



"Outstanding eagerness to promote good learning"

NEWSLETTER



@HexhamMiddle



Edition: Autumn 2 2019

ALN - 647 points

Coquet - 489 points

Wansbeck - 633 points

Tweed - 437 points

Attendance:

Year 5 - 95.9 %

Year 6 - 96.1 %

Year 7 - 95.1 %

Year 8 - 94.5 %



Welcome all to another action-packed edition of our newsletter. As ever, we have crammed such a lot of activity into the past half-term, much of which features in the pages that follow. You'll find details of various clubs, guest speakers, fundraising activities, sporting successes, careers education, recent Christmas events and much more.

Thank you as always for your support of all that goes on and your encouragement of your child to get involved and to take advantage of the many opportunities available. None of these would exist without the enthusiasm of our fabulous staff, our PTA and our many volunteers – many thanks indeed to them all.

With best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from all at Hexham Middle School.

Graeme Atkins (Executive Headteacher)

One of the key highlights of this term was our school carol service at Hexham Abbey. Mr Holdsworth co-ordinated the rehearsals which prepared our pupils for the recent event attended by lots of parents, wider family and friends. For those who were not able to attend, there was no doubt that our choirs and musicians did a fantastic job in starting our final week before the Christmas holidays. Traditional carols and gospel readings were mixed with new additions to the programme, including our superb boys' choir with some songs even sung in Latin. We were also treated to some excellent performances by soloists. Well done to all the pupils and staff that have supported.

Thanks were shared from Reverend Robson for allowing us the use of the abbey. We are very fortunate to benefit from having such an historic and cultural asset on our doorstep.

Mr Freeman-Myers

Year 5

Year 6

Year 7

Year 8



Christingle Assemblies

As part of our spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) curriculum at HMS, all of our pupils took part in an introductory lesson at the start of the day, constructing the Christingle. Pupils were asked to bring in their own orange and their own choice of confectionary. Courtesy of The Children's Society, we received a pack containing white candles and red tape. We trust that pupils had the chance to show their Christingles at home as well as share the sweets!



Yoga is coming to HMS

Year 5

Year 6

We are delighted to be able to add Yoga to our extra-curricular offer at HMS in the New Year. The yoga classes will be aimed at Key Stage 2 pupils and staff.

This is a fantastic opportunity for pupils and staff to develop their mind, body and soul - what a perfect way to support a balanced and healthy lifestyle.

We have also promoted this on our social media platforms. If pupils are interested they need to contact the PE Department.

As this will be an after-school event, parents will need to complete consent forms. We are looking forward to seeing a great uptake!

The PE Department

Year 5

Year 6

Year 7

Year 8



During the assemblies, pupils received a lesson on the Christingle's symbolism, and considered the true message of Christmas. There was time for pupils to reflect and listen to Christmas carols.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who helped donate funds. At the end of our Christingle Day, we had lots of coins to count up.

Mr Freeman-Myers



Yoga with Emily at Hexham
Middle School

**TUESDAY
3.40PM
KS2 CLASS**

**4.45PM
STAFF
CLASS**

STARTING
JANUARY 14TH
2020

Bronze Arts Award Update

Year 7

Year 8

This half term saw the start of the Bronze Arts Award in the Art Department. Those pupils who have committed to being involved in the project will work on self-initiated projects and learn from professionals in the local community. The Bronze Arts Award is championed by the Arts Council England who are the biggest public funders of Arts organisations in this country.

Pupils will actively participate in the arts through extra-curricular opportunities to review, research and develop their understanding of what's involved in a creative career. Pupils will also develop tangible skills and share them through workshop deliveries, exhibitions and performances, to name but a few.

A number of pupils have worked on printmaking techniques with Miss Lawton. Emily, Amelie and Olivia have been busy over the last couple of weeks developing their monoprint and collagraph skills. We look forward to seeing how they decide to share their new-found knowledge.

We wish all the best to all participating Arts Award pupils.



