



HMS Weekly Update

25 March 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

Update on life in school

As we welcome spring, we have looked forward with hope and, this week at HMS, we have encouraged reflection. We have reflected on the return to school and celebrated how well it has gone and how proud we are of the whole HMS community for the way they have approached this very strange term. We observed the National Day of Reflection on Tuesday to mark one year since the announcement of the first national lockdown. We took a one-minute silence at 12pm to remember those who have been affected by COVID-19 and those who have very sadly lost their lives.

We have also reflected on the challenges we have all faced whilst being thankful for the community spirit, resilience and positivity we have experienced. We gave thanks to the key workers who are still working tirelessly to support those most in need through challenging times. We have held our Spring Celebration Assemblies to recognise the achievements of our amazing pupils who have shown true determination and courage for the past year. We are so PROUD of them all.

Thank you for your support with our Red Nose Day fundraising last week - the children had a fantastic day in school. The rounders competition was great fun and the winning house was... Coquet! We raised £216 for Comic Relief. It has also been wonderful to see our pupils' art work going up in shop windows around Hexham. I am always blown away by the talent of our young people and their place in the exhibition around Hexham is so well-deserved.



Mrs Curry and the year 5 team were so excited on Tuesday morning as the first chicks hatched in the Orchard block. There was much anticipation as we waited for Mr Stephenson to update us early on Tuesday. We now have six chicks being looked after by year 5 and it has been uplifting to hear the chicks in Orchard and see the joy on the children's faces as they walk by them each day. The children will soon be voting to choose names for the new arrivals. Mrs Curry will be taking the chicks back to the farm over the holidays and will bring them back to HMS when we return to school. What a special Easter treat!

Finally, I would like to wish you all a fantastic Easter. Enjoy the spring sunshine and fresh air. Hopefully you will get a chance to re-charge after a busy term and enjoy some family time. Stay safe everyone and have a great break.



Uniform update

We sent home a message on Wednesday regarding ordering new items of uniform directly from Ian Millar (current supplier) for the remainder of this term. I want to let you all know that we will have a new school logo **from September 2021** and jumpers with the new logo will be available to order from a new supplier in late April. We will not be changing any other aspect of the HMS uniform (including colours). I want to be clear that pupils **can** still wear their jumpers with the current logo for as long as they need to (into next year and beyond). The new logo jumpers will be available to order for new starters and those who wish to purchase them to wear from September onwards but they are not essential for current pupils moving into their next year group. I just wanted to reassure you that you wouldn't be wasting any money by ordering from Ian now.

If you have any school uniform which you no longer need, please do send it into school and we will be able to distribute it to any pupil who needs new items. If you would like to chat to us about getting new/used uniform, you can do this in confidence by calling the school office - we are here to support you, as always.

COVID-19 updates

Thank you to the parents of children in KS3 who are taking part in lateral flow testing at home. We have sent home a reminder of the testing guidance with specific information regarding the Easter break. KS3 will be given more test kits on Friday 26 March. School has been asked to be available for contact tracing at the start of the Easter break. Please could you inform us **(via the admin email address)** if your child tests positive on or before 1 April from a lateral flow or PCR test. If your child tests positive from 2 April, please follow instructions from NHS Test and Trace.

The Government have updated their guidance on the [Test and Trace Support Payments](#) which you may be eligible for if you or your child has been asked to self-isolate and you meet the criteria. Please read the information at this [link](#) to find out more.

Spring Celebration Assemblies



We were delighted to hold our Spring Celebration Assemblies this week. The children enjoyed coming together in year group bubbles to celebrate their achievements and it was with genuine pride that we thanked them for their efforts this term.

It is always such a difficult task for the teachers to make nominations and choose winners – we really are proud of each and every one of the children and we reiterated this point in each assembly. Congratulations to the below pupils and a huge thank you to the PTA for purchasing our Easter egg prizes!

