

Seghill First School Newsletter April 2024 edition 1

Safe, Supported, Successful

Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 05 September 2023	99.3%
Whole school attendance this week	94.1%
94.9%	100%
99.1%	99.3%
99.5%	98.9%

Class of the week for this week is **Yellow** class with 100% attendance. **Well done Yellow 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 **Jack** in Blue class.

Red class were the class of the spring term, with 96.8% attendance. Their reward was to **wear non-uniform on the last day of the spring term.** **Green class** were the class of the half term, with 98.3% attendance. Their reward is an **extra afternoon of Golden Time with Miss Winter.**

Our attendance winner for spring term was **Sam** in Year 1, who received a **£20 voucher.** Our winner for spring term B was **Bobby** in Year 4, who received a **£10 voucher.**

Star of the week

Our Stars of the Week are-



WOW winners

Our Writers of the Week are-



Mrs Lyons	Declan	Mrs Lyons	Jake
Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	Dominic	Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	Amelia
Miss Winter	Sophie	Miss Winter	Brodie
Mrs Bell	Edison	Mrs Bell	Harry
Mrs Kembrey	Amy	Mrs Kembrey	Jaxson
Mrs Askew	Megan	Mrs Askew	Rosie
Miss Chappell	Jayden		
Staff star	Miss Best		

Birthdays

We had no birthdays to celebrate in school this week. Please check back next week to see who are birthday boys and girls are.

Summer term coffee mornings

Class teachers will be providing **class coffee mornings** next week. The dates are-

Years 1 and 2 Monday 22 April 8:45am
 Nursery and Reception Wednesday 24 April 8:45am
 Years 3 and 4 Tuesday 23 April 8:45am.

We hope you will be able to join us.

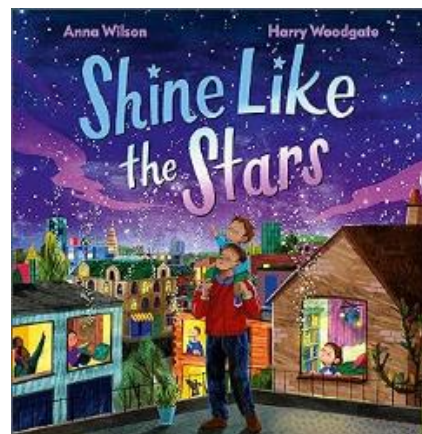
Names of parents who attend will be put in the hat for a chance to win a prize.

Events coming up this term

Summer coffee mornings at 9:00am – 9:45am	Fundraising and community
Years 1 and 2 Monday 22 April	Games night Wednesday 22 May from 3:30pm for Years 1 to 4
Years 3 and 4 Tuesday 23 April	Non uniform for Seghill Gala Friday 24 May
Nursery and Reception Wednesday 24 April	Non uniform for summer fayre 1 Friday 07 June (general tombola)
	Father's Day lunch Thursday 13 and Friday 14 June
Class assemblies	Non uniform for summer fayre 2 Friday 21 June (chocolate and sweets tombola)
Year 3 class assembly Friday 26 April at 2:30pm	Non uniform for summer fayre 3 Friday 05 July (bottle tombola)
Year 2 class assembly Friday 07 June at 2:30pm	Summer fayre Tuesday 16 July from 3:15pm
Year 1 class assembly Friday 21 June at 2:30pm	
Nursery and Reception class assembly Friday 05 July at 9:00am	Other school events
	Year 4 cycling with Richard Rothwell Tuesday 07, Wednesday 08 and Thursday 09 May
Celebration assemblies	Children's Countryside Day for Years 1 to 3 Thursday 06 June
Friday 24 May at 2:30pm	Nursery and Reception sports morning Thursday 27 June at 9:00am
Friday 19 July at 9:00am	Years 1 to 4 sports afternoon Friday 28 June 1:30pm
	Year 4 transition week Monday 08 July to Friday 12 July
PLEASE NOTE Nursery and Reception sports morning has been changed from Wednesday 26 June to Thursday 27 June	Year 4 leavers' assembly Thursday 18 July at 9:00am
	Year 4 leavers' party Thursday 18 July at 6:00pm
School is closed on these dates- Monday 06 May 2024 for the May Bank holiday. Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May 2024 for the half term holidays. Monday 22 July to Friday 30 August 2024 for the Summer holidays.	

