

# Seghill First School Newsletter November 2022 edition 3

## Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 07 September 2022	92.9%
Whole school attendance this week	90.4%
80%	95%
93.6%	87.1%
92.6%	86.8%

Class of the week for this week is **Yellow** class. **Well done Yellow class.**

## Star of the week

Our stars of the week are-

- **Mrs Lyons** Christina;
- **Miss Winter & Mrs Watson** Ella;
- **Mrs Bell** Bailey;
- **Miss Neal** Sophie;
- **Miss Porter** Archie;
- **Mrs Askew** Finnlagh;
- **Miss Chappell** Mason.



## Birthdays

We have only had one birthday this week. Happy birthday to **Olivia** in Purple class who is 8 at the weekend. We hope your birthday is special and fun.



## Staffing update

Again we have had another very challenging week due to **staff absence**. Six staff have been absent for at least some of this week- Mrs Bell, Miss Barratt, Mrs Rogage, Mr Ruler, Miss Ornsby and Mrs Mullen. This is one third of our staff team. Some absences have been due to positive Covid tests; some absences are due to other medical reasons.

Thank you everyone for their patience and to staff who have worked on their non-working days, doubled up groups, taken on duties and activities for other staff and kept us going. Mrs Knowles came in on Wednesday to teach Green class as I had meetings that I had to attend. I have been teaching Green class for the rest of the week, with huge amounts of help from Miss Neal, Miss Winter and our student Miss Stones.

Mrs Rogage and Miss Ornsby will not be back at work next week, but we are hoping for everyone else to be back, fit and healthy next week. Fingers crossed.

## Reading books, spellings and homework

Here is a reminder of our expectations for reading books, spellings and homework.

**Reading books and reading records should be brought to school every day.**

**Spellings should be practised twice in the spelling book and returned to school by Wednesday every week.**

**Homework should be completed in the homework book and returned to school, by Wednesday every week.**

We know that everyone is busy and it can be hard to manage everything. However, it is **adding a significant amount to our workload every day** when we are chasing after reading books, spelling books and homework books that are not at school on time.

When children don't have their reading book in school every day we can't listen to them read. Missing spelling books mean that spellings are not written in the book for their test and new spellings are sent home on slips of paper and inevitably being lost. New homework sheets cannot be stuck in when the book is at home. We would really appreciate your help so children have the right things in school on the right days.

### Christmas lights competition

Yesterday we were joined in assembly by Mrs Fox and Councillor Bowmen who presented the winners of the annual Seghill Christmas Lights competition with their prizes. The winners were-

- First prize- Coby;
- Second prize- Klay;
- Third prize- Joey.

Congratulations to all three children. Coby's winning design has been sent to France to be made into a Christmas light which will be hung in our village. Coby will be switching his light on at the big **Christmas Light switch on at the Blake Arms on Friday 25 November 4:30pm to 5:30pm**. The lights on the Christmas tree will also be switched on at this time.

All children have been given 2 **gold lucky tickets**. The children must take their tickets to the Christmas Light switch on to have a chance to win a special prize.

### Christmas events, activities and deadlines

Last week we shared all of the details of our Christmas events and activities. Many of you have already taken the opportunity to order and pay for concert tickets, movie tickets and Christmas treats on School Gateway. A summary of the events, activities and deadlines is below-

Deadline for declining Christmas lunch	Wednesday 21 November
Raffle tickets sent home	Friday 25 November
Non-uniform for the Christmas fayre chocolate tombola	Friday 25 November
Christmas toy swap	Friday 25 November 9:00am to 10:00am
Santa's reading challenge starts	Monday 05 December
Children's first names and surname initial for your child's class sent home	By Friday 16 December
Return raffle tickets to school	By Friday 16 December
Christmas fayre	Friday 16 December at 3:15pm
Deadline for ordering and paying for concert tickets	Friday 16 December
Deadline for ordering and paying for movie tickets	Friday 16 December
Deadline for ordering and paying for Christmas treats	Friday 16 December
Post box opens	Monday 19 December
Yellow and Orange class concert	Monday 19 December at 9:00am
Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert	Monday 19 December at 2:30pm
Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert	Tuesday 20 December at 9:00am
Red and Green class party	Tuesday 20 December
Orange and Yellow class party	Wednesday 21 December
Christmas lunch	Wednesday 21 December
Movie night for Years 1 to 4	Wednesday 21 December 3:15pm to 5:15pm
Purple and Blue class party	Thursday 22 December
Christmas treat for Years 1 to 4	Thursday 22 December
Celebration assembly	Friday 23 December at 9:00am

### BBC Children In Need annual appeal

Thank you to everyone who helped us to support the BBC's annual **Children In Need** appeal in school today. Children and staff came to school in non-uniform. We raised **£120** for Children In Need. Well done everyone.



### Free NUFC Women tickets

We have **3 pairs of tickets** to see **Newcastle United Women** play **Barnsley Women** at **St James' Park** on **Sunday 27 November**. Kick off is at 2:00pm.

Each pair of tickets gives free entry to the game for one adult and one concession. Names will be drawn out of the hat. If you would like a chance to win a pair of tickets, please **give consent on School Gateway**. In **payments**, click on **Free tickets to see NUFC ladies**, then click on the **consent** button. It does go into your basket, but there is no charge.

The deadline for this is **Thursday 24 November**. Names will be picked out of the hat next Friday and we will inform winners next Friday. Please only enter if you are available to go to the match.

If you enter and do not win any tickets, you can still buy tickets. Advance prices for admission are £3 per adults and £1 per concession. Admission prices on the day are £6 for adults and £2 for concessions.

### Christmas treat for all children

Staff have arranged a special Christmas treat for all children.

Children in **key stages 1 and 2** are going to the Tyne Theatre to see *Beauty and the Beast* on **Thursday 22 December**. Tickets cost £11 per child, plus the cost of the coach hire would be in addition to this.

Children in **Nursery and Reception** are going to the Seven Stories to see 'Naughty or Nice? The Missing Lists'. The date is to be confirmed. Tickets cost £7.50 per child, plus the cost of the coach hire would be in addition to this.

We are using money from our fundraising activities to pay for both of these treats, so parents and carers **will not be asked to contribute** anything towards the cost. I hope you agree that this is an excellent use of our fundraising money, and hopefully the children will really enjoy going out to seeing a live performance in a special setting.

### Safety on Cheviot View



### Safety on Cheviot View

We hope you like our new **pencil safety bollards** that have been installed on Cheviot View. They have been put there by Northumberland County Council to-

- keep families safe while walking on Cheviot View;
- stop vehicles from parking on our school site; and
- deter vehicles from driving across the pavement.

Hopefully these new bollards will improve safety for both pedestrians and vehicles. Please walk inside the bollards, rather than down the middle of the road or on the road side of the bollards, so you are separated from vehicles and vehicles are separated from pedestrians.