Year 6

Dance and Body Percussion Workshop

Year 6 pupils took part in a body and percussion workshop with the Old Kent Road Dance Company. This forms part of our school's involvement in START - a two year arts project bringing opportunities for pupils to experience the arts. Pupils were given the chance to understand how they could use their body to express themselves and make music. They were taught some skills in rhythm and timing.



Christmas Food Bank Appeal

We would like to thank the fantastic generosity of our wider school community in supporting our annual Christmas Food Bank appeal. A huge amount of food was donated, which was very gratefully received by the Food Bank staff. We were very pleased to help and also to take the opportunity to talk to our pupils about the importance of giving and of thinking of others who may be struggling. We wish those who need to use the food bank peace and goodwill.

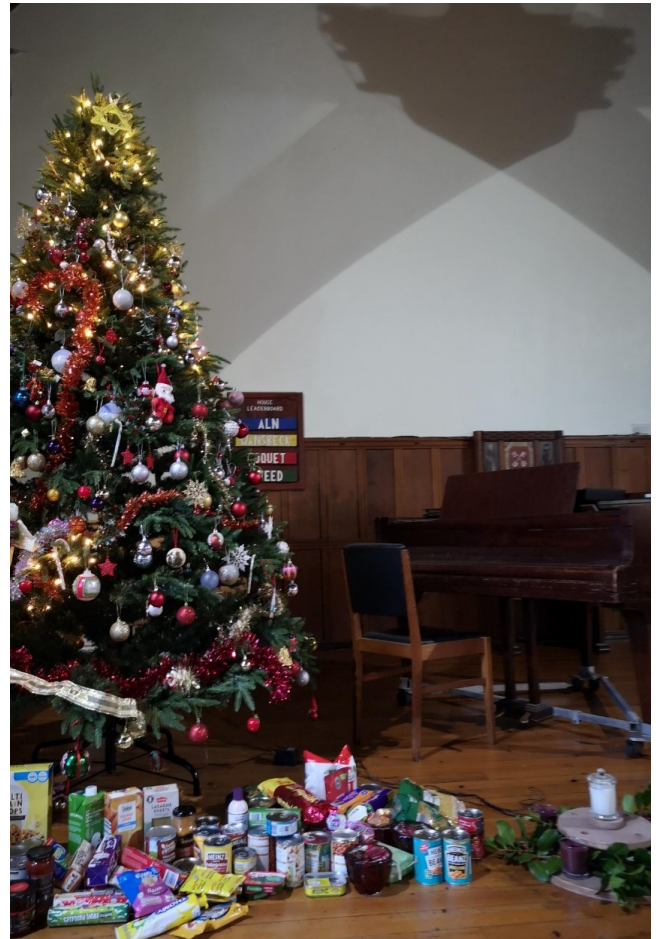


Year 5

Year 6

Year 7

Year 8



Parliament Day

Year 5

This November, year 5 were involved in Youth Parliament UK Day. They gained a greater understanding of how parliament works, its history and the role that democracy plays in our society. Using resources provided by Parliament Education Services, pupils learned about the Houses of Commons and Lords. Using Turning Point technology, they were able to take part in a real-time quiz and data capture. It was very clear that they could demonstrate progress made during their quiz. They also took part in debating and campaigning workshops.

Well done year 5 on engaging with political debate and having the curiosity to start understanding our British political landscape.

Mr Freeman-Myers



Careers Interviews:

This half term, year 8 have taken part in a careers interview with an independent careers advisor. Prior to this interview, they were required to complete a short questionnaire to help our advisor understand a little more about each of them in terms of their interests, favourite subjects and aspirations. The opportunity for pupils to have access to a careers advisor is one way they can learn more about possible options and pathways for further education, employment and training.

Action Plans:

Next term, year 8 will visit QEHS for their taster days and it will not be long before they start to consider some options that they would like to take when in year 9. As part of the careers advice service, year 8 have been given some recommended research to complete. This research will form part of an action plan which they will revisit later in the spring term when they have their Careers' Day. Prior to their arrival at QEHS for the taster days, they should have gained some further insight into possible pathways and potential careers. The intention for completing a careers interview and personal action plan is linked with one of the Gatsby Benchmarks in careers education (8 - Personal Guidance).

