

Seghill First School Newsletter November 2023 edition 2

Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 05 September 2023	92.9%
Whole school attendance this week	91.8%
88.1%	87.7%
91.4%	96.7%
89.5%	94.4%

Class of the week for this week is **Green** class again with 96.7% attendance. **Well done Green class.** You have the attendance octopus and you have had a dip in the sweet box.

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 **Ollie** in Green class.

Star of the week

Our stars of the week are-



WOW winners

Our Writers of the Week are-



Mrs Lyons	Jake;	Mrs Lyons	Isaac;
Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	Grace;	Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	Esme;
Miss Winter	James;	Miss Winter	Freddie;
Mrs Bell	Luciana;	Mrs Bell	Lincoln;
Mrs Kembrey	Edie;	Mrs Kembrey	Amy;
Mrs Askew	Megan;	Mrs Askew	Harry;
Miss Chappell	Leila;	Mrs Ellison	Caleb;
Staff star	Miss Best.	Mrs Miller and Mrs Jose	Adam.

Birthdays

We have one birthday in school this week. **Olivia** in Blue class is 9 on Sunday.

Happy birthday to Olivia. We hope your birthday is special and fun.



Christmas Lights 2023 competition winners

Congratulations to **Jake**, our winner of the Christmas lights competition this year. Jake's design has been made into a Christmas light which will be on display in our village. Very well done to runners up **Layton** and **Esme** in second and third place respectively.

Thank you to Councillor Sue Bowman and Councillor Eve Chicken for coming to our assembly on Monday to announce the winners and giving out the prizes. The big switch on will take place in the village next to the Blake Arms on **Friday 24 November** at 4:30pm.



Events coming up this term

Other school events	Fundraising and community events
Reception vision screening Wednesday 29 November	Children in Need Friday 17 November
Santa's reading challenge starts on Monday 04 December	Non uniform 2 for Christmas fayre Friday 24 November (chocolate and sweets tombola)
	Non uniform 3 for Christmas fayre Friday 08 December (bottle tombola)
Christmas	Christmas fayre Friday 15 December from 3:15pm
Christmas treat for children in key stages 1 and 2 Thursday 14 December morning	Film night Wednesday 20 December 3:15pm for Years 1 to 4
Years 1 to 4 Christmas concert Monday 18 December from 9:00am	
Years 1 to 4 Christmas concert Monday 18 December from 2:30pm	Celebration assemblies
Nursery and Reception Christmas concert Tuesday 19 December from 9:00am	Friday 22 December at 2:15pm
Year 1 and 2 Christmas party Tuesday 19 December from 1:30pm	
Christmas lunch all year groups Wednesday 20 December	School is closed on these dates-
Nursery and Reception Christmas party Wednesday 20 December from 1:30pm	Monday 25 December 2022 to Friday 05 January 2023 for the Christmas holidays
Year 3 and 4 Christmas party Thursday 21 December from 1:30pm	Monday 08 January 2024 due to a staff training day.

Please note I have updated the dates marked in red text. I had the correct days but the wrong dates in the previous newsletter.

Arrangements for Christmas

This newsletter contains the arrangements for all of the events and activities between now and the end of term. The arrangements may sound a bit prescriptive but we need to ask you to work with us to make sure we can offer these events and activities safely with the staff that we have available in school. We are a small staff team and we all wear many different hats in school. Please check the deadlines- they are there to make sure everything is done and organised in time.

Christmas raffle and non-uniform days

Raffle tickets will be sent home on **Friday 01 December**.

Please return the **right-hand side strips to school with £2.00** in the envelope provided by **Thursday 14 December**. The raffle will be drawn at the Christmas fayre. Please see Miss Best in the office if you want extra raffle tickets.

Thank you to everyone who wore non-uniform and brought in a donation for the general tombola last Friday. We are asking children to come to school in **non-uniform** on two more Fridays and to bring in a donation for the tombola or raffle each time.

Friday 24 November- Non-uniform donations for the chocolate tombola or raffle.

Friday 08 December- Non-uniform donations for the bottle tombola or raffle.

The more donations we receive the more prizes there will be to be won and the greater your chance of winning.

Christmas fayre

Our Christmas fayre will take place on **Friday 15 December** straight after school.

We will have our tombolas set out in the hall and tickets arranged into packs of 5 in advance, which worked very well the last time. In addition to the tombolas, there will be other stalls and attractions.

Refreshments will be available in the dining room. The raffle will be drawn at the end of the fayre.

Christmas cards

Class teachers will provide a Christmas card box in each classroom which will be open from **Monday 18 December**. Please wait until this date before bringing your cards in. 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 will be sent home by Friday 15 December to use to address Christmas cards.

Movie night on Wednesday 20 December

Children in Red, Green, Purple and Blue class are invited to stay after school until 5:15pm for movie night on **Wednesday 20 December**. We will ask the children to pick two movies, and then to watch one of them. Tickets cost **£3.00** and include a film, sweets and a drink.