	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8
English	Harry S Emily B	Harry J Nathaniel O	Zak R Poppy F	Maria G Eve C
Maths	Gabriel W Eliza R	Harris N Abbi M	Lily-Ann B Hannah H	Pippa C Ryan P
Science	Michael B-P Maddie E	Tiana M Nathaniel O	George B Lily-Ann B	Romy K Hugh B
Art	Livia M Emily H	Vanessa S Maisie M	Orla O Brogan R	Jake B Noah B
Music	Alistair W Emily B	Charlotte A Jade L	Meghan S James T	Johnny M Flora M
PE	Eliza F Ben H	Adelle F Robin B M	Ruth J Oscar F	Ryan P Emma N
Computing	Zaid Z Grace B	Jade L Ryan D	Ralph D Leo C	Callum H Izzy D
DT	Bella W Imogen S		Alani Jo H Oliver S	Maria G Chloe C
FT	Freddie H Imogen S	Lottie H Elsa B	Beth R Ralph D	Lily Rose W Daniel W
History			Hudson C Ruby C	Josh N Cassie A
Geography			Anna C Brogan R	Emma N Hugh B
Explore	Lorien V Alistair W	Maisie M Nathaniel O		
French	Winnie L Alastair W	Elsa B Cameron B	Ben C Daisy C	Johnny M Emma N
RE	Amber L Harry C	Sam B Daisy W	Callum H Anna C	Romy K Flora M
PSHE			Nate T Lexie B	Aran M Harriet S
Form Tutor Award	Winnie L Freddie Y Oliver H Madelyn C	Jamie P Esme W Lewis D Maddie G	Daisy C James T Jacob F Kade M	Abigail C Emily R Emma N Nathaniel J George B
Head of Year Award	Thomas T	Pia P	Martha C	Amy J

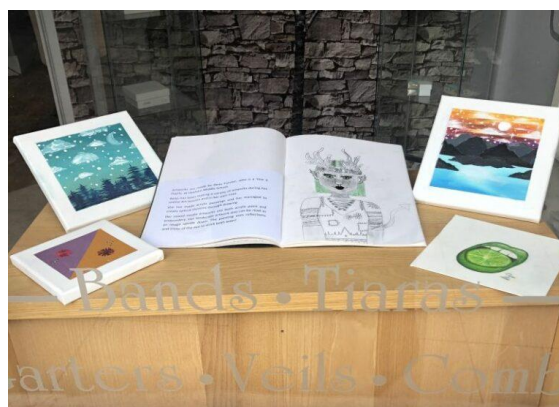
House Point Totals

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. Lots of pupils have enjoyed spending their P points in the Class Charts Rewards Store this week – please contact your child's form tutor if you need log-in details.

House Totals		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	22,084	1	Christian T	1	Summer W	1	Olive T	1	Alex H
Coquet	19,922	2	Thomas T	2	Aimee S	2	Robert D	2	Matilda W
Tweed	19,974	3	Winnie L	3	John C T	3	Arthur D L	3	Jordan B H
Wansbeck	19,429	4	Archie D	4	Chloe W	4	Ruth J	4	Lucas N

The Great Big Exhibition continues

I was so proud walking around Hexham this week and seeing the amazing artwork on display from our pupils. The year 6 display in Costa window is so impressive. A special well done to Amelie, whose work is on display in Matthias Winter, and to Beau, whose work is displayed in the window of Studio 19. We have such talented, creative pupils at HMS who are inspired by the passion and enthusiasm of our own Miss Lawton – well done to all of you!



Bikeability

This week, two groups of KS3 pupils have been out and about around Hexham taking part in their Level 3 'Bikeability' cycle training. This course teaches the children how to cycle safely on busier roads and how to negotiate hazards such as roundabouts and traffic lights. Well done to all those who took part – we look forward to seeing you cycling around the community!



Water Aid Explore Workshops

This week, year 6 pupils have taken part in a workshop linked to their studies in Explore. Year 6 learned about the water cycle and the processes involving water which shape our landscape and built environment. Pupils



have also learned about water pollution, how we manage waste water, and the ways to manage water sustainably, including how we generate electricity from this natural resource.

Our workshops were led by a volunteer from Water Aid, who shared the impact clean water can have on societies across the globe. At a time when hygiene is so important, our year 6 pupils had the opportunity to explore how clean water is considered a luxury commodity in some parts of the world where we expect it as a right. The workshops were interactive and even got our pupils to use their maths skills.

May we take this opportunity to thank Water Aid for their time to engage with our year 6 pupils. Next term, we would like to organise a charitable event to raise some funds. We will let you know more about the plans.



Reminders/ Dates

Home testing (KS3): a reminder that we are asking KS3 children (with consent) to take twice weekly lateral flow tests at home. Results should be reported to school at this [link](#) and to the [Government](#).

Friday 26 March: School closes at 3.30pm

Monday 12 April: All children return to school

Tuesday 13 April: Swimming lessons start (more info to follow)

Have a fantastic Easter break everyone. I hope we get to enjoy some more spring sunshine, lots of fresh air and happy times!

Yours faithfully

Mr Watters

Deputy Headteacher