WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL
NEWSDROP

Week Ending 6th November 2026

Welcome Back- Autumn 2

Welcome back to school after the half term break! We hope everyone enjoyed a restful and refreshing week.

As we move into the second half of the term, we look forward to seeing our pupils engage in excellent learning, show great effort, and take part in the many exciting opportunities planned in the lead-up to Christmas.

Year 6 Matt Goodfellow at Northern Stage Trip

Yesterday, 25 of our Year 6 pupils enjoyed a fantastic trip to Northern Stage to see author Matt Goodfellow. Matt captivated the audience as he spoke about his life, shared insights into his writing process, and read moving extracts from his verse novel *The Final Year*—a firm favourite from our Year 6 Reading Challenge! Our pupils were thoroughly engaged throughout the session, and many were thrilled to meet Matt afterwards to get their copies personally signed. To top off a wonderful outing, our children were warmly praised by both theatre staff and members of the public for their exceptional behaviour and positive attitudes. A brilliant time was had by all!





Autumn 2 - Dates for your Diary

- Thurs 12th Nov- Y8 Boys ESFA Football @ Highfield MS, Prudhoe
- Wednesday 9th December - School Christmas Lunch
- Thursday 10th December - Pantomime Trip
- Friday 11th December - Christmas Jumper Day (in aid of Save the Children)
- Thursday 17th December - Last day of autumn 2 half term
- Friday 18th December - **School closed** (Training day)
- Monday 4th January - **School closed** (Training day)
- Tuesday 5th January - First day of spring 1 half-term

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Job of the Week



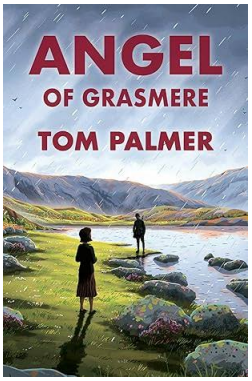
This week's Job of the Week is **Waste Management Officer**. The video can be found in Google Classroom and also here.

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

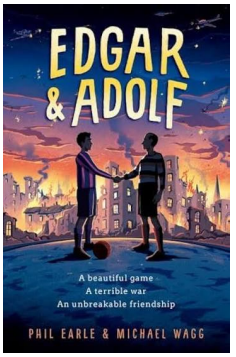
Book of the Week

This week's book is **'Angel of Grasmere'** by Tom Palmer, from our Year 5 challenge.



Angel of Grasmere is a moving historical novel set during World War II. It follows Tarn, a young girl struggling with the grief of losing her brother at Dunkirk, while mysterious acts of kindness begin happening around her local community, left by an anonymous "guardian angel."

When the "angel" is revealed to be a soldier on the run, Tarn and those around her are forced to confront complex choices about compassion, bravery, and what it truly means to be a hero in wartime.



If you liked 'Angel of Grasmere', try... Other inspiring historical stories by Tom Palmer, such as ***Armistice Runner*** or ***D-Day Dog***. You might also enjoy books by Phil Earle, such as ***Edgar and Adolf***. Available to borrow from Mrs Campbell or the school library!

Extra Curricular Clubs

- Nature group - Monday lunchtime Week 1 12:20- 1:00 - See Mrs Lawton if you are interested
- Singing Club - Monday 3.30-4.30 Singing Club Sign up form
- Performing Arts Club - Tuesday 3:30 - 4:45 Performing Arts Club Sign up form
- KS2 After School Dodgeball Club - Monday 3:30 -4.30 KS2 Dodgeball Sign up form - THIS CLUB IS NOW FULL.
- KS3 Darts- Friday lunchtime- 12:45-1:05 (Darts arena)
- KS3 Fitness Club- Tuesday 3.30-4.30pm KS3 Fitness club Link
- Netball - Friday 3.30 - 4.30 Link to Netball Club Form

Behaviour Reward

Well done to all the children who qualified for the behaviour non-uniform day today. Following parental feedback last year, we amended the qualification criteria for this half termly reward so that children qualify if they have not received a single negative behaviour mark over the course of the half term. This will mean that less children will now qualify for this reward as the bar has been set higher, but children do have the opportunity to qualify again every half term. Children will now work towards earning the next reward day on 8th January 2027 from the start of this half term.

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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, schoolwork, 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 6th November 2026
5C: Harriet H; 5K: Miya H; 5L: Kacie R;
6E: AJ A; 6F: Savannah P; 6S: Robyn M;
7H: Emily G; 7L: Smith D-C; 7W: Cleo S;
8K: Callum I; 8Ro: Jude J; 8Ru: Ariana A;
Head of School SOTW: Sofie F (8K)

Safeguarding Update - Advertisements Aimed at Children



With young people particularly susceptible to persuasive marketing, it's important to understand how adverts can influence their choices, expectations and spending habits – often without them even realising.

This week's #WakeUpWednesday guide explores the risks of advertising aimed at children, including misleading claims, unrealistic beauty standards, inappropriate promotions and pressure to make purchases. It also offers practical advice for parents and educators on helping young people recognise sponsored content, think critically about marketing messages, avoid unintended spending and develop healthier relationships with online advertising.

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.



This week's whole school attendance: 92.9%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
94.5%	94.7%	91.1%	91.8%

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The best attending class this week is: 6F (96.4%)

Music Tuition

Please follow the link below for more information about, and to sign your child up for lessons in piano, guitar, singing, or drums. These sessions are provided by Side by Side Arts, an external company who come into school weekly to deliver music tuition.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdDVqMGx2vcIz9lFPSKvS94Y8G2fcSFKC55AafwPHE3IW7wIw/viewform

Northumberland Parent Carer Forum

Northumberland Parent Carer Forum
A Voice For All

SEND Conference 2026

10th November, County Hall Morpeth

Join us for our 2026 SEND Conference, created especially for parent carers.

This is a community **information event** where you can meet and speak directly with teams from **Health, Education and Social Care**, plus organisations who support families with SEND, alternative needs and/or disabilities.

Find information, advice and support, along with opportunities to take a moment for yourself, connect with others and look after your wellbeing.

service spotlight talks| peer support | legal advice |information marketplace wellbeing activities | food & drink

9:30 - 2:30pm

Follow the QR code for more information



irwinmitchell

FREE TRANSPORT AVAILABLE
Follow the QR code below to request transport

FREE EVENT

enquiries@npcf.co.uk

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MARK

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BRONZE HEALTH AWARD 2024-27

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.