

Seghill First School Newsletter April 2024 edition 2

Safe, Supported, Successful

Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 05 September 2023	94.2%
Whole school attendance this week	98.3%
97.7%	99.3%
99.5%	100%
96.3%	96.7%

Class of the week for this week is Green class with 100% 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 **Kora** in Red class.

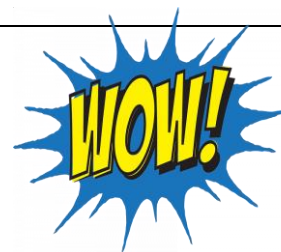
Star of the week

Our Stars of the Week are-



WOW winners

Our Writers of the Week are-



Mrs Lyons	Layton	Mrs Lyons	
Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	Francesca	Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	
Miss Winter	Brandon	Miss Winter	
Mrs Bell	Luciana	Mrs Bell	
Mrs Kembrey	Gracie	Mrs Kembrey	
Mrs Askew	Carter	Mrs Askew	
Miss Chappell	Angel	Mrs Miller and Mrs Jose	
Staff star	Mrs Baptie	Mrs Ellison	Ethan

Birthdays

We have four birthdays in school this week.

Rosie and Isabella in Yellow class were both 5 this week.

Charlie in Green class is 7 today.

Theo in Purple class was 8 this week.

Happy birthday to Rosie, Isabella, Charlie and Theo. We hope you enjoyed your birthdays.



Spring term coffee mornings

Thank you to everyone who attended their child's **class coffee morning** this week. We hope you found them useful.

We had 8 parents in key stage 2, 9 parents in key stage 1 and 14 parents in Early Years. The best attendance was in Early Years with 14 out of 30 children represented, which is 47%.

A parent of 29 of our children attended their coffee morning, which is 28%.

Congratulations to Mrs McNeill in Nursery. Her name was pulled out of the hat and she won the prize.

School meals update

This week has been our first chance to sample the week 2 menu from our **new school meals menu** started this week. Again, I have been in the dining room every day and can see that the children are enjoying the meals. Sausage and mash was not particularly popular on Monday. We'll give this one more try and if it isn't a popular dish, we will swap it for something else.

The menu is on the **front page of the school website**. If your child doesn't like the meal, you can provide them with a **packed lunch** or they can order a **jacket potato** during registration.

Events coming up this term

Class assemblies	Fundraising and community
Year 2 class assembly Friday 07 June at 2:30pm	Games night Wednesday 22 May from 3:30pm for Years 1 to 4
Year 1 class assembly Friday 21 June at 2:30pm	Non uniform for Seghill Gala Friday 24 May
Nursery and Reception class assembly Friday 05 July at 9:00am	Non uniform for summer fayre 1 Friday 07 June (general tombola)
	Father's Day lunch Thursday 13 and Friday 14 June
Other school events	Non uniform for summer fayre 2 Friday 21 June (chocolate and sweets tombola)
Year 4 cycling with Richard Rothwell Tuesday 07, Wednesday 08 and Thursday 09 May	Non uniform for summer fayre 3 Friday 05 July (bottle tombola)
Children's Countryside Day for Years 1 to 3 Thursday 06 June	Summer fayre Tuesday 16 July from 3:15pm
Nursery and Reception sports morning Thursday 27 June at 9:00am	
Years 1 to 4 sports afternoon Friday 28 June 1:30pm	Celebration assemblies
Year 4 transition week Monday 08 July to Friday 12 July	Friday 24 May at 2:30pm
Year 4 leavers' assembly Thursday 18 July at 9:00am	Friday 19 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.	

Class assembly

Thank you to **Mrs Watson and Year 3** for their class assembly today. You all did a great job. It's not easy to stand up and talk in front of everyone, but you all tried really hard and did a great job. We are looking forward to seeing the rest of the classes in their class assemblies.

School uniform

As the weather gets better (hopefully!) children often want to take off their jumper or cardigan. It is really difficult to match children with their own jumper or cardigan when they are not named. Please can you ensure that **all jumpers and cardigans are named**.

