

Seghill First School Newsletter February 2017 edition 2

Building work

I am delighted to report that the building work is on schedule and rapid progress is being made. The external windows in the Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 classrooms have been replaced. Work to replace the windows and roofs of the internal corridors continues.

We are expecting additional staff on site during the February half term holidays to carry out work in the Early Years unit and the hall. External doors in the classrooms are scheduled to be done over half term too. We will let you know in our March newsletter about the changes to dropping off and collecting children, which will not start until then.

As I have mentioned, workers will be on site during half term and at the weekends. Please do not be alarmed if you see a higher than normal amount of people on site. The company in charge of the project operates a very strict access policy to the site. However, if you do notice anything suspicious, please do not hesitate to report your concerns to the police.

SAVE THE DATE A special event will be taking place on the morning of **Friday 12 May** following the completion of the building work. Please save the date as we will be inviting you to attend. More details to follow in our next newsletter.

FUNdraising events

Please note the following exciting events-

- **Friday 03 March World Book Day coffee morning and book sale**

Join us in the hall for a cake and cuppa for £1 from 8:45am. All children will be brought to the book sale by their teachers, when you can buy them a book. Parents can go back to the classroom with their child to share a book. Donations of books and cakes will be very gratefully received. Children and staff are asked to come to school **dressed as their favourite book character** on **Thursday 02 March**. Please try to make a costume from existing things you have at home rather than buying a costume.

- **Thursday 06 April Easter disco**

We are having a disco for children in key stages 1 and 2 and for Early Years children who are accompanied by an adult from 3:15pm to 5:00pm. Hot dogs and juice will be served, included in the ticket price of £2. Tickets will go on sale on **Monday 20 March**.

- **Thursday 27 April games night**

Children in key stages 1 and 2 can join us from 3:15pm to 5:00pm in the school hall for games night. Hot dogs and juice will be served, included in the ticket price of £2. Tickets will go on sale on **Monday 27 March**.

If you are able to help us at any of these events, please let us know.

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for our **celebration assembly coffee morning** this morning. It was lovely to see so many of you there and to celebrate the achievements of so many children for different things.

After school clubs

The after school club for spring term B is **multi sports** for children in **Years 2 and 3**. This will operate on Tuesdays after school until 4:15pm from Tuesday 28 February. Letters have been sent out to Years 2 and 3 already.

Spring term meetings for parents with class teachers

Reminder that meetings for parents with class teachers will take place from **3:00pm on Tuesday 04 April** and **3:30pm on Wednesday 05 April**. More information will be sent out after half term. Please make sure you have a note of these dates in your diary.

Run for Life

Children in Years 1 to 4 have been taking part in a two week trial to run around a set course once a week at playtime, lunchtime and Golden Time. The totals have been recorded and we are thrilled and amazed by the results. What do you think?

- The children ran a total of **206.2 miles**;
- The average distance per child was almost 3 miles;
- Top runners are Year 4 Mae and Lewis; Year 3 Poppy and Michael; Year 2 Eden and Sonny; Year 1 Demi-Jo and Cody.

This initiative will continue during the next half term. The challenge is how far can we run in the 6 week half term if we covered 206.2 miles in two weeks this half term?

Attendance update

Whole school attendance figures are as follows-

- Fifty children had **100% attendance** in spring term A;
- Bailey in Year 2 was the lucky winner of the **£10 voucher** as his name was picked out of the hat in celebration assembly this morning;
- **Year 1** was class of the half term with attendance of 96.2%;
- **Year 4** won the punctuality prize for the least number of late marks during this half term (number of late marks divided by the number of children in each class);
- Although this news is all positive, whole school attendance in spring term A term is **95.0%**. Whole school attendance since September is **95.1%**. Both figures are **below our target and the national average of 96.3%**.

Staff absence

We are hoping that **Mrs Borrie** will be back at work after the half term holidays following an operation on her eye. We are grateful for the cover provided by Mrs Green, who covered the duration of Mrs Borrie's absence.

Mrs Elliott will not be back after the half term break as she is having an operation. **Mrs McGuinness** will be working in the school office for the duration of Mrs Elliott's absence. Mrs McGuinness has been in school three days this week to work with Mrs Elliott to handover information. She is a very experienced office manager and has worked in a school in Newcastle for a number of years. I know you will make her feel welcome.

Do we have your current **mobile number**? Please let Mrs McGuinness know as soon as you change your number so we can contact you in an emergency and keep you up to date by text messages.