

# WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

**Week Ending 16th May 2025**

## Summer 1 - Dates for your Diary

- Monday 19th May : 6L Bike Ride
- Tuesday 20th May: 6F Bike Ride
- Wednesday 21st May : Year 6 BAM workshop at SDH
- Thursday 22nd May: Year 5 BAM workshop at SDH/6E Bike Ride
- Monday 26th May: Half Term Holiday - school closed
- Monday 2nd June: School opens for Summer 2 half term

## New Build Update

The new school building is taking shape nicely. Teachers will soon be shown round the new building and we'll be able to give insights into the excitement that is to come!



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## Walk 2 School Week (19-23 May)

Our school is taking part in Walk to School Week (19-23 May). The nationwide event is organised by walking charity Living Streets and designed to help pupils experience the importance of walking to school. The week will help children get some of their recommended 60 minutes of physical activity per day before even reaching the school gates! Not only will it set them up for a positive day in the classroom, but it will also help create healthy habits for life. This year's challenge, The Great Space Walk

encourages children to travel actively to school every day of the week. Meeting various colourful intergalactic friends along the way, pupils will learn about the important reasons to walk or wheel and the benefits for individuals, communities and the planet! Each pupil will be challenged to travel sustainably (walk, wheel, scoot, cycle or Park and Stride) to school every day for one week using the wallchart and stickers to log their journeys. Each KS2 class will work collectively to make as many active

journeys to school as possible across the week. KS2 pupils will receive activity diaries, daily stickers and end of week pupil rewards. We would ask, if possible, to make arrangements so that your child/children can travel actively to school on week commencing 19th May, helping our school reduce congestion and pollution around the school gates. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



## Y5 - Kensuke's Kingdom

In Y5, we have been reading Michael Morpurgo's Kensuke's Kingdom. As a treat, we will be showing them the PG rated film next week.



## Mental Health Tip

Being part of a safe, positive community is vital for our mental health and wellbeing. We thrive when we have strong connections with other people and supportive communities that remind us we are not alone. Communities can provide a sense of belonging, safety, support in hard times, and give us a sense of purpose. For ideas on how to get involved with your community, click the link below.



[Ten ways to get involved with your community](#)



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# CRAMLINGTON & SEATON VALLEY SCHOOL GAMES SPRING 2025

NORTHUMBERLAND  
SCHOOL  
GAMES

## Y3&4 TRI-GOLF

In April we welcomed teams from Burnside Primary, Eastlea Primary and Holywell Village First Schools to our Y3&4 Tri-Golf competition. Players took part in 6 different golf skill games to score points for their team. The activities were enthusiastically led by Y7&8 Sports Leaders from Whytrig Middle School, who made the morning fun for the golfers with their high energy levels whilst making sure everyone knew what they were doing and using their maths skills to add up the scores! The winning team were the Holywell Lions, with Holywell Pandas in 2nd place and the Burnside teams in joint 3rd.



## Y7&8 SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS

Sportshall Athletics is a team competition consisting of track and field events including triple jump, vertical jump, shot put, 2 lap race and 4 x 2 lap relay. At the Cramlington & Seaton Valley area competition, Y7 and Y8 teams from Cramlington Learning Village, Seaton Sluice Middle and Whytrig Middle competed, with the following winning results:

Y7 Girls: CLV Y8 Girls: Whytrig  
Y7 Boys: Whytrig Y8 Boys: Whytrig

These teams then progressed to the Northumberland School Games county finals, where they competed against winning schools from each of the 6 School Games areas. Whytrig finished an impressive 2nd in both the Y7 Boys and Y8 Girls, with CLV finishing 6th in Y7 Girls and WMS 5th in Y8 Boys.



## KS2 MULTISKILLS

In January, the top teams from the Cramlington & Seaton Valley area KS2 Multiskills Competitions progressed to the Northumberland School Games Virtual Live finals. We were represented by Y3 teams from Eastlea and Hareside, Y4 from Burnside, Y5 teams from Whytrig and Northburn, and both Y6 classes from Hareside, who took part in agility, balance and coordination challenges where every point counted towards their class average. In each year group, up to 12 teams from Northumberland were competing, and Whytrig had the highest finishing position for Cramlington & Seaton Valley with a bronze medal in the Y5 event.

## KS3&4 TRAMPOLINING

Trampoline gymnasts from Cramlington Learning Village and Whytrig Middle joined 175 competitors from across the county in the second annual Northumberland School Games KS3&4 Trampolining competition. Competitors were judged in their performance of 2 routines, in categories ranging from 'super novice' to 'elite' for Y7 up to Y13.

## Y4 GYMNASTICS

In March, Northumberland School Games hosted a number of Y4 Rise Gymnastics competitions across the county. Cragside CoFE Primary, Cramlington Village Primary and Eastlea Primary were among over 20 schools from across the county to take part. At the event, each gymnast was judged on their performance of 2 pre-prepared routines, one without apparatus and one with either a ball or ribbon. There are different levels of difficulty in each routine, so the event is inclusive as each gymnast can choose their own level of challenge. They are then presented with either a Gold, Silver or Bronze certificate for each of their performances. The events were held at Wansbeck Gymnastics and Trampolining club, which meant the gymnasts also had the fantastic opportunity to try trampolining and pairs balances, and were able to experience performing their routines on the sprung floor.



## SECONDARY #MAKEACTIVEMEMORIES FESTIVAL



Pupils from Whytrig were among over 100 young people from across the county to take part in the Northumberland School Games Secondary #MakeActiveMemories Festival. This inclusive event provides an opportunity for participants to make positive active memories with their friends, and perhaps try a new activity - they took part in ten pin bowling, New Age Kurling and boccia, and enjoyed a silent disco.

