



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 17th July 2026

End of Year Message

As we reach the end of our very first year at our Prospect Avenue site, we want to look back and say what a wonderful year it has been, filled with so many highlights. We would like to extend a massive thank you to all of our families for your support throughout the year, as well as for the lovely cards, gifts, and kind well wishes we have received—they are all greatly appreciated by the entire staff team. We wish you all a safe, happy, and relaxing summer holiday, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready to learn, on Wednesday, 2nd September!



Autumn 1 - Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday 1st September - Training Day
- Wednesday 2nd September - Start of Autumn Term.
 - Year 5 pupils start at 8:50am
 - All other year groups start at 9:30am

2026-27 Teaching and Support Staff

Form Classes

5C: Mrs Chadwick (Y5 Lead); 5K: Mrs Kelly (Disadvantaged Lead); 5L: Mrs Lowden
6E: Mr Edwards (Y6 Lead)/Mrs Kerridge (KS2 Maths Lead); 6F: Miss Foster; 6S: Ms Shell (KS2 English Lead)
7H: Mrs Harland; 7L: Mrs Lawton; 7W: Miss Waterfall
8K: Mrs Kelly; 8Ro: Mr Robinson (School Games Co); 8Ru: Miss Rutter (KS3 Lead)

Other Teaching Staff

Mr Souter (Head of School)
Mrs Campbell (Assistant Headteacher)
Mrs Lennon (Assistant Headteacher)
Miss Thompson (SENDCo)

English: Ms Hood and Miss McLeod; French: Ms Lacey and Miss White; ICT: Maths: Mr Harris, Miss Phillipson, Mr Root and Ms Thompson; PE: Ms Page; Technology: Mrs Allison, Mrs Gibson and Mrs Gorvett.

Pastoral Staff: Mrs Telfer, Learning Support: Ms Morris, Miss Ballantine, Miss Blacklock, Miss Chicken, Mr Cobb, Miss Davis, Miss Eckert, Mrs Fraser, Miss Frazer, Ms Gales, Mrs Hurst, Mr Keenan, Mrs Knibbs, Mrs A Robson, Mrs S Robson and Miss Snowden.

Support Staff: Mrs G Davidson and Miss A Prior.



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Star of the Year Awards

Every year a pupil is nominated from each year group to receive the Star of The Year Award. These awards were presented to the school when our former Headteacher, Mrs Watts, retired some years ago when we were still at Western Avenue! Pupils get to take the glass trophy home for the year, in recognition of their overall contribution over this academic year.

Year 5 Star of The Year	Myla D
Year 6 Star of The Year	Harrison C
Year 7 Star of The Year	Ariana A
Year 8 Star of The Year	Logan C

Year 8 Awards

At the end of every year, a Year 8 pupil is nominated to receive one of several subject awards, which have been presented to the school by many staff over many years. Pupils get to take the award home for the year, in recognition of their overall contribution over the academic year in that subject. Two pupils, a boy and a girl, are chosen to receive the prestigious Pupil Of The Year Award; these awards are held in high esteem by the school and staff and we know award winners will recognise the honour that the awards represent.

Pupil Of The Year	Cydney L
Pupils Of The Year	Lewis J
Art	Emily C
Community Spirit	James E
The 'All-Rounder'	Charlie S
Positive Role Model	Layton S
DT	Bobbie F
English	Liam S
French	Cora B
ICT	Mason H
Mathematics	Jake C
Music	Mollie M
Science	Jake C
Sports Boy	Reece Y
Sports Girl	Charlotte W
Sportsmanship	Baillee K
The Sunflower	William G

A Pupil of the Year

Well done to Mya A-J, Millie A, Cora B, Evie C, Emily C, Maya G, Isla H, Lyra H, Leah H, Jessica K, Layla M, Praise O-A, Abigail P, Annabelle R, Charlotte W, Evan B, Jake C, Logan C, Jack D, Declan D-K, James E, Bobbie F, Jacob F, William Pe, Oliver S, Charlie S, Liam S, Layton S and Daniel Y - who were all our runner up Pupils of the Year.



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Subject Certificates

In assembly this week we presented certificates to the following pupils who have demonstrated sustained achievement over the academic year. As always it is a really difficult task for our staff to choose just one person from each teaching group, with so many deserving children.

