

Seghill First School newsletter May 2020 edition 2

Friday 15 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you are all keeping safe and well. Your **photographs and messages** certainly look like you have been enjoying ever increasing ways to fill in time and keep busy. It was particularly special to see the pictures of things that the children made to celebrate VE day on Friday 08 May. Please continue to use Tapestry (yellow and orange class), School360 (red, green and blue class) and the school admin email address to share your pictures and messages. We do really appreciate all of them.

I am missing all of you. Look out for one another and stay safe.

With love and best wishes,

Tracey Chappell
Headteacher

Phased reopening of school

I'm sure you were tuned in to see what the Prime Minister had to say on Sunday. Before these announcements were made, I have been working with our staff and governors, plus headteachers from our partnership and a focus group of headteachers from across the whole of Northumberland, to look at how we will **move towards opening the school for all pupils**.

We have been asked to open our doors to children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 from 01 June alongside the children who have been attending Seaton Delaval First School. I am sure that many of you will have questions about what we will be doing to keep your children safe in line with the guidance that has been issued. As your headteacher, I have many questions that I don't know the answer to. We are receiving information at the same time as you, some of which is very clear and some which is more open to interpretation.

I have written a separate letter, which is attached to this newsletter, regarding the phased reopening of school. Please read this letter, even if your child is in Years 2, 3 or 4 or if you have already taken the decision not to send your child back to school.

If you want to contact me directly with a specific question relating to the phased reopening of school, please contact me using the admin email address, which I check every day-
admin@seghill.northumberland.sch.uk

Parents' forum

I would like to set up a **parents' forum** so I can have regular virtual meetings with a couple of parents from Nursery, Reception and Year 1 to discuss our plans for a phased reopening and hear your views. I think this would work best for people who may be thinking about sending their children back to school. The purpose is not to persuade parents who have already decided to keep their children at home. Experience of a number of recent virtual meetings tells me that a smaller group works best so everyone can have a chance to speak. We would do this using Google Meet. If you are interested, please email me and let me know. I will email an invitation to you and it will include the instructions of how to join the meeting.

Birthdays

While we have been closed some children have celebrated their birthdays. Birthday boys and girls at the end of **March** were Bailey J (orange class age 4), Jasmina (red class age 6), Mitchell and William (green class age 7), Katie and Rachael (blue class age 8).



Our **April birthdays** were Theo and Kieran (orange class age 4), William (yellow class age 5), Freya and Klay (red class age 6), Riley (green class age 7), Adele and Connor (blue class age 8).

Our **May birthdays** were Marnie (orange class age 4), Jayden (yellow class age 5), Coby (red class age 6), Joey and Mason (green class age 7).

I must give one more birthday announcement. Happy birthday to the wonderful **Mrs Miller**, who is celebrating a special birthday on Tuesday next week. Happy birthday, Anne. Enjoy your special day.

Happy birthday to you all. Birthdays for the rest of May will be included in our next newsletter.

Remote learning using School360 and Tapestry

School360

We are using **school360 in key stages 1 and 2** to share work with you. Although there have been some initial problems for some parents when logging in, it does seem to be working well. If you are experiencing issues, please email Mrs Bell, Mrs Lyons and Mrs Knowles directly and they will be able to help you.

Tapestry

We are continuing to use **Tapestry** to share work in **Nursery and Reception**. Mrs Askew and Mrs Kembrey have been over the moon with the contributions you have sent in so far. If you are experiencing issues, please email Mrs Askew or Mrs Kembrey via Tapestry and they will be able to help you.

Engaging with remote learning

This is a new way of working for us all but I cannot stress enough the **importance of engaging with remote learning**. Although we have been guided to aim for children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 returning to school from 01 June, you may have chosen not to send your child to school then, and we do not have a confirmed date for children in Years 2, 3 and 4 returning to school. This means that engaging with remote learning is even more important.

We do not expect you to complete every activity or post work every day. However, we do expect children to be doing some form of work every day and for you to engage with these systems. Unfortunately, some families have still not even logged on to School360 or Tapestry and we can check this using the administrator tools on both systems. We are very happy to help if you need help but we cannot help you if you haven't logged on. Please contact class teachers directly using these addresses-

- anna.bell1@school360.co.uk
- amanda.lyons@school360.co.uk
- pamela.knowles@school360.co.uk

Please continue to contact Mrs Kembrey and Mrs Askew via Tapestry.

Safeguarding

The school arrangements for safeguarding and child protection continue in line with our child protection policy. If you need to **report or discuss concerns about a child**, or details are-

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is:
Tracey Chappell
email: safeguarding.seghill@gmail.com
tel: 07785 180484 or 0191 2370419

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is:
Pamela Knowles
email: safeguarding.seghill@gmail.com
tel: 07785 180484 or 0191 2370419

In the **event of an emergency** the following colleague from a neighbouring school can also be contacted to provide advice-

The Designated Safeguarding Lead at Holywell Village First School is: Sarah Brett
email: safeguarding.holywell@school360.co.uk tel: 07385 793694

Messages from staff

Some staff have asked me to send the following messages to you-

Hello everyone, I hope you are all keeping safe. Miss you all lots, can't wait to see all your faces again! Miss Edmondson x

Hello to all our lovely children and your families from Mrs Bell. I hope you are all okay and adapting to this strange time we are having. I am finding it all a bit odd but I am also enjoying all of the lovely time I can spend with my two boys. Just like all of you we are doing our home learning but we are making time to do fun things too. I want to say how impressed I am with all of the work I have seen you do both on our school Facebook page and on my Google Classroom. Keep being amazing! x

Thank you so much for all the pictures and positive messages. It's lovely to be kept in touch with what you've been doing and to know that many of you are trying so hard to keep on with learning at home. Keep on keeping on!! Mrs Knowles x

Mrs Lyons says a big thank you to everyone who has been completing the online work she has set x.

Thank you to all the parents and children who have been completing the challenges set on Tapestry. I am missing everyone so much and I hope to see you all again soon for gingerbread man treats. Mrs Askew x

I am missing everyone and hope everyone is well. I'll see you all soon. Mrs Hurst x

I hope everyone is well and staying safe. I miss you all and hope to see you all soon. Mrs Ellison x

Miss you all. Looking forward to seeing your lovely smiles soon. Mrs Elliott x

Thank you for keeping me up to date with the pictures and videos on Tapestry. They really brighten up my day. It is great to hear you are joining in with the challenges and learning at home. I am missing you all and I look forward to seeing you soon. Mrs Kembrey x