



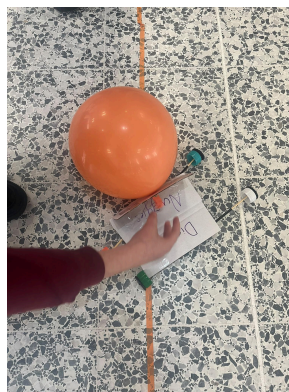
WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 25th September 2026

Year 7 Nissan Visit

On Thursday 24th September, our Year 7 pupils visited Nissan Sunderland to take part in an exciting Engineering Discovery event. During the visit, they worked as engineers to design, build, and improve their own balloon-powered cars. This hands-on challenge gave pupils the chance to problem-solve, test ideas, and think creatively, just like real engineers.

The pupils were also given a fascinating tour of the Trim and Chassis Plant, where they were able to see first-hand how cars are carefully assembled from individual parts on the production line. The visit gave our pupils a valuable insight into the wide range of careers available at Nissan and within the wider engineering and automotive industry. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and inspiring day, and we are incredibly proud of how well our pupils represented the school.



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U13 Girls' Football

Our Y7/8 football team played on Thursday night against Valley Gardens in the U13 County Cup against Valley Gardens Middle School. We have an exceptionally strong team this year and this showed on the pitch from the starting whistle with Whytrig winning most of the challenges in Midfield. The game was fairly evenly matched however, Valley managed to slot a goal in during the first half which was the only goal of the game. The girls were still in high spirits after the game with a fantastic performance, which is promising for the season ahead!



Whytrig 0 - 1 Valley Gardens

Year 6 Football

Our U11 boys team played in the Northumberland Schools FA County Cup on Wednesday at Oellington. In a close fought game, our boys unfortunately lost 4-2, against a strong team including a couple of NUFC/SAFC academy players. Goals from Mehman and Ethan. More games to come in the coming weeks.



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Year 6 Active 60 Influencers

On Monday, 10 year 6 children visited Ashington Leisure Centre to take part in a training course to become Active 60 Influencers. This means that they will try to encourage peers, friends and family to be active for a minimum of 60 minutes per day. They learnt lots of new games, personal challenges and - most importantly - leadership skills. Luckily, the day was run by World Champion boxer Rachael Mackenzie, so the children were awestruck by her sporting achievements and asked so many insightful questions about what it takes to get to the top in a sport and represent your country. Watch this space for games and challenges to come from the Active 60 Influencers!

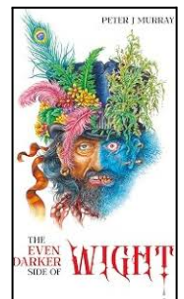
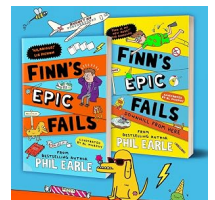


Author Week is Coming - MCAS Book Orders!

We are so excited to welcome two brilliant authors to Whytrig during Author Week w/c **Monday 12th October!** (Please see the full letter sent via MCAS on Monday for further details)

Every pupil will be taking part in these inspiring workshops, regardless of whether a book is bought. However, if your child would like copies of the books, please note the key details and payment methods:

- **Phil Earle (Visiting Tuesday 13th Oct):** Phil will be discussing his hilarious new book *Downhill from Here* (Finn's Epic Fails series). **Books must be ordered in advance via the MCAS app by Wednesday 7th October.** At just **£5** for a single book or **£8** for the two-book bundle, these fantastic discounted sets make ideal early Christmas presents or stocking fillers, please order before the deadline to guarantee your copy before they sell out.
- **Peter J. Murray (Visiting Friday 16th Oct):** Peter will be sharing his thrilling new release, *Even Darker Side of Wight*. He will return on **Monday 19th October** to hand out and personally sign books. *Even Darker Side of Wight* hardback: **£12** | Two-book bundle: **£20**. *Payment by cash or cheque directly to Peter on the day*



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MCAS- Keeping Your Contact Details Up to Date

A quick reminder to all parents and carers to please check that all of your contact details are up to date on MCAS (MyChildAtSchool).

For some of our pupils, we currently have very limited contact information on file. It is vital that we have accurate, up-to-date phone numbers, emergency contacts, and email addresses so that we can reach you quickly when needed. Please take a moment to log into your MCAS account and ensure your details are fully updated. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our pupils safe and connected!



Compass + Careers Education Tracking

Please remember to complete the Google Form regarding our careers education tracking system, which was sent via MCAS earlier this week. You can also find the form linked directly on the link below.

