

# Seghill First School Newsletter March 2024 edition 4

*Safe, Supported, Successful*

## Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 05 September 2023	93.7%
Whole school attendance this week	97.8%
94.0%	97.6%
100%	100%
94.7%	96.7%

Class of the week for this week is **Red** class with 100% attendance. **Well done Red class.** You have the attendance octopus and you have had a dip in the sweet box. Green class also had 100% attendance but they had a number of late marks, which Red class didn't.

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 **Eabha** in Red class.

The **class with the best attendance for the spring term** will be announced next Tuesday. This class will be able to wear non-uniform on Wednesday 27 March, which is the last day of the term, as their reward.

## Star of the week

Our Stars of the Week are-



## WOW winners

Our Writers of the Week are-



Mrs Lyons	Isaac	Mrs Lyons	Roman
Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	Alannah	Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	Owen
Miss Winter	Leila	Miss Winter	Logan
Mrs Bell	Archie	Mrs Bell	Lincoln
Mrs Kembrey	Finnlagh	Mrs Kembrey	Mila
Mrs Askew	Harry	Mrs Askew	Rebeun
Miss Chappell	Alannah	Mrs Ellison	Hunter
Staff star	Mrs Ellison	Mrs Miller and Mrs Jose	Edison

## Birthdays

As this is our last newsletter of the term, we are including birthdays this week and during the Easter holidays.

We have six birthdays to celebrate.

**Mila** in Yellow class will be 5 at the weekend and **Ethan** will be 5 during the holidays.

**Elena** in Red class will be 6 during the holidays.

**Emily** and **Leila** in Green class are both 7 at the weekend.

**William** in Blue class will be 9 during the holidays.

Happy birthday to Mila, Ethan, Elena, Emily, Leila and William. We hope you enjoy your birthdays.



## School meals update

Our **summer term** will start with the week one menu on the first week of the summer term. Please remember that from the beginning of the summer term, school meals will cost **£2.40 per meal**, making a week of school meals £12.00. We would be grateful if any parents and carers with an **outstanding balance on their child's dinner money account** could pay the outstanding balance by the end of this term. Thank you.

### Events coming up this half term

Celebration assemblies	Fundraising and community
Wednesday 27 March at 9:00am	Film night Wednesday 27 March at 3:15pm for Years 1 to 4
Other school events	School is closed on these dates
Easter egg decorating competition deadline Wednesday 27 March	Thursday 28 March 2024 due to a staff training day.
	Friday 29 March to Friday 12 April 2024 for the Easter holidays.

### Film Night reminder

**Film Night** will be taking place from 3:15pm to 5:15pm on **Wednesday 27 March** for children in **Years 1 to 4**. 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 **Film Night March 2024**. 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 27 March due to Film Night. This portal will be open on School Gateway until **Tuesday 26 March**, which is the deadline for permission and payments.

### Meetings with class teachers

Thank you to all the **parents and carers who met with their child's class teacher** this week. I know a couple of meetings are taking place next week. Assuming all of these meetings go ahead as planned, we had at least 90% attendance rate at meetings, which is excellent.

Thank you to all of you who completed and handed in a parents questionnaire. We will share the responses with you after the Easter holidays.

### Easter egg decorating competition

If your child would like to **decorate an egg at home** to take part in our **Easter egg decorating competition**, please send the completed entries into school on **Tuesday or Wednesday** next week. We will display them in the hall for celebration assembly. There will a prize for every entry and some special spot prizes. We know that you are very creative, so we are looking forward to seeing how imaginative you can be.

### 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.

### Non uniform for Easter raffle

Thank you to everyone who came to school today in **non-uniform** and made a donation to the **Easter raffle**. Your donations will be made into raffle prizes. Raffle tickets were sent home last week. Please make sure they are returned by Tuesday 26 March so we can have them sorted out in time for the raffle to be drawn at the **celebration assembly on Wednesday 27 March**.

### Reading book

Over the last couple of years we have made a **substantial investment** in buying new books for our reading scheme. We have bought reading books and Book Bag Books, which are used in the classroom and as home reading books. The books come in sets of 10, and we have noticed that quite a few **sets are incomplete** because **books have not been returned to school**. If you have any reading books or Book Bag Books at home, **please return them to school no matter how long you've had them**. Thank you.

