



HMS Weekly Update

17 December 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

Update on life in school

It's the end of term and I just want to send my best wishes to each and every one of you. Thank you for your continued support of HMS. This term has not been without its challenges but the community spirit and resilience of our pupils, staff and parents/ carers has shone through loud and clear. Thank you to all of you for your patience and support - whether that be by supporting your children with home learning (I know this is not easy!), supporting school life and events or by reading the communications and information from school - these are not easy times to navigate and it is very much appreciated.

Each week, the newsletter captures the positive atmosphere of HMS and it is bursting with great news and opportunities. This term has been filled with such positive experiences thanks to the determination and efforts of each and every member of the HMS team who have worked tirelessly to provide them. I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to each one of them for their hard work and dedication.

Finally, I want to express my pride in all of our pupils who have returned to school with resilience, positivity and focus. They have once again demonstrated their ability to adapt to new procedures and have risen to the challenge of new routines and expectations. All of this whilst maintaining their smiles, courteous manners and wonderful behaviour - they really are a credit to all of you!

With all that said, it leaves me to wish you all a very happy Christmas. I hope that you all manage to enjoy the festive period and have a well-deserved break. We will see the pupils back at HMS on Monday 4 January for the start of the new term.



Celebration Assemblies

This week, our year groups have enjoyed their 'Celebration Assemblies'. Mr Barry and Mr Stephenson have had the pleasure of celebrating the successes of our pupils. We always stress to the pupils that we are proud of them all individually in everything they achieve day-in, day-out. The winners and runners up in each category are below:

	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8
English	Lilly May M Callum B-S	Emma L Jack T	Arthur D-L Brogan R	Daisy B David D
Maths	Jack M Christian T	Ryan D Logan L	Ruby C Brogan R	Lucas N Anna F
Science	Harvey C-F Winnie L	Pia P Anya C	Brogan R Sophie L	Nathaniel J Lilli F
Art	Jack D Imogen M	Charlotte A Bruce K	Leo E-W Sasha F	Rowan S Isaac V
Music	George H Emilia S	Rose U Sam B	Olive T Beth R	Felix W Isabella R
PE	Dulcie M Sam M	Archie H Vanessa S	Alex M Beth R	Orin G Isabella R
Computing	Lorien V Alex L	Iris A Emma M	Geoffrey B Ruby C	Owen S Anna F
DT	Evie N Harry H	NA	Thomas R Anna C	Connie S Lucie H-B
FT	Livia M Abigail B	Ava C Poppy A	Farah A Zak R	Emily T Lucy M
History			Lexi G Ben C	Cade J-T Lucas N
Geography			Ben C Max B	Adam W Lucie H-B
Explore	Jessy A Patrick F	John C-T Lincoln S		
French	Sylvia D Ellie B	Harrison P Jade L	Callum H Molly B	Chloe C David D
RE	Emily B Zaid Z	NA	Alani J-H Kade M	Lucy M Louis K
PSHE			Lola R-H Alani J-H	Chelsea P Aidan S
Form Tutor Award	Jenson C (5EKi) Eve W (5FHA) Imogen M (5FHI) Abigail B (5JNI)	Tiana M (6CPR) Isobel C (6JJO) Abby A (6RAL) Kenzie W (6MDO)	James R (7AMG) Zak R (7CAR) Anna C (7CCA) Alec C (7IBO)	Connor H (8EST) William V (8IHO) James S (8JKW) James R (8PGA) Jessica M (8SLA)
Head of Year Award	Max H	Katie G	George L	Joe E
Bronze P Point Award (150 points)	Christian T Thomas T Lilly S Aidan T Lilly May M Michael B-P Gabriel B Imogen M	Ollie G Vanessa S Lucy C John C-T	Geoffrey B Daisy C Sasha F Meghan S Olive T Theo C Robert D Farah A Beth R Olivia H	Maria G Lucy D Daniel W Cade J-T David D TJ R Emma N Eve C Ryan P Chloe C

			Freddie C Imani F Alex H Hannah H C-j B-P	Anna F Esme P Felix W
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Virtual Carol Service

We are proud to present our first (and hopefully last) Virtual Carol Service. Our annual service is usually held in the wonderful setting of Hexham Abbey but this year we have recorded in our own Fellside Hall. Mr Holdsworth and Mr Lewis have worked extremely hard to rehearse, record and edit the final video whilst maintaining safety measures. All of the recording has been completed in year group bubbles and Mr Lewis has expertly edited it all together to produce the final version.



We hope you all enjoy our production. Thank you to Mr Holdsworth, all of the staff and, most importantly, the pupils who have managed to create this outstanding service for you all to enjoy. It is an absolute joy to watch!

