



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 15th November 2024

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 to wms@svf.org.uk so we can attach these to your child's profile on our system.

This week's whole school attendance: 94.1%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
96.7%	94.6%	93.1%	92.3%

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.

As it begins to get colder, please remember to send your child into school with a coat.

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.

SAVE THE DATES - Christmas Events!

Christmas Fayre - Monday 2nd December 3:30 - 5:00pm

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 11th December

Christmas Jumper Day - Thursday 12th December



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Mental Health Tip of the Week

Why not make your own advent calendar this week, in preparation for the festive season.

For each of the 24 days, plan something uplifting or fun - or remind yourself what you are grateful for!

Here is a link to an example:

<https://ca.pinterest.com/pin/690458186618952818/>

SATS Information Evening - 25th November 2024

A quick notification to let you know that the Y6 staff will be holding an evening for parents on Monday 25th November to let them know about the SATs tests that Y6 children will be taking in May 2025. The session will take place in the Main Hall from 5pm to 6pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

LUNCH MENU - WEEK 3

[School Meals Menu](#)

A huge well done to **James Edgar** and **Ethan Dougherty** who have become our first students to achieve the **Advanced Reader** level on Accelerated Reader!



INFLUENCING
SUPPORTING &
CONNECTING



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Children in Need

Thank you everyone for your *very generous* donations! We will let you know the grand total as soon as we have it. (Please remember the deadline for sponsor money is 22nd November.)

Meanwhile, well done Year 5! You have raised over £35 for Children in Need by filling a jar with coins!



Vacancies

We believe that the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools is a great place to work. Our staff are passionate and committed to working together to support our students to achieve both academically and pastorally.

We want great people working for us, people who believe in our vision and ethos and want to see the best outcomes for the young people in our schools.

We are recruiting for various roles across our schools:-

- Exam Invigilators at Astley Community High School (casual positions to support during exams)
- Learning Support Assistants (Band 2) at Astley Community High
- Learning Support Assistants (Band 4) at Astley Community High
- General Assistant (Catering) at Astley Community High
- Teacher of ICT at Seaton Sluice Middle School (maternity cover)
- Teacher of English at Seaton Sluice Middle School (maternity cover)

If you are interested in any of these roles or know anyone who might be, please visit www.svf.org.uk/vacancies for full information and to apply. Or give HR a call on 0191 2371505.



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 15/11/24:

5C: Jasmine C; 5K: Cooper B; 5L: Freya D;
6E: Sebastian T; 6F: Jude J; 6L: Layla C;
7M: Mason H; 7Ro: Kaycee L; 7Ru: Lewis J;
8H: Caitlin T; 8L: Jay M; 8T: Maggie R;
Head of School SOTW: Jessica K (7Ro)

Week ending 8/11/24:

5C: Leland F; 5K: Billy P; 5L: Bobby B;
6E: Oliver P; 6F: Safia A; 6L: Thomas P; JK
7M: Cydney L; 7Ro: TJ A-C; 7Ru: Cheyenne P;
8H: Darcey B; 8L: Charlie D; 8T: Eva G;
Head of School SOTW: Finley S (6F)



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



A Book Fair is coming to Whytrig! Tuesday 19th - 26th November

Don't forget that next week is our Book Fair!

Students will have time during afternoon registration to browse the amazing books on offer from just £2.99! Students will be given wish lists to write down books they see in the fair which they can then take home to parents and order online.

After making payment online you will receive a reference code and must fill this in on the wish list, as well as which book/books were paid for and the total order amount. Please note, online payments must be completed and wish lists returned to our school reception by Monday 25th November.

Buying the best and newest books from our fair will earn us points for our school which we can use to add brand new books for our school library and classrooms. Parents are welcome to come and view the books on offer with their children, which will be on show under our balcony by the entrance to reception.

You can also Book Fair Gift Vouchers in advance and print them off for your child to bring in. This method is quick and easy and secure, avoiding having to carry cash.

Browse the books that will be on offer here: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/ro>

Buy gift vouchers here: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers>



Hope to see you there!



INFLUENCING
SUPPORTING &
CONNECTING



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Whytrig Samba Band - Whamba!

We were delighted to host visitors from Blyth Valley Samba Band at our club this week. They inspired us and invigorated us - and also complimented us on what lovely children we have! There were some fabulous Latin rhythms resonating through the school! Come and join us, every Wednesday until 4:30pm.



