

HMS Weekly Update

12 February 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

Update on life in school

Here we are at the end of a half term like no other! Reflecting on the past six weeks, school and home life have, once again, changed so much for all of us. The way in which the whole school community has responded in such a positive way has been truly inspiring! The children have adapted to a whole new way of working as well as the restrictions of lockdown and have engaged brilliantly with their remote learning. We all want school life to get back to normal as soon as possible, but for now, we continue to be so proud of each and every one of the children.



Thank you to all of you for supporting your child to establish new routines at home. We have said this before but we all know how challenging this time is so we really appreciate your support. For the next week, please encourage your child to put their laptops/tablets away and to focus on enjoying things which make them happy including lots of fresh air and family time. I think everyone is ready for a break away from the screen to recharge their batteries! Thank you for adapting to the routines of home learning and new technologies and for joining us at our online parents' evenings.

The next half term will undoubtedly bring more change as we hopefully begin to understand what the return to school will look like. As always, we will be here to support you and your child as remote learning continues. We will maintain our regular communication and keep you all informed of any updates along the way. For now, try to have a well-deserved break over the half term week. Stay safe everyone.

House Point Totals

Even through this lockdown, teachers have been motivating pupils by rewarding them with P points! 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 them.

House Totals		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	17,510	1	Thomas T	1	Maisie M	1	Anna C	1	Matilda W
Coquet	15,891	2	Thomas W	2	Esme W	2	Amelia F	2	Lucy M
Tweed	16,234	3	Emily H	3	Samuel F	3	George B	3	Owen S
Wansbeck	15,360	4	Michael B-P	4	Vanessa S	4	Jamie Ar	4	Maria G

Year 5 STEM Workshops


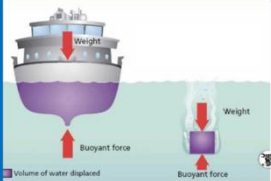
We are pleased to be able to welcome Sally from the Marine Society and Sea Cadets back to school - although this time in a virtual capacity!

As part of the year 5 work on forces in science, they will have the opportunity to take part in an online workshop to make and test a boat with Sally during one of their live science lessons in the first week back after half term. The times are:

- 5FHI 2.30pm Monday 22nd
- 5JNI 1.30pm Tuesday 23rd
- 5FHA 11.30am Wednesday 24th
- 5EKI 2.30pm Wednesday 24th

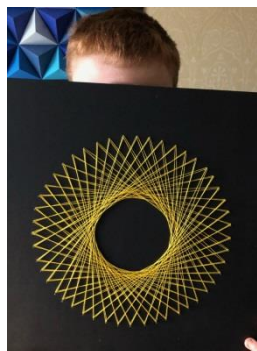
It would be great if pupils could have the equipment ready for the lesson - they can then test it out after the session.

Equipment needed: paper and a pencil, card, tin foil, Sellotape, weights (marbles, stones, lego will be fine), water, scales and a camera. If you need any equipment, please let us know.

	<h3>Buoyancy</h3>
<p>Your Task</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">To build a boat to carry cargo.Your boat cannot be bigger than 20cm x 10cmYour boat must carry as much cargo as possible.Test your boat in your water container.Take photos of your boat.See how much mass you managed to carry (use the scales), and see if you are the WINNER!Write a short paragraph on what you have learnt today!	

Feel Good Friday

Thank you to our amazing pastoral team who planned our 'Feel Good Friday' event and to our form tutors for facilitating the sessions and parent catch-ups. It was a great day with an important message which we must take forward and remember in our day-to-day lives: mental health and wellbeing are our top priority! It was lovely to receive so many positive comments and photographs – some of which are below. Thank you all for your engagement and support.



Staying active



Mr Gaines and Mr Barry have been sharing lots of engaging PE learning opportunities. As well as new projects on Google Classroom, they are also recording a weekly '[PE Podcast](#)' which includes special guest speakers – please try to tune in during your PE lessons or in your spare time. This week's guest speaker was Shayan who works at NUFC! Our '[Yoga with Emily](#)' sessions are also continuing to be popular and new uploads are now live.

NCC's Draft SEND Strategy

Northumberland County Council and Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group are consulting on how to strengthen support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). This 2020-2023 Northumberland Strategy for Special Educational Needs and Disability sets out the local partnership's vision for developing and improving the support provided for children and young people with additional needs and their families.

The consultation is running until 19 March. You can view the draft strategy document [here](#) and give your feedback [here](#).



Creative Challenges

It is so important that the children have a broad and varied curriculum experience when working at home. That is why we are covering our whole curriculum online and providing weekly creative challenges. This week's challenge has been set by Miss Kwella to celebrate [Pancake Day](#). Entries can be sent to Miss Kwella or the admin mailbox by Monday 22 February.

A message from Northumberland Adolescent Service

We know students and young people are missing their friends and usual clubs and activities. We are looking to expand our online sessions for young people to get

involved in a range of activities with other young people. We want to get as many young people as possible to tell us what they would like to be involved in. Please could you discuss this with your child and return your feedback on the [survey](#).



Reminders/ Dates

Monday 22 February: New half-term begins

Have a fantastic half term break everyone! Try to switch off, enjoy the fresh air and take time to do things which make you all happy. We will see the children either in school or online on Monday 22 February.

Yours faithfully

Mr Watters

Deputy Headteacher

