

WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 1st May 2026

Year 5 Outdoor Learning

Year 5 have been making the most of the weather and our new learning spaces by taking our maths lesson outside. We used chalk to learn about parallel lines and how they never meet, and then worked in the sun!



Year 6 SATurday School

We will be holding a SATurday School for Year 6 pupils on Saturday, 9th May, from 8.50am until 11.30am. Breakfast will be served from 8.50 - 9.25am, if your child requires it. While we realise that some children have team commitments that they are unable to get out of, we would hope that most pupils will be able to attend. We hope to make it a fun, interactive morning, with lots of activities to ensure brains are kept in tune ahead of the big week. Please complete the online form <https://forms.gle/KhEQUAeoSBWez72c9> to indicate whether or not your child will be attending, whether they would like a breakfast and if so, if there are any dietary requirements we should know about.

FA Cup Trophy

The Emirates FA Cup trophy will be on display in the Wheatridge Lakes and Dales Co-op on Saturday, 2nd May, between 11 and 4 pm for members of the public to view and have a photo taken with the trophy. You can read further details at <https://www.lakesanddales.coop/>



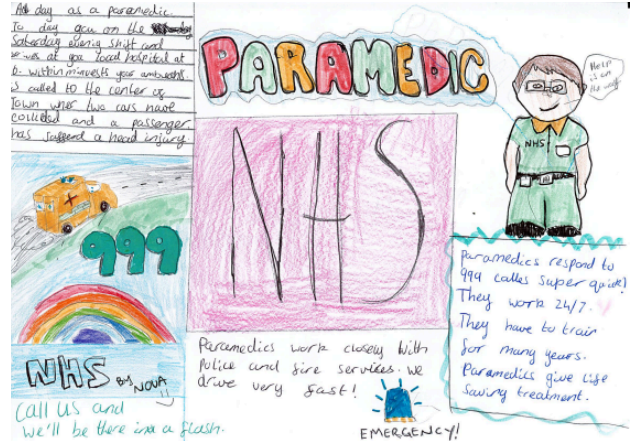
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NHS Careers Competition

We had a fantastic response to our recent NHS Careers competition, with pupils across the school submitting impressive presentations outlining various pathways within the healthcare service. The quality of research and creativity on display was truly outstanding, making the judging process a difficult task. After much deliberation, we are proud to announce our winners: Jessica H and Evie W, Nova M, Tilly F, Layla NB, Melissa S, Finlay J, Olivia DJ, and Alexandria W.

Well done to everyone who entered and took the time to explore these vital career roles!



Summer 1 - Dates for your Diary

- Monday 4th May - School Closed - May Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 5th May - Y8 NDAS workshops
- Thurs/Fri 7/8th May- Y5 ½ day bike rides
- Monday 11th May - Y7 STEM visit (tbc)
- W/C Monday 11th May - Year 6 SATs week
- Tues 12th May- Regional Kurling Finals
- Thurs 14th and Friday 15th May- Y5 full-day bike rides
- Mon 18th, Tues 19th, Thurs 21st May- Y6 full-day bike rides
- Thursday 21st May - Y5 Tag Rugby (Kingston Park)
- Friday 22nd May - Y8 Yearbook Photos
- W/C Monday 25th May - School Closed - May Half Term Holiday

Job of the Week



This week's Job of the Week is **Border Force Officer**. 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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SUPPORTING &
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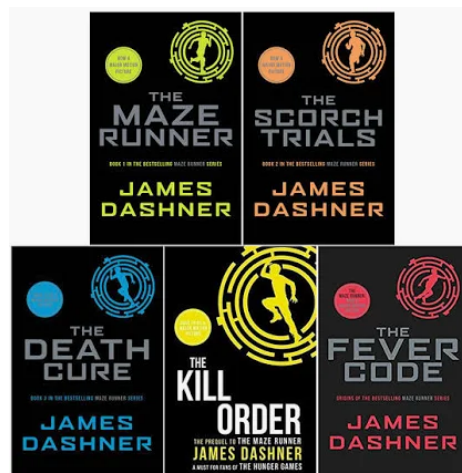


Book of the Week

This week's Book of the Week is 'The Maze Runner' by James Dashner

The Maze Runner tells the story of Thomas who wakes up in the middle of a massive, shifting labyrinth with no memory of his past; he must join a group of "Gladers" to decode the maze's secrets and find a way out before time runs out. It's a high-stakes, pulse-pounding survival story where the walls aren't the only things closing in.

