

# WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSDROP

Week Ending 8th 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 so we can attach these to your child's profile on our system.

**This week's whole school attendance: 95.0%**

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
97.1%	95.7%	93.3%	93.8%

## 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.



### Children in Need - 15th November

We will be holding a "Get Up and Dance"-athon to raise money for Pudsey. Years 6,7 and 8 will have brought home a sponsorship form. Year 5 are bringing in pennies for Pudsey. (Hard copy information letters have been given to each child.)  
*This will also be a non-uniform day.*



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## Mental Health Tip of the Week

Connecting with others is really important for our mental health.

Why not pick up the phone and call someone you haven't spoken to in a while - or even write them a postcard or letter!

It will give you both a boost of those happy hormones!

## Christmas Fair - Save the Date!

Whytrig's legendary Christmas Fair will be held on Monday 2nd December from 3:45pm - 5:00pm

## 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 is meant to last 5pm to 6pm and will be in the Main Hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

## LUNCH MENU - WEEK 2

[School Meals Menu](#)

## Parents Support Parents Event - Bates Cottages Cricket Club



Parents and Carers are invited to an informal and local digital awareness session

**Date: 13th  
November 2024**

**From 6pm**

At The Pavillion, Bates Cottages, Cricket Club  
Tranwell Drive, Seaton Delaval, NE25 OHU

Free onsite and street parking available



INFLUENCING  
SUPPORTING &  
CONNECTING



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

Do you want the best new children's books? They're coming to our school soon!

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

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.

You can also Book Fair Gift Vouchers in advance and print them off for their 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>



## Northumberland Youth Elections

A poster for the Northumberland Youth Election 2025. The background is blue and green with diagonal stripes. The text 'YOUTH ELECTION 2025' is written in large, bold, white letters. Below it, it says 'Nominate yourself here before 13th Dec'. The Northumberland County Council logo is in the top right. In the center, it says 'YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN NORTHUMBERLAND'. A QR code is on the right. At the bottom left, there is a logo for 'northumberland youth parliament' and a list of questions: 'What issues are you passionate about?', 'Do you want to be part of Youth Cabinet or Youth Parliament?', and 'Are you aged between 11-18?'. At the bottom right, there is a logo for 'YOUTHCABINET NORTHUMBERLAND'.



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## 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 light up these gloomy nights!

## 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

Y6 Boys 7-a-side Football- Monday 11th Nov at Ponteland HS 4-5pm

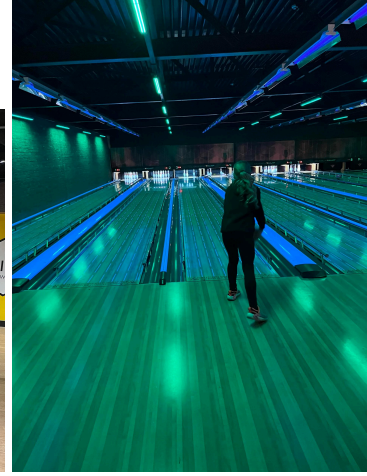


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## KS2 Bowling Competition




On Tuesday a group of KS2 students took part in a ten-pin bowling Panathlon Challenge! The students did well and as a team came fourth! Well done everyone who took part!

Our KS3 pupils took part in their ten-pin bowling Panathlon Challenge the following day, with even better success, finishing a fantastic 2nd with 517 points. Special mention to our centurion Bobby O'Brien with a great score of 107.

### 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](http://www.svf.org.uk)

## 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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