Apprenticeships:

During the last half term, all pupils at Hexham Middle School attended an assembly delivered by Mrs Tanner about apprenticeships. This is one area of information, advice and guidance that we are seeking to develop further. During the spring term, we will be working closely with our Enterprise Advisor, Tamara Hastie, and Karbon Homes to help deliver a workshop for year 8 pupils to demystify stereotypes associated with apprenticeships.

Year 7 Careers Day:

We are very excited about the prospect of a Year 7 Careers Day in conjunction with Sunderland University later this academic year. Following some reflection on the growing success of our Year 8 Careers Fair over the past 3 years as well as staff CPD in the summer term on Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG), we identified that there was further scope to improve our careers education offer in year 7. The event we have planned seeks to close knowledge gaps in areas such as decision-making and resilience in the work place. We will keep you updated on developments in forthcoming newsletters, our website and social media platforms.

Business Breakfast:

Next term, we are planning to hold a 'Business Breakfast' event in school which will seek to network with organisations to support the development of our school's careers programme. We intend to communicate with existing contacts, but if you are interested in learning more about how you, your company or employer can get involved in careers in school, please contact our Reception staff.

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

So much has been going on in Food Technology

This half term in food technology, year 7 and year 8 pupils have been developing their practical cookery skills and have made a variety of sweet and savoury dishes. Year 8 have made Swiss roll, Bolognaise sauce, Stir Fry, Upside Down cake and carrot cake. In year 7, pupils have made shortcrust pastry triangles, scones, and pizza. We have ended the term doing some Christmas cookery, making mince pies and apple puffs.

In November, we had the HMS Children in Need House Bake-off. This year's theme was 'Under the Sea'. 12 bakers were selected and had 2 and a half hours to bake and present their cake. We had fantastic results and raised £50.

The overall winner was Matilda Williamson for Aln house. Second prize went to Maria Gaines for Wansbeck house. In third place was Max B, and Honey-Rose Shipley for Coquet house.



Visitors from Ethiopia

In December, a group of teachers from Ethiopia visited HMS as part of a project aimed at 'connecting classrooms'. In February 2020, Ms Carruthers will set off to Ethiopia with other teachers from the north east of England. This is an amazing experience for Ms Carruthers and the school; it will also broaden our understanding of the wider world and help create opportunities to develop different aspects of our curriculum. We will continue to update you in future newsletters, on our website and social media feeds to share how this partnership unfolds - exciting times ahead.



A special thanks to our PTA

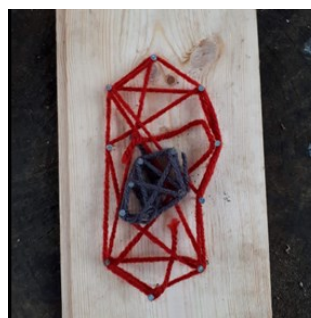
We think it is essential to give a special thanks to our PTA at HMS. We are so lucky to have a dedicated team of parents and teachers supporting and funding a range of different activities. Their effort and endeavour in events like: the Halloween and Christmas Movie Nights; the Christmas disco; and the Christmas Pop-up Shop, are fantastic ways of bringing pupils, parents and staff together. Best wishes for the Christmas holidays and we look forward to future fundraiser events.

Forest School Update

Year 5

Year 6

This term, many pupils have enjoyed attending Forest School, both during the day and as part of the after-school club. The pupils have made a hedgehog house to keep our spikey friends safe during hibernation as well as many pet hotels. They have spent time outside in our forest school area making crafts such as clay animals, and leaf streamers and decorations for our forest school Christmas tree. During inclement weather, pupils have taken part in indoor sessions making bird feeders to keep the birds full during the cold winter months. The children would say a highlight of Forest School has been the fire and being able to cook and eat a range of foods from pizzas to chocolatey apples and s'mores.