Whole school text- Shine Like The Stars

We always start each term with a **shared whole school text**. This term we are using **Shine Like The Stars** by Anna Wilson and Harry Woodgate as a stimulus for our work. The children have been really engaged by the text and the activities they have completed. It has been great to walk around school to see the work on the text in each classroom. I have seen some amazing examples of the children's work where they have drawn and painted their own version of The Starry Night by Vincent Van Gogh. I have also seen landscapes inspired by Monet. Some children have also been keeping weather diaries. A very small range of pictures are on the next page to give you a flavour of the work we have done this week.



Closure of the Seghill level crossing

A number of parents have spoken to me this week about reports on social media that the main road and pedestrian crossing being closed for 5 days from during week beginning Monday 29 April.

Firstly, I would like to say that as a school, we had absolutely no idea that this was going to happen. We were not consulted with, or informed, that this was going to happen. We only found out about it at the same time as most of you did, which was via social media.

I have written to Northumberland's Director of Education and the Head of School Organisation and Resources to share my concerns. I have subsequently been contacted by the Senior Programme Officer who said the following-

"the level crossing at Seghill will be closed to road traffic from 10pm on Saturday 27th April to 10pm on Sunday 5th May, but it will remain open for pedestrians. This is for level crossing upgrade and testing work for the Northumberland Line. We will be running a free shuttle bus that will run from the Blake Arms stop on the west side of the level crossing to the Burnlea Gardens stop on the east side of the crossing and this will run via Annitsford and Seaton Delaval where people can change onto local bus services."

Although I know some of you will still have concerns about the main road being closed, which we do too, but it does seem that **the crossing will remain open to pedestrians**, which is good news. As soon as I have more information, I will share it with you via School Gateway.

If your child is taken to and from school via School Transport, I will communicate with you separately as soon as I know the arrangements for your child.

Leave of absence during term time requests

As we move into the summer term, we tend to receive an increased number of leave of absence during term time requests. We do completely understand that the cost of family holidays during the school holidays can be astronomical. However, we have a **legal duty** to follow the law around attendance, including only authorising leave of absence requests that have **evidence of exceptional circumstances** and referring to the Local Authority for a **fixed penalty notice** to be issued for all unauthorised leave of absence requests.

Parents and carers requesting leave of absence during term time must **submit the request at least two weeks in advance** using the **leave of absence during term time form**. The only leave of absence during term time requests that will be authorised are those where **evidence of exceptional circumstances** is provided.

Leave of absence that is taken **without a leave of absence request form being submitted** will not be authorised and will trigger an application from school to the Local Authority for a **fixed penalty notice** to be issued.

Leave of absence that is taken **which has not been authorised** is extremely likely to trigger an application from school to the Local Authority for a **fixed penalty notice** to be issued.

Parking on double yellow lines on Barrass Avenue

Please remember that the **double yellow lines** at the junction of **Barrass Avenue** and **Laycock Gardens** (opposite the entrance to the school drive) are there for a reason and **shouldn't be parked on** at either drop off or collection times. This area becomes congested with cars turning in off the main road and cars parking on the double yellow lines does mean there have been a few near misses lately. Please help us to keep your children safe by not parking on the double yellow lines. Thank you.

School meals update

Our **new school meals menu** started this week. I have been in the dining room every day and can see that the children are enjoying the meals. We are providing individual salad pots instead of a salad bar, and they have been popular. Please remember that school meals cost **£2.40 per meal**, making a week of school meals £12.00.

Family Help

Many of you will have seen the **Family Help Workers** who spoke at the beginning of the Easter celebration assembly. This is the [link](#) to their latest Family Help Worker leaflet. The Family Hub is a service available to help you and your family. On our **school website** there is a whole section dedicated to signpost parents and carers to get help and support. Please look in the **key information tab** and find the **support for parents and carers** section. Alternatively, please speak to any member of staff if you need help or support.

Summer term A PE days reminder

Class	Summer term A PE days
Nursery Orange class	Tuesday and Wednesday
Reception Yellow class	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 1 Red class	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 2 Green class	Monday and Thursday
Year 3 Purple class	Monday and Thursday
Year 4 Blue class	Wednesday and Friday

Whole school text- Shine Like The Stars

