



NE46 14U Current

"Outstanding eagerness to promote good learning"



@HexhamMiddle

"The newsletter for you."

Edition: Summer Term 1 - 2019



Welcome all to another action packed edition of Hexham Middle School's half-termly newsletter. Given that this last half term has been a relatively short one, it is quite remarkable how much has gone on, as featured in the pages that follow. Well done to all our fantastic pupils for such high levels of participation and engagement, and to our staff for the opportunities provided. Special thanks go to Mr Freeman-Myers who does such a great job putting our newsletter together after some very effective prompting of the contributors! Below are some key dates of things coming up next half term – please do come along to our music night and to the PTA summer fair if you can.

With best wishes

Mr Atkins

We all want to say a huge WELL DONE to our amazing Year 6 pupils who showed an outstanding attitude towards their SATs last week! Our annual Breakfast Club was once again very well attended (by pupils and teachers!) and provided us all with a calming start to the day. To mark the end of the assessments, the pupils were surprised with a visit from an ice-cream van kindly provided, once again, by Vision for Education (supply agency). The smiles say it all! On Friday there was an action-packed day off timetable for Year 6 with orienteering, team building, STEM challenges and crafts. Each from group played a game of rounders and the day was topped off with ice-lollies and treats on the field! After all of their hard work, it was a well-deserved day of fun! We also had our KS2 Kingswood residential over the weekend; photographs are shown in this newsletter edition. A big thank you to Mrs Alderson and the KS2 staff for their hard work and organisation.

Mr Watters and Mrs Roff

SATs Stars

Year 6



Dear HMS pupils, families, friends, teachers and staff

The PTA are organising their annual summer fair: **Saturday, June 22 from 12:00 – 3:00**. This year's theme is Marvel. We need a **heroic team** of volunteers to help in all aspects of putting on our **HMS PTA Marvel-ous Summer fair**. We want to make this year's fair even more successful than last, but we can only do it with **your help!** So, **suit up** and sign up for a role before, during or after the summer fair: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f084faaac28a6f85-hmspta> Please contact HMSPTASecretary@gmail.com for more information.

House Plus Totals:

ALN - 456 points

Coquet - 382 points

Wansbeck - 298 points

Tweed - 363 points

Attendance:

Year 5 - 96.6%

Year 6 - 96.6%

Year 7 - 95.5%

Year 8 - 96.5%

Looking ahead

3 June - Year 5 and 8
Photograph

10 June - 2nd HPV Vaccinations

14 June - Year 3 Taster Day

17/18 June - Year 7 Tours of
QEHS

18 June - Year 8 Author Visit

21 June - Parent Tours of School

21 June - Year 6 Safety Works,
Benwell

22 June - PTA Summer Fair

26 June - Summer Music Night

27 June - KS3 Lit Quiz

27 June - 2 July - Year 7 French
Trip

5 July - Year 7 Student Suitcase
University Workshop

8 July - Year 4/5 Transfer Day

9 July - SATs Results Day

19 July - Last day of Summer
Term

As part of the PSHE curriculum pupils in year 8 attended a half day workshop at Safety Works! Newcastle. This was a fantastic day where pupils interacted with experienced professionals to discuss issues such as: the dangers of drugs, alcohol, first aid, fire and railway safety, and crime gangs. The pupils engaged incredibly well, showing maturity, and participated in in-depth conversations around hard-hitting topics.

The pupils were able to take part in role play situations to gain a real understanding on the severity of the issues discussed. We, as staff, were incredibly proud of each year 8 pupil who attended the workshop and we look forward to our next visit.

Mr Barry



Interactive Safety Centre



Diana Award Ambassador Training



National anti-bullying award 'The Diana Award' delivered an anti-bullying ambassador training course for 75 pupils from 7 schools at Hexham Middle School. The pupils worked exceptionally well throughout the day and all pupils who took part are now official anti-bullying ambassadors.

