

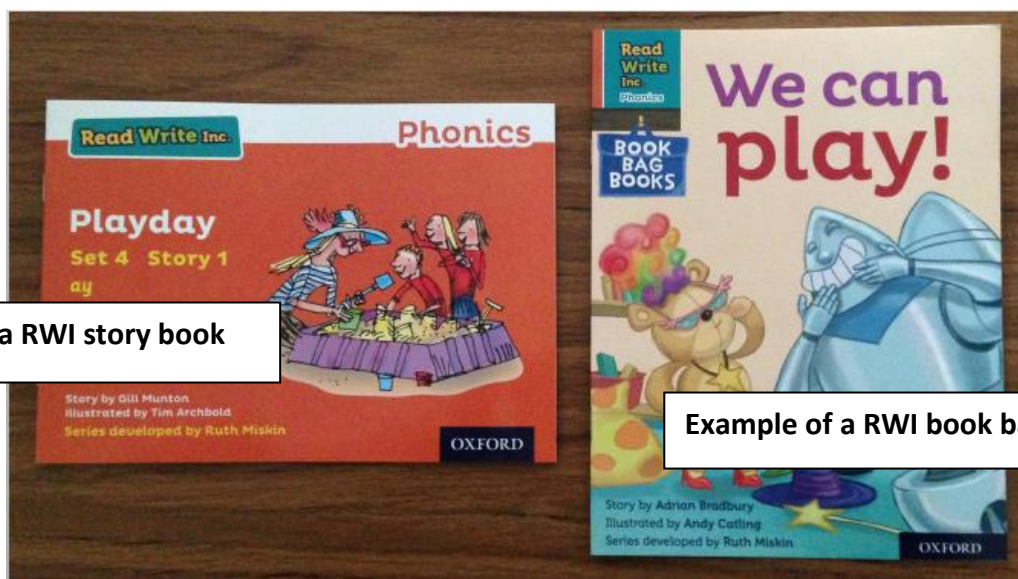
Seghill First School Newsletter Febuary 2022 edition 2

Reading books

Over the last two weeks Mrs Watson has been carrying out **phonics assessments** ready for re-grouping the children for phonics lessons after the half term break. These assessments are very robust and now include an **emphasis on fluency**, which means children can **read all the words accurately at a glance**. After half term your child may move to a different group for phonics lessons and therefore their decodable reading book colour may change. Our newly purchased reading books are from the Read Write Inc (RWI) scheme and we use RWI as our programme for teaching phonics.

You will also notice after half term that the way we send home books will change to ensure a bigger focus on building fluency and accuracy through the re-reading of a text. Our criteria for changing a reading book is that a child has **read the book more than once, they can read it fluently, and can answer questions about what they have read**. The focus is not on reading a book once and getting on to a new book as quickly as possible. This is the case for children who are reading books from our reading scheme, rather than chapter books.

After half term, children will be given a RWI story book and a RWI book bag book to read at home. The RWI story book is the book that they are working on at school which needs to also be read at home. The RWI book bag book will be linked to the current or previous RWI story book and also needs to be read at home. Both **books will be given out and will be changed on a Monday** each week.



Example of a RWI story book

Example of a RWI book bag book

Children in all year groups should bring their **RWI story book, RWI book bag book and reading record/reading journal to school every day**. Children must have all of these books in school every day as these will be used in daily phonics lessons and so staff can hear them read.

Children may be given a **reading book more than once**. This is absolutely fine; as adults, we often re-read books or watch films more than once. Please don't send us a message to say that your child has already had a specific book.

Children who are reading **chapter books** should continue to do so. They should also bring their reading **book and reading record to school every day** so staff can hear them read.

Children have been provided with a **reading folder** to protect reading books from damage when they go back and forward to school. Please can we ask that you take **extra care** of the new reading books. We have already lost a number of books which have been ripped, damaged or lost at home. We know that accidents can happen, and we don't want to start charging for lost or damaged books, but we will have to start doing this as we cannot continue to replace books that have been lost or damaged at home.