The Maze Runner is the first book in a series, and the sequels and prequels are available to borrow from Mrs Campbell and Mrs Harland



KS3 Cricket Success

Our Year7/8 Boys played their first Indoor cricket fixtures of the season on Wednesday evening, against Ponteland HS and Blyth Academy.

Blyth Academy 63 runs for 8 wickets
Whytrig MS 64 runs for 6 wickets

Ponteland HS 32 runs for 8 wickets
Whytrig MS 33 runs for 3 wickets

Well done to all the boys who played- Thomas P, Aaron S, Josh C, Findley S, William B, Charlie S



Safeguarding Update - Managing Exam Stress



Exam periods can place significant pressure on young people, affecting their confidence, focus and overall wellbeing. This [#WakeUpWednesday](#) explores supportive, realistic strategies to help pupils manage their workload, stay organised and maintain balance.

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



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Extra Curricular Clubs

Mon- NEW CLUB KS2 CRICKET- Mr Robinson + Northumberland CB Coach- STARTS 27TH APRIL

<https://forms.gle/8oyC5KuXfZDWQoFv7>

Mon- KS3 Swimming Club- **THIS IS NOW FULL**- STARTS 20TH APRIL

Mon- Chess Club- Mr Robinson- 12:30- Rm 02

Tues- KS3 Netball- Mrs Harland and Miss Waterfall (Sportshall/yard):

<https://forms.gle/GocrSTHaau5fxkvw8>

Alternate Tuesdays - Y8 Coding Club - Mrs Sykes:

<https://forms.gle/xSvDnGRosKe9ziSUA>

Alternate Wednesdays (Week 1) KS2 Netball- Mrs Harland (Sportshall/yard):

<https://forms.gle/QnuzPNNURiSU4aNu9>

KS2 Netball Dates for the Summer Term

Wednesdays - Week 1: 29th April, 13th May, 3rd June, 17th June, 1st July

Thurs- Performance Club - Mrs S Kelly

<https://forms.gle/pkMvz84djzkSHd619>

Thurs- KS3 Cricket Club- Mr Robinson- SportsHall- Boys and Girls. **NO CRICKET ON FRIDAY DUE TO LOW NUMBERS**

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: 91.93%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
93.51%	92.56%	90.26%	91.60%

The best attending class this week is: 5K (97.60%)



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100% Attendance (Spring Term)

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 33 children who achieved a **silver certificate** for their second full term of 100% attendance over the course of the Spring Term (an amazing achievement) are:

Year 5: Zara B, Amelia D, Evie F, Annie H, Jessica H, Savannah P, Logan S and Simone S.

Year 6: Tristan C, Lia F, Bobbi B, Kayden B, Ethan D, Isla O, Jacob S, Thomas R and Ava W.

Year 7: Joshua K, Alexandria W, Toby H, Thomas D, Sebastian T, Joseph M, Isla-Rose C, Ariana A and Wealth O-A.

Year 8: Millie A, Bobbie F, Lewis J, Charlotte W, James E, Cydney L and Praise O-A.

The 37 children who achieved a **bronze certificate** for their first 100% attendance over the course of the Spring Term (a super achievement!) are:

Year 5: Jackson H, Ivy B, Danny T, Logan W, Atahan A, Emily W, Ella B, Myla D and Amelia E.

Year 6: Beau A, Monica W, Lennon M, Archie L, Reuben H, Eva O, William M, Desmond O, Mike W, Poppy H, Penny K, Lewis H and Flynn W.

Year 7: Ella H, Owen B, Robbie T and Aaron S.

Year 8: Olivia M, Evie C, Cora B, Jessica K, Ben A, Abigail P, Mason H, Harry T, Macie W, Liam S and Oliver S.

Spring 2nd Half Term Attendance Awards

One of the extra opportunities for children to be rewarded for attendance each half term is in the 100% Cup, where children get a token for every week of full attendance, which they enter into the end of half term draw.

The winners of the 100% Cup for the Spring 2nd half term were drawn on Monday in assembly and are:

- Sonny T (Year 7)
- Evie K (Year 7)
- Will P (Year 8)



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Stars of the Week

Our Stars of the Week are nominated each week by staff for a variety of reasons, which might be contributions to the school community, school work, or something outstanding. Each week, their success is shared in school in the Star of the Week video or in assembly, and they receive a certificate and a chocolate bar.

Week ending 24/04/26

5C: Myla D; 5K: Freddie G; 5L: Bobby R;

6E: Olivia W; 6F: Ruby B; 6S: Averie S;

7H: Sofie F; 7L: Emilia F; 7W: Tilly F;

8K: Sarya Z; 8Ro: Holly E; 8Ru: Luke S;

Head of School SOTW: Robyn S (6S)

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

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



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