The pupils' role in school will be to take the lead on anti-bullying and to promote the expected behaviour of all HMS pupils. As an ambassador each pupil will run events, training for their peers and be a role model to all pupils at HMS.

Mr Barry



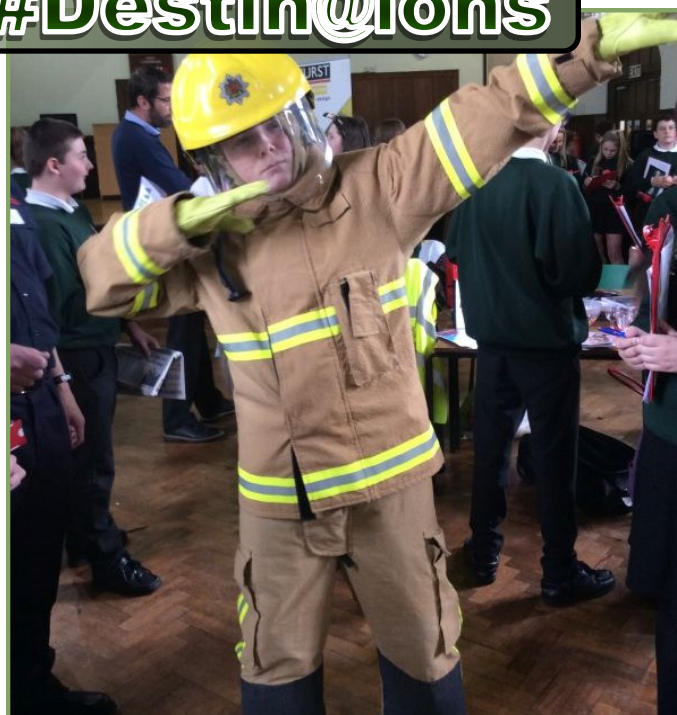
highlighters to landfill. Together with its partner, BIC, their materials can now be recycled into other products. We will be encouraging people to dispose of their disused writing instruments in a sustainable way. Please send unwanted writing instruments. We can not accept glue sticks though.

Over the next few days and weeks, staff will welcome into their classrooms an empty cardboard box. We are embarking on an initiative to recycle writing instruments through a scheme called Terracycle. Every year, schools send untold amounts of pens, whiteboard markers, Tippex bottles and

To find out more about Terracycle, click [here](#).



Careers Day #Destin@tions



On Thursday 9 May, we were delighted to host our Year 8 Careers Day, which comprised of various workshops and interactive sessions to give pupils an insight into the world of careers. We were fortunate enough to have guests from a huge range of professions give up their time to speak to pupils about their possible future careers. A full list of participants have been tagged on our school twitter feed.

The day started with a close look at post-18 options with a session delivered by North East Raising Aspiration Partnership (NERAP). Pupils enjoyed taking part in a quiz as well as budgeting and Lego Engineering workshops. Some pupils also took a personality test to find out careers best suited to their personality traits.

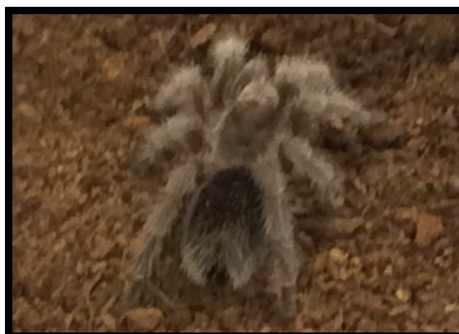
Pupils spent time talking to our Rotarian guests in small groups and were also given the opportunity to practise their interview skills. Pupils showed excellent maturity and enthusiasm throughout the day and were commended by our visitors during the careers fair in the afternoon.

Well done to all involved, including staff who delivered some workshop sessions. Thank you very much to our visitors who gave up their time to support the day and provide invaluable information for pupils. Look out for our Business Breakfast promotion in Autumn 2019. If you feel you could support Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) at HMS in the future, we will be happy to have you on board.

