



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

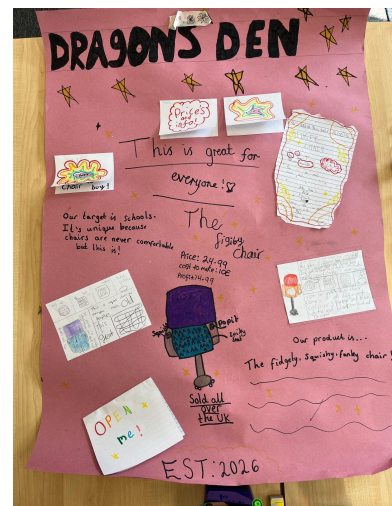
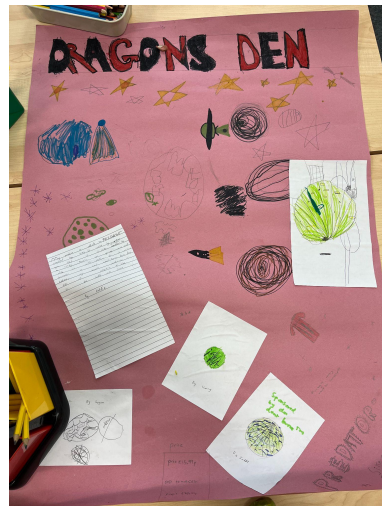
Week Ending 10th July 2026

Transition Week

It has been an incredibly exciting week as the entire school looked ahead to the future. Our current pupils thoroughly enjoyed meeting their new teachers for next year and getting a feel for their upcoming classrooms, making the whole transition smooth and positive.

Alongside this, it was absolutely wonderful to welcome our brand-new intake of Year 4 children into school as they prepare to join us in September. Far from being daunted by the move to middle school, the Year 4s threw themselves into the experience! They loved making new friends, trying out the school lunches, and getting a real taste of middle school life.

As part of their induction, the children have been working collaboratively on an exciting "Dragon's Den" project, where they were challenged to design an object that would be useful at school. They have put a massive amount of effort into producing professional pitch posters and fantastic plasticine models of their inventions—and the outcomes are very impressive! This project has sparked a huge amount of quality speaking, listening, and teamwork, all brilliantly facilitated by our staff. Excellent routines are already being learned and practised, ensuring everyone is set up for a highly successful start to the new academic year!



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Performing Arts Club Recital

On Thursday night, we were absolutely delighted to welcome parents and carers to our Performance Club's very first recital at our new site. The audience was treated to a wonderful selection of spectacular songs and dances from hit musicals, including *Grease*, *Wicked*, and *Hairspray*.

The level of talent on display among our pupils was nothing short of phenomenal. The evening was a true rollercoaster of emotions; the audience was filled with huge smiles, blown away by the brilliant performances, and even moved to tears a few times! A special, heartfelt thanks must go to Mrs Kelly, Miss Chicken, Miss Lamb, and Mr Young for generously giving up their own time to provide our pupils with this unforgettable opportunity. What a fantastic way to finish off the school year!



INFLUENCING
SUPPORTING &
CONNECTING



2024-27

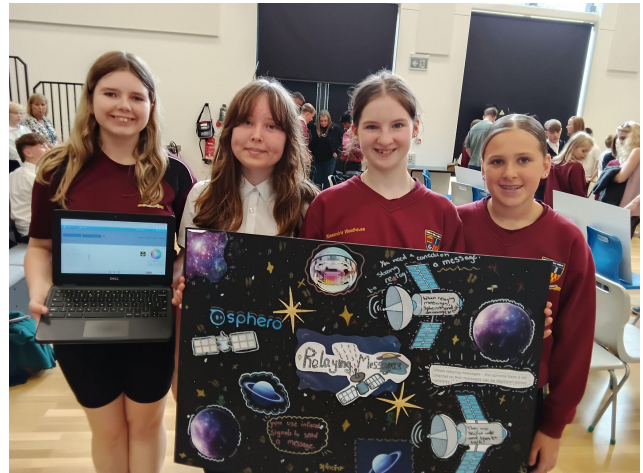
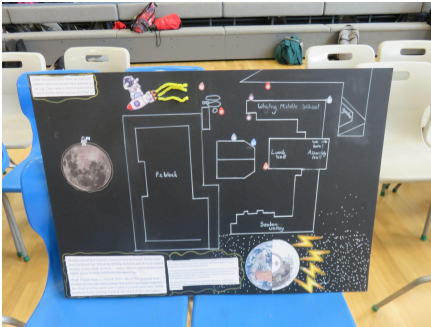
SCHOOL
MENTAL
HEALTH
AWARD

Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Year 7 Spheros Learning Showcase

It was wonderful to see so many Year 7 families join us this week for our STEM Sphero showcase! The event was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to proudly share all of the hard work, creativity, and dedication they have poured into the project with their parents and carers. Visitors were also treated to an exciting live demonstration of the Spheros in action, showing off the impressive coding and technical skills the students have developed. Thank you to everyone who came along to support our young engineers!



Reading Challenge Party

We had a fabulous time on Monday, celebrating those who read their 10 Reading Challenge books this year. The children enjoyed a movie screening complete with popcorn, sweets and drinks. As an extra special treat, our Star Readers also got to enjoy a slice of Domino's pizza during the film.



Word Millionaires

We enjoyed even more spectacular reading success this week as we celebrated our incredible "Word Millionaires"! An impressive 14 pupils across all year groups have shown phenomenal dedication to their books this academic year, each reading over 1 million words.

