

Seghill First School Newsletter January 2025 edition 4

Safe, Supported, Successful

Attendance

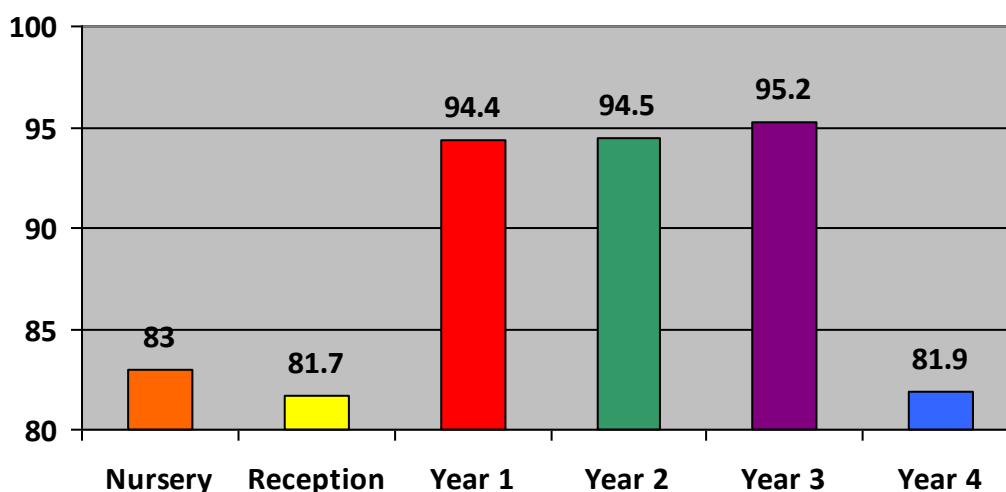
Whole school attendance year to date 94.5%

National average attendance year to date 94.5%

Whole school attendance this week 89.9%

National average attendance this week 94.8%

Whole school attendance this week was 89.9%. Class of the week this week is **Purple class** with 95.2% attendance. Well done **Purple 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 **Harry** in Yellow class. Well done Harry.



Star of the week

Our Stars of the Week are-



WOW winners

Our Writers of the Week are-



| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|---------------------------|---------|
| Mrs Lyons | Isaac | Mrs Lyons | Angel |
| Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas | Leo | Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas | Brandon |
| Miss Winter | Archie | Miss Winter | Harry |
| Mrs Bell | Hadia | Mrs Bell | Rosie |
| Mrs Kembrey | Grace | Mrs Kembrey | Teddy |
| Mrs Askew | Evaya | Mrs Askew | Kade |
| Miss Chappell | Harry M | Mrs Ellison | Jaxson |
| Staff star | Mr Ruler | Mrs Jose | Elena |
| | | Miss Welton | Kelbie |

Birthdays

We have one birthday in school this week.

Hunter in Green class is 7 at the weekend. Happy birthday Hunter. We hope your birthday is special and fun.



Celebration assembly

We hope you can join us for our **Celebration Assembly on Friday 21 February** from 2:30pm in the school hall. It is always lovely to see and hear what the children have been learning.

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

Update from this week

We are aware of the challenging week we have had this week and would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding. The week did not get off to a great start when school was closed on Monday due to continued issues with the electricity. As you are aware, problems started last Thursday when the electricity was off and on for most of the day. We even had to get chips for the children's lunch as the disruption interrupted the cooking process for the older children's lunches.

On Friday we had 5 electricians here trying to locate the problem. The power was on then back off again in excess of thirty times during the morning and this continued throughout the afternoon. The engineers isolated every part of the system to try to see where the fault was. The school is on one electricity circuit, so any issue has to be located by trial and error. The fault was located on Monday when more electricians and plumbers came to school. A water tank had developed a leak and the leak was dripping on to the electrics, causing them to cut out. The leak has been fixed and we've had no further issues.

Returning to school on Tuesday, we had to inform parents and carers of a case of Hepatitis A. We understand the worry that this caused. We were all worried too. The immunisation team were in school throughout the day yesterday vaccinating 86 pupils and 6 staff. This is a very high turnout, considering we have 109 children in the school and a number of children were absent yesterday. Some children were unable to have the vaccine and some parents exercised their right not to have their child vaccinated.

The vaccination process ran smoothly and although some of the older children had a little bit of a wait after school for their vaccination, I think that everyone who wanted a vaccination had one by before 4pm. Parents were provided with a leaflet following the vaccination. Please refer to this if you have any questions or concerns. Alternatively, you can contact the Health Protection Team at the UK Health Security Agency on 0300 303 8596.