Mr Freeman-Myers, Mrs Tanner and Mr Armstrong (Careers Leadership Team)

Year 5 Zoolab

On Thursday 2nd May 2019 year 5 had an exciting visit from Zoolab to support our current science topic – life cycles. They brought many different species of animals, all with different life cycles, from cockroaches to snakes and even rats. The children all got to hold or touch the animals, if they wanted to, and were able to learn in detail about each one's life cycle. Zoolab also brought tarantula skins and snail eggs so the children were able to see the animals at different stages of their life cycle. Everyone had a super session and learned lots about exotic and domestic animals. **Miss Kingett**



Hiroshima Cranes of Peace

We would like to extend a project that we published previously to the wider school community. Please feel free to construct your own origami crane and deliver them to school. We will be sending all of the paper cranes to Japan at the end of June. Instructions to make the cranes are found below. Feel free to use patterned or self-decorated paper. Get your child to hand them in to Mr Anderson.

Mr Freeman-Myers



Year 5



A group of year 5 pupils were treated to a visit by two Newcastle University ambassadors. They came to deliver an interactive school-based activity where they 'brought' Newcastle University's campus to life.

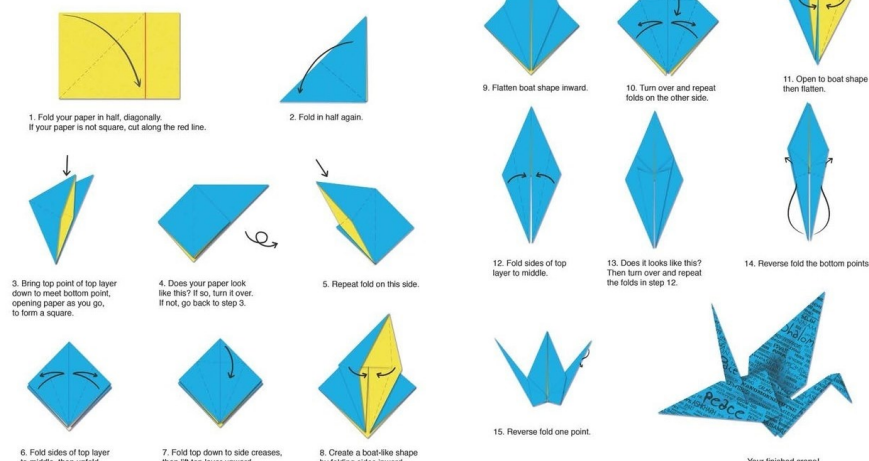
Whilst it might be a little early for our year 5 pupils to be thinking about university, Campus Explorers is a great way to encourage pupils to think positively about future learning, help them raise their aspirations and introduce them to the concept of higher education from the comfort of their classroom!

A fun afternoon was had by all who attended. Yet again, our pupils were polite, friendly and exceptionally well-behaved. They all engaged really well with the whole afternoon. Some very excited pupils are now aiming to go to university! Well done and thank you to everyone.

Mrs Cave.

How to Fold an Origami Peace Crane

Blue represents the front side of the paper. Tan represents the back. Your paper may look different. To participate in The Peace Crane Project you will need a square piece of paper, plus markers, pens, paint, or pencils.



Kingswood Trip

Year 5

Year 6

On Friday 17 May, 58 Key Stage 2 pupils left for an action-packed weekend at the Peak Venture Centre near Penistone.

After arriving (and making our own beds!) we were straight out for our first activity. Over the course of the weekend, we would all participate in: climbing, archery, Nightline, Zipwire, problem solving, outdoor laser and Aeroball (a game of volleyball on a trampoline).

There were also activities in the evening. The first night's was a campfire with stories singing and toasted marshmallows; thankfully, the fire kept most of the midges away, but failed to drown out Mr MacMillan's singing! Before bed, we all had a hot chocolate and headed to our dorms.

On the second night, we had a Mini Olympics in the centre. This was fantastic fun, but incredibly hot, which is why we were encouraged to have a shower before hot chocolate. For some of us, that meant two showers in one day!

