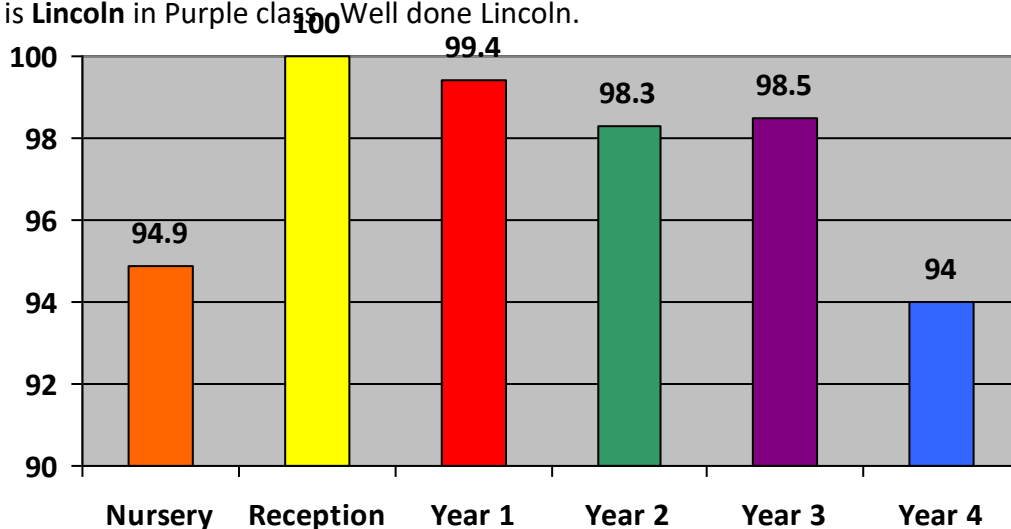


# Seghill First School Newsletter November 2024 edition 2

## Attendance

Whole school attendance year to date <b>95.6%</b>	National average attendance year to date <b>95.4%</b>
Whole school attendance this week <b>97.8%</b>	National average attendance this week <b>94.4%</b>

Whole school attendance this week was 97.8%. Class of the week 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 **Lincoln** in Purple class. Well done Lincoln.



### Star of the week

Our Stars of the Week are-



### WOW winners

Our Writers of the Week are-



<b>Mrs Lyons</b>	Bailey	<b>Mrs Lyons</b>	Amelia
<b>Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas</b>	Emily	<b>Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas</b>	Logan and Olie
<b>Miss Winter</b>	Thomas	<b>Miss Winter</b>	Abel
<b>Mrs Bell</b>	Sierra	<b>Mrs Bell</b>	Finnlugh
<b>Mrs Kembrey</b>	Faye	<b>Mrs Kembrey</b>	Emma
<b>Mrs Askew</b>	Katie	<b>Mrs Askew</b>	Evaya
<b>Miss Chappell</b>	Kodi	<b>Mrs Jose</b>	Grace W
<b>Staff star</b>	Mrs Thomas	<b>Mrs Miller</b>	Rosie S
		<b>Mrs Ellison</b>	Edie R
		<b>Miss Welton</b>	Jessica

### Birthdays

We have no birthdays in school this week. Please check back with us next week.

### Topic homework

Thank you to everyone who submitted their **autumn term Topic Homework**. We have been amazed by your excellent models, pictures, writing and drawings.

### Non uniform

Thank you so much to everyone who wore **non uniform** today and made a donation for **Children in Need**. We raised £139.50p.

Your donations will go directly to this charity that does so much good work for children who are struggling to thrive and to be the best they can be.



### School menu

Next week we will be on the **week 1 menu**. A copy of the menu is on the front page of the school website.

## Seghill First School annual calendar autumn 2024

Christmas	Fundraising and community events
Early Years Christmas treat- details to follow – Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Children in Need – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November
Christmas post boxes open - Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Non uniform for Christmas fayre general tombola– Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November
Year 1 to Year 4 Christmas concert – Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am and 2.30pm	Non uniform for Christmas Fayre bottle tombola– Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December
Nursery and Reception Christmas performance – Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am	Christmas Fayre – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December from 3.15pm
Nursery and Reception Christmas party – Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 1.00pm	Film night Year 1 to Year 4 – Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 3.30pm
Christmas lunch all year groups – Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Other school events
Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas party – Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 1.00pm	Santa’s reading challenge – Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December
Years 1 to 4 Christmas treat- details to follow – Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Celebration assemblies
Year 3 & Year 4 Christmas party – Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 1.00pm	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 9.00am
<b>School is closed on these dates-</b> Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January for the Christmas holidays and Monday 06 January 2025 due to a staff training day.	

### Northumberland Education Schools Alliance

Our school has formed an Educational Alliance with eleven other first and primary schools in Northumberland. Led by a group of like-minded headteachers, who want the very best for our children, it will be known as the **Arcot Alliance**.