<https://youtu.be/fARDfquGlyg>

Community festive wishes



Pupils in years 5 and 7 have teamed up with David Wilson Homes to combat loneliness in the local community this Christmas. They have written joyful well-wishes which have been delivered to the residents of Acomb Court Care Home (which is close to the company's new housing development). Well done to all of the pupils for spreading the festive cheer!

House Point Totals

Pupils continue to respond extremely well to our updated approach to rewarding positive behaviour. Below are this week's House Point totals as well as the **'Top 4' pupils in each year group this week**. Well done to each and every one of you – the totals are increasing rapidly!

The winning house for this half term is..... Aln. We enjoyed our bubble movie afternoons watching Arthur Christmas and Nativity!

House Totals		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	13,579	1	Jessy A	1	Logan L	1	Alex H	1	Beatrice D
Coquet	12,947	2	Thomas T	2	Charlotte A	2	Oliver K	2	Eve C
Tweed	12,907	3	Archie D	3	Natty O	3	Geoffrey B	3	Matilda W
Wansbeck	12,409	4	Lorien V	4	Jack T	4	Eve B	4	Cade J-T

Pastoral Message from Mrs Curry

Well done to all pupils on a super term! I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term here at HMS, particularly getting to know the pupils - what a fantastic bunch! I have been particularly impressed with how well pupils have bought into the new P-system, the number of points awarded is staggering across the whole school. A reminder to the pupils to log on to the ClassCharts Reward Store if they haven't already and make sure they make the most of their points by spending them!

Looking forward to the new year, a reminder of a couple of things:

Uniform: please ensure that your child has correct uniform, according to the school uniform policy, [available here](#). The pastoral team will be completing uniform checks in the first week back to school. Should you require any support, please let us know.

Equipment: please ensure that your child has correct basic equipment required for school: black pen, blue pen, pencil, rubber, ruler and glue stick.

Once again, well done to all pupils for a brilliant first term and wishing you all a very happy Christmas new year.

Foreign Language Christmas Card Competition Results

Thank you to all pupils who entered the Christmas card competition. Mr Freeman-Myers and Mr Armstrong had a very difficult job judging the competition. Congratulations to our winners!

Year 5

1st Place - Emily B 5EKI

2nd Place - Emilia S 5FHA

Joint 3rd Place - Annabelle O 5FHA & Poppy C 5FHA

Year 6

1st Place - Vanessa S 6JJO

2nd Place - Natty O 6JJO

Joint 3rd Place - Lottie H 6RAL & Esme W 6JJO

Year 7

1st Place - Gabi K 7CCA

2nd Place - Alani-Jo H 7CAR

Year 8

1st Place - Anna F 8SLA

2nd Place - Heidi S 8IHO



Mandarin Club

We are delighted to announce our KS3 Mandarin After-school Club will be starting on **Tuesday 12 January 2021**. We are pleased to be able to continue working in partnership with the Confucius Institute and Newcastle University to give pupils the chance to follow a programme of study of Mandarin.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the After-School Club (3:40-4:40pm) will run on alternate weeks for year 7 and 8 pupils. If your child is interested please complete the reply slip and return it to Mr Armstrong by **Friday 8 January 2021**.

Hexham Abbey Carol Services

Hexham Abbey have asked me to let you all know that they are holding Carol Services daily from Sunday 20 December through to Christmas Eve between 5pm and 8pm (note that Christmas Eve is fully booked). To maintain safety measures, all events are ticketed. Tickets can be collected from the Abbey shop or by emailing admin@hexhamabbey.org.uk. We have missed our usual Carol Service in the Abbey this year and can't wait for our 2021 return!



Reminders/ Dates

Friday 18 December: Christmas Jumper Day (optional online £1 donation)

PTA Christmas Jumper Collection

Christmas Jumper Day is great fun, but the jumpers often don't get another wear. It's expensive and pretty bad for the environment. The PTA would like to do their bit and raise some funds by collecting and recycling them. If you have jumpers in any size and in good condition which you don't need after Christmas please hold on to them and we'll let you know collection details in the new year. We'll put them on sale at bargain prices ready for Christmas 2021. Merry Christmas!



Tuesday 19 and Thursday 21 January: Year 8 Parents' Evenings (*booking released 4 January*)

Tuesday 26 January: Year 6 SATS Information Evening (online)

Mr Stephenson would like to ask for donations of board games for his club starting after the holidays.

It has been a fantastic term at HMS – we will see the children back in school on Monday 4 January.

Yours faithfully

Mr Watters

Deputy Headteacher

