

# Seghill First School Newsletter September 2018 edition 2

**Whole school attendance 96.6%. Attendance target 95.0%**

## Message from Miss Chappell

What a wild week we have had this week with the weather! We have kept the children in at times as there has been so much debris blowing around we feared that children may be hurt.

You may have noticed that part of the fence in the Early Years garden has blown down. Mr Taylor has secured the area and ordered timber to rebuild the fence. This will be done as soon as the timber is delivered to school. The County Council has hired contractors to repair the wall and railings that were knocked down during the summer holidays. Some progress has been made with this and I hope that this is all sorted out soon.

Have a peaceful weekend.

Miss Chappell

## Fundraising meeting Monday 24 September

The fundraising group will be meeting at 3:15pm on **Monday 24 September**. This meeting is for any parents and carers who are interested in supporting the school with fundraising activities. We have a great team of very hardworking fundraisers, but we are a very small group, and would love more members to join. Meetings are informal and we are keen to hear from new members. Please come to the school office for the meeting. You are welcome to bring your children to the meeting as we will have some things organised for them to play with.

## PE days for the autumn term

Orange class Tuesday (please come to school wearing joggers and trainers)

Yellow, green and blue class Tuesday and Thursday

Red class Monday and Friday

Children should wear a plain white t-shirt, plain black or navy shorts and sandshoes or trainers for PE. Many people find it convenient to bring their kit on a Monday and leave it at school all week. Please ensure long hair is tied back for PE.

## Information for parents and carers

We have sent home your **data collection sheet** and **home school agreement** for you to check, sign and return to school.

Two copies of the home school agreement were sent home with instructions to sign both and return one copy to school.

We asked you to check your data collection sheet, make any changes required and return the signed sheet to school.

Thank you to those parents who have complied with our deadlines.

If you have not returned the home school agreement and/or data collection sheet, please do so on **Monday**.

This information is required to ensure our systems are up to date.

## Reminder about earrings for all year groups

Children cannot wear earrings for PE. This includes wearing earrings with plasters over the top. If your child cannot remove their own earrings they should not wear them on PE days. Staff are unable to remove earrings for children.

If you allow your child to wear earrings for school, please make sure they are plain studs or a simple style that sits flat on the ear lobe.

## Jeans for Genes

Thank you to all the children and staff who came to school wearing denim today to support the Jeans for Genes charity. This charity does amazing work to support families where a child has a genetic disorder. We have been learning about genetic disorders and the work of the charity in assemblies and PSHE lessons. We will let you know how much we have raised.

### **Macmillan Coffee Morning Friday 05 October**

We will be hosting our annual **Macmillan coffee morning** on **Friday 05 October** in the school hall from **8:45am**. This is always a wonderful event. Please note the date for the national Macmillan coffee mornings is Friday 28 September. We are not having our event on this date as we have staff and children away at Dukeshouse Wood which means that we would really struggle to host it successfully.

Children in **yellow, red, green and blue class** will be brought to the hall to join you for a cake and cuppa. Please note that as last year, children in orange class will not be joining us in the hall for this event. This is because at this early stage in their school career, we feel it would be very unsettling for the children to be dropped off at the classroom, taken to the hall, reunited with their parents at the coffee morning then separated from them again to return to the classroom. We hope orange class parents understand the reason behind this decision and hope you will still join us for a cake and a cuppa.

You will be able to buy a cake and a cuppa for £1. Cake pledges will be sent out soon. We are very much looking forward to supporting the Macmillan charity again this year.

### **Year 4 visit to Dukeshouse Wood**

From Wednesday next week most of the children in our Year 4 class will be going to Dukeshouse Wood residential centre near Hexham with Mrs Bell and Mrs Knowles. This annual visit is always excellent and certainly provides many memories for our Year 4 children in their last year at our school. We look forward to them returning next Friday afternoon to hear all about their adventures.

While they are away, Mrs Lyons will be teaching red class instead of Mrs Knowles. Miss Chappell will be teaching Year 3 children in blue class while Mrs Bell is away. The usual timetable for lessons, including PE, will be in place. Please see Mrs Lyons or Miss Chappell if there are any issues you need to discuss relating to red or blue class.

### **Star of the week**

Our stars of the week for week beginning **Monday 10 and 17 September** are-

**Blue class star** Kaydan and Lucy;

**Green class star** Fiona and Stephanie;

**Red class star** Dylan and Kaycee-Marie;

**Yellow class star** James and Tia;

**Orange class star** Ava and Declan;

**Support staff star** Henry and Cole;

**Miss Chappell's star** Jimmy and Harrison;

**Miss Chappell's staff star** Mrs Davidson and Mrs Askew.



### **Autumn term coffee mornings**

Thank you to parents who attended the class coffee mornings this week. Attendance in most year groups has been really pleasing. We hope you found them useful if you attended.

### **Attendance update**

I am concerned to report that we are only three weeks in to the new school year and our attendance figure is already significantly below national average.

So far this term we have lost the following days-

- 18 days due to leave of absence during term time;
- 37.5 days to illness;
- 4 days due to unauthorised absence.

We have also recorded 20 late marks.

We do understand that some children have been genuinely unwell and their parents have provided evidence to show us that this is the case. Genuine illness is unavoidable and we certainly have no desire to sour relationships with parents who are dealing with their children's ill health in line with our expectations.

However, I am meeting with the school's Education Welfare Officer on Monday and will be writing to parents of children where attendance has already fallen well below expectation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like support with your child's attendance or punctuality.