Miss Kingett

Mini Medics

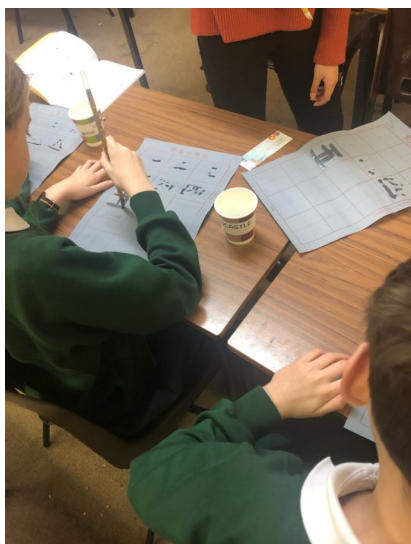
Year 6

All of year 6 were treated to a talk from Robin Raymond – a paramedic. He talked to our pupils about 999/111 and hoax calls.

As ever, our pupils were extremely well behaved and expertly answered any questions. The whole session was very informative and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Robin will be back in school in the new year to work with a group of year 6 pupils to train them as the school's 'Mini Medics'.



Mrs Cave



Mandarin Club Newsletter Article

Year 7

What an exciting first term we have had in Mandarin Club as it continues to go from strength to strength. Pupils have started to develop their understanding of Mandarin; they can now introduce themselves and ask basic questions. They have also learnt a lot about Chinese culture and been able to practise their calligraphy with Chinese characters. We look forward to Mandarin Club continuing in the New Year. Thank you to Bridget Tang, from the *Confucius Institute*, for providing such exciting and informative classes to our pupils. 圣诞节快乐 (Shèngdàn jié kuàilè meaning Merry Christmas).

Mr Armstrong

31 pupil took part in Level 2 Bikeability this year. Training takes place on the school yard and then moves to the on-road junctions just outside of the school. The instructors complimented HMS pupils on their behaviour and listening skills. Poppy in 6PGA reported, 'I really enjoyed Bikeability since I learned a lot and know how to ride safely on my bike in public. I recommend it because it is a fun course.'

Level 3 Bikeability training is going to take place in March next year. This course trains pupils to deal with more complex traffic situations. Any pupil who has passed Level 2 can sign up for Level 3 training. Look out for further information.

Mr Gaines

What is a church?

Year 6

As part of the religious studies curriculum in year 6, pupils visited Hexham Community Church on Christmas Jumper Day to learn more about the church.

Dale Dawson from the church shared with us the structure and features of the organisation. Pupils have been learning about what a church looks like and what can be found inside one. Pupils have learnt this half term that churches are not all the same.

Pupils learnt about the different ways the church supports the local community of Hexham, including those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged.

As part of the experience, pupils were given the chance to produce some art-work and make a Christmas wish. Pupils listened to some songs from a band and they also sang a song themselves.

Many thanks to the staff and volunteers at Hexham Community Church for helping to bring class-based learning to life. This was a great way for year 6 to finish their assessment week and set up the final week of festivities at school.

Mr Freeman-Myers



Living History Workshop

Year 7

This term, we have been fortunate to put on a workshop for all year 7 to experience what life for a Norman would be like. The day was fantastic with pupils getting hands on with history, analysing different objects and artefacts from the past.

The sessions started with some geography, studying how different Europe would have been during the 11th Century and what that meant for the people living in, what is England today.



The first task was to enquire as to how fashion has changed and what better way to do this than to actually try on the clothes! Year 7 got stuck straight in and they were able to put on a medieval fashion show with many playing the roles of Norman and Saxon peasants perfectly. There were trousers being used for hats, socks used for scarves but ultimately some fantastic conversations and investigations as to what the clothes actually were!

Next up, pupils had to work out what different Norman artefacts were and what their role would have been. There was a variety of theories, some logical some simply astonishing! However, there was no more shocking moment than when it was revealed that 'hair bobbles' and 'scrunchies' didn't exist and people used hollowed out animal bone to do the job of holding hair!

