



Whytrig Newsletter

Autumn Term #1 @whytrig MS

Autumn Term 2019

Monday 2 September
Teacher Day

Tuesday 3 September
Teacher Day

Wednesday 4 September
START OF AUTUMN TERM

Thursday 5 September
Photographer

Monday 23 September
Year 5 Kingswood Meeting

Thursday 26 September
European Day of Languages

Friday 27 September
MacMillan Coffee Afternoon

Monday 30 September
Y8 HPV Vaccinations

Monday 30 September
KS2 Parent Evening

Thursday 10 October
World Mental Health Day

Thursday 10 October
Year 4 Open Evening

Monday 14 October
KS3 Parent Evening

16 to 18 October
Year 5 Kingswood
Residential

Friday 25 October
End of Autumn 1st Half

Monday 4 November
Start of Autumn 2nd Half

Friday 20 December
End of Autumn Term

Spring Term 2020 7 January to 2 April

Monday 6 January
Teacher Day

Friday 3 April
Teacher Day

Summer Term 2020 20 April to 17 July

KS2 SATs Week 2020
11 to 14 May

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Tour Of Britain

We were very pleased to have the opportunity to watch Stage 4 of The Tour of Britain come whizzing through Seaton Delaval on Monday afternoon last week. Our children certainly enjoyed themselves and were once again a credit to our school as we walked from our building to stand at the spectator point on The Avenue. We had to wait a little longer than expected as the cyclists had been delayed in Bedlington, however our children enjoyed cheering on the general public on their bikes as they rode past, as well as the sound and light show the police rolling road-block motorcyclists put on for them. And then they were all gone in a matter of seconds! We did manage to get some great photographs though, some of which we have already tweeted (and which Northumberland County Council used on their news feed). Hopefully the event will last long in the memory and will kick start the imagination of some of our children to perhaps take up cycling as a sport or hobby, which is something we are very keen to support following on from all the excellent opportunities our children had around cycling last year.

Staffing Update

Welcome to Whytrig to Miss Baker, who worked in school last year and who is based in Key Stage 2 and Miss Thompson, our new SENDCo and who is also one of our Year 6 form teachers. We also have a number of other staff who teach across both our school and Astley High School, who will be new faces for some of our older children this year. Welcome to Mrs Sykes (ICT), Miss Busby (Maths) and Miss Waterfall (Humanities) who have joined the Federation this year. Your child may also be taught by established members of staff, Mrs Holwick (English), Mrs Gannon (SMSC), Mrs Hewitson (PE), Mr Carbutt (PE), Mr Day (PE/Swimming), Mrs Tarpey (Music) and Mrs Stephenson (French), usually in Years 7 and 8.

Packed Lunches

We have now completed our first two full weeks in school with the children and already our routines are established. Following on from a pupil voice exercise, we have introduced a fortnightly rota for order in which year groups go into lunch (the first two weeks were 5, 6, 7, 8 and this and next week will be 8, 5, 6, 7 and so on, giving all year groups the opportunity to go first into lunch). If your child brings a packed lunch to school, please ensure that it is brought in a **lunch box which is clearly marked with their name and class**. Children need to remember to put them in the containers on a morning when they come in, as we have a really good group of Year 8 monitors who ensure the containers are moved to the hall ready for lunch time. **We will continue to remind children to collect them on an evening but we would appreciate your help in this matter too!** Your child would also benefit from having their own **clear water bottle with their name on**, which can be taken into lessons. We have cold water dispensers in both key stages to refill them.

Dates For Your Diary

Please visit our school website at <https://www.svf.org.uk/calendar> where you can see dates of upcoming school and Federation events. You can subscribe to our school calendar by selecting the WMS option on the drop down menu in the bottom left hand corner. We will also highlight key events in our newsletters as well as listing upcoming dates, as you can see, on the left hand side.

