



Seaton Sluice First School Newsletter 6- Autumn Term 2

Headteacher: Mrs A Bennett

Seaton Sluice First School, Granville Avenue, Seaton Sluice. NE26 4BX

Telephone: 0191 2371839

Email: admin@seatonsluicesouth.northumberland.sch.uk

Website: <http://www.seatonsluicesouth.northumberland.sch.uk/website>

Achieve and Believe, Care and Share, Safe and Secure, Enjoy Together

It's lovely to walk around school at the minute and hear the children singing in preparation for their Christmas performances. You are in for a real treat! It was also fascinating to hear all about how White Class are learning about the human body and how Mrs Dixon has been using a special t-shirt to bring their learning to life. The t-shirt actually links up with an ipad to show the children what the different organs look like by virtually scanning the body!

Attendance for this week

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
95%	94.7%	91.6%	89.7%	93.3%
Well done to RED class for having the best attendance this week!				
REMEMBER...the overall target for our school attendance is 96.2 %				

Celebrating Achievements



Well done to the following children for their latest achievements:

Name of child	Class	Achievement
Emily Eggett	Orange	The British Gymnastics Proficiency Award
Alice Storey	Class	(Stage 8) Well done girls! What a fantastic achievement. We are very proud of you!

Holidays During Term Time'

Mrs Bennett meets with the Education Welfare Officer every two weeks to track attendance. It is becoming a concern that many families are requesting leave of absence during school term time. Not only does this have an impact on our whole school attendance measure but it affects the progress of the children who miss large chunks of their learning whilst being on holiday. Furthermore, this impacts upon the whole class because teaching staff must then address gaps in knowledge for absent children which consequently holds the whole class back. The Seaton Valley Partnership Policy states that no holiday will be authorised during term time unless considered exceptional circumstances. This does not include the fact that holidays are cheaper during term time. Our school target is 96.2% and we are currently just



below this percentage. This is largely as a result of holidays taken. It is disappointing that families are choosing to request leave of absence for reasons that are clearly not exceptional. Whilst as a school, we really do not want to enforce fixed penalty fines, the problems that we are encountering are significant enough to now discuss as part of our next governor's meeting. We have no option due to the fact that should our attendance percentage cause any further concern, the local authority and OFSTED are very likely to challenge the leadership of the school. Your understanding and support in not requesting time off for your child is greatly appreciated.

PTFA Preparation for Christmas Fair

Many thanks to everyone for coming along to our Christmas Fair today. A huge thank you to all members of the PTFA who have kindly given their time to organise and prepare for this lovely event. We are both fortunate and extremely grateful for the money generated for the children of the school. We will let you know how much was raised within the next few days. Thank you to our School Ambassadors who gave their time to meet people, greet and collect money on the door. Finally, thank you to our talented choir who performed so well and added to the lovely Christmassy atmosphere!

Children in Need Day (Friday 17th November)

We had a great time last Friday and the final amount raised for Children in Need was £161.55. Well done everyone!

Forest School Grant

Sharon Stirling, one of our governors, has been at work applying for another community grant. She has been successful in securing £2000 from Northumberland County Council's Community Chest to enhance our Forest School provision. Thank you Sharon for taking the time to apply for this grant of which everyone will benefit.

Donation from Proctor and Gamble

Thank you to one of our Reception parents Sarah Compton who works for Proctor and Gamble. The company have kindly donated £100 for hot chocolate and cookies for the children during their Christmas Cinema Day and a raffle prize.

Spare Underwear!

The school is running low on spare underwear. If you have any items (age 4-9 yrs) that you are able to donate to school, we would be most appreciative!

Winter Market

Years 1 and 2 will be making products to sell at their very own Christmas Market on Friday 8th December. Families of children in these classes will be invited along to be part of their exciting enterprise project.

Coco Bring and Buy Sale

As Christmas approaches, it may be a good time to have a sort out of items that you no longer use. Children are invited to bring in goods to sell as part of their class stall for the



school 'Bring and Buy Sale' to raise money for our school in Tanzania. Items can be brought in from Monday 4th December. If children wish to make thing to sell or even bake cakes, they are welcome. Thank you for your support.

Mrs Mays-maternity leave

Mrs Mays is delighted to announce that she is expecting baby number two! Whilst this is exciting news, parents of our Reception children may be concerned about who will replace her during her maternity leave. She intends to continue working in school until Easter. We have advertised externally for a suitable teacher to work with us for two terms. Please feel rest assured that we will interview before Christmas giving us plenty of time to ensure as smooth transition and successful appointment takes place.

AUTUMN TERM DIARY DATES

Please check every newsletter as this list will be regularly updated.

November	
Fri 10 th Nov	NON UNIFORM- Bring in a ' bottle donation in a bag' for Christmas Fair
Mon 13 th Nov	Anti-bullying week
Mon 13 th Nov	Any toy donations for the Christmas Fair are gratefully received this week.
Fri 17 th Nov	Children In Need Day- BE YOURSELF theme!
Mon 20 th Nov	Rev Eva Walker visiting for assembly
Thurs 23 rd Nov	PC Turnbull visiting school to work with KS2 pupils
Fri 24 th Nov	SSFS Christmas Fair 2pm in the school hall
Wed 29 th Nov	Flu spray immunisations Reception-Year 4 (am)

December	
Sun 3 rd Dec	Choir performing at Toy Service at SS Methodist Church 10:30am
Mon 4 th Dec	ART FOCUS WEEK
Fri 8 th Dec	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Market 3pm-4pm
Mon 11 th Dec	Whole School Assembly- Rev John Bowler 2:30pm
Mon 18 th Dec	PTFA Christmas Disco 3:15-5:00 in school hall (tickets £2.50)
Tues 12 th Dec	Nursery and Reception Christmas Performance 9:30am
Wed 13 th Dec	Nursery and Reception Christmas Performance 9:30am
Thurs 14 th Dec	Eye test for Reception 9am
Sun 17 th Dec	Choir singing at St Paul's Christingle Service 10am
Mon 18 th Dec	Years 3 and 4 Christmas Performance 9:30am
Mon 18 th Dec	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance 1:30pm
Tues 19 th Dec	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance 9:30am
Tues 19 th Dec	Years 3 and 4 Christmas Performance 1:30pm
Wed 20 th Dec	Christmas Cinema Experience (am)
Wed 20 th Dec	Years 2, 3 and 4 cinema trip to SS Community Centre 1pm
Wed 20 th Dec	Reception Stay and Play session 1pm-3pm
Thurs 21 st Dec	Whole school carols at St Paul's Church- families welcome to join 10am
Thurs 21 st Dec	Christmas Party Day
Fri 22nd Dec	BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS
Tues 9th Jan	RETURN TO SCHOOL FOR SPRING TERM