After a morning of activities on Sunday, we packed up and headed home, with all our dirty washing as a returning gift for those waiting for us.

Mrs Alderson



Many thanks to Wecan who recently supported our Year 8 Careers Fair. We would like to promote an event that they are holding next month.

Email info@wecannable.co.uk for an entry form and further details.

Supporting our local charities

WECAN

WE ENABLE CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

ANNUAL

CHARITY GOLF DAY

FRIDAY 28th JUNE 2019

Hexham Golf Club . Spital Park . Hexham . NE46 3RZ

Press Statement:

Hexham Middle School received a short inspection by Ofsted on 24 April 2019. The official letter regarding this is now ready for publication.

The key headlines are that the school has maintained the good quality of education seen at the time of the last inspection, which took place in June 2016, with pupils continuing to be happy, safe, well looked after and achieving well. The full text of the inspection report is available on the Ofsted website using the following [link](#).

"I am very pleased with the many positive comments contained in the lead inspector's letter and the recognition that Hexham Middle continues to be a good school with strong capacity for further success." **Mr Atkins**

Summer Music Evening



We would like to promote our forthcoming Summer Music Evening Extravaganza.

Mr Holdsworth has been working very hard to get pupils ready for what is expected to be a fabulous celebration of gifts and talents at HMS.

It would be tremendous to see members of the wider school community join us on Wednesday 26th June from 7pm-9pm. Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 Choir, Chamber Choir, Solo singers, Orchestra, Ceilidh Band, Rock Band and a range of instrumentalists will perform.

Mr Holdsworth

We have had a very exciting half term again in Forest School, from making pizzas to building Jurassic worlds. We have also continued our den building and whittling skills. This Half-term we are very excited about our new delivery of log seating which arrived this week. We hope to extend our use of the forest school area to whole classes. Our next after-school Forest School club will begin on Thursday 6 June.

Tom in year 6 had this to say...

This half term in forest schools we were making dens and we built a Jurassic world dinosaur hotel. We also did lots of other things like have marshmallows and pizza bread. I managed to make dirt rally tracks for cars. I really enjoyed forest school because we got to do loads of outdoor things instead of being stuck in a classroom. Anna, the person who runs it, is really nice and lets you have a choice of things to do like dens, cooking, making things out of nails, hammers and a lot more. Our form class (PGA) have just carried loads and loads of logs up there as there were only a few seats to sit on. The whole class are excited to use it.

Mrs Hall

Forest School Update



Year 5

This has been a very exciting half term for year 5 pupils where they were able to compete in their Inter-House games. It was a fantastic day of sport for all of the pupils where competitions in hockey, netball, tag rugby and football allowed the pupils to represent their houses. After an extremely close competition, Aln came out victorious, beating Wansbeck by a single point! Well done to all! Year 5 pupils also competed in the Para School games winning a silver medal in Boccia and a bronze in archery! A fantastic achievement.

Year 6

Year 6 pupils competed in the Quad Kids championships where pupils needed to compete in 4 different events each. In a huge event, with a massive amount of schools, HMS performed incredibly well, finishing in 3rd place! Well done to all involved!

Year 7

Year 7 pupils have been training hard for their upcoming events! Huge rugby league matches await the boys and girls as well as cricket for both boys and girls. The massive competitions, however, come in the form of athletics where a number of school records have been set and the county championships are just around the corner.

