

Seghill First School Newsletter December 2018 edition 1

Whole school attendance 94.8%. Attendance target 96.3%

Christmas treats

Children in **green and blue class** had their special **Christmas treat** on Friday. They went ice skating at **Woodhorn Colliery** as well as taking part in a Christmas workshop and having hot chocolate. An excellent time was had by all.

Children in **orange, yellow and red class** will be going to see **Aladdin** at Simonside Community Centre in Westerhope on 19 December. This is a panto especially for younger children.

Attendance update

Whole school attendance up to the end of November was **94.8%**, which is more than 1% **below national average** and our target (96.3%). During this period we have lost the following days-

- **49.5 days** due to leave of absence during term time;
- **187.5 days** to illness or medical appointments;
- **8 days** due to unauthorised absence;
- **13 days** due to fixed term exclusion;
- **26 days** due to other authorised circumstances.

228 authorised days and 62 unauthorised days have been lost due to absence so far, totalling **290 days**.

If we only had absences due to illness and medical appointments our attendance would be 96.6%, which is above national average and our whole school target.

We have also recorded **136 late marks**, including 2 morning sessions missed due to arrival at school after the registers closed at 9:15am.

Punctuality

Thank you to those parents who are always on time. However, I am very disappointed to note that last week we had **30 late marks**. Today **7 children** have arrived at school after 8:45am. This level of punctuality is unacceptable. I will be writing to parents of regular latecomers to remind them of their statutory duty to get their children to school on time by 8:45am.

Christmas fayre

We are very much looking forward to our Christmas fayre on Friday.

If you are able to **help us set up** for the fayre, please come to school any time after 1pm.

The fayre will start **as soon as possible after 3:15pm**, but we cannot start until all children have been collected from their classroom.

Stalls and attractions will be based in the **hall and the dining room**. Toilets next to the **bottom yard exit door** will be open for use. Please use the **top door of the hall** (next to the stage) to go in to the hall and the **bottom door** to come out of the hall. Please use the **Early Years corridor** to get from the hall to the dining room. The other corridors will be closed. **Refreshments**, including our after school meal deal, will be served in the **dining room**.

Please bring **change** with you if possible rather than notes. Don't forget to bring a **carrier bag** for your prizes!

The raffle will be drawn at the end of the fayre in the hall.

Star of the week

Our stars of the week for week beginning Mondays 12, 19, 26 November and Mondays 03 and 10 December are-

Blue class star Daniel, Ronnie, Demi-Jo, Eden and John.

Green class star Jake P, Joshua, Lily, Lauren and Lucy B.

Red class star Alexis, Johnny, Mya, Olly and William CH.

Yellow class star Alexa, Jasmina, Harrison, Blake J and Coby.

Orange class star Roman, Kodi, Elizabeth, Jayden B and Layton.

Support staff star Klay, Frankeey, William M, Ava Betty and Jake R.

Miss Chappell's star Riley, Lucy H, Matthew, Jayden W and Ronnie.

Miss Chappell's staff star Mrs Bell, Mrs Fisher, Mr Taylor, Mrs Elliott and Mrs Whitelaw.



Christmas post boxes

Christmas post boxes will be open from **Monday 17 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 14 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

Thursday 20 December 2018

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 21 December 2018

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.

Christmas performance ticket orders

The deadline for orders and payments for performance tickets is **today**.

Tickets will be sent home with your eldest child from **Tuesday 11 December**. Any additional tickets will be sent home after this date.

Tickets will be numbered.

Three full weeks' notice about ordering tickets was given.

Orders for tickets received after today will be processed after all other tickets have been allocated.

Christingle service

Our Christingle service will take place at the Methodist Chapel in Seghill at **10:00am on Thursday 20 December**. All children in yellow, red, green and blue class will be attending. Children in orange class will not be going because there is no Nursery class on that morning due to the Christmas party in the afternoon. Children will walk to and from the venue accompanied by staff. Each class will make two Christingles which will form the centre piece of the service. We will need **parent helpers** to supervise the children at the service and on the way there and back. Please let your child's class teacher know if you can help and we will let you know if we need you. We will be sending home **collecting candles** in aid of the Children's Society. Please put in any loose change you have and return them in time for the Christingle service.

Special letters to Santa

Special letters to Santa are still available to buy from the office for **£1**.

Please post your letter to Santa in the **special post box** in the office by **Friday 14 December**.

Hopefully Santa will collect them when he comes to our Christmas fayre.

He is very busy but I believe he said that he is going to send a **personal reply** to every child who writes a special letter to him.

Movie night on Wednesday 19 December

Children in red, green and blue class are invited to stay after school until 5:00pm for movie night on **Wednesday 19 December**. Tickets cost **£2.00** and include film and food. The children will vote for their choice of film. Movie night tickets will be on sale from Monday 10 December until Friday 14 December. Please send in £2 in an envelope labelled with your child's name and "movie night".

School website

Staff have been busy uploading pictures on to the **gallery** on our school website. It is an impossible job to put everything that we do on the website but please have a look on the gallery to see what we have been up to.

Fundraising update

Thank you to everyone who wore **non-uniform** on our three non-uniform days and made donations to our tombolas.

The money we make is used to pay for extras for our children such as the Christmas treats, and to subsidise school trips.

Thank you to everyone who ordered cards or other goods from the Christmas Card Company. We raised **£44** for school funds from your orders.