Please remember that we have lots of **pre-loved items of uniform**. If there is something you would like, please let Miss Best know. She'll let you know what we have and hopefully she'll be able to get you sorted out with what you need.

Fundraising

Every year we are able to provide **lots of extra opportunities** for our children using the money raised from **fundraising activities**. A huge amount of work goes on behind the scenes to organise the fundraising events that generate the money we need to continue to provide enriching opportunities, such as paying for every child in the school to go to the theatre every Christmas.

We have a very small group of fundraisers who do a brilliant job, but we really are desperate for some new members to join the group. There is an informal meeting on **Tuesday 30 April at 9:00am** for anyone who can spare an hour or two a couple of times a year. Please join us to find out more.

Attendance update

Our attendance since we returned from the Easter holidays has been **really good**. In the last two weeks, our whole school attendance figure is **98.8%**. This is brilliant. Please keep this up.

As a result of making such a good start to the term, our overall attendance figure is creeping up. Whole school attendance since September is now **94.2%**. This is **really positive**, but our target for attendance is 96.3% and we are still quite a long way from that target. National average attendance is **94.6%**.

Every day we share our attendance information with the Department for Education. We can compare our attendance to other schools in Northumberland and nationally. Compared to other Northumberland schools, we are ranked 81 out of 121. Compared to other schools nationally, we are ranked in the 6th decile, which is the bottom 40 to 50%.

Children who have attendance lower than 90% are known as **persistent absentees**. Having 90% attendance is the equivalent of missing one afternoon a week every week. Currently we have 19% of our children with less than 90% attendance. That means that 17 children have missed the equivalent of one afternoon a week every week. Compared to other schools nationally, we are ranked in the 8th decile, which is the bottom 20 to 30%. This is **really worrying**.

We know that children can be genuinely unwell and therefore should not be at school. If you're not sure about whether to send your child in to school or not, the NHS website is usually a good source of information. If your child is brought to school and we feel they need to go home, we will ring you. Medicine can be administered by Miss Best. Please fill in a medical form.

Regular school attendance is so very important. It is no coincidence that children who miss school often do not go on to achieve their potential. Please see the graphic below.

175 days to spend on family time, go on holiday, visit special places, do shopping and carry out jobs, have appointments					
365 days per year	190 school days 0 school days missed 100%	180 school days 10 school days missed 95%	171 school days 19 school days missed 90%	161 school days 29 school days missed 85%	152 school days 38 school days missed 80%
					143 school days 47 school days missed 75%
	GOOD Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.		WORRYING Less chance of success. Harder for your child to make progress.		SERIOUS CONCERN Very little chance of success. You child is being massively disadvantaged.
	100% 13 children	95% - 100% 35 children	90% - 95% 25 children	85% - 90% 12 children	80% - 85% 2 children
	48 children		37 children		2 children

Closure of the Seghill level crossing

Further to the information shared in last week's newsletter, I have continued to chase up a number of people to seek information about the Seghill level crossing closure.