Year 8

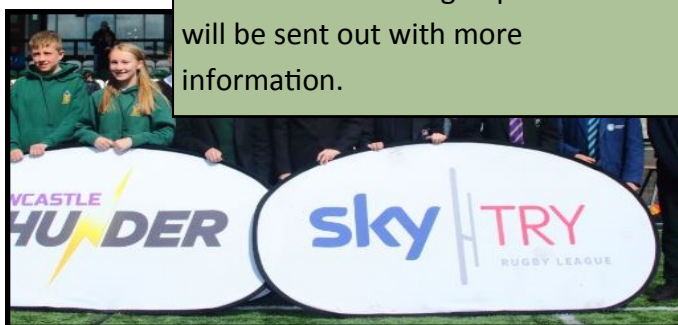
Year 8 have been magnificent in athletics this half term, showing incredible levels of commitment, skill and desire to succeed. This was displayed to great extent at the Track and Field cup for Northumberland. Each pupil who competed had to compete in two events, one on the track and one in the field. The skill on display by all pupils at the event was exceptional. The girls' team finished in a very strong 9th position, in a huge field of teams. The boys' team managed to secure a 3rd place finish, beating some extremely strong teams on the way! The year 8 para games team also won a gold medal in athletics! An incredible performance by all.

Sports Update



Sporting Clubs

Sporting clubs will be rebranded with some clubs returning. A parent mail will be sent out with more information.



Mr Barry and the PE Department



Hexham Middle School have been given new football kit by the Premier League.

Pupils from Hexham Middle School will be sporting their new colours with pride, after receiving their free Premier League Primary Stars kit for their football team.

Stocked full of items including 15 football shirts, shorts and socks, the Premier League equipment pack will aid teacher delivery of active lessons across the curriculum.

The equipment pack was awarded to pupils at Hexham Middle School following Mr MacMillan's successful application for this year's Premier League Primary Stars Kit and Equipment Scheme, which is delivered by the Football Foundation.

The scheme is part of the Premier League Primary Stars education programme which uses the appeal of Premier League and professional football clubs to inspire children at primary schools across England and Wales to learn, be active and develop important life skills.

PLPrimaryStars.com offers primary school teachers free curriculum-linked resources in

English, Maths, PE and PSHE, and opportunities for schools to enter competitions and access free offers like the Premier League Primary Stars Kit and Equipment scheme.

Nick Perchard, Head of Community at the Premier League said: "The Premier League Primary Stars kit and equipment packs have been extremely well-received in the past and will provide a very welcome boost as we approach the end of the school year. We hope that coupled with the free downloadable online resources, we can inspire children to do their best in the classroom and on the sports field."

Mr MacMillan, Year 5 Class Teacher and Primary PE said: "We are delighted with our new kit from the Premier League. This kit will be used across key stage two and three for sporting fixtures, competitions and extra-curricular activities. Year 5 will be the first to represent the school in the new kit as they represent Tynedale at the Northumberland Level 3 School Games in June."

Mr MacMillan



Dealing with cyberbullying

With some of our pupils attending the Diana Award Anti-bullying Ambassador training programme this half term, it is important that parents and carers are aware of some of the signs of cyberbullying.

Below is a useful providing some good advice. Please contact your child's form tutor if you believe they are experiencing cyberbullying. If you have information involving any other incidents of cyberbullying please contact our Reception.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/cyberbullying-advice-parents-and-carers>

Also check out:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Assembly Themes

Week 6 - w/c 3 June:

National Growing for Wellbeing Week - Mr Freeman-Myers

Week 7 - w/c 10 June:

The Power of Volunteering
Mrs Stewart

Week 8 - w/c 17 June:

I can't do maths! Yes you can...
Mrs Bond and Mr Graham

Week 9 - w/c 24 June:

Coding for Life & Robotics
Mrs Tanner/Visiting speaker

Week 10 - w/c 1 July:

Living Simply
Mrs Roff

Week 11 - w/c 8 July:

Pupil Conference - Global Goals 'Trashion' Show
Mrs Kingett and pupils

Week 12 - w/c 15 July:

End of Academic Year Success

Year 7

Edward's kayaking success



Edward has made outstanding progression, gaining promotion to Division 3 in national ranking canoe slalom. His first Div3 race this weekend in Scotland was outstanding on a tricky, demanding course, but in usual Edward style he tackled it head on, winning first in J14 (on Saturday) and on Sunday, doing a storming clean run with no penalties.



It was a tough weekend for this young man with training sessions at 6.45am both mornings on the water before the race. Pictured is Edward in action and with his coach Chloe. Edward is now ranked 88 out of 288 in the UK in Div3 which includes children and adults.