Northumberland Youth Elections

YOUTH ELECTION 2025

Northumberland County Council

Nominate yourself here before 13th Dec

YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN NORTHUMBERLAND

What issues are you passionate about?

Do you want to be part of Youth Cabinet or Youth Parliament?

Are you aged between 11-18?

northumberland youth parliament

YOUTHCABINET NORTHUMBERLAND

Science Ambassadors

Don't forget to check out the Google Classroom - **"Do Try This at Home!"** - where we will post our weekly fun activity instead. The classroom code is: n6p7wuj so please make sure your children join! This week's experiment will be perfect if you want to keep your letter to Santa a secret!



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Times Table Rock Stars

Times tables make lots of different areas of Maths easier, so it is so useful to be confident in them. Please encourage children to use TTRS at home, little and often is great!

Free School Meals - Eligibility

If you feel you may be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) it is important that you apply immediately as FSM eligibility means other resources may be available to the school and your child including pupil premium. Please consider an eligibility check for FSM. Check the website below for the criteria.

[Northumberland County Council - School meals](#)

School Sports Events & Clubs

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL FOOTBALL SESSIONS ARE INDOORS. PUPILS TO BRING TRAINERS ONLY.

Mon- Y6 swimming

Tues- KS3 Boys swimming

Tues- Netball

Alternate Tuesdays- Bike Club (all years)

Wed- KS3 Girls swimming

Wed- KS2 boys football

Thurs- Girls football

Fri- KS3 Boys football

Fixtures & Results

Tues 19th- Y7 Boys 7-a-side at CLV 4-5pm

Wed 20th- Y8 Boys Futsal at Ponteland 2:30-4:15pm

A.I.M High Maths Day

Last Wednesday, nine pupils from Year 5 and 6 attended an A.I.M. High maths day at New York Primary School. A.I.M. stands for 'achieve, inspire and master', and they certainly did that. We worked with a maths expert to delve deeper into puzzles and challenges. A great time was had by all.



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School



Polite reminder: requesting meetings/phone calls:

Should you wish to meet with a member of staff or to speak to someone during the school day, please contact Reception in the first instance to make an appointment.

**Behaviour Towards Staff
by Parents, Carers and Visitors:
Expectations and Procedures**

Acceptable Communication by Telephone

- Be civil in your communication; do not become frustrated or rude to our Reception Staff
- Be respectful in the tone and language you use; do not raise your voice or use aggressive or threatening language
- Staff will get back in touch with you as soon as they can
- Staff will try to return your call within 24 hours

Expectations of Parents, Carers and Visitors to the SVF

- We will always listen to parents and seek to address things as quickly as possible
- However, abusive, threatening or aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated

Acceptable Communication by Email

- Address each member of staff respectfully
- Do not use bold text or capitalisation to emphasise concerns
- Do not expect an instant response
- Staff will respond as soon as they can
- Staff are not expected to respond to emails outside of working hours which are 8.30am to 4.30pm
- If a member of staff does respond outside of the above hours, it is their choice to do so
- We advise emails are not sent late at night or early in the morning
- Emails sent at weekends or during school holidays will not be responded to until the next working day

Definitions of Unacceptable Behaviour

- Shouting and/or swearing
- Aggressive emails in tone and language
- Constant emails and/or phone calls which amount to a threat, harassment and intimidation
- Inappropriate electronic activity on social media
- Any form of physical violence or intimidation
- The use of rude or aggressive hand gestures
- Allegations that turn out to be vexatious or malicious
- Discussing your concerns/ frustrations with your child in an inappropriate manner; this undermines the school and its staff

www.svf.org.uk

Wraparound Childcare

As you may be aware, we have been trying to identify a third party provider to deliver an after school provision from 3:30pm each day. We have approached several organisations who have all concluded that the level of interest from parents doesn't make it viable for them to do this. We would therefore like to apologise to anyone who might have been considering this for their child. We will send out a questionnaire each term and if more families indicate they are interested, this is something we might be able to offer in future. Can we take this opportunity to remind you that our breakfast club is however open from 8:00am every morning during term time, at a cost of £2 per session. This cost includes breakfast for your child e.g. bagels, toast etc. The breakfast club is run by the school and staffed by existing members of staff, and can be booked using MCAS, under the 'Wraparound Care' section of the app.

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.



Proud to be a
Schools North East
Partner School