European Day Of Languages

Next week, on Thursday 26th September, we will again be celebrating European Day of Languages in School, as we have done in recent years. Each form class has been assigned a country and we are asking the children to dress in their country's national colours or wear a costume which represents the theme. The children will learn phrases from their designated country and have the opportunity to speak in that language throughout the day. There will also be prizes for the best dressed class! Remember the emphasis should be on creativity, not cost; please do not go to the expense of buying costumes. **This year: 5C – Portugal; 5M - France; 6E - Germany; 6L – Russia; 6T – Spain; 7C – Italy; 7L – Holland; 8Ro – Spain; 8Ru – China.**

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon

We would like to invite you to our coffee afternoon on Friday, 27th September at 2:30pm, taking place to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Please come along to Astley Main Hall and we will arrange for your child to join you. We would welcome any donations of shop-bought cakes or biscuits to sell at the event. Refreshments will also be available to purchase. Any donations should be brought to school on the Friday morning. We hope you will be able to support the event and look forward to seeing you on the day.

E: Admin@whytrig.northumberland.sch.uk W: www.svf.org.uk T: @whytrigms

Wednesday, 18 September 2019

Stars Of The Week

We are pleased to announce our first Stars of The Week this term. For our new Year 5 parents, each week a child from each form class will be nominated to receive the Star Of The Week Award. It might be because of their sustained effort in lessons, improvement in their behaviour, for doing something for the School Community or for other worthy reasons. We will send a postcard home to inform you that they have been chosen to be Star Of The Week and in the next assembly we will share the nominations with the school, with each child getting a certificate. Stars Of The Week will then be invited for biscuits and hot chocolate with Mr Souter, usually on a Thursday afternoon. Our first group of nominations are:

5C: Ava Miller; 5M: Katie McLnerney;
6E: Alfie Dawson; 6L: Alex Cole; 6T: Ethan Collier;
7C: Kate Vural; 7L: Charlie Towns;
8Ro: Jaden Dytham; 8Ru: Kai Wilkinson-Conley;

School Prefects

In assembly on Monday, Miss Rutter or Key Stage 3 Leader, announced our first batch of prefects to the school. These are children who we think are already responsible members of our school community and who will be good role models, particularly to the younger children, promoting our school values in the correct way. Well done to:

Josh Anderson, Leah Campbell, Billy Christie, Aimee Coatsworth, Rachel Coxon, Gracie Dalgarno-Todd, Jaden Dytham, Olivia Graham, Ellise Hill, Billy Hutchinson, Katie Mahoney, Joe Miller, Poppy Ryan, Charlotte Scott and Adam Steadman

House Captains

At Whytrig Middle School we have four Houses, Blake (blue), Delaval (green), Hastings (red) and Seaton (yellow), which inter school competition is based around. Children are assigned a house at the start of year 5, which will be the same as any siblings who also currently attend our school. Over the year a number of events link to house competition, such as merits achieved, the homework projects and sports events at the end of the year. Each year we ask Year 8 pupils to nominate themselves as candidates to become House Captain and lead their House. This year we will be holding elections on Wednesday 2nd October. If children wish to apply to be a House Captain, we expect them to prepare a short speech to state exactly why they think they would make a good House Captain, how they will lead their House if successful and why people should vote for them.

School Attendance

Well done to 6L, who are the only class at the end of week 2 with 100% attendance. Our overall school attendance was 96.29% at the end of last week, which we hope to improve upon as the term and school year continues.

Twitter Feed

Don't forget, we also have a Twitter feed which gets updated regularly, mainly to keep you informed about special events or visits we have been taking part in. We have been tweeting this week about some of the sport that has taken place so far and clubs that start this week. You can follow us at: @whytrigms

Breakfast and Homework Clubs

We would like to remind parents that our School Breakfast Club opens at 8:20 each morning. There is no cost, other than that for the food the children wish to purchase. Our School Homework Club runs from 3:30 to 4:00pm, every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Any child wanting to use the facility is welcome to. The aim is to offer a quiet place, with the resources pupils need to complete homework their homework tasks with the help of a member of staff. Please let form teachers know through your child's diary if your child will be using this facility.

Sports News

Well done to Mr Robinson and his team for ensuring our school has been awarded Sportsmark Platinum Award this year. The School Games Mark is a government led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. The Platinum Award is the highest award and is only awarded to schools that consistently submit gold level applications.

Club News

Tuesdays – KS3 Girls Netball (including fixtures); Wednesdays - KS2 Dodgeball (letters to follow); Thursdays – KS3 Football fixtures. Tuesday 1st October – KS2 Swimming (letters from Mr Day),