



WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

Elsdon Avenue, Seaton Delaval, Northumberland NE25 0BP

Tel: 0191 2371402 Fax: 0191 2371830

Email: admin@whytrig.northumberland.sch.uk

Website: www.svf.org.uk

Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

Head of School: Jonathan Souter

14 July 2020

Dear Parent or Carer

This has not been the year we expected it to be! Yesterday we would have been enjoying our annual reward visit to the beach and the irony was not lost on us that it would have been a lovely day weather wise! Of course we would have also been enjoying all the end of year visits that take place for each year group this week. These are all events that are enjoyed annually by both pupils and staff, where they are able to spend time together outside of the constraints of the classroom and lessons; it really is so strange to be ending the school year like this!

Friday 17th July is the last day of the academic year. School will close for those who are in it at 12:30pm, as in previous years. Please note staff will not be setting any work in Google Classroom for Friday 17th July.

At the end of an academic year, we say goodbye to our oldest pupils, who are ready to start High School in September. Under normal circumstances, we would have gathered as a school to celebrate the achievements of our pupils over the last year, especially our Year 8 pupils on their last day at Whytrig. As we have said in past communications, our current Year 8 pupils are a great group of children and have been a delight to have in our school over the last four years. Many of them have attended our school yesterday and today for contact visits, as we have done with other year groups and it has been really great to see them. We will ensure that they get the 'leavers assembly' that they so rightly deserve, as soon as we can in the next academic year. However, for now, we would like to wish them all and their families every future success and happiness.

Last week in school, we enjoyed contact visits with our Year 7 pupils who were able to come into school. Mrs Campbell and a virtual Mrs Lawton really enjoyed the catch up and are looking forward to them taking up the Year 8 reigns of responsibility when we return in September. We know that they will do an excellent job! The form classes for September are now all finalised ready for the new academic year and are as follows:

- 5B Miss C Baker.**
- 5C Mrs E Chadwick.**
- 5M Mrs D McClellan (Year 5 Leader).**
- 6E Mr Edwards (Year 6 Leader); Mrs Chadwick's (5C) class from this year move into 6E.**
- 6L Mrs Linney; Mrs McClellan's (5M) class from this year move into 6L.**
- 7L Mrs Lowden; Miss Thompson's (6T) class from this year move into 7L.**
- 7Ro Mr Robinson; Mrs Linney's (6L) class from this year move into 7Ro**
- 7Ru Miss Rutter; Mr Edwards' (6E) class from this year move into 7Ru**
- 8C Mrs Campbell (no change of form teacher).**
- 8L Mrs Lawton (no change of form teacher).**

Miss Thompson (SENDCo) and Mrs Kerridge will also support the form classes next year on different days of the week.

Mr Barnes wrote to all parents last week to share that we are now planning how school will operate when we return in September. Please note the following dates:

Monday 31st August is a bank holiday.

Tuesday 1st September is a Teacher Training Day.

It is expected that all pupils return to school in September. We can share at this stage our provisional plans for the first week back, however we **will be writing to you on Tuesday 18th August**, as will the other schools in the Federation with their parents/carers, with the finer details of what this will look like for everyone.

Wednesday 2nd September – New intake Year 5 pupils will have a full day in school. All other year groups have a teacher/pupil/parent appointment in preparation for the new academic year.

Thursday 3rd September – Normal school day with staggered start times. Details to follow on Tuesday 18th August.

I would kindly ask parents and carers to ensure that they do carefully read the information that we send out on **Tuesday 18th August**. It is important that all parents/carers and pupils have an understanding of how school will look and operate in September and our expectations for everyone, in order to keep everyone healthy and safe. If you do not receive the communication on **Tuesday 18th August**, please check email communications from school are going to the correct folder. If the message has not been received, please contact school so that we can resend it.

Could I also remind parents/carers that pupils are expected to return in September smartly dressed in the correct school uniform, so please ensure this occurs. In particular, could I reinforce that all students must wear formal black shoes as part of their uniform. Uniform is now ordered directly via Emblematic, our chosen supplier and details of the uniform can be found on our website at <https://www.svf.org.uk/whytrig-middle-school/school-life/uniform>. You can also visit Whytrig page on the Emblematic website directly by clicking on <https://emblematic.co.uk/longbenton-store/whms/>.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents, carers and friends of the school for their over-whelming support throughout this year, especially during the second half of it. We have very much appreciated all the kind messages and thoughts that have been shared with us. We have faced and overcome many challenges, which we could never have imagined at this time last year, but I feel we will emerge stronger as a school from this difficult period. All of this would not have been possible without the dedicated team of staff in school to support the children in and out of their learning; we thank them for all their hard work!

Finally, we hope you all have a fantastic summer holiday and wish you all the very best for the weeks ahead! We really do look forward to seeing everyone again in September.

Yours faithfully

Mr J K Souter
Head of School