Star of the week

Our stars for the last two weeks are-

- **Mrs Lyons** Matt and Mya;
- **Mrs Hansell & Mrs Watson** Alexa and Olivia;
- **Mrs Bell** Bobby and Roman;
- **Miss Neal** Owen and Amelia;
- **Mrs Kembrey** James and Frankie;
- **Mrs Thomas** Jimmy T and Ethan;
- **Miss Chappell** Joey, Dylan & Blake.



Birthdays

Our birthday boys and girls are-

- Rowan in Orange class;
- Sophie in Yellow class;
- Jake and Jack in Green class;
- Zach and Callum in Purple class;

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

PE days for Spring term B

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Yellow	Yellow	Purple	
	Red	Orange	Blue	
	Green		Red	
	Purple		Green	
	Blue			

Please come dressed in school PE kit on PE days- plain white PE t-shirt and school jumper with joggers and trainers.

World Book Day Thursday 03 March 2022

We will be celebrating World book day on Thursday 03 March. We have some lovely activities for the children. If your child has not yet received their **£1 World Book day token**, they will receive it today.

We are asking children and staff to come to school dressed as **heroes or superheroes**. Please try to come up with a costume rather than buying one if you can. We are looking forward to seeing your creations.

Children will have the chance to go to the hall and pick a book from a selection of books we have in school. This is a book for them to keep. Please don't send in any books- it's a gift of a book rather than a book swap.

Staff have exciting activities planned linked to World Bok day. You may also see some **secret readers**..... more will be revealed on World Book Day.

Trees

We have been a bit worried about some of the trees on and around our school site following the recent storms. All trees on our site are inspected annually by Northumberland County Council, but we felt that we needed to ask for a **re-inspection** following the recent high winds and concerns raised by our neighbours.

The inspection was carried out last week. The root plates of all tees are intact and no trees on our site need to be felled. The large tree at the far end of the bottom yard is going to be lopped, so the top of the tree does not hit the neighbouring property in high winds. If you do you have any concerns about anything that you see on our school site, please let me know or mention it to Mr Ruler.

Safety on the school site, including the use of bikes and scooters on the school site

It is lovely to see children coming to school on their bikes and scooters. We have a shed for them at the school end of the top yard.

However, please be reminded that **children shouldn't be riding their bikes or scooters while on the school site**. This is especially the case for children in Orange class before school. Some staff do not start work until 8:45am and are still arriving in the car park when families with Nursery children are on our school site. We have had a couple of near misses recently when children have been riding around on the drive and on the hard court and grass car parks. We don't want to spoil anyone's fun, but please don't allow your child to ride around the school site before school, and be aware that some staff may still be arriving on site.

Rugby festival

Boys and girls in Green, Purple and Blue class have enjoyed weekly rugby sessions on Mondays with Newcastle Falcons and Seghill Rugby Club coaches. They took part in a **rugby festival** at Seghill Rugby Club earlier this week.

The children had a great time playing in small sided matches against others from their class. This was a chance for them to demonstrate the skills they have learnt in their lessons with the coaches. There are **pictures on the school website and Facebook page**. The rugby club opened up for refreshments afterwards, which were very much appreciated.

Thank you to Steve and Charley from Seghill Rugby Club and Dan from Newcastle Falcons for all of their hard work. We very much hope to develop this relationship with both rugby clubs.

Many children have started to attend **rugby training** at Seghill Rugby Club on Saturday mornings following these sessions. Please contact Steve at Seghill Rugby Club on 07765 926456 if you would like any more information about rugby at Seghill Rugby Club.

Free activities for February half term

Please see the home page of our school website and our Facebook page for information about the **FREE activities** taking place in Seaton Valley over the February half term break.

There are activities in Seaton Sluice, Seaton Delaval and New Hartley as well as Seghill, and they are all FREE.

