

Seghill First School Newsletter February 2023 edition 3

Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 07 September 2022	92.6%
Whole school attendance this week	94.2%
91.5%	96%
100%	93%
95.3%	89.5%

Class of the week for this week is **Red** class with 100% attendance. **Well done Red class.** You have the attendance octopus again and you all had a dip in the sweet box this morning.

Class of the half term is **Red** class with 96.2% attendance. **Well done Red class.** You will have an extra afternoon of Golden Time with Miss Neal.

Names were drawn out of the hat today during celebration assembly. 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 **Kieran** in **Orange** class.

Our winner for spring term A is **Frankie** in Purple class who received a **£10 cinema voucher**.

Star of the week

Our stars of the week are-

Mrs Lyons	Tia;
Miss Winter & Mrs Watson	Ella;
Mrs Bell	Owen;
Miss Neal	Leila;
Miss Porter	Sam and Will;
Mrs Askew	Jax;
Miss Chappell	Ava;
Staff star	Miss Porter.



Non uniform Friday 17 February

Thank you to all children and staff who wore non-uniform today. We raised **£60** for school funds.

The money from this event will be combined with money from World Book Day to **buy books for our children.**

Birthdays

These are our birthday boys and girls this week and next week--

- **Zach and Callum** in Blue class are both 9 today;
- In Purple class **Jake** is 8 today and **Jack** will be 8 soon;
- **Brodie** in Red class is now 6;
- **Rowan** in Yellow class will be 5;
- In Orange class **Jax** is now 4 and **Harley** will be 4;

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



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 Tuesday 28 February 2023.

Having read guidance from the Government, Local Authority and Unions, and reviewed the number of staff available to me, I can confirm that school will be **fully open to all year groups on Tuesday 28 February 2023.**

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.

Spring term events and activities

Monday 20 – Friday 24 February	School closed for half term holidays
Monday 27 February	School opens for all pupils
Tuesday 28 February	Whole school author visit
Tuesday 28 February	Marvellous Maths after school club for key stage 2 starts
Thursday 02 March	World Book Day book sale and coffee morning
Thursday 02 March	NUFC after school club for key stage 1 starts
Wednesday 08 March	Deadline for completing and returning topic homework
Friday 10 March	Virtual author visit for key stage 1
Friday 10 March 2:30pm	Year 4 class assembly
Monday 13 March	British Science week starts today
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

Spring term B PE days

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

Children should wear a **plain white t-shirt, plain black or navy shorts or joggers, trainers and their school sweatshirt or cardigan** to school on their PE days. Please ensure long hair is tied back for PE. Children cannot wear earrings for PE. If your child cannot remove their own earrings they should not wear them on PE days. Staff are unable to remove earrings for children.

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/>

<https://www.chroniclive.co.uk/special-features/25000-national-trust-free-family-23878320> This is a link to the Chronicle website with information about **free family vouchers** to visit a **National Trust property**.

Staffing in Early Years

Mrs Kembrey is now back at school following her maternity leave. Sadly, that does mean that **Miss Porter** will be leaving us today. We have loved working with Miss Porter and wish her all the best in her new job in a Nursery in Newcastle.

Topic homework

Your child came home with their **February half term topic homework** last Friday. This is an extended piece of homework to be completed in their topic homework book and handed in no later than **Wednesday 8th March**. During this time there will be no Maths or English homework set. Please note that even though we will not be sending home maths and English homework at this time, spellings will still be given out each week and children should continue to read at home and return their reading book and reading record to school every day.

Topic Homework is given instead of three weeks' worth of maths and English homework. With this in mind, we expect to see a minimum of three tasks that are completed to a high standard, and reflect the equivalent of three weeks' worth of homework. Models, paintings and sculptures that children have completed should be brought in alongside their topic homework books.

In previous years we have received some super examples of just how creative you are, including excellent models, pictures, writing and drawings. Staff will include ideas of activities that children can complete in their topic homework, but we want to see what you can do.

Pictures of completed topic homework will be shared and celebrated via our **school Facebook page** and the **homepage of the school website**, so please keep an eye out for them.

We would really appreciate your support with Topic Homework so all children have at least three pieces of high-quality work which they can be very proud of.

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.

Mrs Watson has organised an **author visit** with **Stuart Reid** for all year groups on **Tuesday 28 February**. Stuart has written many children's books, including the Gorgeous George series of books.

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.

The **book sale and coffee morning** will be taking place in the hall on **Thursday 02 March** from **8:45am**. Books will be on sale. If you wish to donate any books, please send them into school by Wednesday 01 March.

Hot drinks and juice will also be available. In order to limit the financial burden on parents and carers, we will be charging **£1 per adult** to enter the book sale and coffee morning, but there will be no charge for hot drinks. Children will also be provided with a drink.

Any money raised from the entry fee and the sale of books will be used directly to **buy books for our children**.

Times tables Rockstars

We heard again in Celebration Assembly today about how successful our children are at completing the **times tables challenges**. Being about to **recall all of the multiplication and division facts for all of the times tables up to 12 x 12** is not only a very important skill, but it is also the **expectation for all children by the end of Year 4**.

We encourage children to use **Times Tables Rockstars** to practise their times tables at home. This programme is really good for learning the multiplication and division facts for each of the tables, as well as developing their speed.

Well done to **Alexa and Theo** who were our key stage 2 and key stage 1 times tables rockstars for this half term.



Art club spotlight

Mrs Lyons has been running an after school art club for children in Years 3 and 4 this half term.



This is a really small selection of some of the amazing work that the children have produced at art club. All of the children who attended loved it and were really proud of everything that they produced. A huge thank you to **Mrs Lyons** for running art club.

Year 4 chess club

Mrs Miller has been running her annual **chess club** at lunchtimes this half term. Attendance at the club was really high and we now have some skilled chess players in Year 4. Mrs Miller would like to thank all of the children who took part for their commitment, humour and perseverance.

The winner of the chess tournament was **Isabelle**, with **Callum and Henry** runners up. Congratulations to them and well done to everyone who took part in chess club. A huge thank you to **Mrs Miller** for running chess club during lunchtimes and teaching a new game to the children. Here is a picture of Isabelle with her winner's trophy and prize with Callum and Henry and their prizes. There are more photos on our school website.

