

# Seghill First School Newsletter April 2023 edition 2

## Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 07 September 2022	93.4%
Whole school attendance this week	96.7%
90%	99.0%
95%	96.5%
99.4%	93.3%

Class of the week for this week is **Purple** class with 99.4% attendance. **Well done Purple class.** You have the attendance octopus and you all had a dip in the sweet box today.

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 **Charlie** in Green class.

### Star of the week

Our stars of the week are-

**Mrs Lyons**

**Miss Winter and Mrs Watson**

**Mrs Bell**

**Miss Neal**

**Mrs Kembrey and Miss Barratt**

**Mrs Askew**

**Miss Chappell**

**Staff star**

Emily;

Jake;

Theo;

James;

Zack;

Rio;

Thomas;

Miss Barratt.



### Birthdays

We have two birthdays in school this week. **Charlie** in Red class will be 6 and **Klay** in Blue class will be 9.

Happy birthday to you Charlie and Klay. We hope your birthday is special and fun.



### WOW winners

Our Writers of the Week are-

**Mrs Lyons**

**Miss Winter and Mrs Watson**

**Mrs Bell**

**Miss Neal**

**Mrs Kembrey and Miss Barratt**

**Mrs Askew**

**Mrs Miller and Mrs Jose**

**Mrs Ellison**

Callum;

Jack;

Frankie L;

Thomas;

Edie C;

Isaac B;

Isaac D;

Denae.



### Bank holidays

School is closed on **Monday 01 May** due to May Day bank holiday and on **Monday 08 May** to mark the coronation of King Charles III.

### Yellow and Orange class assembly

We hope parents and carers in Yellow and Orange class can join us from 2:30m on **Friday 12 May** for our **class assembly**.

### Proposed Industrial Action by members of the National Education Union (NEU)

As mentioned in previous newsletters, members of the National Education Union (NEU) have voted to take strike action on a number of dates, including on **Tuesday 02 May 2023**.

Having read guidance from the Government, Local Authority and Unions, and reviewed the number of staff available I can confirm that school will be **fully open to all year groups**.

**As all year groups are fully open, all children should attend school as normal unless they are too unwell to come to school. All children are expected to attend, even if siblings in other schools are not attending their school.** Please check communications from other schools if you have more than one child as the arrangements for each school is very specific to them.

### Hexham book festival

Children in Purple and Blue class are at the **Hexham Book Festival** today. They are taking part in a workshop with best selling children's author, Abi Elphinstone. What an excellent opportunity for our children to meet a real life author. We will let you know more about their visit in next week's newsletter.

## Summer term events and activities

Class assemblies	Fundraising and community
Nursery and Reception class assembly Friday 12 May at 2:30pm	Coronation red, white and blue non uniform and coronation picnic lunch Friday 05 May
	Games night Wednesday 24 May from 3:30pm for Years 1 to 4
Other school events	Non uniform for Seghill Gala Friday 26 May
Year 4 cycling with Richard Rothwell Tuesday 02, Wednesday 03 and Thursday 04 May	Non uniform for summer fayre 1 Friday 09 June (general tombola)
Years 1 to 4 sports morning Tuesday 27 June in PE lessons	Father's Day lunch Thursday 15 and Friday 16 June
Nursery and Reception sports morning Wednesday 28 June in PE lessons	Non uniform for summer fayre 2 Friday 23 June (chocolate and sweets tombola)
Year 4 leavers' assembly Thursday 20 July at 9:00am	Non uniform for summer fayre 3 Friday 07 July (bottle tombola)
Year 4 leavers' party Thursday 20 July at 6:00pm	Summer fayre Tuesday 18 July from 3:15pm
School is closed on these dates-	Celebration assemblies
Monday 01 May for the May Bank holiday	Friday 26 May at 2:30pm
Monday 08 May for King Charles' coronation	Friday 21 July at 9:00am
Monday 29 May to Friday 02 June 2023 for the half term holidays	
Monday 24 July to Friday 01 September 2022 for the Summer holidays	

### Class coffee mornings

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our **class coffee mornings** this week. Overall, it was disappointing to see such poor attendance from parents and carers- only 21 children out of 103 were represented at the coffee mornings. The teachers spent a great deal of time planning them and providing useful information about what your child will be learning. We will look at this again next school year in order to try to improve attendance.

