

Seghill First School Newsletter December 2023 edition 3

Attendance target 96.3%

Whole school attendance since 05 September 2023	92.5%
Whole school attendance this week	88.7%
94.0%	67.7%
89.5%	88.3%
91.6%	100.0%

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

Star of the week

Our Stars of the Week are-



WOW winners

Our Writers of the Week are-

Mrs Lyons	Bobby;	Mrs Lyons	Olivia;
Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	Katie;	Mrs Watson and Mrs Thomas	Parker;
Miss Winter	Charlie;	Miss Winter	Theo;
Mrs Bell	Archie;	Mrs Bell	Lincoln;
Mrs Kembrey	Mila;	Mrs Kembrey	Rosie;
Mrs Askew	Grace;	Mrs Askew	Rebeun;
Miss Chappell	Willow;	Mrs Ellison	Elena;
Staff star	Mrs Miller	Mrs Miller and Mrs Jose	Caiden.

Christmas performances

We are delighted to be able to invite parents and carers into school to watch our Christmas concerts on Monday and Tuesday next week. The children and staff have been working very hard to get everything ready for the performances. This is a massive job in itself, but has been hampered by another round of chicken pox affecting attendance.

Children in key stages 1 and 2 have been asked to wear their **Christmas jumper or Christmas top** for their performances on Monday.

Doors open at **8:45am** for the morning performances and **2:15pm** for the afternoon performance. Tickets have been sent home with your child today. Your tickets will show your seat numbers. Please sit in the **numbered seat** that you have been given. There are no spare seats. Seating has been allocated in the order that payments were received on School Gateway. If you have ordered more than one set of tickets at separate times, it is unlikely that all of your guests will be sitting together.

Live streaming and filming of the performances is not permitted. We have a number of children whose parents and carers have specified that they do not want their child's image shared in any way. **Please do not take photographs.** At the end of the performance, children will have the chance to see their adults and this will be the time when you can take pictures of your own child.

Please remember that **Cheviot View and Parker Place are pedestrian zones.** There is no parking on either of these streets for guests coming to our performances. A small number of spaces may be available on the grassed area at the back of the Institute, but leaving the car at home and walking is the best option.

Events coming up this term

Christmas	Fundraising and community events
Years 1 to 4 Christmas concert Monday 18 December from 9:00am and 2:30pm	Film night Wednesday 20 December 3:15pm for Years 1 to 4
Nursery and Reception Christmas concert Tuesday 19 December from 9:00am	
Year 1 and 2 Christmas party Tuesday 19 December from 1:30pm	Celebration assemblies
Christmas lunch all year groups Wednesday 20 December	Friday 22 December at 2:15pm
Nursery and Reception Christmas party Wednesday 20 December from 1:30pm	
Year 3 and 4 Christmas party Thursday 21 December from 1:30pm	School is closed on these dates-
	Monday 25 December 2022 to Friday 05 January 2023 for the Christmas holidays
	Monday 08 January 2024 due to a staff training day.

Christmas news and reminders

Thanks to our fundraisers, our special **Christmas treats** have been a big hit again this year. Orders will be sent home at the beginning of next week.

Class teachers will provide a post box for **Christmas cards** in each classroom which will be open from **Monday 18 December**. Lists of **children's first names and surname initial** for your child's class have been sent home earlier this week.

Children in Red, Green, Purple and Blue class who have bought tickets for movie night will be staying after school until 5:15pm on **Wednesday 20 December**. Movie night tickets have been sent home earlier this week.

We have organised **Christmas 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.

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

Children in **Orange and Yellow class** will have their party on **Wednesday 20 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.

Children in **Purple and Blue class** will have their party on **Thursday 21 December**. Children should come to school in **school uniform** and bring party clothes in a named bag to change into after lunch.

We are delighted to be able to offer a traditional **Christmas lunch** to children this year on **Wednesday 20 December**. Children are invited to wear a **Christmas jumper or top on Wednesday 20 December** instead of their school jumper or cardigan (normal school bottoms) to make our Christmas lunch super special. 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.

Birthdays

We had one birthday in school this week. **Rio** in Orange class will be 4 at the weekend. Happy birthday to Rio. We hope you enjoy your birthday.



I must also apologise to **Jimmy** in Red class, as I missed his birthday off the birthday list last week. Jimmy was 6 last week. We hope you had a lovely birthday, Jimmy.

Christmas treats for our children

Children in **Nursery and Reception** had a brilliant time at the Northern Stage on Wednesday when they went to see The Three Bears. Children in **key stages 1 and 2** went to the Tyne Theatre to see Peter Pan yesterday. The children had a brilliant time at both of the performances.

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

I hope you agree that this is an excellent use of our fundraising money; the children really enjoyed going out to seeing a live performance in a special setting.

Santa's reading challenge

Santa's reading challenge will be **closing on Monday**. Thank you to everyone who is supporting their child to read regularly and take part in the challenge. 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. Mrs Watson will be collating the reading challenge bookmarks to see who will be getting a reward for reading regularly. Rewards will be given out next week.

Christmas gifts for staff

Every year staff are overwhelmed by the gifts they receive at both Christmas and the end of the school year. I know many of you like to buy a gift for an adult in school, and that is fine if it is something you really want to do.

I do want to say that we **genuinely do not expect you to buy anything for anyone in school**. As a parent myself I have seen first-hand the pressure on both parents and children as some children arrive at school loaded down with multiple gifts to give out while others may not have brought a gift. Gifts are lovely and we are always really grateful but we do not judge or place value on families based on whether or not they give us a gift.

Spellings

Spellings books have been collected in this week following the spelling tests completed on Wednesday. Teachers will not be setting any further spellings to learn at home this year. If your child was absent on Wednesday or still has their spelling book at home, we would be very grateful if you could hand it in to school.

Countdown to Christmas

10 days

Spring term coffee mornings

Class teachers will be providing class coffee mornings during the second week back after the Christmas holidays. The dates are-

Years 1 and 2	Tuesday 16 January 8:45am
Nursery and Reception	Wednesday 17 January 8:45am
Years 3 and 4	Thursday 18 January 8:45am.

We hope you will be able to join us to find out **what the children will be learning** this term. We will also be talking about **what you can do to support your child's learning**.