Finally we got to what many pupils had been looking forward to... the weapons! Pupils were put face-to-face with a Norman warrior who demonstrated the sheer size and complexity of the Norman armour and battle gear. There was an opportunity for some pupils to even try on the armour themselves, with Alex and James demonstrating their qualities as potential Norman soldiers of the future!

This was a fantastic day of fun but also learning. All workshops ran extremely well and this would not have been possible if it wasn't for the outstanding attitude of all year 7 pupils involved. The day really did bring the Normans to life.

A huge thank you must go to our PTA for funding this event.

Mr Johnson



Exciting visits to our school...

Year 7

Year 8

Dan Smith, children's author, came to HMS this half term to present to all of Key Stage 3. The engaging and interesting presentation covered why Dan was inspired to become an author, his upbringing, his adventures at boarding school and also his time spent living in rural locations abroad. He opened a very popular pop-up bookshop afterwards that was attended by over 50 pupils who had novels signed and met and chatted to the author. Hopefully Dan will come back for another visit again soon! Our thanks go to the [Hexham Middle School PTA](#) for funding the cost of his presentation and also to [Forum Books](#) who provided novels for the bookshop.



We were also visited by Kev F. Sutherland, illustrator for Beano and Marvel comics, for an exciting and engaging workshop. Pupils had a wonderful time and produced their own comics and characters. All pupils left with copies of their work and smiles on their faces!

European Christmas Decoration Project

Year 5

Year 6

We have now received all of our Christmas decorations from across Europe. They are now displayed on the Christmas Trees in F6 and Fellside Hall. The project certainly provided an exciting start to the festive period within school. Pupils in both Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 have been able to hang the decorations during their assemblies. Thank you very much to staff, pupils and parents for your efforts and continued support. Merry Christmas to one and all. We sent decorations to the following countries: Wales, France, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Germany, Romania, and Greece



Newsround - Hexham is a Happy Place!

Year 6

Year 7

Year 8

You may or may not be aware but recently Hexham made the news as it was voted the happiest place to live in the UK! CBBC Newsround were quick to get in touch and ask for some comments from our pupils. We were immensely excited to have our pupils feature in a video shared on the Newsround website. If you've not yet seen it, the article and video can be viewed by the following link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/50677794>

Our thanks go to Ben and Vinnie (Year 6) Pippa (Year 7) and Tom (Year 8) for their contributions!

Mrs Roff

Thanks to Volunteers

We would like to say a very big thank you to all the volunteers who help throughout the school on a daily basis. We really do appreciate your kindness and generosity of time to help support different aspects of school life. Many pupils benefit from the services offered. We would like to wish our volunteers a very happy Christmas and we look forward to working further with you in 2020.

Latin Club

Year 5

This term, I have worked through chapter 1 of Minimus. The children have acted out the Latin for the family of Minimus. We have acted out the greek myth of Medusa and Perseus several times! Apart from me saying the Latin they have also heard it on the iPad version too.

We are now half way through chapter two - also acting it all out. The pupils have Minimus work books which they have done some work in; we have also sung Latin songs.

Over recent weeks I have been testing pupils' knowledge of what they have been learning. Pupils are working well at Latin pronunciation. We have also looked at the verb "to be" plus nouns and adjectives with different genders and endings .

Mrs Jarvis - Latin Club Volunteer

Christmas Lunch

Recently, our catering team prepared a fantastic Christmas lunch which many pupils enjoyed. Pupils were treated to the delicious meal with all the trimmings. Many thanks to all the catering team and support staff that helped oversee this day.



Celebrating Success at HMS

We would like to send our congratulations to the pupils below for being chosen as winners and runners up for the Autumn Term Success Assemblies. When selecting pupils for this recognition and praise, teachers have specifically identified those that have shown an excellent attitude towards their studies, and a commitment towards developing knowledge, skills and understanding. In some cases, pupils have been chosen for the personal progress they have made.

Recognition must also be given to all the other pupils that were nominated by their teachers and form tutors. Excellent effort and determination truly does pay off!