The alliance provides for closer working with other similar schools, collaboratively sharing ideas and resources along with Northumberland County Council. The alliance will facilitate greater networking for teachers and senior leaders and allow us to experience and share best practice from a wider variety of schools in order to continually improve what we do at Seghill First School.

Please note that this Alliance is merely a collaboration and not a Federation or the creation of a Multi-Academy Trust.

The schools involved are; Beaconhill Community Primary School, Burnside Primary School, Cragside C of E Primary School, Eastlea Primary School, Holywell Village First School, Horton Grange Primary School, New Delaval Primary School, New Hartley First School, Newsham Primary School, Northburn Primary School, Seghill First School and Seaton Delaval First School.

### Christmas Lights 2024 competition winners

Children in Year 4 have taken part in the annual **Christmas lights competition** again this year. The winning design has been made into a Christmas light which will be on display in our village.

Thank you to Councillor Sue Bowman for coming to our assembly on Wednesday to announce the names of the top three entries and giving out the prizes. The top three entries came from **Katie, Owen and Bailey**. The big switch on will take place in the village, next to the Blake Arms on **Friday 22 November** at 4:30pm. This is when the winning entry and the name of the winning designer will be revealed. Well done and good luck to Katie, Owen and Bailey.

### **Punctuality reminder**

Doors open at **8:45am** every morning and close at **8:50am**. The very vast majority of parents and carers do make sure that their children are in school on time every day and we are very grateful for that. However, we have had a lot of late marks recently. I know there were many issues on Wednesday morning due to serious traffic congestion. I do appreciate that sometimes children are late, and this is a one off event where circumstances beyond your control mean that you just miss the gates closing. These happen to us all and I am not referring to these very rare occasions.

I am concerned that we do have a lot of persistent late comers who are regularly late. Even being late by 5 minutes has a negative impact on children. Arriving at school late means that children miss important opportunities for socialisation and learning and just makes for a bad start to the day.

Similarly, a number of children are regularly not collected on time at the end of the school day at **3:15pm**. The very vast majority of parents and carers do make sure that their children are collected on time every day and we are very grateful for that. However, we have had a lot of children waiting to be collected from the office well after 3:15pm and we have had to take children to after school club to wait for collection.

If your child arrives at school after the registers close at 9:15am, this is recorded as an **unauthorised absence** and they **miss their morning mark**.

If your child is not collected on time, they will be taken to the **school office**. If we are not contacted by you and your child has not been collected by **3:30pm**, they will be taken to after school club. You will have to collect your child from the **after school club**, which takes place in **Red classroom**, and you will be **charged** for attending the session, which is £7.50.

Please continue to help us and your child by ensuring your child is dropped off and collected on time.

### **Pedestrian and cycle zone on Cheviot View and Parker Place**

Please remember that Cheviot View and Parker Place are both pedestrian and cycle zones before and after school every day. This means that **no vehicles** can enter and proceed along the lengths of Cheviot View or Parker Place from Monday to Friday, 8:15am to 9:15am and 2:45pm to 3:45pm.

I stand outside on Cheviot View at home time every afternoon that I am not teaching and have noticed more vehicles parking on Cheviot View and driving up or down the road after school. The zone is in place to keep our children safe. Please help us to keep our children safe by following the rules of the pedestrian and cycle zone.


### **Arrangements for Christmas**

Attached to this newsletter are all of the arrangements for 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 and on time.

We are sending out a paper copy of the arrangements to everyone so hopefully you can keep track of what is going on.



## SEGHILL FIRST SCHOOL CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS 2024

<b>Friday 22 November</b>	Let Miss Best know if your child DOES NOT want a Christmas lunch
<b>Friday 22 November</b>	Non-uniform donations for the <b>general tombola</b> or raffle.
<b>Friday 29 November</b>	Raffle tickets will be sent home with your child
<b>Monday 02 December</b>	Santa's reading challenge starts
<b>Wednesday 04 December</b>	Yellow and Orange class Christmas treat visit to the Northern Stage**
<b>Friday 06 December</b>	Non-uniform donations for the <b>bottle tombola</b> or raffle.
<b>Monday 09 December</b>	Return raffle tickets and money to school
<b>Monday 09 December</b>	Deadline for all payments for performance tickets and movie night tickets
<b>Friday 13 December</b>	Christmas fayre
<b>Monday 16 December</b>	Santa's reading challenge ends
<b>Monday 16 December</b>	Key stage 1 and 2 concerts at 9:00am and 2:30pm 
<b>Monday 16 December</b>	First day for bringing in Christmas cards
<b>Tuesday 17 December</b>	EYFS performance from 9:00am
<b>Tuesday 17 December</b>	Yellow and Orange class Christmas party**
<b>Wednesday 18 December</b>	Christmas lunch 
<b>Wednesday 18 December</b>	Movie night for children in Red, Green, purple and Blue class
<b>Wednesday 18 December</b>	Red and Green class Christmas party
<b>Thursday 19 December</b>	Purple and Blue class Christmas party
<b>Thursday 19 December</b>	Red, Green, Purple and Blue class Christmas treat trip to Vue cinema
<b>Friday 20 December</b>	Celebration assembly at 9:00am

