



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

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Executive Headteacher: John Barnes
Head of School: Jonathan Souter

Notices - Week Beginning 6th November 2023

Performance Club

Please complete the form below if your child would like to attend Performance Club which will start on Monday 13th November:

<https://forms.gle/9uMXRhSfLPCqyEQq8>

Children in Need

Please try to find some sponsors for our "Sit on the Spot and Read a Lot" challenge on Friday 17th November. If you have lost your sponsor form, see Mrs Mac.

Don't forget: for a small donation, you can come to Whytrig dressed in *spotacular* outfits on that day too!

Break & Lunch Times

The grassed areas of the ground are now out of bounds due to the condition of the grass/mud. Children must not go on them because of the dirt it brings into school and also the state some of their uniforms get into. This means the trim trail and exercise equipment should not be used now until further notice.

We will be starting our 'no ball Friday' after half term. We will remind pupils in the first assembly.

Travelling by Bike

As the dark nights approach, can we please take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that if their child comes to school on a bike, not only should it be roadworthy but have reflectors on it; it is advisable that bikes also have working lights for the dark nights. Children should also wear some reflective clothing or additions to make them easily visible to others, especially motorists.

Read more about bike safety here: [halfords-bike-safety](https://www.halfords.co.uk/bike-safety)



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Outer Clothing

As the weather gets colder as we head into winter, please ensure your child comes to school wearing a suitable coat to keep them warm.

E-Safety Social Media Awareness

Children can often place themselves at risk when using social media and parents should frequently monitor their activity.

- Does your child know who they are talking to online?
- Do **you** know who your child is talking to online?

It has been brought to our attention recently that some older children have been creating and using Omegle accounts. Omegle is not an app that children should use because of the high risks to safety, privacy and well-being. Adult predators can take advantage of the anonymity the platform offers and then engage in conversations with children, exposing them to inappropriate content and groom them. For more information about Omegle aimed at parents, please visit the following page on Childnet:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/what-is-omegle-key-things-parents-and-carers-need-to-know/>

We thank you for your support with this.

Ready, Respectful, Safe

This year the Federation has reviewed the expectations for pupils in all of our schools and there are three main elements of everyone when they attend schools in our Federation. They are to be ready, respectful and safe.

For our school this means:

Ready-being ready and on time for school and each lesson and prepared for learning.
Respectful-showing respect to all members of the school community, self and environment.
Safe-being safe in the community, online, during lessons and around school.

With this in mind, we want to remind pupils that to be 'ready' means to have their PE kit when they need it. We will no longer call home if a pupil forgets their PE kit. This will grow their resilience and preparedness for the world after school.

Uniform

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child wears the correct uniform for school. Can we please remind parents and carers that children should not wear trainers for school but black plain flat shoes or or leather look trainers that can be polished (but with no obvious branding). Our regulation uniform is detailed on page 24 of your child's planner.



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Mobile Phones

We would like to remind parents and carers that children are not permitted to use their mobile phones on our site. We do allow children to bring phones to school but they must be switched off when entering our site in the morning, stored securely in their lockers/teacher drawer through the day and not switched back on again until off our site at the end of the day. The consequence for children who use their phones on site without permission is a day in isolation. Please reinforce this expectation at home with your child; children who continually choose to ignore this school rule will not be permitted to bring their phones into school.

Appearance

We would like to remind parents and carers that eyebrow tattooing/microblading, false lashes, acrylic/gel nails and fake tan are not permitted in school. We therefore politely request that you do not allow your child to have these treatments. Children who attend our school and do not follow the uniform/appearance guidelines will be subject to the consequences set out in the behaviour policy. Thank you for your continued support in this matter: it allows us to maintain our high standards and ensure children's appearance is appropriate for the age range of our middle school.

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

Consent for Photographs to be used

We've updated the way you can give consent for your child to appear in photographs around the school, the federation and local press. Please login to My Child at School and look for 'Parental Consent'. If you use the web browser, this will be a check box (yes / no), if you use the App it will be a toggle button (grey means no consent).

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



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