



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 26th September 2025

Open Evening

It is our school Open Evening for parents of Year 4 children wanting to join Whytrig in September 2026 and for parents of children wanting to join our school in other year groups on Monday 29th September; your child may have even been asked to help! We realise that some parents might want to use the evening as an opportunity to see the new school. With this in mind we would ask parents and carers not to do this on Monday as we plan to have a system in place at our first Parent Evening of the year on Monday 13th October. We will share how that will work when we send out the information about that and how to book appointments next week.

Reading Challenge

Our Reading Challenge is going really well, and we are so pleased to see pupils achieving great success and enjoying their books. Thank you for supporting this at home—it's wonderful to see such enthusiasm for reading! Just a reminder that pupils are expected to read for 20 minutes at least four times a week. This should be recorded in the home/school diary. Reading Challenge books should also be brought into school every day so that reading can continue in school, and we also ask that Reading Challenge books are looked after carefully so they can be enjoyed by others too.

Autumn 1 - Dates for your Diary

- Monday 29th September - Year 7 Nissan Visit (details in the MCAS app)
- Monday 29th September - Year 4 Open Evening (5:30 to 7:00pm)
- Wednesday 8th- Friday 10th October - Year 5 Residential Visit
- Monday 13th October - Whole school Parent Evening (4 to 7pm)
- W/C Monday 13th October - Year 6 Bikeability (selected pupils)
- W/C Monday 27th October - Autumn half term
- Monday 3rd November - Start of Autumn 2 ½ term



Safeguarding Tip

The Wake Up Wednesday leaflet this week focused on the issue of youth violence what causes it, where and when it occurs, and how adults can help keep young people safe and informed. View the guide on our X page at <https://x.com/WhytrigMS/status/1970759753539158359>



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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.

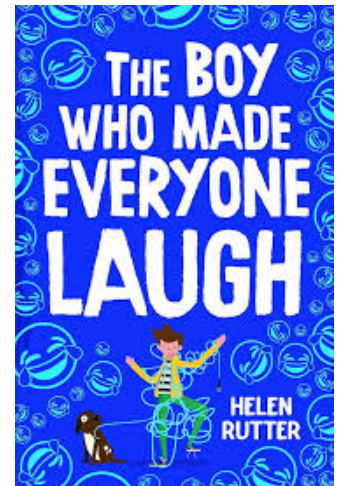
Week ending 26/09/25:

5C: Reuben L; 5K: Sadie W ; 5L: Harper M;
6E: Lewis H; 6F: Monica W ; 6S: Oliver E ;
7H: Rex H; 7L: Wealth O-A; 7W: Oliver P ;
8K: Abi T; 8Ro: Anabelle R ; 8Ru: Logan C ;
Head of School SOTW: Marlee T (5L)

Book of the Week

Every week, we will be highlighting one of our fantastic new Reading Challenge books. This week's book is '**The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh**' by Helen Rutter from our Year 6 challenge.

The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh follows Billy Plimpton, an 11-year-old with a severe stammer who dreams of becoming a stand-up comedian. To navigate his new secondary school, he decides to stay completely silent to hide his speech impediment. His plans go awry when he is forced to participate in a "show-and-tell" and his stammer is discovered by his peers, including the school bully.



If you liked '**The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh**' try ... '**The Boy with the Big Decisions**' available to borrow from Mrs Harland, Mrs Campbell and the school library.



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Job of the Week

This week's Job of the Week is **Quantity Surveyor**. 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

Extra Curricular Clubs in this Half-Term

Tues- Netball- Mrs Harland (Sportshall/yard)

Thurs- Boys' Football- Mr Robinson. Girls' Football (Mrs Kelly) - please bring correct boots for 4G and trainers in case it rains. Shin-pads are also needed.

If you would like to sign your child up to football, please follow this link:

<https://forms.gle/89kGSTqCE8Kg6Rxr8>

Message from the School Immunisation Team

As you will know, all school children in the UK are offered their flu vaccination in school in the autumn or early winter before the flu season typically starts in December or January. This ensures your children have the best protection when flu starts to spread. The flu season usually starts in October, but it is usually worse from December to March. The School Aged Immunisation Team offer the flu vaccination to over 130,000 children in 487 schools. Some schools will be given a date in November or December. The children will still get protection even if they are vaccinated late in the school term.

We change our planner every year, so the same schools are not visited at the end of the flu season.

Please see the link below if you require any further information.

[https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/#:-:text=The%20children%27s%20flu%20vaccine%20is,c hildren%20\(Reception%20to%20Year%2011\)](https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/#:-:text=The%20children%27s%20flu%20vaccine%20is,c hildren%20(Reception%20to%20Year%2011))

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs from 8:00am each morning for children who have been signed up for it. Children should enter the school through the main reception door, where they will be taken to the breakfast club room in room G07, which is very close to the main reception and staff by Mrs Robson and Miss Gales. Children are able to have their breakfasts with a selection of food available.

We do however also provide a free bagel to any child in school on a morning who would like one, once the general population has entered our site from 8:30am!



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Road Safety

The safety of all children attending our school is our main priority. If your child is making their own way to and from school, please reinforce with them at home, as we will in school, to take care on their daily journeys. Astley Road is a very busy road. There are 3 traffic light crossings placed along this road near the school, including the brand new one opposite the new cafe on the corner of Prospect Avenue. Children are expected to use these traffic light crossings to cross the road. They must wait for the lights to turn red and then cross the road after checking it is safe to do so.

We actively encourage children to walk, cycle or scoot to school. Children who travel to school on bikes must ensure that they ride in a safe manner. This includes not riding in the middle of roads and pulling wheelies. When they come on to the school site they must dismount and push their bikes on our site, around the sports block and to the cycle store nearest our school. Pupils must also push their bikes/scooters off the school site at the end of the school day. Children have been told that they should not be riding out of school on the road in the turning circle because of the one way system in place. Please support school and your child's safety by reaffirming these expectations at home.

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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Attendance

Please remember to call in to the Middle School attendance line 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.

To report an absence via telephone call please dial 0191 2371402, select 5 for Whytrig Middle School then select 8 to report a student absence.

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.

If you are submitting a Leave of Absence request please ensure any documentation supporting the exceptional circumstances is handed in at the same time as the Leave of Absence form.



This week's whole school attendance (YTD): 95.2%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
98.7%	94.6%	95.3%	92.7%

Current best attending class is: 5K (99.4%)

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 £2.60. 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.

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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Lockers

Replacement keys are now £4, if your child loses their key they must pay £4 for a replacement.

Year 6 - locker key rental is £5, payable via MCAS.

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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