



# Whytrig Newsletter

## Autumn Term 2017

13 – 17 November  
Ant-Bullying Week

Monday, 13 November  
Odd Socks Day

Tuesday, 14 November  
Year 5 Cycling Session

Wednesday, 15 November  
Listening Bus in School

Thursday, 16 November  
Year 5 Trip – Victoria Tunnel  
U12 Boys Football at Walker

Friday, 17 November  
Year 5 Bike Assessment  
Thunder In The Valley

20 – 24 November  
Road Safety Week 2017

Thursday, 30 November  
Year 5 Cycle Assessment

Friday, 8 December  
Year 5 Bike Ride

Thursday, 14 December  
Christmas Show

Tuesday, 19 December  
Year 6 Safetyworks Trip

Friday, 22 December – 2pm  
End of Autumn Term

Monday, 8 January 2018  
Training Day

9 January to 29 March 2018  
SPRING TERM

Week Commencing 5 March  
Year 5 Bikeability

Monday, 16 April 2018  
Training Day

17 April to 20 July 2018  
SUMMER TERM

Monday, 7 May 2018  
May Bank Holiday

14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
END OF KS2 TESTS (SATs)

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## Staying Safe @whytrig MS

### Road Safety Week 2017

This week in school we are again taking part in **UK Road Safety Week**, coordinated by Brake, the road safety charity. The children will be learning about road safety and the importance of drivers keeping their *Speed Down to Save Lives*. In the UK speeding is still a major problem. It causes needless crashes, untold suffering and stops people living safe and healthy lives. Simply put, it is a driver's speed that will determine whether they can stop in time and, if they can't stop, how hard they will hit. **Research has shown that children under the age of 15 can't judge the speed of approaching vehicles travelling at over 20mph. They may think it's safe to cross when it's not.**

**At school:** We will discuss road safety with the children, in assembly time and in class. We will talk about using roads safely by following the Green Cross Code; about the dangers of fast traffic; and about how walking and cycling is good for our health and the environment.

**At home:** Please help us make local roads safer by reinforcing the same clear messages at home. In particular, we ask you to:

- cross roads safely with your child and teach them the Green Cross Code.
- make sure your children hold an adult's hand around roads until they are at least eight.
- help your child learn about safe walking/cycling routes in the area, especially any traffic-free paths or quiet roads with slow traffic and good pavements.
- if you drive, protect children (and adults) by slowing down and going 20mph or below around homes, schools and shops.

### Thunder In The Valley

We saw an absolutely amazing effort by our Key Stage 2 pupils on Friday night at Sport Central, Newcastle, as they competed in the Thunder In The Valley basketball competition. Teams competed in three mini leagues, with the winners of each and the best runner up playing in the semi-finals. This all took place before the Newcastle Eagle game, with the Thunder In The Valley final taking place at half time. As the defending champions, the pressure was on us, but our children competed superbly. Whytrig1 played 5, winning 4 and lost 1 to qualify as the highest placed runner up; Whytrig 2 played 5, winning 4 and drawing 1 to qualify as the winner of their group. Unfortunately, they were drawn against each other in the semi-final, with Whytrig 1 winning on a penalty shot after the score was tied 0-0 at the end of full time. At the Newcastle Eagle game half time interval, on the full court in front of all the spectators, Whytrig 1 played Northburn PS for the trophy, winning by one basket to nil. A great conclusion to a superb evening of basketball, with our children showing that they were great ambassadors for our school, even without such a fantastic result!

### Children In Need

On Friday we supported Children In Need and raised a superb £212. Thank you for all your donations and for those who went the extra mile to dress up for the day.

### Year 5 Trip To The Victoria Tunnel



What a fantastic trip to the Victoria Tunnel for Year 5 last week! It was absolutely fascinating to find out how and why the tunnel was built and how it was used as an air raid shelter in World War Two. It was brought to life by two fabulous guides who told us all sorts of wonderful tales; a particular favourite being the gory story of a runaway coal wagon and Victorian gentlemen being crushed to death...! We were also privileged to spend some time with Basil, who had personal experience of using the air raid shelter in 1939. He taught us about pounds, shillings and pence; told us about rationing; prepared us with a gas mask drill and even produced his own Identity Card. Genuine living history! Before we came home, we had time to follow 'Lizzie Dowson's Trail' around Ouseburn, finding clues from the past in the buildings and along the river. (Who knew there was a footpath made from gravestones by the old Ouseburn School?) We even explored St Ann's churchyard and made several interesting discoveries, not least that a man named Thomas Beanland Henzell is buried there! A jam-packed, fun-filled day of learning that has left us with lots of great memories!

