

## Seghill First School Newsletter November 2016 edition 2 Christmas special

### Treats for all children using fundraising money

Thanks to all of the brilliant fundraising work by parents, carers, staff and children, we have money available to provide some extra opportunities for our children.

**Early Years class 1 and 2 and Year 1** will be going to **Beamish** on **Monday 05 December** to take part in a range of Christmas activities. **Years 2, 3 and 4** will be going to the artificial ice rink at **Woodhorn Colliery** to have an afternoon of ice skating, followed by a train ride and a hot chocolate on **Thursday 08 December**.

Both of these treats and transport have been paid for using fundraising money. We hope you and your child agree that these are brilliant treats and a very good way to use the fundraising money.

### Christmas post boxes

Christmas post boxes will be open from **Monday 05 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 02 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.

### Arrangements for Christmas parties

#### Wednesday 14 December

**EY class 2** come to school in school uniform and bring party clothes in a named bag to change in to after lunch. **Early Years class 1** come to school at 1:00pm wearing their party clothes.

#### Thursday 15 December

Years 1 and 2 follow the same arrangements as EY class 2 above.

#### Friday 16 December

Years 3 and 4 will already be wearing their Christmas jumpers for school. Either wear these for the party or bring party clothes in a named bag to change in to after lunch.

### Christmas lunch on Wednesday 14 December

We will order a **school Christmas lunch** for **all children in Early Years class 2 and Years 1, 2, 3 and 4**. Parents of children in Early Years class 2 and Years 1 and 2 will not have to pay for this meal as it is provided free due to the Universal Infant Free School Meals initiative. Parents of children in Years 3 and 4 who pay for their child's meals should pay in the normal way as part of the weekly payment on Monday 12 December. If you **do not want to order** a Christmas lunch for your child please provide a packed lunch and **inform us in writing by Friday 02 December**.

### **Class of the term non uniform on Thursday 15 December**

The class with the best attendance and punctuality for the autumn term will be invited to wear **non uniform** on **Thursday 15 December**. They will be informed in writing on Wednesday 14 December. All other children should wear their school uniform on Thursday 15 December.

### **Christmas jumper day on Friday 16 December**

Children and staff are asked to wear their **Christmas jumpers** on **Friday 16 December** to support the Save the Children Christmas jumper appeal. Donations of £1 per child would be appreciated so children wear their Christmas jumper with non-uniform on the last day of term.

### **Community events**

Children in the choir from Years 3 and 4 will be singing at **Seghill Christmas fayre** in the Institute at **12:15pm on Saturday 19 November**. They will also be singing at the **Seghill Senior Citizens Christmas Party on Saturday 10 December**.

We are very much looking forward to the **Christmas lights switch on** event at the Institute on **Thursday 24 November** from 4:15pm. The lights will be switched on at 4:45pm.

### **Count down to the Christmas fayre**

Our annual **Christmas fayre** is on **Friday 09 December** from **3:15pm**. We are hoping to make this our best fayre ever. The countdown to the event includes-

- **Week beginning Monday 21 November**- raffle tickets will be sent home. First prize of £50 and other fabulous prizes to be won;
- **Week beginning Monday 28 November**- please send in donations of toys, games and soft toys for the toy stall and soft toy tombola;
- **Friday 02 December**- non uniform. Please send in donations for the bottle tombola from EYFS, chocolate tombola from Years 1 and 2 and the general tombola for Years 3 and 4.
- **Week beginning Monday 05 December**- please send in any further donations for any of the stalls, tombolas or the raffle.
- **Thursday 08 December**- toy stall preview. Please drop off your child at their class and preview all of the items on the toy stall. Items can be reserved with payment of £1 but must be paid for in full by the start of the fayre on Friday.
- **Friday 09 December**- Christmas fayre, including raffle, tombolas (soft toy, chocolate and general), pull a bottle, tattoos, colouring competition, hand-made crafts, hot drinks and biscuits, hot dogs and juice, reindeer dust.

### **Christmas performances**

Our **Early Years** Christmas performance this year is “Wriggly Nativity” on **Friday 09 December at 9:00am** (doors open at 8:45am). Our **key stage 1 and 2** children will be performing “There’s Something Amazing Going On” on **Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 December at 2:15pm** (doors open at 2:00pm). All children will be taking part in their performance in either a singing or acting role.

### **Information about all performances**

- The performances will start at 9:00am or 2:15pm- **late comers will not be admitted**;
- The **main entrance at the school office** will be the only entrance and exit.

### **Use of video and photographs**

- Parents and carers may take **photographs and use videos**, but these must not be shared publicly on the internet. This includes social networking sites such as Facebook.
- We will take **pictures of all children in their costumes**, and these will be on display in school. Copies of the pictures will be available to order for **50p per photograph** during the week after the performances.

### **Tickets for performances**

It would be lovely if everyone could see all the Christmas performances but we do not have enough space. In order to ensure the safety of all of our children and guests and to comply with the maximum capacity for the hall, we will be issuing tickets for the performances.

- For **Early Years class 1 and 2** each family can have up to 4 tickets for the performance (4 tickets per family for Friday 09 December) priced at 50p per ticket.
- For **key stages 1 and 2** each family can have up to 2 tickets for each performance (up to 2 tickets per family for Monday 12 December and up to 2 tickets per family for Tuesday 13 December) priced at 50p per ticket.
- The deadline for orders and payments to be received in school is **Monday 05 December**. Tickets will be sent home with your eldest child on **Tuesday 06 December**. Tickets will be numbered.
- **Seats cannot be reserved**, except for disabled guests. Guests who required disabled access must book via the school office and they will be issued with a ticket with disabled access.
- People who arrive to watch the performance without a ticket will not be allowed to come in. We are giving plenty of notice about the tickets. We will not exceed the maximum capacity of the hall in order to accommodate people who have not ordered tickets.

### **Extra tickets**

- There may be an opportunity to have additional tickets. Additional tickets will be allocated after each family has received their tickets for each performance and names will be drawn out of a hat up to the maximum capacity of the hall. Please add extra ticket requests on the order form attached.

### **Suitability for young children**

- The performances are around 45 minutes in length and are therefore unlikely to be suitable for young children. We cannot accommodate pushchairs and prams in the hall.

### **Priority seating for the key stage 1 and 2 performances**

- Priority seats will be allocated to parents and carers in **Years 3 and 4** for the performance on **Monday 12 December**. Priority seats will be allocated to parents and carers in **Years 1 and 2** for the performance on **Tuesday 13 December**. Priority seats means seats that are closest to the stage.
- Parents are welcome to apply for up to 2 tickets for both key stage 1 and 2 performances but should be aware that we are giving priority to different year groups on different days.

### **Christmas performance ticket orders**

Please complete the attached ticket order form and return it to school with payment by **Monday 05 December**.

Tickets will be sent home with your eldest child on **Tuesday 06 December**. Any additional tickets will be sent home after this date.

Tickets will be numbered.

We are giving two full weeks' notice about ordering tickets. **Orders for tickets received after Monday 05 December will not be accepted.**

### **Help at Christmas**

We are a small school with a small staff team. We are very lucky that the staff team are so committed and hard working to ensure that we provide the best opportunities that we can for our children. At this time of year we do become very stretched while we try to arrange all of these extra events for our children and their families. We would be very grateful for any offers of help from any parents and carers who may have some time available. Please let your child's class teacher know if you can help with listening to readers, changing reading books, craft activities, making costumes etc.