

WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 26th June 2026

Hot Weather

We have experienced some exceptionally hot weather this week, but our pupils have managed absolutely brilliantly, adapting incredibly well to both the heat and the timetable changes caused by the Key Stage 3 trip to France. We would also like to say a huge thank you to our families for their support in ensuring pupils were sent to school so well-prepared for the high temperatures.



Speaking of France, our travellers are due to return tonight! Our X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook pages are packed with fantastic photos of what has been a highly successful trip—even as the group navigated a striking 40°C heatwave. A massive well done and thank you to all of our pupils for their incredible resilience, and a huge heartfelt thanks to the staff who gave up their own time to take our pupils on such a wonderful and memorable visit! Keep your eyes on next week's Newdrop for a full update on the French trip and more photos.

KS3 Allstars Football

On Thursday, a group of 10 KS3 children travelled to the Washington Hub to take part in a football festival. Despite the intense heat, the team played amazingly well. The theme was 'The World Cup', so all teams were given a country to represent - our team was representing the USA! They played 5 games in total and won 4, narrowly drawing the one game as the opposition scored a late penalty in the last kick of the game. The team came second overall in our group and the children said they had a brilliant morning! Well done to everyone involved!



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2026 Athletics Quadkids Final 2026

After sailing through the qualifiers in first place, the KS2 athletics team visited Ponteland High School on Friday for the Quadkids Final. They competed against 12 other teams from the Northumberland area in 4 events: 600 longer run, 75m sprint, howler throw and the standing long jump. Despite the immense heat and amazing standard from all of the schools involved, all of the children gave 100% effort in every event. It was great to see the team encouraging each other (and other teams from the Cramlington and Seaton Valley District). The children had an amazing day and we look forward to hopefully reaching the finals again next year!



Fieldwork with Year 5

Our Year 5 classes have been out and about on the school grounds this week, investigating the mini-beasts that share our environment. The children have planned the project right from the start by considering what they wanted to research and the best ways to collect and record their data.

With clipboards in hand, they have explored different areas around the school and they have managed to spot an amazing variety of wildlife, including spiders, beetles, dragonflies, and ladybirds. The children absolutely loved getting hands-on with nature, and it was brilliant to see their classroom planning come to life in the sunshine. Well done, Year 5!



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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.



Summer 2 - Dates for your Diary

- Monday 29th June - U11 Girls Summer Football Festival
- Tues 30th June- KS3 Sports Leaders at HVFS Sports Day (pm)
- Wednesday 1st-Friday 3rd July - Year 6 Activity Days
- Wednesday 1st July - Year 7 London STEM trip
- Wednesday 1st July - Year 5 Girls' Football Competition at Northburn
- Thursday 2nd July - Year 8 Transition Evening Event at Seaton Valley High School (5 to 7pm)

Job of the Week

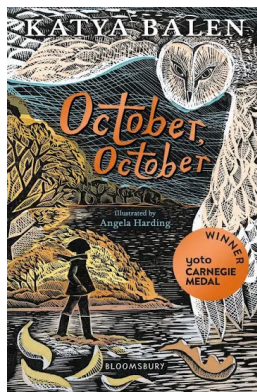


This week's Job of the Week is **Intelligence Analyst**. The video can be found in Google Classroom and also [here](#).

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 '**October, October**' by Katya Balen, from our year 7 Reading Challenge.

October, October tells the story of eleven-year-old October who lives a completely wild, off-grid life in the woods with her father. But when a sudden accident forces her to move into the roaring heart of London with her estranged mother, October's world is turned upside down. This beautifully written, award-winning novel is a touching story about nature, family, and finding out who you are when your whole world changes.



If you enjoyed **October, October**, you might like other novels by Katya Balen, such as her new one, **Letters from the Upside**, available to borrow from Mrs Campbell.



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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 26th June 2026

5C: Callum D ; 5K: Dominic B ; 5L: Emily L;
6F: Flynn W ; 6S: Isla Okezue; 6E: Logan H
7H: Bailey G ; 7L: Lily T; 7W: Owen B;
8K: Abi T; 8Ro: Archie M ; 8Ru: Logan C ;
Head of School SOTW: Mason H (8K)

Extra Curricular Clubs

Mon- KS2 CRICKET- Mr Robinson + Coach (No club last week of term)

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

Mon- KS3 Swimming Club- **We now have 10 spaces available. Please see Mr Robinson or reception for a letter.**

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

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

<https://forms.gle/GocrSTHaau5fxkvw8>

NEW CLUB

Tues- Y8 Darts Club- Mr Robinson. This is limited to 12 people only and is a trial club to judge appeal and success.

<https://forms.gle/qfdjdHmJd6WeZTYm6>

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: 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

NEW CLUB

Thurs- Girls' Football Club- Mrs Kelly. 3.30pm-4.30pm. All year groups are welcome.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfkY7bkXTGJ-ep-rL5XIFtfx4fXoLBhStb_lxRQSamYRazKgw/viewform?usp=header



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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: 92.77%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
93.84%	91.11%	95.80%	90.37%

The best attending class this week is: 7L (98.67%)

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.



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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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