



# WHYTRIG MIDDLE SCHOOL

One of the Seaton Valley Federation of Schools

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**Executive Headteacher:** John Barnes  
**Head of School:** Jonathan Souter

17<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Dear Parent or Carer

## End of Summer Term 2024

As we approach the end of yet another busy half term and school year, we kicked off the last week yesterday with our annual reward trip for merit winners to the beach at Seaton Sluice. We were fortunate to finally have some good weather for the trip and as always, it was quite a challenge for the lady in the ice cream van serving over 270 pupils! We have other trips taking place this week in all year groups as we recognise everyone's hard work and effort this year before bringing the year to an end with our leavers assembly on Friday morning, where we will present awards to pupils in Year 8. Please note that children should bring a packed lunch in to school on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July as the school canteen will not be open (packed lunches will be provided to children who receive free school meals) and school closes at the earlier time of 1:00pm.

### Transition week

Last week we welcomed Year 4 pupils in to our school for their transition days whilst our Year 8 pupils moved across to the High School at the same time. The days were very successful and it was lovely to meet our new intake. On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July, we also welcomed pupils who will be joining Whytrig in other year groups in September and children across all of our year groups spent the afternoon in their new form classes with next year's form teachers. It is always great to see all the children take up their new year group positions in the hall when we have our assembly at the end of the day! Children moving from the current Year 5 to Year 6 and the current Year 6 to Year 7 will have new form teachers in September, whereas the Year 7 classes will stay the same and will keep their current form teachers as they move into Year 8. We are also very happy to confirm a new appointment to our school team for September. We welcome Miss Foster to Whytrig, who will have form responsibility in Year 6 next year. Our pastoral team next year will be:

### Year 5

5C - Mrs Chadwick (Year Group Leader); 5K - Mrs Kelly; 5L - Mrs Lowden

### Year 6

6E - Mr Edwards (Year Group Leader); 6F - Miss Foster; 6L - Mrs Linney

### Year 7

7Ru - Miss Rutter (Key Stage 3 Leader); 7M - Mrs McClellan; 7Ro - Mr Robinson

### Year 8

8H - Mrs Harland; 8L - Mrs Lawton; 8T - Miss Thompson



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If you have any queries or concerns, please contact your child's current form teacher in the first instance.

### Looking ahead

It has been another demanding year where our children have been able to experience the full breadth of our curriculum and the opportunities that go with it. Our children have attended day trips, we have had visitors in school, a careers fair, sports days, learning showcases and many other things that add value this year. Recently, we enjoyed taking forty-five children to France to experience a foreign country and culture; only this week we have had external providers doing something different when working with our children through sport. More often than not, there is something happening outside of the usual curriculum and that is only possible because of our dedicated staff and the engagement of our children, whom we thank.

It is of course with sadness that we say goodbye to our oldest pupils at the end of an academic year. They are preparing to start the next part of their academic journey at High School in September. Tradition has it at Whytrig, that we celebrate their achievements over this and the last four years in our Year 8 leavers assembly on Friday. It will be a fitting way to mark the end of their time at Whytrig. They have been a really good year group and we would like to wish them all, and their families, every future success and happiness. We will also celebrate success in our other year groups over the course of this week in mini assemblies; all award winners will be shared in our final newsletter of the year, which will be sent out on Friday.

We are now looking forward to September and the opportunities a new school year will bring. For some children, they will look to maintain the progress from this year; for some they will be able to enjoy a fresh start and 'reset' after the summer break.

Please note, **school is closed to pupils on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September for training days.**

**School reopens for all pupils on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.**

We will be having a staggered start on the first day of term. **Our new Year 5 intake should come into school for 8:45am**, where they will be met by their form teachers on the yard. This will allow them time to settle into school before everyone else arrives. **Years 6,7 and 8 should come into school for 9:30am**, where they will be greeted by their form teachers and taken into school. We are looking forward to a good start to 2024-25.

### **Uniform, Hairstyles and Jewellery**

The Federation Policy regarding regulation uniform can be found on the School website at [School Uniform | Seaton Valley Federation \(svf.org.uk\)](#). I would ask parents and carers to read over this document in order for pupils to return in September smartly dressed in the correct school uniform and that they meet our expectations on hairstyles and jewellery. In particular we would like to reinforce that all pupils must wear formal black shoes as part of their uniform. School uniform can be ordered directly from Emblematic, our chosen supplier and a link to their website is also on the Federation website.

Finally, I would again like to thank parents, carers and friends of the school for their continued support throughout this year. We have very much appreciated all the kind words and messages that have been shared with us throughout the year. We would also like to thank all of our pupils who have coped with the challenges and demands of the year so well; they have been a credit to themselves and you. Of course, this is not possible without the hard work of the team of staff in school and on this site who support them in and out of their learning; we thank them for all their hard work!



Finally, we hope you all have a fantastic summer holiday whatever it is you have planned and that you stay healthy and safe. See you all again in September!

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Souter  
Head of School

