



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 17th January 2025

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 so we can attach these to your child's profile on our system.

This week's whole school attendance: 93.67%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
95.44%	96.12%	91.89%	91.46%

Uniform Reminder

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.

During this cold weather please remember to send your child into school with a coat.

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 library book.

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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[School Meals Menu](#)

Drumming Workshop

Students in year 7 had a fantastic drumming workshop session this week. Thank you to Mrs S Kelly for organising such an engaging workshop! Students learned various polyrhythms using African djembe drumming techniques and created call and response cyclic rhythms. Students thoroughly enjoyed the session and are looking forward to putting their new skills into practice over the next few weeks in music lessons.



New School from the Air!

Our new school is coming on really well! Here is a shot from the air. In the foreground, you can see the Whytrig side of the school and in the background is the Sports Centre and 4G Pitch! Not long now until we can call this home!



Stars of the Week

Our Stars of the Week are nominated each week by staff for a variety of reasons, which might be contribution to the school community, school work or something outstanding. Each week their success is shared in school in the Star of the Week video and they receive a certificate and chocolate bar.

Week ending 17/01/25:

5C: Robyn S; 5K: Desmond O; 5L: Penelope D;
6E: Mia P; 6F: Reuben C; 6L: Josh K;
7M: Bobbie F; 7Ro: Harry S; 7Ru: Bobby O'B;
8H: Isabelle S-M; 8L: Danny W; 8T: Cody S;
Head of School SOTW: Vinnie B (5C)

Week ending 10/01/25:

5C: Gracie B; 5K: Jacob S; 5L: Amelia M;
6F: Nolan D; 6L: Kaitlin H;
7M: Mollie M; 7Ro: Kaycee L; 7Ru: Will P;
8H: Kvitka D; 8L: Joseph H; 8T: Sasha F;
Head of School SOTW: Daniel F (6E)



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ADELLE HICKS & ROBYN ROBINSON

We are Autism Family Support Workers that are a part of the Autism Support Team within HINT at Northumberland County Council.

We run our Autism Family Drop in sessions across all of Northumberland. Each session is free, two hours long and is a chance to come along to meet us and other parents for an informal chat over a cuppa. There is no set agenda for the drop ins. It is a chance to seek support and advice from us and other parents, however there is no expectation to talk about your child if you don't want to. Any parent/carer or family members are welcome to attend any session, you do not need to attend the session in the area that you live in. The sessions are not for professionals.

FAQ

Do I need to book?

No, just turn up on the day.

Do I need to stay for the two hours?

No, you can drop in at any time that is convenient for you.

Can I bring my child with me?

We normally advise parents/carers not to bring their children if they can, as this allows you to speak freely. However, if childcare is preventing you from attending then please bring them along. Please be aware that other parents may want to discuss sensitive topics.

What happens if I can't attend?

We try and alternate days and times of the drop ins at each location so hopefully the next session will be more convenient for you. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer advice via email or telephone due to our capacity. However, please bring any questions or queries along to the drop in session. We look forward to seeing you!

If you have any questions, please contact your local Family Hub or email us at:
robyn.robinson@northumberland.gov.uk or adelle.hicks@northumberland.gov.uk

Inclusive Education Services

 Northumberland
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Do you have a child aged 0-19 years? Come along for a cuppa and chat and to meet other parents. No diagnosis needed!

JOIN US ON:

Wednesday 15th January 2025 10am-12 at Alnwick Family Hub

On St Michaels School Site, Howling Lane, NE66 1DJ

Thursday 13th February 2025 1-3pm at Berwick Family Hub

Ladywell Place, Tweedmouth, Berwick-upon-Tweed, TD15 2AE

Tuesday 14th January 2025 10am-12 at Hexham Family Hub

On Hexham First School Site, Beaufront Avenue, NE46 1JD

Wednesday 29th January 2025 1-3pm at Haltwhistle Family Hub

On Haltwhistle Primary Academy Site, Park Avenue, NE49 9BA

Tuesday 21st January 2025 10am-12 at Ashington Family Hub

Alexandra Road, NE63 9EF

Monday 3rd February 2025 1-3pm at The Community Hub at Cramlington

Forum Way, Manor Walks Shopping Centre, NE23 6YB (Next to Concordia)

Tuesday 18th February 2025 10am-12 at Morpeth Library

Morpeth Sports and Leisure Centre, Gas House Lane, NE61 1SR

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Sport Fixtures & Results

Tuesday 21st January - County X-Country at Temple Park LC
Thursday 23rd January - Y7 Boys Futsal at Ponteland HS

Football Club - please remind children to bring correct kit and footwear for **indoor** football.



Sharing Images ('Nudes') Online

Advice for parents and carers of children aged 11+



By taking an active role in supervising how your child uses digital devices and the internet, and putting in place parental controls, you can help to keep your child safe while they're online.

Parental controls

Before allowing your child to use a device, familiarize yourself with it and make sure appropriate settings are in place, such as adult content filters. Please visit the following website for tips: [Use Parental Controls to Keep Your Child Safe | NSPCC](#)

Having a conversation

Talking to your child about how to use digital devices and the internet safely is the first step in making sure they know they can ask you for help if they encounter digital content that worries them or if someone asks them to do something they aren't comfortable with. It's crucial to talk about what is and isn't safe to share online, and it's important for them to remember that not everyone online is who they say they are. Remind your child that they can always turn to [Childline](#) if they feel they can't talk to a trusted adult.

The following weblinks offer tips and resources in how to approach this topic with your child:

[Having a conversation with your child \(CEOP Education\)](#)

[Nude selfies: a parents' guide \(CEOP Education\)](#)

Sharing sexual images – what does the law say?

It is against the law to download, make, or share sexual images or videos if the person in them is under 18 or the person receiving them is under 18, even if the person in the image is the sender. A sexual image could be nude, partially nude, or with the person posing in a sexual manner. Increasingly, young people consider it a reasonable part of a relationship to send nudes of themselves to each other without understanding the consequences. Once an image is sent the sender loses control of it: a screenshot can be taken, they can be altered, shared further by others – even ending up in the possession of sex offenders – and the personal consequences can be far reaching. Ultimately, police are interested in safeguarding children involved in this activity and it's often not proportionate to criminalise a child for sending a sexual image of themselves. Consider watching the following video with your child: [Megan's Story: "Sending Nudes - It Happened To Me" - YouTube](#)

Sextortion – Financially motivated Sexual Extortion

This form of online blackmail – when scammers hold sexual images of their target for ransom – can happen to anyone of any age, but it most commonly affects those aged 15-17 and adults under 30. Find out more by visiting [this website](#). The following website contains information and support for both adults and under 18s who are concerned about sexually coerced extortion: ['Sextortion' or online blackmail - IWF](#).

How to get an image removed that has been shared digitally

It's important that young people know that there is a way to get their image removed as this may encourage them to seek help if it has happened or does happen to them: Visit [Report Remove - Childline](#) for more information.

How to report sexual images of a child found on a device and further information

DO NOT delete them. Work can be done to remove the images from the internet and it may be possible to safeguard the child in the image. If you believe that a child is in immediate danger, dial 999. Alternatively, dial 101 or [report it to Northumbria Police online](#). The IWF's [TALK campaign](#) includes [a parents' and carers' guide](#) to how to keep children safe from online sexual abusers.

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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.



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.



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.



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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