



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 20th March 2026

Parent Survey

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Parents' Evening on Monday! We would now like to invite you to share your feedback through our annual Parent Survey, which is live online until the end of term. This is a great opportunity to let us know what is working well and where we can continue to improve.

You can access the survey by clicking the link below or by scanning the QR code on a mobile device to open it directly in your browser.

[WMS Parent Survey 2026](#)



Year 5 Ultimate Table Top Sports Festival

Our Y5 pupils took part in a first ever Ultimate Table Top Sports festival, organised and supported by Northumberland School Games, on Thursday. They had a fantastic morning trying some new activities in Table Tennis, Table Cricket and Cup Stacking. Lots of personal bests were achieved, new friends made and brilliant effort and enjoyment.

Our KS3 Sports Leaders were leading the activities and were fantastic in how they helped the younger children and led their different stations during the morning!



Leadership for Sustainability

We had 6 pupils who attended a Leadership for Sustainability workshop on Friday, at Newcastle Civic Centre. This was a celebration event with schools from across the North East showcasing their projects and planned projects and how their school can become more environmentally friendly and sustainable. Pupils had a great day, with lots of innovative ideas, workshops and a Scavenger Hunt around the Civic Centre grounds. These pupils will now work on our school projects to help it become more sustainable in the near future.



Spring 2 - Dates for your Diary

- Monday 23rd March - Girls U11 Tag Rugby Festival at Dame Allan's School.
- Thursday 26th March- KS2 Tag Rugby (Mixed teams)- Ashington Rugby Club (pm).
- Thursday 26th March- Netball Match.
- Friday 27th March - KS3 Girls Cricket County Final at Parks Sports Centre, North Shields.
- Tuesday 31st April - Bike Club bike ride.
- Wednesday 1st April - End of Term (school closes at usual time of 3:30pm).
- Thursday 2nd April - **School closed for staff training** - Start of Easter Holidays.
- Monday 20th April - School opens first- day of Summer term.

Stars of the Week

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

Week ending 20/03/2026

5C: Charlotte H; 5K: Logan S; 5L: Ella B;
6E: Lacey R; 6F: Emily M; 6S: Alfie M;
7H: Tristan D; 7L: Ella M; 7W: Aaron S;
8K: Jayden W; 8Ro: Layton S;
Head of School SOTW: Jude P (7H)

Job of the Week

This week's Job of the Week is **Water Quality Scientist**. 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

Wake Up Wednesday - Online Friends Encouraging Violence

Violent clips, online 'wars' and shock-value challenges can spread rapidly across social media feeds - often appearing in front of young people who weren't actively looking for them. This #WakeUpWednesday guide explains how algorithms, messaging groups and viral trends can expose children to real-world violence online, sometimes normalising harmful behaviour or encouraging risky offline actions.

It also highlights the emotional, social and legal risks linked to engaging with violent content. From anxiety and community fear to the dangers of sharing or promoting violent posts, the guide offers practical advice for parents and educators on discussing online safety, understanding the law, and helping young people respond positively and responsibly.

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

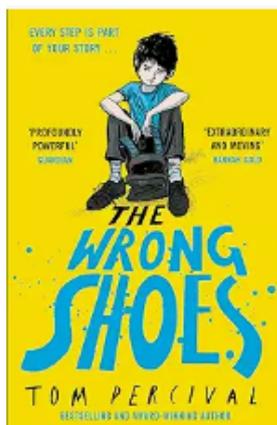


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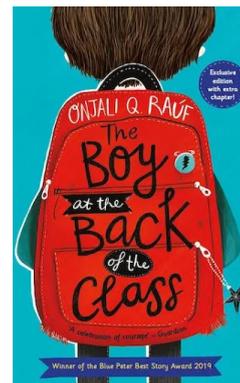
Book of the Week

This week's Book of the Week is 'The Wrong Shoes' by Tom Percival



The Wrong Shoes is a moving novel about Will, a boy navigating poverty, bullying, and his parents' separation. Symbolized by his broken, ill-fitting shoes, Will struggles with social isolation and a financial crisis at home, eventually finding hope, resilience, and friendship through art. Another of Mrs Campbell's favourites!

If you liked 'The Wrong Shoes', you might enjoy 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q. Raúf - a heartwarming novel about Ahmet, a nine-year-old Syrian refugee separated from his family, highlighting themes of kindness, friendship, and empathy - Available to borrow from Mrs. Campbell



Police Cadets (current Year 8)

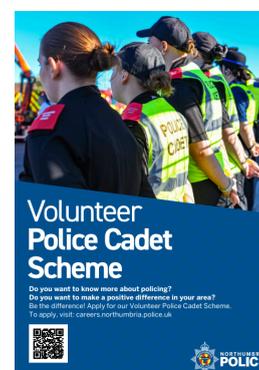
Become a Volunteer Police Cadet with Northumbria Police!

Applicants must be 13/14yrs old on 1st Sept 2026 (going into year 9 or 10) and live within the Northumbria Police area.

For full details and how to apply, please visit [Police Cadets -Northumbria Police](https://www.northumbria.police.uk/cadets)

The closing date for applications is 3rd May 2026.

A PDF copy of the Volunteer Police Cadet Scheme leaflet was also sent out to parents of Year 8 children via MCAS.



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Extra Curricular Clubs in this Half-Term

Mon- Y5/6 Dodgeball- Mr Robinson + Dodgeball Coach

<https://forms.gle/Gse7Sv3YDymrc9UFA>

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

Mon- KS2 Girls Rugby Club-Coastal Rugby Partnership

<https://forms.gle/aRKNUYJh2dbnF66g7>

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

<https://forms.gle/GocrSTHaau5fxkvw8>

Tues- KS3 Girls Fitness Club- Mr Robinson- Fitness Suite- starting Tues 3rd March

<https://forms.gle/pb1ehervDmhnvjWN6>

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>

UPDATED KS2 Netball Dates for the Spring term: 1st April

KS3 Swimming Club will start after Easter. 20 places are available. Pupils have had letters in school and must return them to the office. First come-first served and then a reserve list.

Thurs- Performance Club - Mrs S Kelly

<https://forms.gle/pkMvz84djzkSHd619>

Thurs- Dance Club with Miss Lamb- Dance Studio

<https://forms.gle/XvGiDZPwyTyjWcD76>

Fri- KS3 Badminton Club- Mr Robinson- SportsHall

<https://forms.gle/hBF3w6zdMk6v3meX6>

KS2 Swimming Club - Mr Day- **This club is now full. We have a reserve list if places become available.**

If you are collecting a child after swimming, please wait at the green gate

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.



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This week's whole school attendance: 93%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
96.0%	92.1%	92.7%	91.8%

The best attending class this week is: 5K (96.7%)

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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