



Whytrig Newsletter

Summer Term 2018

Monday, 16 July
Gold Pupil Trip

Tuesday, 17 July
Year 5 Trip

Wednesday, 18 July
KS3 Trip
Lightwater Valley

Wednesday, 18 July
Cinderella (7 – 9pm)

Thursday, 19 July
Year 6 Trip
Beamish Museum

Thursday, 19 July
Cinderella (6 – 8pm)

Friday, 20 July
End of Year Assembly 9am

School closes 12:30pm

End of Summer Term

End of Summer Term @whytrig MS

SATs Success

We would like to say a huge well done to all of our Year 6 pupils and teachers whose hard work and effort came to fruition this week when the provisional SAT results were published. As a school, we are very pleased with the improved results in 2018 and they are the best our School has achieved since the format of the exams changed in 2016. We have made significant progress from the 2017 results, showing that all the actions we put into place for the start of the Academic Year have started to have the impact we desire. The results reflect robustness in our tracking systems, although we will always look to refine and develop them further. We do not wish to be complacent however and will work hard to better them again next year as the baton is handed over to the current Year 5! The table below shows the provisional results and how we compare against the test scores last year and the Local Authority and National figures the have been published (which are also provisional).

	School 2018	Local Authority 2018	National 2018	School 2017
Percentage of children at the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths.	69%	64%	64%	48%
Percentage of children at the expected standard in Reading.	81%	77%	75%	63%
Percentage of children at the expected standard in Writing.	87%	81%	78%	70%
Percentage of children at the expected standard in Mathematics.	74%	75%	76%	56%
Percentage of children at the expected standard in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling.	87%	79%	78%	65%

France Residential

As a school we were very pleased to have been able to offer a residential trip to France again and last week we took 30 Whytrig and 10 Astley students to Paris for the week. After leaving school at 10:30pm on the Sunday evening, we travelled overnight to Dover to get the first ferry crossing to Calais. After a stop off at the Vimy Memorial en route, we spent the rest of the time based on the outskirts of Paris, with trips to Brie, Paris centre and Parc Asterisk. After another long journey home we got back to Seaton Delaval at 9:30pm on Friday night, safely returning our 40 students to their parents (and off to hoe for some much needed rest!) We believe opportunities like this are extremely beneficial to our pupils, especially in terms of their social development. Therefore a huge thank you must go out to Mrs Stephenson who organises the trip, a one which is a year in the making, as well as Mr Robinson, Mrs Telfer and Mr Souter who also attended. As we say time after time, we are very lucky to have so many staff in school who are willing to support these trips to ensure our children have these great opportunities if they want them.

Transition Week

We have had a super week as we welcomed our new intake into school yesterday, following work in their feeder First Schools at the start of the week and a trip to Durham University to work in the Department for Russian Studies on Wednesday. We think that they have started life at Whytrig really well and that they are going to be a great addition to our school family next year!

Cinderella



Our annual joint Whytrig and Astley Summer Performance is Cinderella this year, running on Wednesday 18th (7 to 9pm) and Thursday 19th (6 to 8pm) next week. Tickets are still on sale so grab the chance to come and see some of our children treading the boards! Tickets are priced at £5 for individuals or £16 for a family of four.

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Friday, 13 July 2018

Cake Sale

Our 'new' Year 5 organised a cake sale for today, which linked in with their World Cup transition theme. We think they have done a fantastic job and it was great to see so many sales at break time!

Year 6 Bike Ride

Over recent weeks Year 6 pupils have enjoyed bike rides with Dr Bike and Mr Edwards or Mr Robinson. They have done really well and have covered some distance in the process. We hope that the sessions have given them the confidence and desire to take this interest further. We are looking to build on this next year by setting up our own cycle club in school.

Sports Day

On Friday 29th June we had our annual athletics afternoon, fortunately in reasonably dry conditions. All of the children who competed did really well and again we had some examples of excellent sportsmanship on show between competitors this year. We would also like to thank the children and parent spectators who actively cheered the kids on during the afternoon.

Gold Pupil Trip

On Monday we are taking the majority of our school to the beach at Seaton Sluice as a reward for collecting at least two gold badges this year. We would like to remind parents that they should bring sun block to apply (although the forecast is not wonderful) and a waterproof in case we have rain. As always, pupils are not allowed into the sea, so they do not need a change of clothes and the ice cream van will attend the car park so they can bring some money if they wish to purchase any refreshments. We now just need to pray for good weather on Monday!

Schoolgateway

We are constantly looking for ways to improve our communication with you and keep everyone up-to-date and well informed. In January 2018 we launched School Gateway, an electronic school communication system, across all three Seaton Valley Federation schools. This enables you to receive all your information from school quickly and reliably. We can send letters by email to your inbox and short messages directly to your mobile phone and, if necessary, you can reply the same way too! If you have an Apple or Android mobile phone this is via a **free** app, otherwise this will be via text message. You are also able to make payments via Instant Bank Transfer, through the app or online, as well as top-up and view lunch account balances.

You can

- Receive letters more reliably and promptly.
- See letters in your inbox like any other email.
- Get a short text or app message if we need to contact you urgently.
- Still get paper letters if you don't have email.
- See your child's timetable for the current week.
- Not need to rely on your child for delivery.
- Be able to reply by email or text.
- Send us any reasons for absence via app, text or email.
- Top-up your son/daughter's lunch account quickly and easily, as well as monitor their spending.

We can

- Send more letters and information regarding your child/ren.
- Save money on admin time, printing and paper.
- Contact you urgently when necessary.

The school uses the email address and mobile number that we hold for the Priority one contact(s) in our database. If you change your contact details please let the school know as soon as possible. **If you have not already signed up for this service, we would welcome you to do so in advance of the new academic year.**

Last Day of Term

School closes at 12:30pm on Friday 20th July for the end of term. Due to the early finish time of both schools on site there will be no need for the children to bring a packed lunch and catering facilities on site will be closed. We will operate a smaller than usual food trolley at morning break, where snacks can be purchased as normal. If your child is entitled to a free school meal, food will be provided for your child sensitively.