Winners:

Subject	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Art & Design	Callum Robson	Robert Dobie	Lucy Dobie	Nancy Molinos
Computing	Robson Beattie	Imani Francis	Harry Robinson	Daniel Hale
Design Technology	Sienna Houghton	n/a	Keat Foxton	Sophie Holden
English	Rosie Berry	Gabi Knox	Chloe Cox	George Baxter
Explore	Josiah Idowu	Lucas Jopling	n/a	n/a
French	Imogen Bulmer	Daisy Carr	Grace Robertson	Kiera Chilton
Food Technology	n/a	Anna Cuthbert	Emily Todd	Louisa Davenport
Geography	n/a	n/a	Joe Elstob	Ben Scott
History	n/a	n/a	Aimee Steel	Robbie Jarvis
Mathematics	John Crawford-Thompson	Eve Barrett	Hugh Batey	Sophia Birley
Music	Sam Baker	James Robson	Joe Elstob	Ollie Drake
PHSE	n/a	n/a	Beatrice Duncan	Emily Hinchcliffe
Physical Education	Harry Jacklin & Abby Armstrong	Alex McDonough & Lexi Beattie	Charlie Clilverd & Isabella Rathmell	Euan Dovey McKay & Abby Johnson
Religious Studies	Jennifer Walton	James Robson	Luke Furphy	Carly Burgess
Science	Katie Gray	James Martin-Dobson	Maria Gaines	David Cook

Runners Up:

Subject	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Art & Design	Bradley Clement	Orla O'Farrell	Finn Heeley-Smith	Zach Maurice
Computing	Adele Fellows	Arthur Di Lullo	Ella Shepherd	Katherine Hinchcliffe
Design Technology	Josh Davy	n/a	Kayla Graham	Sophia Birley
English	Harris Nye	James Martin-Dobson	Connie Schoales	Leona Power
Explore	Cameron Baldwin	Lexi Gaskin	n/a	n/a
French	Thomas Skrivanos	James Toward	Archie Grey	Alexander Truta
Food Technology	n/a	Molly Bisp	Lucy McClen	Cameron Hardy
Geography	n/a	n/a	Tyler Jefferson	Wilf Daykin
History	n/a	n/a	David Dodd	Ella Haigh
Mathematics	Pia Ponsford	Robert Dobie	Lucas Newbrey	Paul Moncea
Music	Imogen Scobie	Ruth Jenkins	Grace Robertson	Martha Cannon
PHSE	n/a	n/a	Lucas Newbrey	Summer Newton
Religious Studies	Liam Curtis	Sasha Farley	Izzy Tyler	Rosanna Davenport
Science	Josh Cooper	Daisy Carr	Isabella Rathmell	Alfie Lorimer

Year 5 Form Tutor Awards	Year 6 Form Tutor Awards	Year 7 Form Tutor Awards	Year 8 Form Tutor Awards
5EKI: Ryan Dodd	6IBO: Ciara Richmond	7AMG: Alfie Mason	8EST: Paul Moncea
5FHA: Emma Mason	6MST: Beth Robinson	7CAR: Esmé Pugh	8IHO: Sophie Robson
5KFE: Rosie Westlake	6PGA: Lily-Ann Brown	7CCA: Hannah Ferguson	8JET: Katie Pearson
	6RAL: Charlie Hulbert	7JJO: Charlie Jackson	8JKW: Dan Guthrie
		7SFO: Chloe Cadge	

Sports Update

Year 5

Year 5 pupils had a great half term and have been completing their dance and gymnastics units of work. It has been great to see so many pupils engaging in lessons and in extra-curricular clubs. A number of year 5 girls have become a huge part of our girls' group on a Friday night whilst others have been developing their cricket skills. Next half term will be a busy one for year 5 as the football season begins! Keep your eye out for training sessions starting over the coming months.

Year 6

Year 6 have performed brilliantly in a number of different sports. Their performances in both the boys' and girls' cross country championships were sensational, with a number of pupils finishing very highly in a very strong field. In the new year, the seasons will continue for the football teams and there will be rugby, netball and many other sports coming soon.