The Year 5 Subject Certificate winners are:

Art	Elijah B	Ivy B	Ella A
DT	Myla D	Adriana C	Amelia D
English	Zara B	Dominic B	Amelia D
French	Jackson H	Abdullah A	Amelia D
Humanities	Charlotte H	Heidi E	Noah H
ICT	Ruben L	Logan S	Cole D
Mathematics	Jackson H	Mehman M	Ella A
Music	Emily W	Lochlan S	Abby G
PE	Callum D	Mila D	Freddie K
PSHE	Annie H	Jessica H	Evie F
RE	Simone S	AJ A	Harper M
Science	Myla D	Sophie S	Noah H

The Year 6 Subject Certificate winners are:

Art	Freya D	Cleo S	Emily G
DT	Ayden C	Smith DC	Beau M
English	Lola T	Ethan D	Leland F
French	Jayden B	Ethan D	Isla F
Humanities	Indie-Rae S	Mika W	Isabelle D
ICT	Penny K	Smith DC	Carter B
Mathematics	Monica W	Emily M	Tristan C
Music	Eva L	Monica W	Lia F
PE	Jayden B	Henry B	Isla O
PSHE	Zara K	Poppy H	Gracie B
RE	William M	Ava W	Penelope B
Science	Carter F	Smith DC	William S

The Year 7 Subject Certificate winners are:

Art	Ella H	Ariana A	Isabelle A	
Design	Jude P	Safia A	Nolan D	
English	Sofie F	Wealth OA	Joshua M	Mia P
Food	Joshua M	Ruby R	Ava O	
French	Sofie F	Ariana A	Kaitlin H	
Geography	Sofie F	Joshua C	Rory W	
History	Melissa S	Wealth OA	Ava O	
ICT	Ross S	Ariana A	Isabelle A	
Mathematics	Wealth OA	Melissa S	Elliot C	Alex F
Music	Leila B	Sienna D	Tilly-Mae F	
PE	Jude P	Finley S	Ava O	
Science	Alex F	Leon D	Finlay J	
SMSC	Melissa S	Michael R	Sonny T	

The Year 8 Subject Certificate winners are:

Art	Sarya Z	Mya AJ	Logan C	
Design	Cydney L	Holly E	Oliver S	
English	Emily C	Liam S	Bobby O	Archie M
Food	Abi T	Harry S	Cole W	



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French	Jake C	Layton S	Cora B
Geography	Emily C	Maya G	Evan B
History	Jake C	William B	Lewis J
ICT	Mason H	James E	Lyra H
Mathematics	Logan C	Omar A	
Music	Leah H	Abigail P	Alara Y
PE	Declan DK	Liam S	Will Pe
Science	William G	Archie M	Logan C
SMSC	Charlie S	Austin C	Logan C

We would once again like to congratulate each and every certificate winner in each year group and to all of our pupils across the school for making the competition so great. Each year it is a very difficult decision for staff to have to pick just one child!

School Merit System

The school merit system is designed to recognise and reward success in school. At the end of each academic year, children who have gained two gold medal badges in at least two separate terms are invited to our Gold Pupil trip to the beach. Every term the merits each child earns are counted and contribute towards their House totals. This year we have handed out over 61113 merits! The results of this year's merit competition are as follows:

Merit Competition - Summer Term

1 st place	Delaval (4224 merits)
2 nd place	Blake (4153 merits)
3 rd place	Seaton (3502 merits)
4 th place	Hastings (3380 merits)

Merit Competition - School Year

1 st place	Delaval (16787 merits)
2 nd place	Blake (16056 merits)
3 rd place	Seaton (14466 merits)
4 th place	Hastings (13804 merits)

In total, we have awarded the following over the course of the year:

848 Gold pupils (25 merits)
 542 Excellent pupils (50 merits)
 276 Superstar pupils (75 merits)
 128 Owl awards (100 merits)
 42 CXXV awards (125 merits)
 10 'Wilkie' awards (150 merits)



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Gold Reward Beach Trip

On Monday, the whole school trooped down to Seaton Sluice beach for a reward trip for those children who earned at least two gold awards this year. The children enjoyed digging and playing in the sand, having a picnic on the beach and an ice cream in the sun. The staff enjoyed seeing floating heads in the sand, but we made sure everyone was 'dug up' and brought back to school safe and sound!



Year 5 Adventure Valley

On Tuesday, Year 5 travelled to Adventure Valley for their end of year trip. The children played in the parks, on the go karts, on the donut slide, bouncy pillows, soft plays and more! Everyone involved had a great time and can't wait to visit again!