Within this fantastic group of avid readers, two students managed to break the 2 million-word barrier, and a special congratulations goes to Wealth in Year 7, who absolutely smashed all previous school records by reading an astonishing 3.4 million words! To reward their brilliant achievements, all of our Word Millionaires were presented with a copy of the 2026 Carnegie Medal-winning book, *Wolf Siren* by Beth O'Brien. Well done to all of our amazing readers—what an outstanding accomplishment!



Year 5 Design A Chocolate Bar Winners

Year 5 pupils recently put their creativity to the test in a "design a chocolate bar" competition in art, and the standard of entries was exceptionally high! Every student worked incredibly hard, but Mrs Lawton and Miss Chicken ultimately chose our two winners for their brilliantly unique designs.

A massive well done to Beau and Amelia! Your creativity truly stood out.



Summer 2 - Dates for your Diary

- Monday 13th July - Gold Pupil Trip. **Please ensure you have given permission for your child to attend!**
- Tuesday 14th July - Year 5 Trip
- Wednesday 15th July - Year 6 Trip
- Thursday 16th July - KS3 Trip
- Friday 17th July - End of Term. **School closes at 1pm**



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



PE Kit Donations

Are you in Y8 and leaving WMS in a few weeks? If you have any PE kit that you are not using or passing onto younger siblings, we will happily take PE kit (maroon t-shirts, ¼ zip tops and black shorts) which we can use as spares for next year, enabling all of our students to take part in lessons. Please send any donations Mr Robinson's way in school in the last week of term.



Job of the Week

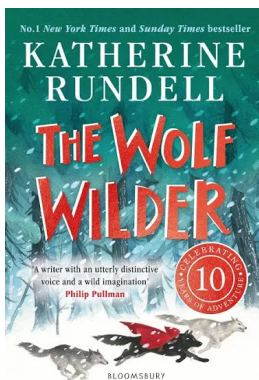
This week's Job of the Week is **Metallurgist**. The video can be found in Google Classroom and also [here](#).

We encourage you to watch the Job of the Week with your children so you can take part in the discussions we are having in school about future education and work.

If any parents or carers would like to get involved in our Careers provision at Whytrig please contact Mrs Campbell at wms@svf.org.uk



Book of the Week



This week's Book of the Week is '**The Wolf Wilder**' by Katherine Rundell, from our Year 6 Reading Challenge.

The Wolf Wilder follows Feodora and her mother, who train captive wolves to survive in the wild after wealthy aristocrats abandon them as pets. When the ruthless Russian Army arrests her mother and burns their home, Feo leads a pack of wolves and a band of children on a perilous rescue mission.

If you enjoyed **The Wolf Wilder**, you might enjoy other animal-based adventures such as **The Girl Who Speaks Bear** by Sophie Anderson - available to borrow from Mrs Campbell of the school library.



Extra Curricular Clubs

Due to trips and coach/staff availability, there will be no after-school sports clubs in the final week of term.



Wake up Wednesday - Tech-Free Summer For Teens

For many young people, the summer holidays can easily become dominated by phones, gaming, streaming and social media. This week's #WakeUpWednesday guide offers reassuring, realistic advice for parents, carers and educators who want to encourage 11- to 16-year-olds to spend more time offline without making technology feel like the enemy.

A PDF copy of the #WakeUpWednesday leaflet was also sent out this week via MCAS.



INFLUENCING
SUPPORTING &
CONNECTING



2024-27

SCHOOL
MENTAL
HEALTH
AWARD

Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Attendance

Please remember to call in to the Middle School attendance line or send a message via MCAS if your child is unwell and will not be attending school by 8:30am. It is important that we have evidence for each day your child is absent, even if they were sent home the previous day.

To report an absence via telephone call please dial 0191 2371402, select 5 for Whytrig Middle School then select 8 to report a pupil absence.

Please send evidence of medical/dental appointments/medication to wms@svf.org.uk so we can attach these to your child's profile on our system. If you are submitting a Leave of Absence request please ensure any documentation supporting the exceptional circumstances is handed in at the same time as the Leave of Absence form.



This week's whole school attendance: 93.92%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
94.45%	95.00%	93.26%	92.96%

The best attending class this week is: 6S (98%)

Free School Meals

It is always worth double checking if your child is eligible for free school meals. If your circumstances have recently changed or whether you've never checked before, the process is very straight forward:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/education-skills/schools/school-meals>

For every pupil who is eligible they receive £2.60 lunch credit every day and the school receives additional funding which can be used to support learning and progress through the pupil premium grant. You can read more about the school's strategy here: <https://svf.org.uk/our-federation/pupil-premium>

Lunch Account Balance

Please check your child's lunch account balance, and top up as necessary. We will never allow your child to go hungry, and should they not have enough money on their account then we will ensure they are able to buy a Main Meal Deal by granting them a temporary overdraft for that day of £2.60. You will then receive a message via MCAS advising you that you need to top up their account. This temporary overdraft facility will not be extended for additional days and should your child not have enough funds in their account the following day they will only be provided with a basic sandwich and drink. Our expectation is that you will top their account up immediately so they have a positive balance again.

MCAS Contact Details

Please remember to double check that your details are correct on MCAS. When you make a change in My Child At School, it updates the systems that we use to contact home. This also means that we don't make a mistake in the spelling of an email address or taking down a number incorrectly.



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Social Media Channels

Don't forget to keep up to date with everything else on our social media channels

X - @WhytrigMS

Facebook - @Whytrig Middle School

Links to external agencies are provided in good faith. We do not take any responsibility for the content of these links.



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School

