

Seghill First School Newsletter October 2017 edition 1

Whole school attendance 95.6%. Attendance target 96.3%

Moss clearing

We are aware that some of the paths around school can be quite slippery due to moss. Next week, Mr Taylor will be clearing the moss from the paths around school. This should not disrupt access to or from the classroom doors or the school office. Please note that this work will be taking place and take particular care around the building next week. The safety of our children, parents and staff is our top priority. If you notice anything of concern, please report it to either me or Mr Taylor immediately so we can deal with it. Thank you.

Halloween party Tuesday 31 October

Dare to join us for our Halloween party in the school hall which will include-

- devilish disco
- gruesome games
- freaky fancy dress competition
- spooky snacks and witches brew



Tickets cost **£2 per child** and will be on sale from **Monday 09 October to Friday 20 October**.

Please place £2 in a named envelope by **Friday 20 October**.

Tickets must be bought in advance and will not be on sale on Monday 30 October.

The party will start at **4:00pm and end at 5:30pm**. Please bring your child to the main entrance at the school office at 4:00pm and collect them from there at 5:30pm.

The party is for children in **blue, green and red class, plus Year 1 children in yellow class**.

Year 4 visit to Dukeshouse Wood

Mrs Bell, Mrs Knowles and our **Year 4 children** returned safely from our annual residential visit to **Dukeshouse Wood** last Friday. Children took part in a range of activities which they thoroughly enjoyed. I have heard amazing stories about their new experiences, bravery and confidence, which is amazing to hear for children of their age.

Mrs Bell and Mrs Knowles informed me that the children were commended for their excellent conduct by the headteacher of a middle school who were there at the same time, referring to our children as **“model Year 4 pupils”**.

Thank you to the children for being such **good ambassadors for our school**. I must also give a **huge thank you to Mrs Bell and Mrs Knowles** for their amazing hard work before and during the visit. Taking children away on any kind of visit is most certainly a rewarding experience but also extremely demanding. Thank you both for everything you did to make this visit so successful.

Reminder for Year 4 parents about middle school applications

If your child is currently in Year 4 please remember to apply for a middle school place for September 2018 by **31 October 2017**. The admissions portal on the Northumberland County Council website is open. We wrote to you last week with a set of instructions to follow. Please do not miss this deadline date. If you need help, please ask. We can make a computer available for you in school to access the internet if this will help.

Request from Early Years

Mrs Murdy and the Early Years team would be very grateful for donations of **wellies, knickers, underpants, trousers and skirts** in smaller sizes that your child no longer wears. Please take donations to the school office. If your child comes home with spare clothes from school, **please wash the items and return them to school**. We have already run out of clothes to lend out as those items lent out have not been returned. Thank you.



Fundraising and community news

MacMillan coffee morning

Thanks to everyone who joined us for our annual **MacMillan coffee morning** on **Friday 29 September**. There was a lovely atmosphere in school and it was great to see so many of you there. Thank you also for the amazing cakes, biscuits, scones and other goodies that you donated. They all went down very well.

I am delighted to announce that the combined total raised from the sale of cakes and cuppas plus the raffle was an amazing **£180**. Well done everyone.

Harvest festival

Our harvest festival took place earlier this week. Thank you for the donations that we received for The Peoples' Kitchen. A speaker from **The Peoples' Kitchen** came in to school to talk to the children about how their donations are used to help people in need in our area.

Bags2school

We have arranged a **Bags2school collection** for the **beginning of November**. Bags will be sent out after the half term break for donations of clothes, bedding etc. The bags are weighed by the Bags2school team. The heavier the bags, the more money we raise for our school. The money raised will be used to subsidise the **Christmas treat** so all children experience a special opportunity free of charge.

Daft As A Brush ambulance

I am delighted to announce that we have been asked to work with two local first schools to **provide the art work for a new Daft As A Brush ambulance**. Daft As A Brush is a charity which provides free transport for cancer out-patients to and from the Freeman and RVI hospitals in our region.

The ambulance has been paid for by **Coty (formerly Proctor and Gamble)** and they nominated our school to be involved. Partners from Daft As A Brush will be leading a whole school assembly next week so the children will learn about what they do and what they want us to do to get another invaluable ambulance on the road.

Reading champions

Mr Knowles has organised a meeting at **8:45am on Wednesday 11 October** for anyone interested in becoming a **reading champion**. Please come to the school office.

Future events

Our **Divali topic week** will be taking place from Monday 16 to Friday 20 October. On **Friday 20 October** we would like all children to come to school wearing their **party clothes**. This is because people who celebrate Divali around the world usually wear traditional dress or their best clothes for the celebrations. Please remember that the children will still be going outside to play and following our usual routines. No fancy dress costumes please.



We hope you will join us for **celebration assembly** on **Friday 20 October at 2:30pm** to find out what the children have been learning about.

Our **Christmas fayre** will be taking place from 3:15pm on **Friday 15 December** in the school hall.

Film night for children in **blue, green and red class, plus Year 1 children in yellow class** will be taking place from 3:15 to 5:00pm in the hall on **Wednesday 20 December**.

Our assembly theme for this term is helping others and we are certainly doing that. Well done, everyone.