If your child would like to attend, we have set up a payment portal on **School Gateway**. Click on **payments** and you will find the option for **Movie night December 2023**. Tick the box to give consent for your child to attend, click **add to basket** and pay £3.00 via School Gateway. There will be no after school club on Wednesday 20 December. This portal will be open on School Gateway until **Thursday 14 December**, which is the deadline for permission and payments.

Tickets 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 18 December Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert at 9:00am (doors open at 8:45am).
- Monday 18 December Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert at 2:30pm (doors open at 2:15pm).
- Tuesday 19 December Yellow and Orange 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. Tickets cost 50p each. If you would like to attend, we have set up a payment portal on **School Gateway**. Click on **payments** and you will find the options for **Yellow and Orange concert 2023** and **Red, Green, Purple and Blue concert 2023**. Specify the number of tickets you would like (maximum for 5 per family per concert), tick **add to basket** and pay via School Gateway. This portal will be open on School Gateway until **Thursday 14 December**, which is the deadline for bookings and payments.

Santa's reading challenge

Santa's reading challenge will start on **Monday 04 December**. Our literacy lead, Mrs Watson, will be sending out more information about the reading challenge next week. It is important that children continue to read in the run up to Christmas as part of their normal routine, as this maintains fluency and interest in books. We know it can be difficult to fit everything in at this time of year, but hopefully, the "little and often" approach is more manageable than reading lots of pages once a week.

Costumes for the Christmas concert

Children are invited to wear a **Christmas jumper or top for their Christmas concert** instead of their school jumper or cardigan (normal school bottoms). Children in key stages 1 and 2 are not dressing up; children in Early Years will be provided with a costume by school. We do not expect families to provide costumes for the concerts.

Payment deadline

The payment deadline for Christmas treats, movie night and tickets for the Christmas concerts is **Thursday 14 December**. **This is nearly 5 weeks from today.** The payment portals on School Gateway will close on **Thursday 14 December** and they will then disappear from your options on School Gateway. We will not re-open to payment portals to accommodate payments and orders which have missed the deadline.

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 19 December Red and Green class party

Children in Red and Green class will have their party on **Tuesday 19 December**. Children should come to school in **school uniform** and bring party clothes in a named bag to change into after lunch.

Wednesday 20 December Orange and Yellow class party

Children in Orange and Yellow class will have their party on **Wednesday 20 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 21 December Purple and Blue class party

Children in Purple and Blue class will have their party on **Thursday 21 December**. Children should come to school in **school uniform** and bring party clothes in a named bag to change into after lunch.

Christmas lunch

We are delighted to be able to offer a traditional Christmas lunch to children this year on **Wednesday 20 December**. Our Christmas lunch is always extremely popular as Mrs Rogage does such an amazing job. Christmas lunches need to be ordered in advance.

We are assuming that **all children**, apart from 15-hour Nursery children, want a school Christmas lunch. If you do **want a school Christmas lunch** for your child you do not need to do anything.

If you **do not want a school Christmas lunch** for your child you must let Miss Best in the school office know by **Friday 24 November**. Please send Miss Best an email at admin@seghill.northumberland.sch.uk to let her know. This must be done by **Friday 24 November** as this is the date that Mrs Rogage must submit her food orders to meet the deadlines set by her suppliers.

Please note that we are not serving jacket potatoes on this day. Please provide a packed lunch if you do not want a Christmas lunch for your child.

Parents of children in Yellow, Red and Green class do not have to pay for this meal as it is provided free due to the Universal Infant Free School Meals initiative. Parents of children in Orange, Purple and Blue class who are entitled to Free School Meals do not have to pay for this meal. Parents of children in Orange, Purple and Blue class who pay for their child's meals should pay £2.30 in the normal way via School Gateway.

Children are invited to wear a **Christmas jumper or top on Wednesday 20 December** instead of their school jumper or cardigan (normal school bottoms) to make our Christmas lunch super special.

Christmas treats

Thanks to our fundraisers, we are offering our special Christmas treats again this year. We have a pre-ordering service for our Christmas treats. This includes **reindeer dust, snowman poo, reindeer poo, hot chocolate reindeers, Grinch pills and sweet cones**. These items cost **50p each**. If you order all six of these items, we will provide them as a special **Christmas Eve pack for £2.50**.

If you would like to buy Christmas treats we have set up a payment portal on **School Gateway**. Click on **payments** and you will find the option for **Christmas treats 2023**. Pay 50p per item or £2.50 per pack, click **add to basket** and pay via School Gateway. This portal will be open on School Gateway until **Thursday 14 December**, which is the deadline for orders and payments so they can be processed, made up and sent home during the last week of term.

Countdown to Christmas

38 days