



# WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

**Week Ending 23rd May 2025 - HALF TERM**

## End of Summer 1st half term

It is hard to believe we have reached the end of the first half of the summer term already! It has been a very busy four weeks and there has been a lot of great work taking place in school. The children in Year 6 have completed their SATs and can be proud of all their efforts in the build up to them and during test week; we will get the results back in school towards the end of the school year. Year 5 also completed tests in SATs week, so they have a bit of an understanding around what to expect next year!

We now get ready for the last half term of the year, starting back on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June; a half term in which we can look forward to transition events, sports activities, school trips and many more before our annual end of year assemblies and awards. Have a great half term break!

## Uniform update - September 2025

We have had some queries from parents in the past week on whether there would be any changes to our school uniform as we move to our new school site in September. We can confirm that there will be no changes to our regulation school uniform for September, which can be purchased from Emlematic on their website at [emblematic.co.uk/longbenton-store/whms/](https://emblematic.co.uk/longbenton-store/whms/) or from their Longbenton Store. We are however making some changes to our PE kit for the next academic year.

## PE Kit - September 2025

From September 2025, our PE kit will change to a maroon and black t-shirt with the school badge on it. This will replace the current white t-shirt. The t-shirt is a modern design and reflects the school colours and the reason for the change is because the it will be much more practical in terms of maintaining its clean look and it will also be able to be worn by children representing the school in sports activities outside of school (we will not supply school team kit for matches/sports events to children from September 2025). A maroon and black mid-layer with school badge will replace the current black sweatshirt. Children joining our school in September 2025 in Year 5 (along with any child joining us in any of the other year groups) will be expected to purchase this kit. Children in our current Year 5, 6 and 7 will be able to continue to use their existing PE kit, but **MUST** purchase the new regulation PE kit when they come to replace it (if they outgrow or lose items). Children representing the school for sports teams or events will require the new regulation PE kit.

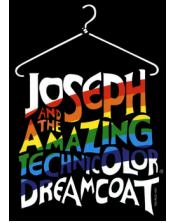


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## Theatre Trip - Extra Places

On the afternoon of June 12th, we are taking 60+ children to the Theatre Royal in Newcastle to see Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. We have 3 spare places; if your child would like to accompany us, please contact Reception. The cost of the trip is £52.50



## Latest New Build Aerial Photo



View of our new schools from behind looking towards The Avenue. On the 'E' shape, WMS is on the left, the hall and dinner hall are in the middle and SVHS on the right. The building at the far right of the photo is the sports block and swimming pool.

## KS2 BAM STEM Sessions

On Wednesday and Thursday we took Year 6 and Year 5 respectively to Seaton Delaval Hall to take part in Science Technology Engineering and Maths sessions organised by Mrs Hall with BAM, the building contractor of our new school. The children took part in sessions including controlling a robotic dog, building a giant tetrahedron, communication skills using LEGO and designing a rooftop garden, as well as being able to enjoy games on the beautiful site. The children engaged really well and you can view the Northumberland County Council promotional video of the day on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nrYtUNaUO0I>.



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## Mental Health Tip

### Get plenty of sunlight!

Sunlight is a great source of vitamin D. Vitamin D is a really important vitamin for your body and your brain. It helps your brains to release chemicals which improve your mood, like endorphins and serotonin. Try to go out in the sun when you can, but make sure you keep your skin and eyes safe. (30 minutes to two hours a day of sunlight is ideal.)



During the winter, some people become depressed because they aren't getting enough sunlight - this is known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

*If you're out in the sun don't forget to apply sun cream!*

Happy half-term!

## Job of the Week

This week's Job of the Week is **Neurologist**. 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
94.5%	94.1%	93.4%	89.6%



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Current best attending class is: 5C (96%)

## LUNCH MENU - WEEK 1

### [School Meals Menu](#)

## 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!



## Lost Property, 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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## 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.



## 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



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## Technology collaboration with our school

We believe that collaboration is key to enriching our students' learning experiences, and we need your help! 🙏

As part of our ongoing commitment to enhancing our computing curriculum, we are seeking to establish contacts within robotics and someone at one of the local universities working within psychology. Your unique insights and connections could make a significant difference in opening doors for our students, enabling them to engage with professionals, partake in workshops, and explore potential career pathways.

If you, or someone you know, has contacts within either of these fields, we would be incredibly grateful if you could reach out to us! Your support could inspire and motivate our future leaders in these fields.

Together, we can create a thriving bridge between education and industry that enriches our students' learning experiences! 🌱

Please reply to the school FAO Mrs Lowden if you can assist, or if you have any questions.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our school community!

## WMS Samba Band

We are always on the lookout for new recruits, especially since we have some live performances coming up in the summer term! Practice is every Wednesday in the school hall until 4:30pm.

A signed note in the diary or a quick email to school is enough to confirm your place!



## 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.



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## Dates for your Diary

- Monday 26th May: Half Term Holiday - school closed
- Monday 2nd June: School opens for Summer 2 half term
- Friday 6th June: KS3 Cricket Festival @ Bates CCC (all day)
- Friday 6th June: KS2 QuadKids Athletics event (am)
- Friday 6th June: Behaviour non-uniform (invitation only)
- Monday 9th June: Year 7 DWP workshops
- Monday 9th June: KS3 Area Athletics @ Monkton Stadium (all day)
- Tuesday 10th June: 5L Learning showcase
- Friday 13th June: 5K Learning showcase



## 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 23/05/25:

5C: Averie S; 5K: Flynn W; 5L: ;  
6E: Sienna A; 6F: Safia A; 6L: Ruby M;  
7M: Jake C; 7Ro: Archie M; 7Ru: Logan C;  
8H: Travis D; 8L: Archie G; 8T: Jessica F;  
Head of School SOTW: Isabelle A (6E)

Week ending 16/05/25:

5C: William S; 5K: Monica W; 5L: Carter F;  
6E: Evie K; 6F: Freya S; 6L: Joshua C;  
7M: Bobbie F; 7Ro: Harry S; 7Ru: Mya J;  
8H: Cora M; 8L: Stephanie V; 8T: Laila P;  
Head of School SOTW: Lauren W (7M)

## 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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