This has been a very worrying time for everyone- children, parents and staff. These are uncharted waters for us all, so the help, support and backing from the majority of parents and carers has really helped to get through this week. I send you my sincere thanks, and the thanks of all of the staff and governors of our school. The full staff team and governing body have responded to this situation with their customary positivity and compassion, despite being worried themselves. In addition to the worry that this situation has caused everyone, some of you had genuine, relevant concerns specific to your child and your family. You asked those questions and shared your concerns in a constructive way. Again, this was very much appreciated. We answered your questions where we could, and signposted to the Health Protection Team when more specialist advice was needed.

I do hope that the small number of parents and carers who saw this as an opportunity to voice toxic and unfounded theories will think again if similar circumstances occur. To clarify in writing, school was closed on Friday and Monday due to the issues with the electrics. I appreciate that the timing of the electrical issues and the notification of the Hepatitis A case is far from ideal. As your headteacher I always have, and always will, dedicate myself to leading our school to do the very best we can for our children and our families. My loyalty to the school has been unwavering, but has been tested this week. The unfounded messages and gossip were unhelpful and hurtful.

A letter from Mrs Hall, Chair of Governors, will accompany today's newsletter.

We will continue to encourage children to wash their hands thoroughly before eating and after using the toilet. We will continue with our cleaning regimes before, during and after the school day.

Moving on, I hope that any side effects from the vaccination are mild and short lived. It was lovely to see so many children back in school this morning with a smile on their face, which is the way it should be. Hopefully everyone will have a restful weekend and we will all be back at school Monday ready to face a fresh week and the month of February.

What to do if you are worried or if you want to make a complaint

If you are **worried** about something to do with your **child, their well being or their education**, please see your child's class teacher in the first instance. This can be done after school or by making an appointment to meet at a convenient time. Class teachers can speak to parents and carers very briefly before school, but when the children are coming in to school, this is not the best time to have a discussion. If you have spoken to the child's class teacher, you can make an appointment to see me if you feel the issue has not been resolved. I am on the drive every morning and Cheviot View every night after school, unless I am teaching or in a meeting, so please do see me there if there is something you want to speak to me about.

If you are **worried** about the **safeguarding of a child**, please speak to me as the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Mrs Bell will deputise for me if I am not here, as she is also a fully trained Designated Safeguarding Lead. You can ring me on 07785 180484 if you need to speak to me about the safeguarding of a child and you could not get through to the school office.

If you wish to make a **complaint**, please refer to the school's **complaints policy**, which is on our website. It is in everyone's interest that concerns and complaints are resolved at the earliest possible stage. Many issues can be resolved informally, without the need to use the formal stages of the complaints procedure.

If the complaint is about a member of staff, it will be dealt with by me. If you wish to make a complaint about me, you need to do so in writing as per the complaints policy. Your complaint should be sent to the school office, and Miss Best will forward it to Mrs Hall, our chair of governors.

NSPCC Number Day Friday 07 February 2025

Our maths lead, Mrs Bell, has signed us up to take part in the **NSPCC Number Day on Friday 07 February**. Mrs Bell will plan a whole school activity around the same theme/book for classes to complete in their maths lessons. Children are asked to come to school in **non uniform** and to pay £1. All money raised will go directly to the NSPCC, a charity which provides services across England to help give children and young people the support they need to thrive.

Events coming up this term

| Class assemblies | Fundraising and community |
|---|---|
| Tuesday 08 April Year 4 class assembly at 9:00am | Friday 07 February NSPCC Number Day |
| Spring term meetings for parents and children with class teachers | Friday 21 February Non uniform for school funds |
| Tuesday 01 April from 3:30pm to 5:30pm | Thursday 06 March World Book Day book sale and coffee morning at 9:00am |
| Wednesday 02 April from 2:30pm to 4:30pm | Thursday 27 and Friday 28 March Mother's Day lunch |
| Other school events | Celebration assemblies |
| Friday 07 February NSPCC Number Day | Friday 21 February at 2:30pm |
| Monday 31 March Easter tables challenge starts | Thursday 10 April at 9:00am |
| Wednesday 09 April Easter egg decorating competition deadline | |

School is closed on these dates-

Monday 24 February to Friday 28 February 2025 for the half term holidays.

Friday 11 April 2025 due to a staff training day.

Monday 14 April to Friday 25 April 2025 for the Easter holidays.