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Monday, 20 November 2017

## Stars Of The Week – Well Done!

Our Stars of the Week for last week were:

5L	Hannah Wardle	5M	Aditi Sarkar
6E	Billy Hutchinson	6L	Chloe Bell
7C	Bethan King	7L	Callum Murray
8Ro	Neve Rothwell	8Ru	Harry Robson

Our Stars of the Week for this week are:

5L	Harry Phillips	5M	Joshua Dinsdale
6E	Hannah Healer	6L	Andie Turnbull
7C	Nate Langlands	7L	Tristan Huckins
8Ro	Lana Watson	8Ru	Jodie Thompson

## Gold Pupils

We have more Gold Pupils to announce this week, who have achieved their first 25 merits this year. A very big well done to Luis Henderson, Summer Siddell, Harrison Ashburn, Dom Aryal, Alfie Charlton, Tristan Huckins, Tristan Jenkins, Cameron Hutchinson, Abi French, Dominic Dickinson, Carl Armstrong and Violet Edwards.

## Excellent Pupils

We now also have children who have earned 50 merits in this term. Well done to Hasan Gulbey, Coral Oldham, Zak Wisdom, Matthew Hughes, Lewis Dawson, Harry Phillips, Charlotte Scott, Olivia Graham, Olivia Hopper, Cameron Steele-Munro, Carly Pears, Abi French, Connor Thompson, Callum Murray, Jamie Hodgson, Chloe Hudson, John Paul Watson, Osion Duff, Joshua Duff and Madeline Tagger.

## Superstar Pupils

Our 75 merits Superstars this week are Kate Vural, Andrew Fountain, Caitlin Gaiger, Liam French, Lara Boxill, Harry Phillips, Michael Spratt, Olivia Graham, Olivia Hopper, Devon Small, Cameron Steele-Munro, Lewis Dixon, Anna Gregg, Keagan Jordan, Hannah Wardle, Koby Brown, Isabelle Buchanan, Hasan Gulbey, Leah Campbell, Millie Lord, Leah Henderson, Madeline Tagger, Lewis Dawson and Holly Lord. Well done to all of them.

## Owl Award

We also got our first pupil to reach the 100 merit mark for this term this week. A massive well done to Aimee Coatsworth in Year 6! She has also been joined by Kim Hutchinson, Abigail Storey, Ryan Read, Jasmine Sparkes, Luke Stewart, JJ Maloney and Reiss Mason. A fantastic achievement by all!

## School Clubs

Dodgeball Club now runs on a Friday from 3:30 to 4:30pm. Come along if you are interested!

## Schoolgateway

We are constantly looking for ways to improve our communication with you and keep everyone up-to-date and well informed. From January 2018 we are implementing School Gateway, an electronic school communication system, across all three Seaton Valley Federation schools. This will enable you to receive all your information from school quickly and reliably. We can send letters by email to your inbox and short messages directly to your mobile phone and, if necessary, you can reply the same way too! If you have an Apple or Android mobile phone this will be via a **free** app, otherwise this will be via text message. You will also be able to make payments via Instant Bank Transfer, through the app or online, as well as top-up and view lunch account balances.

## You will

- Receive letters more reliably and promptly.
- See letters in your inbox like any other email.
- Get a short text or app message if we need to contact you urgently.
- Still get paper letters if you don't have email.
- See your child's timetable for the current week.
- Not need to rely on your child for delivery.
- Be able to reply by email or text.
- Send us any reasons for absence via app, text or email.
- Top-up your son/daughter's lunch account quickly and easily, as well as monitor their spending.

## We can

- Send more letters and information regarding your child/ren.
- Save money on admin time, printing and paper.
- Contact you urgently when necessary.

The school will use the email address and mobile number that we hold for the Priority one contact(s) in our database. If you change your contact details please let the school know as soon as possible. We have written to all parents/carers recently informing you about School Gateway and requesting confirmation of your contact details. Please return the School Gateway datasheet to us as soon as possible if you have not already done so.



**Road Safety Week**  
20-26 November 2017

Coordinated by **Brake**  
the road safety charity

Sponsored by

**AVIVA**  
Good thinking

**BriteAngle**