Lorraine Glendenning, Chair of Hexham Canoe Club

Year 7

Year 8

Trashion Project

Following on from my last write up, pupils in the Textiles club have been experimenting with using cut-up plastic bags to make samples. Pupils have cut up plastic bags and then used an iron and grease proof paper to heat transfer the plastic design onto the T-shirt. As you will agree, the sample below is very successful and commercially viable. The plan is to have an assembly near to the end of next term promoting a career in fashion and design alongside the 'Trashion Show'.

Mr Cousins



Message from Haydon Bridge Football Club - Girls U10 and U12 'Wildcats' teams

We have started the girls' teams under the Football Associations Wildcats scheme a few weeks ago and are looking for new players to join our U10's and U12's as soon as possible, with a view to training with us through the summer and playing games in the new season. If anyone is interested could they please contact Haydon Bridge FC by email at info@haydonbridgeunited.co.uk or by calling any of the management/coaches below:

Tony Jenkins 07803 233504

Christina Sim 07468 420735

Darren Richmond 07837 379447

NSPCC Parent/Carer workshops

H.M.S has collaborated with O2 and the NSPCC to deliver a workshop on 'Helping you to keep our child safe online.' We are extremely grateful to them for delivering this at our school.

The workshop was not as well attended as we might have liked but nonetheless it was extremely informative. The feedback from those that did attend was extremely positive and they have gone out into our community to spread the word on what they learnt. They are also going to encourage others to attend, when we hold another workshop in the new academic year.

Top tip from the workshop.

O2 and NSPCC want to help your family enjoy the best of the digital world safely and confidently. To help they have put together lots of useful information on their website www.o2.co.uk/help/nspcc

Alternatively, call their Online Safety Helpline on 0808 800 5002. Lines are open from 9am to 7pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 6pm on weekends. Calls are free of charge.

Watch out for the next parent's workshop!

Mrs Cave

Year 7

Year 8

Cricket Update



On Friday 17 May we had a fantastic day of cricket at Tynedale with lots of great play.

Year 8 Girls - A team of girls with very little cricket experience grew in confidence each game and took some great wickets and scored some impressive runs. There were stand out performances by Alice and Lucy who formed a great batting partnership.

Year 7 Girls - It was a fantastic tournament by the girls, who played some great cricket. Amy bowled magnificently and Isobel made a great batting partnership with Martha to fire the girls to a third place finish.

Year 8 Boys - The boys made a great start to the tournament with some very high scoring games. Big hitting from Alfie and Alex led the boys to a third place finish.

Year 7 Boys - The year 7 boys bounced back from an early set back to play some magnificent cricket. Huge wins, lead by Max and Josh's batting along with Isaac and Oliver producing incredible bowling, lead the year 7s to tournament victory! The boys will feature in the Courant!

A huge thank you to Mrs Coldwell for her support and outstanding umpiring!

Mr Barry

Pastoral Leaders' Column

Now that we are well and truly into British summer time, we recommend that pupils are suitably equipped for warm weather. We would suggest that sunscreen or sunblock is applied before school, pupils wear a cap/hat outside, and a clear, named water bottle is brought to school. We want to ensure that all of our pupils have fun in the sun, but they stay safe and healthy. Please also use the holidays to rectify any uniform and equipment issues for the final half term.

Mrs Frankish, Mrs Cave and Mr Barry



You may have already seen our recent social media and website post about this fundraising event by Tynedale Hospice at Home.

As a school we have worked closely with this charity. Last year we had the Hadrian's Hike. This year Tynedale Hospice at Home also supported our school careers fair.

<https://tynedalehospice.com/clarty-bairns/>



Well done to girls at our Molly's Dance group who meet Tuesday after school and Thursday lunchtime, in Fellside Hall, learning a range of dance genres. Girls attending are going to be performing at our Summer Musical Show. Some girls are also supporting the choir, choreographically.