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Y5 Games Day

On Wednesday, Year 5 brought in some games from home and played together in school. It was great to see the children playing together (not on screens!) and having fun to celebrate all of their hard work this year!



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.



PE Kit 26-27

Please make sure that all pupils have the correct PE kit for the start of the new school academic year. We no longer stock or supply white t-shirts or black hoodies. All pupils should now be wearing the burgundy PE shirt and/or the black ¼ zip top. These can all be ordered through the school website.



Pupils will also need their own pair of moulded stud boots for PE when lessons are on our 3G AGP.



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Travel Ambassadors



Well done to our Travel Ambassadors in Year 8, who have worked exceptionally hard this year to win funds to go towards helping our school maintain its Active Travel status. The pupils have worked with Lou Millington from Modeshift Stars and then also secured funding at NCC in Morpeth to help provide cycling equipment for our students in Y5-7.

Job of the Week

This week's Job of the Week is **Nuclear Engineer**. 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



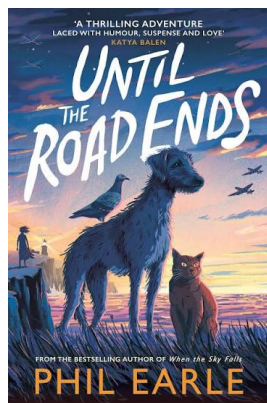
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Book of the Week



This week's Book of the Week is 'Until the Road Ends' by Phil Earle.

Until the Road Ends is a World War II adventure. When Peggy saves a stray dog named Beau, they become inseparable. Separated when Peggy is evacuated to the coast, Beau becomes a Blitz hero in London before a tragedy orphans Peggy. Beau, Mabel the cat, and Bomber the pigeon then journey across England to reunite 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 *Until the Road Ends*, you might enjoy other books by Phil Earle such as *When the Sky Falls*, or *While the Storm Rages* - available to borrow from Mrs Campbell of the school library. Phil Earle will be one of our visiting authors in the Autumn term and it would be great to have lots of people reading his books over the summer.



Extra Curricular Clubs

Extra Curricular clubs will start the 3rd week of term. Timetable of clubs TBC in September.



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.

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@syf.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.



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This year's whole school attendance: 92.7%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
95.0%	92.2%	92.5%	91.4%

The best attending class this year is: 5K (96.2%)

100% Attendance

Each term we recognise and reward children who have 100% attendance over the course of a term. The system allows children to receive a tiered set of certificates (a bronze for their 1st 100%, a silver for their 2nd 100% and a gold for their 3rd 100%), a termly prize and entry into a termly prize draw in each year group.

The children who achieved a **gold certificate** for 100% attendance over the course of the whole year, which is a truly fantastic achievement, are:

Year 5: Atahan A, Zara B, Evie F, Annie H, Savannah P, Logan S and Simone S.

Year 6: Bobbi B, Ethan D, Lia F, Isla O, Thomas R and Jacob S.

Year 7: Ariana A, Thomas D, Wealth O-A and Sebastian T.

Year 8: Millie A, Bobbie F, Lewis J and Praise O-A.

The children who achieved their second 100% attendance of the year and their **silver certificate** in the Summer Term were:

Year 5: Nova M, Sophie S and Logan W.

Year 6: Gracie B, Freya D, Adeline D, Poppy H, Penny K, Zara K, Desmond O, William S, Eve W, Mika W, Monica W and Flynn W.

Year 7: Safia A, Elliot C, Ella H and Ava O.

Year 8: Ben A, William G, Abigail P, Annabelle R and Oliver S.

The children who achieved their first 100% attendance of the year and their **bronze certificate** in the Summer Term were:

Year 5: Ella A, Leah D, Callum D, Abby G, Charlotte H, Harper M, Isabella R, Ivy S, Lochlann S and Ella W.

Year 6: Willow A, Jayden B, Vinnie B, Mason B, Isla F, Willow H, Emily M, Everly R, Harry S, Amelia T and Keiron T.

Year 7: Joshua C, Layla-Mae C, Emily H, Rae L, Ruby M and Mia P.

Year 8: Archie B, Bobby O and William P.

The attendance cup winners receiving a £10 token for 100% attendances over this half term are:

Ava N (5C)

Ivy B (5K)

Isla H (8Ru)

Well done to everyone. We will start the whole process again in September!



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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.

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

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