### Cycling with Richard Rothwell for Year 4

Children in Year 4 will be working with **Richard Rothwell** and Mrs Lyons next week. We have worked with Richard for a number of years now and have great respect for his expertise and knowledge of cycling. Richard works with many schools and offers a range of cycling experiences for riders of all abilities.

The children in Year 4 will be split in to two groups. Starting on **Tuesday 02 May**, one group (group 1) will cycle with Richard and Mrs Lyons all day on the Tuesday and on Wednesday morning. The other group (group 2) will work in school. The groups will swap over on Wednesday lunchtime, so group 2 will cycle with Richard and Mrs Lyons on Wednesday afternoon and all day Thursday, while group 1 works in school. Mrs Lyons will let you know which group your child is in. A separate letter with more information was sent out to all Year 4 children earlier this week.

### Red and Green class assembly

Thank you to all the parents and carers in Red and Green class who joined us for their **class assembly** this morning. All of the boys and girls in Red and Green class did an amazing job. We were all super impressed with your clear reading voices, paintings and singing. Well done, everyone.

### Arrangements for the king's coronation

On **Friday 05 May** we are having a **special coronation picnic lunch** for all the children to mark the King's coronation. Mrs Rogage will be making a coronation packed lunch for the children, including fresh sandwiches made to order on Friday morning. As well as a sandwich, the children will get crisps, a sausage roll, a drink of juice and a coronation muffin.

We have asked the older children which sandwich filling they would like. We've asked parents and carers of the younger children to make sure everyone gets what they like.

We will not be providing a hot meal on Friday 05 May. If you do not want your child to have a coronation packed lunch, please let Mrs Elliott know, and provide a packed lunch for your child.

Staff will eat their lunch with the children. We are hoping to have lunch in the middle garden, but we will make the decision on the day depending on the weather. Children and staff are invited to **wear red, white and blue** on Friday 05 May.

### Sports mornings

Class teachers have given me feedback from coffee mornings and have passed on your questions and comments. Something that was discussed at coffee mornings was why parents and carers are not invited to sports mornings.

Sports mornings will take place on **Tuesday 27 June** for **Years 1 to 4** and **Wednesday 28 June** for **Nursery and Reception** in PE lessons. We have planned the sports mornings to take place in PE lessons rather than as separate sports events. In the past, we have planned sports days and invited parents and carers to watch. Parents and carers take time off work and change their plans to come, then the event is inevitably cancelled due to rain or the field being too wet. Parents and carers then had to reschedule their time off at very short notice, which led to a load of stress for everyone. Also, it was very difficult to keep our site secure while allowing parents and carers in. We had to operate a policy where no adults could enter or leave the site while the sports were taking place, effectively locking everyone in. Both of these reasons led to the focus being shifted from the children enjoying and completing their sports activities onto organising parents and carers and site security.

We are very keen to invite parents and carers into school whenever we can. We will look again at the arrangements for sports mornings when we plan next year's calendar, taking your feedback from the coffee mornings into account.

### National testing in Years 1, 2 and 4

All children in all schools across the country in Years 1, 2 and 4 will be completing some tests this term. These tests are set by the Department for Education and are used in all schools across the country.

Children in **Year 4** complete the **Multiplication Tables Check**. The purpose of the Multiplication Tables Check is to determine whether pupils can recall their times tables fluently, which is important now and in later life. Click [here](#) link to the information site for parents.

Children in **Year 1** complete the **Phonics Screening Check**. The purpose of the Phonics Screening Check is to see if your child can use and apply their phonological knowledge to both real words and nonsense words.

Children in **Year 2** complete the **end of key stage 1 assessments**. They will work on tasks to assess their knowledge, skills and understanding in reading, maths and spelling, grammar and punctuation (sometimes known as SPAG).

As a school, we receive very strict guidance on how and when we can administer these tests in school. However, we try to make the experience as stress free as possible for the children. We make sure that when they complete the tests they are working with staff that they know well and we keep everything as low key as possible. When we mention tests, sitting in silence in the sports hall in individual seats does spring to mind. Please be assured that this is nothing like how we tackle the tests in our school.

