



Whytrig Newsletter

Autumn @whytrig MS

Autumn Term 2020

Friday 23 October
Non Uniform Event
End of half term

Monday 2 November
Start of half term

Wednesday 11 November
Remembrance Day

Friday 13 November
Children In Need

Friday 18 December
End of Autumn Term
(School closes at 1pm)

Spring Term 2021 5 January to 26 March

Monday 4 January
Teacher Day

Tuesday 5 January 2021
Start of Spring Term

Friday 12 February
End of half term

Monday 22 February
Start of half term

Friday 26 March
End of Spring Term

Summer Term 2021 13 April to 16 July

Monday 12 April
Teacher Day

Tuesday 13 April 2021
Start of Summer Term

Monday 3 May
Bank Holiday

KS2 SATs Week 2021 10 to 13 May

Friday 28 May
End of half term

Monday 7 June
Start of half term

Friday 16 July
End of Summer Term

Elsdon Avenue
Seaton Delaval
Northumberland
NE25 0BP
Phone: 0191 237 1402
Fax: 0191 237 1830

Baroness Floella Benjamin - Virtual Visit



In recognition of Black History Month, Year 5 have been learning about immigration to Britain and the Windrush generation. Two weeks ago they loved hearing Baroness Floella Benjamin's story about growing up in Trinidad and her journey to England in 1960, as a 10 year old girl. They were shocked to hear about the way her and her family were treated. Despite the difficult start and bullying she suffered at school, Floella grew up to have a successful career in TV and on the west end stage, as well as becoming an accomplished author. On Wednesday 7th October, the children were treated to a virtual author visit as they listened to more of her story via Zoom and then discussed the messages she gave. When she was growing up, her mother's advice was, "Go to school. Education is your passport to life." Floella never forgot this advice and even when things were difficult, she remembered another thing her mother said: "Every disappointment is an appointment with something better."

Floella told the children about the four Cs which have guided her through life:

Consideration – to have empathy, understanding and respect for other people.

Contentment – be happy with what you have and don't be jealous of other people.

Confidence – have the confidence to be who you are.

Courage – if you see someone doing something wrong, say so, and have the courage to change the world.

On Friday, we received signed copies of her book, Coming to England which are really wonderful – we can't wait to share them with our children in school!

Merit Awards

Well done to Roshfen Mohammed, Mohamed Mostafa, Ella Peace, Ben Pilkington, Jake Knox, Emanii Adam, Lucas Buchanan, Matthew Burdess, Katie Buxton, Sophia Corbett, Max Dennis, Harry Eaton, Millie Eaton, Alfie Ferguson, Zak Friend, Nathan Guiney, Annalise Harvey, Jessica Hollyman, Bethany Hutchinson, Ethan Hutchinson, Lewis Little, Isabella Pendlington, Robbie Read, Lennox Sixsmith, Libby Stewart, Freddie Templeton, Jacob Thomas, Amelia Brotherick, Charlie Robinson, Kate Turner, Alfie Coats, Maryam Waheed, Nikola Flisikowska, Hallie Fletcher, Findley Belshaw, JJ Maloney, Isabel Barry, Hannah French, Alfie Henderson, Harry Moore, Joseph Henderson, Liam Riches, Joe Turner, Casey Sixsmith, Lyla Burr, Josh Stewart, Amy Fitzgerald, Maddison Lowery, Cory Foster, Harry Lambert, Marcy Taylor, Lydia Farrell, Lexi Dytham, Sophie Ward, Ryan Bland, Ben Neasham, Liam French, Lily Coats and Courtney Barnes.

Stars Of The Week

Each week a 'Star of The Week' is nominated in each form class. They are each presented with a certificate in form class to celebrate their achievement. Unfortunately we are currently unable to get them all together to have hot chocolate and a biscuit with the Head of School, so they will each receive a bar of chocolate with their certificate.

Week ending 9/10/20

5B: Ethan Hutchinson; 5C: Harry Lambert;

6E: Heidi Hillman; 6L: Isabel Barry;

7L: Alesha Slater; 7Ro: Gwen Peddie;

7Ru: Macy Pyle;

8C: Mary Donaldson; 8L: Izzy Buchanan;

E: Admin@whytrig.northumberland.sch.uk W: www.svf.org.uk T: @whytrigms

Thursday, 15 October 2020



World Mental Health Day

On Friday 9th October we supported World Mental Health Day by running an activity in each one of our lessons based on the 5 ways to wellbeing. Evidence suggests that by taking these 5 steps, we can improve our mental health and well-being. We wanted our children to have the opportunity to try these 5 things in order to help them feel more positive and so they know what to do to get the most out of life, particularly in the difficult times we are currently living in. The 5 steps are:

- Connect with other people
- Be physically active
- Learn new skills
- Give to others
- Pay attention to the present moment (mindfulness)

In each lesson, the first ten minutes was spent focusing on one of these so that over the course of the day all of our pupils had an experience of each one. It was such a positive day on so many levels, that we are going to try to build in similar days throughout the academic year so we can all maintain our focus on the things we should be doing to keep our minds healthy too.

School Morning Starts

We still have a large number of children who are arriving at school well in advance of their start times. We would again like to remind parents and carers of the times their children should be arriving at school on a morning, in order to prevent bubble mixing and congestion at our entrances.

Year 5 should arrive at school through our main gate on Elsdon Avenue for 8:35am. They will be collected from the yard at 8:40am by staff.

Year 6 should arrive at school through our main gate on Elsdon Avenue for 8:45am. They will be collected from the yard at 8:50am by staff.

Year 7 should enter the site from the gate access at the far end of our yard on the corner of Whitfield Road and Swinburn Road for 8:35am. They will be collected from the yard at 8:40am by staff.

Year 8 should enter the site from the gate access at the far end of our yard on the corner of Whitfield Road and Swinburn Road for 8:45am. They will be collected from the yard at 8:50am by staff.

Could we respectfully ask parents who bring their children to school by car to park away from the school and encourage their child(ren) to walk the last part of the journey to school. By adopting a '**park and stride**' approach we will not only support our school aspiration of sustainable travel to school but we will also contribute to the 'be physically active' way to mental wellbeing and the natural benefits of a healthier lifestyle as well as reducing congestion on the neighbouring roads. We would ask parents of Key Stage 3 children to pay extra consideration to this and the impact of dropping children off on Whitfield Road or Swinburn Road on those neighbouring the school, whilst the covid morning measures are in place. We thank you for your continue support around this.

Non Uniform Day – 23rd October

We would like to remind parents and children that we are holding a Halloween themed non-uniform day on the last day of this half term, in order to support our Accelerated Reader programme in school. However on this occasion, instead of children paying to wear non-uniform as a fund raiser, we are asking for them to donate at least one paperback book to the school's collection of reading resources, in order to give our pupils more choices when they engage with their daily reading. If books could be brought to school on the last day of term, we will be able to allow the recommended quarantine period of 72 hours (over the half term holiday) before we prepare them for the Accelerated Reader selections in each class.