## Y5&6 BADMINTON

We welcomed Y5&6 pupils from Beaconhill Primary, Cragside CoFE Primary, Eastlea Primary and Whytrig Middle Schools to our Y5&6 Badminton Festival. This event is designed to support transition by providing an opportunity for young people to meet pupils from different schools, while trying a new activity which can build confidence, determination and resilience. Players took part in a range of fun skills games and activities led by Y7&8 Sports Leaders from WMS. They also had some expert input from Tony and Kim from the local John Watt Academy badminton club, who have reported that after the festival, some of the Y5&6 players have gone on to join the club sessions and are now playing badminton regularly.

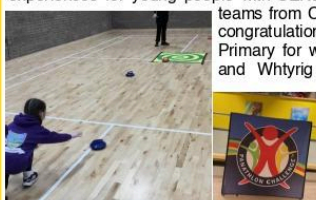


## CRAMLINGTON & SEATON VALLEY SCHOOL GAMES ORGANISERS:

Gill Smith - gill.smith@northumberland.gov.uk  
Neil Robinson - neil.robinson@wms.svf.org.uk

## PANATHLON

Teams from Cramlington Village Primary, Holywell Village First, St Peter & Paul's, Seaton Sluice Middle and Whytrig Middle School were among schools from across the North East to attend Panathlon's New Age Kurling, Boccia and Primary Multiskills competitions, which are being held as part of the School Games calendar for the first time this year. These inclusive events provide meaningful competitive experiences for young people with SEND, and there was success for teams from Cramlington & Seaton Valley—congratulations to Cramlington Village Primary for winning the Primary Multiskills and Whytrig Middle School winning the Boccia. Both of these schools will be invited to represent Northumberland at the Panathlon regional finals.



#MAKEACTIVEMEMORIES



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## Job of the Week

This week's Job of the Week is **Marine Biologist**. 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](mailto:wms@svf.org.uk)



## Attendance

Please remember to call in 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.

Please also send evidence of medical/dental appointments/medication to [wms@svf.org.uk](mailto:wms@svf.org.uk) so we can attach these to your child's profile on our system.

### This week's whole school attendance (YTD):

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
94.6%	94.0%	93.4%	89.8%

Current best attending class is: 5C (97%)

## LUNCH MENU - WEEK 4

[School Meals Menu](#)



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## 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 £2.40. 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.

## Library Books

Please can you take a look around your home and see if you have any outstanding library books. We're missing quite a few books from our collection and we want to have a refresh before we move to the new school. Fiction books will often have a Green or Yellow Star on the spine so you can identify them as a school book.

## REMINDER- Spare Uniform

Our Eco Club is collecting spare uniform items for our uniform swap. Please send in any items of clean, unwanted school uniform to school with your child or hand in at reception. Thank you!

## Safety Outside Our School

**Double parking puts our children at risk. When double parking occurs around schools, it makes it harder to see children and those who might be on wheels (buggies, cycles, wheelchairs etc).**

As a driver you have a responsibility to park in a safe and considerate manner.

Park with care and help make the area near and around our school a safer place for everyone.

**Fewer cars at the school entrance will help make it safer for everyone**

**What you could do instead....**

- ✓ Try walking, cycling or scooting – even if its just one day a week, it can make a big difference.
- ✓ If you need to drive your child to school, consider parking away from school and walking the remainder of the way or car share with other families.



**Walking, cycling or scooting to school** contributes to the recommended daily physical exercise for you and your children.

It also helps to **reduce congestion** around school and **improves air quality**, providing benefits for everyone.



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2024-27

**SCHOOL**  
**MENTAL**  
**HEALTH**  
**AWARD**

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### KS3 Girls Running Club

A new club has started with Mr Robinson and KS3 Girls Running Club, every Tuesday, 3:30-4:30pm. We will be following the Couch to 5K running plan to try to improve fitness, stamina and resilience. The girls have planned to enter a local ParkRun in July as a culmination of all their efforts.

### After-School Clubs in this Half-Term

Mon- KS2 Dodgeball (starts Mon 12th May)  
Tues- Netball- Mrs Harland  
Tues- KS3 Girls Couch to 5K Running Club- Mr Robinson  
Tues- Y6 Swimming  
Wed- KS2 Rounders/Cricket Whamba! samba  
Thurs- Girls Football- Mrs Kelly  
Thurs- KS3 Cricket (Boys & Girls)- Mr Robinson

### Warm Weather - Drinks in school reminder

As the weather is getting warmer, we would like to remind parents that pupils should bring a drink of water to school every day to keep themselves hydrated. The bottles should be clear, with a sports cap.

Pupils can fill their water bottles from our water fountains in school, however we do not have the facility to provide cups, so please ensure your child has a suitable bottle for drinking water throughout the day.

### WMS Samba Band

We are delighted to inform you, WMS's samba band Whamba! is expanding. Whamba would like to welcome Y6 students interested in learning samba drumming to join their band. The band practices every Wednesday evening 3:30pm - 4:30pm. The last practice of this academic year will be on Thursday 9th July.

Please complete the following form if you would like to sign your child up for this:

<https://forms.gle/sEDijb1H8FDpJbGW8>



### Labelling Uniform and Belongings

All items of clothing, bags and water bottles etc. should have your child's name in them. This helps us return 'lost property' to their rightful owner. By the end of each term, we have a large quantity of items that have lost their owner and are then donated to charity or unfortunately thrown away.



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### 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.



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