Year 7

Year 7 girls stepped onto a rugby pitch for the very first time this half term and came out very strongly in some high scoring matches. As a new team, they developed from game-to-game, winning a thrilling final match thanks to sensational tries by Elissa Kennedy and Isabella Rathmell. The girls were constantly praised for their professionalism and rapid development; there are certainly very exciting times ahead! The boys' football team has continued their stunning year, finishing second in the area 5-a-side and advancing to the second round of the county cup after a convincing 4-0 win away to John Spence. The boys' rugby team has also continued their incredible unbeaten start to the year. The boys won their Champion's Cup group and are just one win away from representing the North East of England! The year 7 cross country runners performed exceptionally well in the area championships and every runner who competed qualified for the county championships! Incredible!

Year 8

The year 8 runners also performed brilliantly and a number of them are through to the county round. Yet again, the year 8 rugby team have demonstrated brilliant levels of professionalism and skill in their recent tournaments. The girls' team have now gone almost a year undefeated after 3 wins from 3 in their recent tournament; yet another brilliant showing! The year 8 boys have had another busy few weeks and after 4 wins from 4 games in their recent Sky Try Championship, it has left them joint top of the standings heading into the final round!

Individual Recognition

We here at Hexham Middle School would like to congratulate all of the students and ex-students who were nominated for awards at the Tynedale Sports Award Evening!

Well done to Harriet Schoular in the young sports-women of the year category, Edward Dando for his Kayaking successes and our year 8 rugby teams for their nomination in Key Stage 3 Team of the Year.

We would also like to say a huge well done to Harriet Schoular who has completed her first week with Team Evolution alpine racing. Harriet spent last week training on the ski slopes in Austria making excellent progress; she also managed to fit some school work into her busy schedule – excellent commitment. Whilst there, Harriet also had the opportunity to train alongside Team GB athletes. Well done Harriet and good luck for your future training camps.



A Child's War - World War 2

Year 6



When year 6 pupils were asked to make models of Anderson shelters as part of their Explore curriculum, their teachers were in awe at the level of effort and determination. What a fantastic way to make links between the historical knowledge they gained as well as creativity and making skills. A huge well done to year 6!

Debate Club Update

Year 7

This half term, the school debate club has been busy exploring different themes including: smoking should be made illegal; the government should ban meat to tackle climate change; and Hexham is the best place to live in the U.K.

In the debates, after each participant had the chance to present their viewpoints and arguments, pupils voted on whether or not they agreed or disagreed.

It was very clear that pupils thought the government should make smoking illegal as there are no benefits other than taxation; the costs to society in terms of the burden on the National Health Service were significant.

Pupils thought that the government should not make meat illegal, but took the view that a 'rationing system' could be a good idea in which people were only allowed a certain amount of meat per week.

Finally, pupils in Debate Club agreed that Hexham is the happiest place in the UK. This was based on the thought that Hexham has the great balance between links to Newcastle and Carlisle but also the clean air and open spaces that living in the countryside provides.

Many thanks to the pupils that attend regularly. This half term, Mr Milton has made a great contribution in supporting the team grow. If any pupil would like to attend Debate Club and generate their own topics, it is on Wednesday lunchtime. We actively encourage pupils to bring along a friend and try it out. We are a friendly bunch and are always looking for fresh perspectives. We are hoping to develop a Debate Meet with other schools in the local area. If we have a strong team, this is something that we could certainly establish.

Mr Freeman-Myers, Mr Milton and pupils of Debate Club.

Year 5

Team Building Afternoon

This half term, year 5 took part in a fantastic team building afternoon. They all completed a range of activities testing their team building skills. They enjoyed many challenges such as 'Spider web', removing 'toxic waste' and 'the rope'. Every pupil showed great resilience and perseverance and did not let the weather put them off. A brilliant, muddy afternoon was had by all.



Christmas Challenges

In the word CHRISTMAS below, each letter has a particular value. So C is worth 10, and M is worth 70.



