extensions, bleaching, streaks, bright colours and styles which require styling products to maintain them. Plain hair bands, bobbles and slides are acceptable.”

We do not want to get into a cycle of excluding children or placing them in isolation due to their non-compliance with our school uniform policy. However, we do have a clear policy which is being totally ignored by some.

Research into the minimum age for hair colouring of any type shows that the minimum age is 16 years old. The reason is that all legal colouring products used in the UK are labelled as “not intended for use on persons under the age of 16”.

If that were not reason enough, children can often be more sensitive to the chemicals in colour than adults. If a child has the potential to develop allergies (and this can come back to their individual genetic make-up), exposure at an early age may increase their allergic sensitivity earlier.

Please demonstrate your support for our expectations by following the guidelines on hairstyles in our uniform policy.

World Book Day 02 March 2023

Staff are planning activities to take place on World Book Day on **Thursday 02 March** and throughout the week. Mrs Watson has a **£1 book voucher** for every child. In addition to this, she has also managed to secure a **free copy of one of the £1 World Book Day books** for every child in the school.

Please note that **we will not be dressing up this year for World Book Day**. We agreed some time ago that we would dress up every other year, and as we dressed up last year, we will not be dressing up this year.

We will be sending out more details soon about the **book sale and coffee morning** that will be taking place on Thursday 02 March.

Link to activities for February half term activities

Here are some links to ideas for activities for the half term holidays-

<https://www.visitnorthumberland.com/explore/things-to-do/events/family-events>

<https://www.northeastfamilyfun.co.uk/2019/02/whats-on-for-kids-north-east-february-half-term.html>

<https://letsgowiththechildren.co.uk/events/northumberland/>

Spring term events and activities

A summary of the events and activities is below-

Friday 17 February	Non-uniform for school funds
Friday 17 February 9:00am	Celebration assembly
Monday 20 – Friday 24 February	School closed for half term holidays
Monday 27 February	School opens for all pupils
Thursday 02 March	World Book Day book sale and coffee morning
Friday 10 March 2:30pm	Year 4 class assembly
Thursday 16 March 12 noon	Mother's Day lunch
Friday 17 March 12 noon	Mother's Day lunch
Friday 17 March	Red Nose Day
Monday 20 March	Easter times tables challenge starts
Wednesday 22 March	Movie night for children in Years 1 to 4
Friday 24 March 2:30pm	Year 3 class assembly
Monday 27 March 3:30 to 5:30pm	Meetings for parents and carers with class teachers
Wednesday 29 March 3:30 to 5:30pm	Meetings for parents and carers with class teachers
Thursday 30 March 9:00am	Celebration assembly
Friday 31 March	School closed- staff training day

Nursery and Reception spotlight

Boys and girls in Early Years enjoying Chinese New Year activities earlier this term.