We've also lost a number of books due to **water bottles leaking** inside school bags. Please can you be mindful of this when school bags are being packed so the reading books and exercise books are not being destroyed by leaking water bottles.

### Changes to the structure of the school day in key stages 1 and 2

From the beginning of the summer term, we will be making **changes to the structure of the school day** in key stages 1 and 2. The start and end times of the school day will remain the same. The changes will be made to how we organise the timings for lessons and other parts of the school day.

We have made great progress since the children returned to school following the significant disruption caused by Covid. A key reason for our success has been the sharp focus on the systematic teaching of reading, including phonics. We now need to build on the success of reading and place more emphasis on the teaching of writing. At the moment, we don't have enough opportunities for children to write at length or to write across the full range of genres. The rationale for change is to provide more planned opportunities for children to write at length and to write across the full range of genres.

This is the **current structure**-

8:45 9:00	9:00 10:00	10:00 10:30	10:30 10:45	10:45 11:00	11:00 12:00	12:00 1:00	1:00 2:00	2:00 2:15	2:15 3:15
Registration	RWI English	Drink snack and story Basic skills	Assembly Basic skills	break	Maths	lunch	Foundat ion subjects	Golden time	Foundat ion subjects
15 mins	60 mins	30 mins	15 mins	15 mins	60 mins	60 mins	60 mins	15 mins	60 mins

This is the **revised structure** which will start at the beginning of the summer term-

8:45 8:55	8:55 9:50	9:50 10:00	10:00 10:30	10:30 10:45	10:45 11:15	11:15 12:00	12:00 1:00	1:00 2:00	2:00 2:15	2:15 3:15
Registration	Maths	Drink, snack and story	Basic skills	break	RWI English	Writing	lunch	Foundati on subjects	Assembly / Golden time	Foundati on subjects
10 mins	55 mins	10 mins	30 mins	15 mins	30 mins	45 mins	60 mins	60 mins	15 mins	60 mins

The changes will begin at the start of the summer term, which is **Monday 15 April**, and will run for the summer term. Regular reviews will take place during the summer term, including monitoring by the leadership team and governors.

### Easter holiday club

Active Future are working with Northumberland County Council and Seghill First School to provide an **Easter holiday club** full of activities including a nutritious lunch.

We are working with government guidelines to provide a safe environment for children to take part in both traditional and non-traditional movement activities that are fun and rewarding, there is a camp designed for Years 1 to 6 in the **first week of the Easter holidays Tuesday 2nd - Friday 5th April at Seghill Community Centre** 10am to 2pm. The days are open to boys and girls and are completely **FREE** and include **lunch**. A typical day may look like the attached picture but are subject to change as we tweak each program to the kid's interests!

Please note that priority has been given to children who are entitled to Free School Meals. Any places left will be allocated after that on a first come first served basis. To sign up please click on the relevant links below, or if you have any questions, please contact Dan Horsley on 07854190807 or [dan@activefuture.info](mailto:dan@activefuture.info):

Seghill - <https://campscui.active.com/orgs/ActiveFutureNorthumberland?season=3472741>

Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
10:00 – 10:15	Sign in and Nutri-Troops welcome game on arrival	Sign in and Nutri-Troops welcome game on arrival	Sign in and Nutri-Troops welcome game on arrival	Sign in and Nutri-Troops welcome game on arrival
10:15 – 11:15	Teambuilding Games	Solos, Duos and Trios	Judo and Dance Workshops	Meditation and Pilates
11:15 – 12:00	Easter Crafts	Den Building	Easter Crafts	Archery and Racket Sports
12:00 – 12:45	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:45 – 13:45	50 v 50 Nerf Battle	Dodgeball	Team Games	Easter Egg Hunt
13:45 – 14:00	Tidy up and complete the daily reflection.	Tidy up and complete the daily reflection.	Tidy up and complete the daily reflection	Tidy up and complete the daily reflection

### Summer term A PE days

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

Children should wear a **plain white t-shirt, plain black or navy joggers, trainers and their school sweatshirt or cardigan** to school on their PE days. As the weather warms up, children can wear **plain black or navy shorts** to school on 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.

The PE timetable is changed each half term so each class has the chance to work with the **PE coaches** that come into school. In summer term A we will have NUFC working with Yellow and Red class, Mr Dowson working with Green and Purple class and a skipping coach working with Purple and Green class. The other PE lessons will be led by the class teacher.