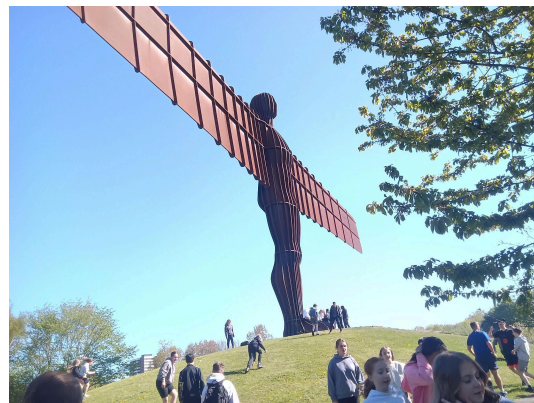


WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 8th May 2026

Year 8 Public Sculpture Trip

Last Friday, our Year 8 pupils soaked up the sunshine during a brilliant trip discovering the public sculptures of our local area. The day was packed with inspiration as we visited the iconic Angel of the North, the "Lady of the North" at Northumberlandia, and the striking "Couple" statue at Newbiggin-by-the-Sea. Our pupils got hands-on by creating their own impressive sand sculptures on Newbiggin beach and spent time investigating the winding paths and unique landscapes of Northumberlandia. We are incredibly proud of the group; the behaviour and attitude of every student were exemplary throughout the day. A great day was had by all.



Year 6 SATurday School Reminder

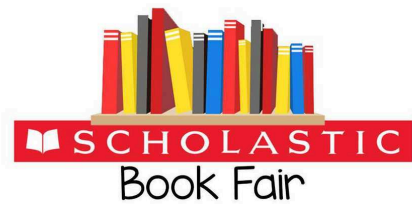
A reminder for all **Year 6 pupils** attending SATurday School tomorrow, 9th May, that they should arrive from 8.50am where breakfast will be served until 9.25am, if they require it. The session ends at 11:30am. You can still complete the online form <https://forms.gle/KhEQUAeoSBWez72c9> to indicate whether or not your child will be attending, whether they would like a breakfast and if so, if there are any dietary requirements we should know about. We look forward to seeing everyone tomorrow.



Scholastic Book Fair - Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May

We are holding a Scholastic book fair in our library for the pupils to browse and purchase books and stationery supplies. The fair will be open every day from **Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May** during school hours. There will be numerous titles, both Non-Fiction and Fiction available at a range of prices from £2.99-£9.99.

On **Thursday 21st May** the library will be **open after school 3.40pm-4.30pm** to enable parents, carers and siblings to come and browse alongside their children if they wish. Books can be purchased with card or cash (correct change where possible please) during the school day at the book fair, or via an online payment system. Further payment information was sent to parents via MCAS earlier this week.



We hope that you will all appreciate this exciting opportunity and enjoy the book fair

Summer 1 - Dates for your Diary

- Monday 11th May - Y7 STEM visit (tbc)
- W/C Monday 11th May - Year 6 SATs week
- Tuesday 12th May- Regional Kurling Finals
- Thursday 14th and Friday 15th May- Y5 1/2-day bike rides
- Monday 18th May to Friday 22nd May - Scholastic Book Fair
- Monday 18th, Tuesday 19th, Thurs 21st May- Y6 full-day bike rides
- Thursday 21st May - Y5 Tag Rugby (Kingston Park)
- Friday 22nd May - Y8 Yearbook Photos
- W/C Monday 25th May - School Closed - May Half Term Holiday

Job of the Week



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

Bates Cottages Cricket Club Announcement

This Friday evening (8th May) at Bates Cottages Cricket Club, Great North Pizza Co is visiting for the All Stars and Dynamos youth cricket sessions. Serving from 6pm.

Come along to learn new skills and make new friends and enjoy some yummy pizza. Family and friends are all welcome!

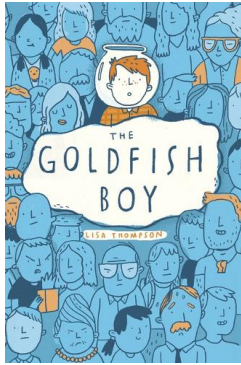


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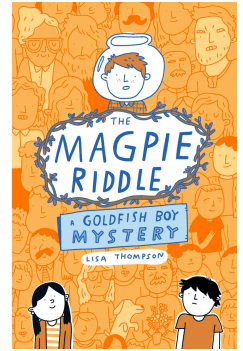
Book of the Week

This week's Book of the Week is 'The Goldfish Boy' by Lisa Thompson



The Goldfish Boy tells the story of twelve-year-old Matthew who is trapped in his bedroom by crippling OCD, spending most of his time staring out of his window as the inhabitants of Chestnut Close go about their business, until the day he is the last person to see his next door neighbour's toddler, Teddy, before he goes missing.

Matthew must turn detective and unravel the mystery of Teddy's disappearance - with the help of a brilliant cast of supporting characters.



The Goldfish Boy is the first book in a series, and the sequels are available to borrow from Mrs Campbell and Mrs Harland

Safeguarding Update - Helping Neurodivergent Children Navigate the Online World



Neurodivergent children are often drawn to technology, so early, supported experiences online are key. This guide explores how adults can model positive digital behaviour, set age-appropriate limits and create open, judgement-free conversations about online safety. It also highlights the importance of balancing screen use with offline activities to support wellbeing and development. This [#WakeUpWednesday](#) guide shares practical tips to help neurodivergent children enjoy the online world safely, from early guidance to understanding AI and building healthy digital habits.

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

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](#)

The closing date for applications has now been extended to 17th May 2026.



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Extra Curricular Clubs

Mon- NEW CLUB KS2 CRICKET- Mr Robinson + Northumberland CB Coach- STARTS 27TH APRIL

<https://forms.gle/8oyC5KuXfZDWOqFv7>

Mon- KS3 Swimming Club- **THIS IS NOW FULL**- STARTS 20TH APRIL

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

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

<https://forms.gle/GocrSTHaau5fxkww8>

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: 29th April, 13th May, 3rd June, 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

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: 92.8%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
95.4%	92.1%	92.4%	91.7%



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The best attending class this week is: 5K (96.6%)

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 1st May 2026

5C: Zara B; 5K: Abdullah A; 5L: Savannah P;
6E: Jaylen M; 6F: Eva O; 6S: Everly R;
7H: Robbie T; 7L: Callum I; 7W: Amelia C-D;
8K: Jake C; 8Ro: Jacob F; 8Ru: Lewis J;
Head of School SOTW: Myla D (5C)

Week ending 8th May 2026

5C: Libby M; 5K: Sadie W; 5L: Danny T;
6E: Grayson A; 6F: Cleo S; 6S: Jessie P;
7H: Leila B; 7L: Safia A; 7W: Sonny T;
8K: Layla O; 8Ro: Harry E; 8Ru: Aaron F;
Head of School SOTW: Amelia E (5L)

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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