

# Seghill First School Newsletter December 2019 edition 1

<b>Whole school attendance since September 2019</b>	<b>94.1%</b>	<b>Attendance target</b>	<b>96.3%</b>
<b>Attendance this term so far</b>	<b>94.1%</b>	<b>Number of late marks this term so far</b>	<b>129</b>

## Recent illness in school

I wrote to all parents and carers on 27 November about recent illnesses in school. We certainly have had a number of poorly children, as you can see from the results of our November attendance initiative. Some children have been affected more than once, which we realise is really unpleasant for families.

We have spoken to colleagues in Northumberland County Council's health and safety team and in Public Health England regarding this matter. We are continuing to try to limit the spread of any infections through **good cleaning practices and good hand hygiene**- encouraging children to wash their hands frequently with warm water and soap, particularly after using the toilet, after using a tissue to catch a cough or sneeze, and before eating. We also have a **48 hour exclusion rule** in the case of sickness and diarrhoea.

However, constant speculation and factually incorrect gossip being spread on social media by parents is not helping this situation. We appreciate that children being poorly then returning to school and being poorly again is very frustrating. As parents, you may note that a lot of children in your child's class appear to be absent. Many children have been absent, but only some children have been absent due to the sickness bug and many children have been absent for unrelated reasons.

Please **keep your children at home for 48 hours after they stop being unwell**. One of the biggest factors in the cycle of re-infection is children coming to school who have been poorly at home and children returning to school after being unwell before they have fully recovered. This then overrides all of the good cleaning practices, hand hygiene routines and work of other families following the 48 hour exclusion rule.

We will continue to use good cleaning practices and encourage good hand hygiene. Hopefully we will see a decrease in the children being infected and re-infected with the sickness bug.

## Christmas post boxes

Christmas post boxes will be open from **Monday 16 December**. Please wait until this date before bringing your cards in.

Lists of children's first names and surname initials for your child's class will be sent home by Friday 13 December to use to address Christmas cards. Please only use the post box to post cards to children who are not in your child's class. Cards for children in your child's class should be taken to the classroom and the class teacher will arrange for them to be given out.

## Star of the week

Our stars of the week from week beginning Monday 11, 18, 25 November and Monday 02 December are-  
**Mrs Bell's star** Jake, Lauren, Emily He, Emily Ha;  
**Mrs Lyons' star** Mitchell, Holly, Dylan, Sidney;  
**Mrs Knowles' star** Blake J, Harrison, Dylan, Alexa;  
**Mrs Kembrey's star** William, Beau, Jake, Kodi;  
**Mrs Askew's star** Owen, Mason, Tiger, Bailey J;  
**Support staff star** Parker, Roman, Frankie, Mason;  
**Miss Chappell's star** Jimmy, Jessica, Stephanie, Paddy, Mason L, Sidney;  
**Miss Chappell's staff star** Miss Neal, Miss Robinson, Mr Walker, Miss Davies, Miss Young.

## Arrangements for Christmas parties

**Thursday 19 December**  
Children in yellow class should come to school in school uniform and bring party clothes in a named bag to change in to after lunch. Children in orange class should come to school at 1:00pm wearing their party clothes. There is no morning Nursery.

**Friday 20 December**  
Children in red, green and blue class should come to school in school uniform and bring party clothes in a named bag to change in to after lunch.

### November attendance and punctuality initiative

As you know, last month we had our **November attendance and punctuality initiative** where our aim was **excellent attendance and punctuality** for all children.

It certainly feels like the attendance and punctuality wind was blowing against us in November, as our initiative coincided with a number of children suffering from colds, high temperature, rashes or the sickness bug. All of these conditions had an impact on our attendance during the month of November and this term overall.

November information for each class was

class	% attendance	days missed	late marks
Yellow	90.0	38	5
Red	92.6	32.5	15
Green	88.3	35	2
Blue	93.9	43	26
Whole school	91.8	148.5	48

**44 children had attendance of over 96%** during November. These children received 20 smileys each. **96 children had at least 19 out of 20 marks for being on time** and they were rewarded with 20 smileys each. **All classes had at least 95% punctuality** in November, so all classes received **20 minutes extra Golden Time**. **No classes had at least 96% attendance** in November. As this was the case, we decided that **blue class** could have 20 minutes extra Golden Time as they had the best attendance.

### Christmas performance and movie night ticket orders

Please complete ticket order forms and return them to school with payment by **Monday 09 December**. Payment must be made with orders. Tickets will be sent home with your eldest child from Tuesday 10 December. Tickets will be numbered.

Tickets have been available to buy for three weeks. Orders for tickets received after Monday 09 December will be processed after all other tickets have been allocated and tickets will only be allocated if there are any seats left.



### Class of the term non uniform on Friday 20 December

The class with the best attendance and punctuality for the autumn term will be invited to wear **non uniform on Friday 20 December**. They will be informed in writing on Thursday 19 December. All other children should wear their school uniform on Friday 20 December.

### December 2019

Monday 09	Nasal flu vaccinations
Thursday 12	Christmas treat The Clumsiest Elf for red, yellow and orange class
Friday 13	Christmas treat trip to Woodhorn for green and blue class Christmas fayre from 3:15pm
Saturday 14	School choir singing at the Seghill Senior Citizens' party
Monday 16	Carol concert for red, blue and green class at 9:15am Post box open for posting Christmas cards Santa's reading challenge ends
Tuesday 17	Christmas performance for yellow and orange class from 9:15am School choir singing at the Freeman Hospital for Daft as a Brush Carol concert for red, blue and green class at 2:15pm
Wednesday 18	Christmas lunch Film night for red, green and blue class
Thursday 19	No orange class this morning- Nursery closed Christmas party for yellow and orange class from 1:00pm
Friday 20 December	Celebration assembly at 8:45am Christmas party for red, green and blue class from 1:00pm