To book please email

ellie.taylor@northumberland.gov.uk

Northumberland County Council Seaton Valley February Holiday Activity 2022

** Please note these sessions have a maximum capacity and operate on a first come first served basis

Monday 21st Feb	Tuesday 22nd Feb	Wednesday 23rd Feb
Astley Park, Seaton Delaval Tennis Camp 9:30am - 12:30pm	Seaton Sluice Community Centre Multi-Sport Camp 9:30am - 12:30pm	Seaton Delaval Hall Fun Day 9:30am - 12:30pm

Free Activities

- Parents are welcome to drop off children and pick them up at the end of the camp
- As always a free lunch will be provided by our partner
- Seaton Delaval Hall: Please meet us at the Visitors' Welcome where we will do drop-off & pick-up

Thursday 24th Feb	Friday 25th Feb
New Hartley Community Hall Football Camp 9:30am - 12:30pm	Seghill Community Centre Multi-Sport Camp 9:30am - 12:30pm

To book, please email: ellie.taylor@northumberland.gov.uk

Northumberland County Council Seaton Valley Council & Community Council

Seaton Valley February Holiday Programme 2022

Come along for lots of fun, games and activities and they're all FREE! Look out for usual football, tennis and multi sport camps, but don't miss our BRAND NEW 'Fun Day' at Seaton Delaval Hall!

See page 2 for dates, times & more info on activities.

To book, please email - ellie.taylor@northumberland.gov.uk
07966331738

Advance notice of spring term events

Although we have had to postpone our class coffee mornings and class assemblies for the time being, we do have the following events and activities in the diary for this term-

- **World Book Day** on Thursday 03 March;
- **Easter tables challenge** starts on Monday 21 March;
- **Spring term interviews for parents and children with class teachers** on Monday 28 March from 3:30pm and Wednesday 30 March from 3:30pm- these may be face to face or telephone calls depending on the guidance at that time.
- **Film night** Wednesday 06 April at 3:30pm for Years 1 to 4;
- **Easter egg decorating competition** deadline Wednesday 06 April.

Mother's Day lunch

Mother's Day lunch is planned for Friday 25 March. We will have to see what the guidance is at that time before we know whether or not this can go ahead, but we are really hoping to be able to host this event. Depending on numbers, we may invite some year groups on **Thursday 24 March and some on Friday 25 March** in order to make it manageable. Please make a note of these dates in your diary.

International Day of Women and Girls in Science

On Friday 11 February it was **International Day of Women and Girls in Science**. Children in Purple class looked at what **STEM** is (science, technology, engineering and maths) and how women have been instrumental in these fields. We looked at jobs in these fields and some prominent women who have helped to shape STEM. The children were all very interested in this. The children worked in groups to find out about different women and presented their facts to the rest of their class.

Here are a couple of pictures of the children in Purple class presenting their facts to the rest of the class. There are more pictures in the **gallery on the school website**.



Payment of school dinner money

School meal balances have been updated this week. I fully appreciate that we are still having difficulties in keeping School Gateway up to date with balances of school meals, and it is not always easy to see how much you have paid in and how much you owe. However, if your child has a meal every day and you have not paid any money onto School Gateway, the outstanding balance is going to rack up very quickly. Please check your child's balance on School Gateway. I will try to help if you have any issues. I can see that many of you have added money to your child's school meals account, but as school, there is £568 outstanding in school meal payments at the moment. I would be grateful if families who have an outstanding balance would do their best to reduce this balance as soon as they can.

Opportunities for new governors

We are looking for **new governors** to join our existing governing body. This is an excellent opportunity for you to join a well-established team and support your child's school on its ongoing journey of school improvement.

We are looking for governors with a wide range of skills to complement our existing governors. For example, do you deal with finance and budgets in your job? Do you have expertise in health and safety? Are you a whizz at marketing and advertising? Please get in touch with me for an informal chat if you are interested in learning more about your child's school and supporting us to make our school even better.