C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	50



Work out the value of these words. The first one is done for you.

$$IT = 40 + 60 = 100$$

$$HAT = 20 + 80 + 60 =$$

$$IS =$$

$$HIT =$$

$$MIST =$$

$$MAT =$$

$$MATH =$$

$$STAIR =$$

Can you find words using the letters above which have these values?

$$150 =$$

$$120 =$$

$$110 =$$

$$170 =$$

$$180 =$$

REINDEER SUDOKU

		E			
		M			X
L			B		
	B				M
		L			
			M		E

BLIXEM

				R	
	S				
	H		E		
				A	
R					S
	A	E		H	

DASHER

DANCER

	C				
N			D		
C					N
E	D				
A	E			C	D

SLEIGH

S					
	G	I	S		
				S	
G			H		
				L	E
			G		



Assembly Themes for Half Term 3

Week 1: Week commencing - Monday 6 January

Is disability a disadvantage? Protected Characteristics - led by Mr Freeman-Myers

Week 2: Week commencing - Monday 13 January

A love of Reading and promotion of Hexham Library - led by Mrs Roff and Fiona Corbett

Week 3: Week commencing - Monday 20 January

Learning is knowing and remembering more - led by Mr Watters

Week 4: Week commencing - Monday 27 January

Holocaust Memorial Day - led by Anne Frank Trust Ambassadors and Mr Johnson

Week 5: Week commencing - Monday 3 February

"Do not be afraid of growing too slowly" - Chinese New Year - led by Mr Armstrong and Mandarin School.

Week 6: Week commencing - Monday 10 February

I think I know what love is! Led by Mr Holdsworth

Many thanks must go to our staff and visiting speakers who help support the assembly programme that we offer to our pupils.

Pastoral Leader's Column

We would like to thank our pupils, families and staff for such a fantastic response to our many charitable events over the term. Hexham Middle School has helped: Children in Need, Save the Children, Tynedale Hospice, West Northumberland Food Bank, The Children's Society and Macmillan Cancer Support. We wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Children in Need

On Friday 15 November we all enjoyed a non-uniform day to support this very worthwhile cause. As well as that we had a fayre in Fellside hall where each form class contributed to what was a very busy lunch time! We had a huge array of fantastic stalls to tempt all the buyers: from jelly and ice cream to tombolas and guess the name of the teddy.

A huge thank you to each and every one of you, who was involved in the fayre. We raised the amazing total of £1065.

Looking ahead:

7 January 2020 - School re-opens

10 - 12 January 2020 - Space Adventure Weekend at Calvert Kielder

20 January 2020 - Year 7 Parents' Evening

22 January 2020 - Year 7 Parents' Evening

24 January 2020 - Year 5 Newcastle University Campus Explorers Workshop.

28 January 2020 - Year 7 Diana Award Anti-Bullying Ambassador Training

29 January 2020 - Partnership French Spelling Bee

1 - 8 February 2020 - Ski Course: Les Menuires, France

10 February 2020 - Year 8 Parents' Evening

12 February 2020 - Year 8 Parents' Evening

10 - 12 February 2020 - Year 8 Taster Days at QEHS

13 February 2020 - school closes for Spring Half Term

14 February 2020 - Teacher inset day

Christmas Trips

In what has become a tradition at Hexham Middle School, Key Stage 2 visited a pantomime. This year we attended the Exchange Theatre in North Shields to see Cinderella. A great festive time was had by all – Oh yes it was! Year 7 went to see Frozen 2 at the Forum Cinema in Hexham and year 8 took a coach to the Centre for Life to ice skate and look at the exhibitions. They were also treated to short scientific show containing some entertaining experiments and spent time in the Making Studio putting their STEM knowledge and creativity to the test.

At Hexham Middle School, we truly believe in opportunities for personal development and wider enrichment. At this time of year, it is important that we recognise the fantastic effort our pupils have put into their studies, gaining knowledge, understanding and skills in a variety of subjects, hence our willingness to put on these end of term opportunities as a reward.

Happy Christmas and New Year