[Compass+ Careers Education Tracking Parents Form](#)



Autumn 1 - Dates for your Diary

- Monday 28th September - Year 4 Open Evening
- Monday 5th October - Y5 Ford Castle Residential Parents Meeting (5pm).
- Tuesday 6th October - Year 8 Akzo Nobel Visit
- W/C Monday 12th October - Author Week (See letter sent via MCAS 21/9/26)
- Monday 12th October - Whole School Parents' Evening
- Wednesday 21st October - Friday 23rd October - Year 5 Residential Trip to Ford Castle
- W/C Monday 26th October - HALF TERM holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED
- Monday 2nd November - Start of Autumn 2 half term
- Thursday 5th November - Year 6 trip to Northern Stage.

Job of the Week



This week's Job of the Week is **Recycling 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.

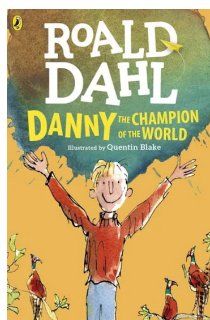
If any parents or carers would like to get involved in our Careers provision at Whytrig please contact Mrs Campbell at wms@svf.org.uk



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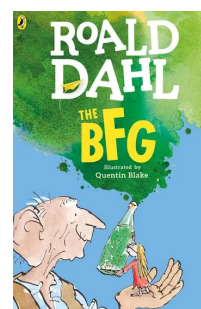


Book of the Week



This week's book is "Danny, the Champion of the World" by Roald Dahl, from our Year 5 challenge.

"Danny, the Champion of the World" is about a 9-year-old boy named Danny who lives with his father, William, in a gypsy caravan and helps him run a car repair shop. Danny's life of adventure and camaraderie with his father is shaken when he learns William is a pheasant poacher. To get revenge on the cruel and greedy landlord, Mr. Hazell, Danny and William devise a daring plan, using sleeping pills in raisins to poach all of Hazell's pheasants before a major hunting party, ultimately earning Danny the title of "Champion of the World."



If you liked "Danny, the Champion of the World", try "Matilda" or "The BFG", available to borrow from Mrs. Harland, Mrs. Campbell, and the school library!

SEATON VALLEY FEDERATION OPEN EVENINGS 2026



SEATON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
24TH SEPTEMBER 5PM-7PM

Welcome Presentations: 5pm & 6pm
Prospect Avenue, Seaton Delaval, NE25 0FW
T: 0191 237 1505
E: svhs@svf.org.uk



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL
28TH SEPTEMBER 5:30PM-7PM

Welcome Presentation: 5:30pm
Prospect Avenue, Seaton Delaval, NE25 0FW
T: 0191 237 1402
E: wms@svf.org.uk



SEATON SLUICE MIDDLE SCHOOL
1ST OCTOBER 6PM-7:30PM

Welcome Presentation: 6pm
Alston Grove, Seaton Sluice NE26 4JS
T: 0191 237 0629
E: ssms@svf.org.uk

Please come along to look around our schools and meet our staff and students.
No appointments needed - we look forward to welcoming you.
For more information visit: www.svf.org.uk
Please note that dates are provisional and may be subject to change.



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SCHOOL OFFER

WATCH **EAGLES** BASKETBALL

VS CALEDONIA GLADIATORS



FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER 7:30PM

Vertu ARENA NEWCASTLE, NE4 7AF



THIS VOUCHER ENTITLES THE HOLDER TO TICKETS FOR

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FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE CALL 0191 2453880 OR EMAIL BOXOFFICE@NEWCASTLE-EAGLES.COM

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**WANT TO PLAY BASKETBALL
AT A CLUB NEAR YOU?**

FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION AND GET A FREE TASTER SESSION
[NEWCASTLE-EAGLES.COM/SCHOOLSPLAY](https://newcastle-eagles.com/schoolsplay)

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Extra Curricular Clubs

- KS3 Darts- Friday lunchtime- 12:45-1:05 (Darts arena)
- Netball - Fridays [Link to Netball Club Form](#)
- KS2 After School Dodgeball Club starts Monday 21st September - Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/SKyHFFCFxrR2pfNT9> - THIS CLUB IS NOW FULL.

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 25th September 2026

5C: Maci O; 5K: Megan R; 5L: Jackson M;

6F: Sean M; 6S: Lacey P;

7H: Vinnie B; 7L: Ethan D; 7W: Jayden B;

8K: Darryl E; 8Ro: Ruby M; 8Ru: Joshua C;

Head of School SOTW: Layla-Mae C (8Ro)

Safeguarding Update - Discord



Discord is a hugely popular communication platform where young people can chat, play games and join communities built around shared interests. This week's [#WakeUpWednesday](#) guide explores some of the risks that can come with using it, including contact with strangers, inappropriate content, harassment and the potential for gaming and socialising to become a distraction from everyday life.

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@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 year's whole school attendance: 94.5%			
Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
97.8%	93.2%	93.0%	94.3%
The best attending class this year is: 5K (99.2%)			
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 a lunch credit every day. 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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