

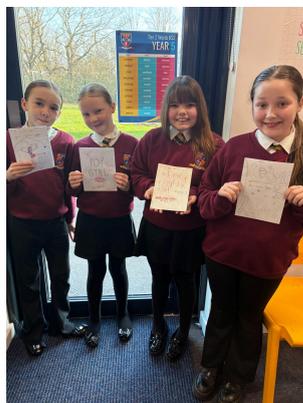
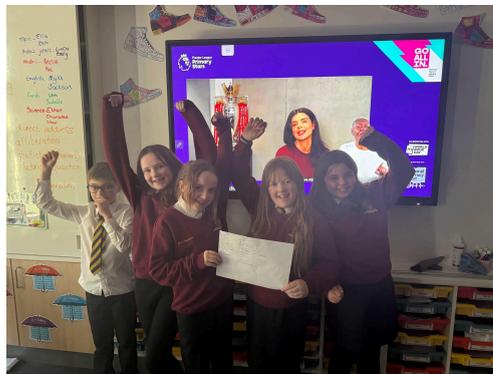


WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 6th March 2026

World Book Day

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day on Thursday. Throughout the day, pupils took part in DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) sessions, enjoying quiet moments to get lost in a good book. Reading was also happening in lessons across the school, with many subjects including additional reading activities to celebrate the day and highlight the importance of reading in all areas of learning. Our book swap was a huge success, giving students the chance to trade well-loved stories for fresh adventures. Year 5 showcased their knowledge by taking part in the live “Footy and Booky” quiz run by the National Literacy Trust and designed new covers for some much-loved books. Guest readers from across the staff also visited form rooms to share their favourite stories, and the day finished with our annual WMS World Book Day Quiz. It was a brilliant day celebrating a shared love of reading across the whole school.



Thank you to everyone who took part in our book swap. We hope you enjoy your new books.



Spring 2 - Dates for your Diary

- Monday 9th March - Year 8 Girls Cricket
- Wednesday 11th March - Year 7 DWP Careers Workshop
- Friday 13th March - Year 8 DWP Careers Workshop
- Monday 16th March - Whole school parents' evening
- Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th March - KS3 Groundswell Project
- Thursday 2nd April - School closed for staff training - Start of Easter Holidays



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New Age Panathlon

On Wednesday, 4th March, a group of 4 children visited Gateshead Leisure Centre to take part in 'New Age Kurling'; a panathlon event, which involved pushing stones at just the right weight to land them in a target. The children were amazing! They won 3, drew 1, and lost 2 games, meaning they got through to the quarter finals, but unfortunately lost that game.



SSOC - Milano Cortina Competition

The SSOC (School Sports Organisation Crew) have been busy setting up a competition for you! The Winter Olympic and Paralympic games have been held in Italy this year - paralympics starting today! Your task is to create an informative poster on a winter olympic/paralympic sport of your choice. Prizes are available for Gold, Silver and Bronze places. If you have any questions, check the posters around school or ask your SSOC members! Entries need to be given to Miss Foster by Friday 27th March. Good luck!



Year 8 - Cyber Security Sessions



Last week, Year 8 took part in an exciting series of STEM sessions focused on cyber security and careers in the STEM sector. Pupils learned about how data is protected online and explored the wide range of opportunities available within the growing cyber industry. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to develop their understanding of digital safety while gaining insight into potential future careers.



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Key Stage 3 Sportshall Athletics

On Thursday our KS3 athletes took part in the Northumberland School Games Sportshall Athletics County final at Blyth Leisure Centre. They competed in 1 lap, 2 lap, 4 lap, 6 lap and 8 lap Parlauf races. Indoor shot, vertical jump, long and triple jump, plus speed bounce were the field events. Each area in Northumberland was represented, meaning 24 school teams were present. Our pupils competed very well across all the events. Our Year 8 boys team only went and won the competition, meaning they are now County Champions!! Well done to all of our pupils who took part.



Year 8 Cricket Workshop

Key Stage 3 pupils all took part in a Northumberland Cricket Board activity day on Thursday. Dan Ramsay from NCB delivered some excellent cricket sessions with our pupils throughout the day, with the aim of increasing participation in one of our National sports. All of our pupils were thoroughly engaged and showed excellent skill.