**\*\* Morning Nursery children please attend in the afternoon instead of the morning**



**Please wear a Christmas top or jumper for this event instead of a school jumper / cardigan. Normal school bottoms!**

### Christmas lunch

We are delighted to be able to offer a traditional Christmas lunch to children this year on **Wednesday 18 December**. Our Christmas lunch is always extremely popular as Mrs Rogage does such an amazing job.

We will be serving roast turkey with all the trimmings- chipolata sausage, roast potatoes, carrots, peas, brussels sprouts and gravy. A vegetarian option is available. Dessert will be some festive ice cream.

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 22 November**. Please send Miss Best an email at [schooladmin@seghillschool.co.uk](mailto:schooladmin@seghillschool.co.uk) to let her know. This must be done by **Friday 22 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 £2.40 in the normal way via School Gateway.

Children are invited to wear a **Christmas jumper or top on Wednesday 18 December** instead of their school jumper or cardigan (normal school bottoms) to make our Christmas lunch super special.

### Christmas raffle and non-uniform days

Raffle tickets will be sent home on **Friday 29 November**.

Please return the **right-hand side strips to school with £2.00** in the envelope provided by **Monday 09 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 chocolate and sweetie 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 22 November**- Non-uniform donations for the **general tombola** or raffle.
- **Friday 06 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 13 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

Please wait until **Monday 16 December** before bringing your Christmas 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 13 December to use to address Christmas cards.



### **Movie night on Wednesday 18 December**

Children in Red, Green, Purple and Blue class are invited to stay after school until 5:15pm for movie night on **Wednesday 18 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 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 20 December. This portal will be open on School Gateway until **Monday 09 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 16 December Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert at 9:00am (doors open at 8:45am).
- Monday 16 December Red, Green, Purple and Blue class concert at 2:30pm (doors open at 2:15pm).
- Tuesday 17 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 2024 and Red, Green, Purple and Blue concert 2024**. 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 **Monday 09 December**, which is the deadline for bookings and payments.

### **Santa's reading challenge**

Santa's reading challenge will start on **Monday 02 December**. Our literacy lead, Mrs Watson, will be sending out more information about the reading challenge soon. 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 in key stages 1 and 2 are invited to wear a **Christmas jumper or top for their Christmas concert** instead of their school jumper or cardigan (normal school bottoms). They 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.

### **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 17 December Orange and Yellow class party**

Children in Orange and Yellow class will have their party on **Tuesday 17 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.

#### **Wednesday 18 December Red and Green class party**

Children in Red and Green class will have their party on **Wednesday 18 December**. Children should come to school in **school uniform** and bring party clothes in a named bag to change into after lunch.

#### **Thursday 19 December Purple and Blue class party**

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

### Christmas treats

Thanks to our fundraisers, we are offering our special Christmas treats again this year. These includes **reindeer dust, hot chocolate cones and grinch pills.**

Christmas treats will be available to buy at the **Christmas fayre** on Friday 13 December.

### Payment deadline

The payment portal for tickets for the Christmas performances and movie night is open.

The deadline for payment for the Christmas performances and movie night is **Monday 09 December**. **This gives 3 full weeks for payments to be made.** The payment portals on School Gateway will close on **Monday 09 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.

### After school club and Christmas events

We offer after school club from Monday to Friday until 5:30pm every week. There are times that we are unable to offer this service. Please note that there will be **no after school club** on the following days-

- Friday 13 December (all staff are needed at the Christmas fayre)
- Wednesday 18 December (due to film night);
- Friday 20 December (to allow Mr Ruler and the cleaning time to clean all classrooms before the shut down for the Christmas holidays).

I hope that by providing you with advance notice that you will be able to make alternative arrangements if required.

### Christmas treats for our children

Staff have arranged a special Christmas treat for all children.

Children in **Nursery and Reception** are going to the Northern Stage to see Wolf! on Wednesday 04 December. Tickets cost £10.00 per child, plus the cost of the coach hire would be in addition to this.

Children in **key stages 1 and 2** are going to the Vue cinema to see Moana 2 on **Thursday 19 December**. Tickets cost £4 per child, plus the cost of the coach hire would be in addition to this.

The cost of the tickets for 105 children plus multiple coaches comes to quite a hefty amount.

We are using money from our fundraising activities to pay for both of these treats, so parents and carers **will not be asked to contribute** anything towards the cost.

I hope you agree that this is an excellent use of our fundraising money, and hopefully the children will really enjoy going out to seeing a performance in a special setting.