We now have details of the diversion that will be in place. Please see below-

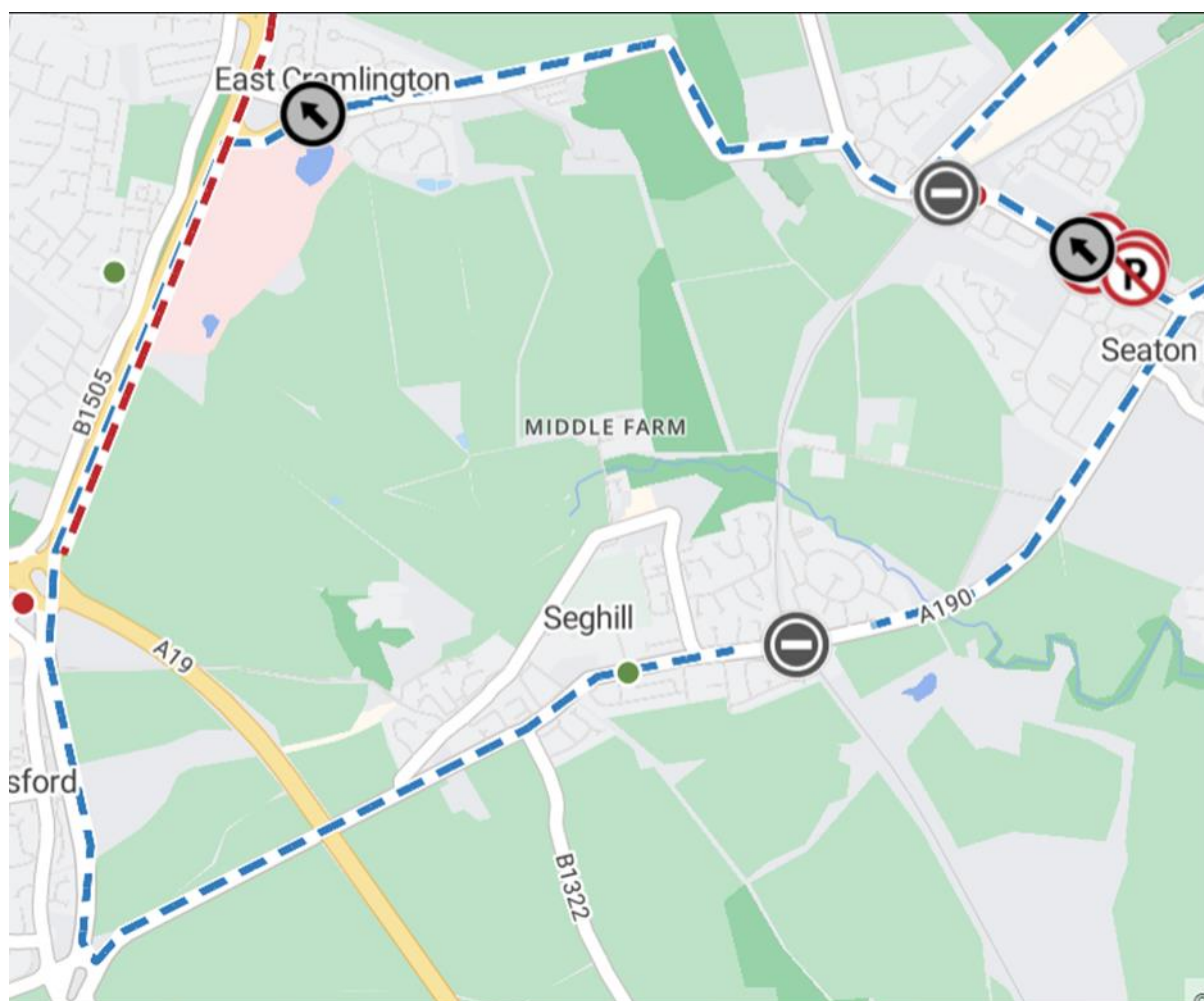
Anyone wishing to access the Seghill First School from the east of the closure point should travel along the A190 onto A192 then onto B1326 before joining A189 and back onto the A190.

The expected work dates for this closure are 22:00 on 27 April until 22:00 on 05 May.

We have been told that the temporary traffic lights at Seaton Delaval will be removed on 27 April prior to this closure coming into force to limit the impact on the travelling public.

We have also been told that NCC highways instructed Network Rail's traffic management company to get the signage posted at the end of the village corrected immediately as the advanced warning signage that was in place earlier this week was incorrect.

I have emailed NCC highways again to ask if there is going to be any signage for drivers approaching the village from the west via the A190 from Annitsford. I travel this way every morning and there are no warning signs to say that the road in the village is going to be closed. I am waiting for a response. We have been provided by the map by the interim network manager for Northumberland County Council.



The closure of the level crossing is clearly going to cause huge disruption. Please note that the **pedestrian crossing will be open**. If you do have to drive to and from school via the level crossing, please **allow extra time for your journey** via the diversion to ensure **children are dropped off and collected on time**.

If we receive any further information from NCC highways we will share it with you.