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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 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 06/03/2026

5C: Kieran I; 5K: Ivy G; 5L: Dominic B;
6E: Ava L; 6F: Smith D-C; 6S: Jasmine C;
7H: Ella H; 7L: Wealth O-A; 7W: Rory W;
8K: Leah H; 8Ro: Macie W; 8Ru: Joel G;
Head of School SOTW: Constance K (5K)

Job of the Week



This week's Job of the Week is UX Designer. 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

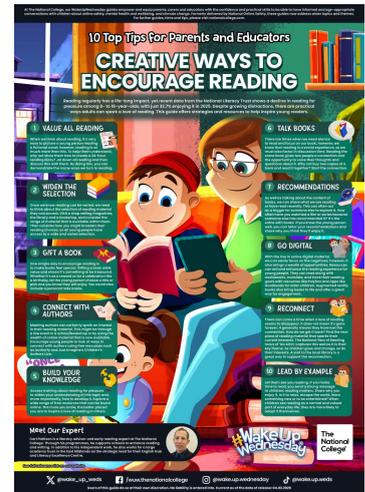
Wake Up Wednesday - World Book Day Edition

This week was World Book Day, and it's the perfect chance to spark a love of reading in every child. Stories don't just build literacy skills, they inspire curiosity, boost confidence, and open doors to new worlds.

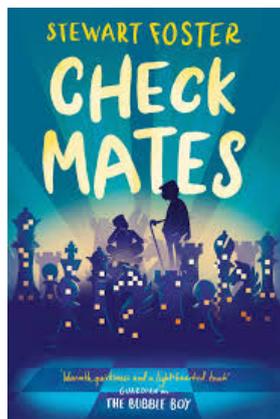
This week's [#WakeUpWednesday](#) highlights simple, practical ways families can make reading part of everyday life. From creating cosy reading spaces to showing children that reading is fun, small habits can make a big impact.

View a copy on our X page at <https://x.com/whytrigms/>

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

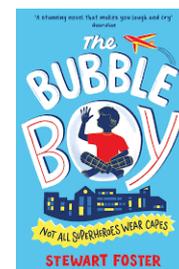


Book of the Week



This week's Book of the Week is 'Checkmates' by Stewart Foster

Checkmates tells the story of Felix, who is struggling at school. His ADHD makes it hard for him to concentrate, and his grades are slipping. Everyone keeps telling him to try harder, but no one seems to understand just how hard he finds it. When Mum suggests Felix spends time with his grandfather, Felix can't think of anything worse. From our Year 7 reading challenge and one of Mrs Campbell's favourites!



If you liked 'Checkmates', you might enjoy other books by Stewart Foster, such as 'The Bubble Boy' or 'All the Things That Could Go Wrong' - available to borrow from Mrs Campbell or the school library.

Fixtures and Results

Monday 9th March- U13 Boys v Ovingham MS- 3pm-home-County Cup

Wednesday 11th March- U13 Boys v Bede and St Benet Biscop- league- Bede Academy- 3:30-5pm

Police Cadets (current Year 8)

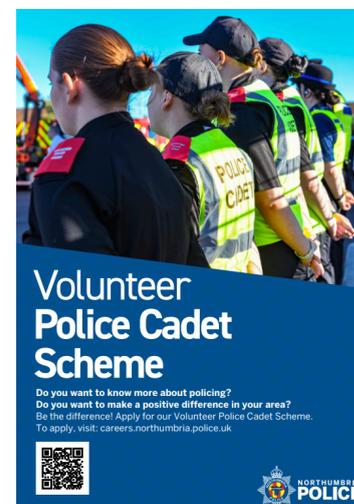
Become a Volunteer Police Cadet with Northumbria Police!

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 this week 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/GocrSTHaau5fxkqw8>

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: 18th March, 1st April

The football club will resume later in the year. School teams will still have fixtures when they are arranged.

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**



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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: 92.64%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
92.03%	92.05%	93.46%	92.96%

The best attending class this week is: 8Ro (96.67%)

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

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