

Seghill First School Newsletter December 2022 edition 3

Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 07 September 2022	91.7%
Whole school attendance this week	88.2%
87.1%	97.5%
90.9%	88.1%
87.9%	91.8%

Class of the week for this week is **Yellow** class. **Well done Yellow class.** You now have the attendance octopus and you all had another 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 was Thomas.

Star of the week

Our stars of the week are-

- **Mrs Lyons** Alexa;
- **Miss Winter & Mrs Watson** William;
- **Mrs Bell** Layla Rose;
- **Miss Neal** Emily;
- **Miss Porter** Elena;
- **Mrs Askew** Mila;
- **Miss Chappell** Isabelle;
- **Staff star** Miss Porter.



Birthdays

We have no birthdays in school this week.



Christmas events, activities and deadlines

A summary of the events, activities and deadlines is below-

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
Deadline for ordering and paying for spring term milk	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

Christmas cards

Class teachers will provide a Christmas card box in each classroom which will be open from **Monday 19 December**. Please wait until this date before bringing your cards in. Children should put their cards in their class Christmas card box. Each teacher will arrange for the cards to be given out, including cards that are for children in other classes and for staff. Lists of **children's first names and surname initial** for your child's class have been sent home to use to address Christmas cards.

Deadlines

Today is the deadline for ordering and paying for the following-

- Movie night for Years 1 to 4;
- Christmas treats;
- Performance tickets.

The payment portals on School Gateway will close today and will not be reopened.

Reminder about Christmas jumpers and tops

Children are asked to wear a **Christmas jumper or top for their Christmas concert** instead of their school jumper or cardigan (normal school bottoms). We are not dressing up and certainly do not expect families to provide costumes for the concerts.

Children are invited to wear a **Christmas top or jumper** for Christmas lunch on **Wednesday 21 December**, with normal school bottoms. We will be decorating the dining room to make it feel really special for all of the children. We are delighted that Mrs Rogae is back and she will be making one of her legendary Christmas dinners.



Arrangements for Christmas performances

We are delighted to be able to invite parents and carers into school to watch our Christmas concerts this year.

The dates and times are-

- Monday 19 December Yellow and Orange class concert at 9:00am, doors open at 8:45am;
- Monday 19 December Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert at 2:30pm, doors open at 2:15pm;
- Tuesday 20 December Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert at 9:00am, doors open at 8:45am.

Attendance at the concert will be by ticket only so we adhere to the maximum capacity of the hall. Please bring your ticket with you.

At the end of each performance there will be time for parents and carers to take a photograph of their own child. Unfortunately, we must enforce a rule of **no photography or filming** during the performances. This is due to a number of reasons; some of our children are on child protection plans, and we do not have parental permission for every child to be photographed or filmed. I know how very exciting it is to see your child in their performance but the rule of no photography and no filming is in place to protect all of our children.

Santa's Reading Challenge

Well done to everyone who has worked really hard on achieving Santa's reading challenge. It has been great to see so **many of the children reading at home and bringing their reading book and reading record to school every day.**

Santa's reading challenge ends on Monday. Children must have their reading book and reading record on Monday so Mrs Watson can let Santa know how you have all been getting on and how many prizes and certificates he needs to get.

Thank you and goodbye

We are saying goodbye to three of our students today. **Miss Horner** in Year 1, **Miss Stones** in Year 2 and **Miss Elliott** in Year 3 are completing the final day of their placement today. They will be going back to university then going out to other schools to complete their placements before qualifying as teachers.

It has been super to have all three of them in school. As a school with a small staff team, the extra chance that having students gives us to spend more time with the children and offer extra interventions is really important. All three students have been super helpful and flexible, especially when we have been struggling with staff absence.

We thank them all for their efforts and wish them good luck as they continue in their journey to qualifying as teachers.

Reminder about arrangements for Christmas parties

We have organised parties for children in all year groups to take place in key stage groups. We will provide a treat for the children. Please do not send in any food or drinks for your child's party. All parties will take place after lunch in the hall and all children will go home at 3:15pm as normal.

Tuesday 20 December Red and Green class party

Children in Red and Green class will have their party on **Tuesday 20 December**. Children should come to school in a **Christmas jumper or top** instead of their school jumper or cardigan (normal school bottoms) as it is their concert on that morning. They can bring any other party clothes in a named bag to change in to after lunch if they want to.

Wednesday 21 December Orange and Yellow class party

Children in Orange and Yellow class will have their party on **Wednesday 21 December**. Children should come to school in **party clothes**. 15-hour Nursery children should come to school at 1:00pm and attend for the afternoon session rather than the morning session on this day.

Thursday 22 December Purple and Blue class party

Children in Purple and Blue class will have their party on **Thursday 22 December**. Children should come to school in **school uniform** and bring party clothes in a named bag to change into after lunch.

Chess for Year 4

Mrs Miller has entered us into the Schools Chess Competition for Year 4 children. It will take place in February. This is something we take part in every year and the children really enjoy it. It definitely brings out their competitive side. Mrs Elliott has ordered a trophy for the winner. We will tell you more about it nearer the time of the competition, but Year 4 children might like to start learning how to play or practising their chess skills in preparation.

Christmas gifts for staff

Every year staff are overwhelmed by the gifts they receive at both Christmas and the end of the school year. I know many of you like to buy a gift for an adult in school, and that is fine if it is something you really want to do.

I do want to say that we **genuinely do not expect you to buy anything for anyone in school**. As a parent myself I have seen first-hand the pressure on both parents and children as some children arrive at school loaded down with multiple gifts to give out while others may not have brought a gift. Gifts are lovely and we are always really grateful but we do not judge or place value on families based on whether or not they give us a gift.

Christmas treats for all children in key stages 1 and 2

Children in **key stages 1 and 2** are going to the Tyne Theatre to see Beauty and the Beast on the morning of **Thursday 22 December**. Tickets cost **£11.00 per child**, plus the cost of the coach hire is **£580**. The total cost per child would be **£19.05**. Please arrive at school at normal time wearing school uniform.

Children in **Nursery and Reception** have been to Seven Stories to see 'Naughty or Nice? The Missing Lists'. Tickets cost **£7.50 per child**, plus the cost of the coach hire was **£260**. The total cost per child was **£15.63**.

The total cost to school for these two trips is **£1872**. We are using money from our fundraising activities to pay for both of these treats, so parents and carers **are not 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.

