

HMS Weekly Update

6 May 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

Update on life in school

Another week (*albeit a shorter one*) has flown by – I hope you were all able to enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend. We are delighted that we will see the return of inter-school sports next week and the children are very excited about this. Whilst the opportunity to re-introduce many aspects of school life is exciting, we are also ensuring that safety measures are followed in line with current guidance. We are anticipating further Government updates over the coming weeks and I will keep you all updated.

This week, I had an inspirational meeting with a group of year 6 pupils (Beau, Pia, Maisie, Abbi and Charley) who want to establish a new ‘Eco Group’ in school. They are committed to reducing plastic use and to making sustainable changes as we look ahead to our new school. We have already placed a new recycling point in the canteen and Ms Carruthers will be working with the group to take their work forward. Well done all of you!

Home learning is a key aspect of school success and we really appreciate the support you give your child to establish good working routines. We know that homework can be challenging for some children and we are always here to support in any way we can. As we are now more settled into the school routine, we will be re-launching our homework expectations (in line with our [policy](#)). We will be using Class Charts to record homework tasks (so you can see what is due and when), as well as the children recording this in their own planner.

- If homework is not submitted by the agreed deadline (and no valid reason is provided), a ‘Homework S1’ will be added and pupils will have an extension agreed.
- If the homework is still not returned by the extended deadline, a ‘Lunch Detention’ will be issued. This will mean the children have chance to access support from staff to ensure the task is completed.

It is important to note that teachers are always careful to check how much homework has already been set and are realistic with their deadlines. We also have a number of homework clubs in school which we would encourage children to attend (*especially if they find working at home a challenge*). Thank you for your support with home learning.

Sport is back!

As the sun starts to shine amongst the snow, Hexham Middle School sports teams are preparing for a **return to action**. On Monday 10 May, both the boys’ and girls’ football teams



will be in action in year 5 and 6 against Ovingham Middle School. This will then be repeated for the year 7 and 8 teams the following Monday. Looking ahead to next half term, we have rugby, tag rugby, netball, handball and table tennis fixtures both home and away for our pupils to get involved in! ***Sport is back!***

It is not just the pupils who have been in action though as last week saw a great victory for the HMS staff football team. Mr Freeman-Myers' hatrick and a thunderbolt from Miss Downes helped HMS secure the victory!

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.

House Totals		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	27,393	1	Max H	1	Katie G	1	Olivia H	1	Edward R
Coquet	24,646	2	Eliza R	2	Aimee S	2	Beth R	2	Jessica L
Tweed	24,643	3	Alistair W	3	Iris A	3	Lola R-H	3	TJ R
Wansbeck	24,721	4	Christian T	4	John C-T	4	Toby C	4	James S

Wonderful wordsmiths

Mrs Hinchcliffe has been busy collecting outstanding writing from across all curriculum areas to showcase it in our main reception. We place huge emphasis on taking pride in presentation and on developing literacy skills across all subjects. Well done to the children on their efforts to present their work beautifully (especially after relying on online learning for a significant part of the past 18 months!).



Key Stage 2: 'Stars of the week'

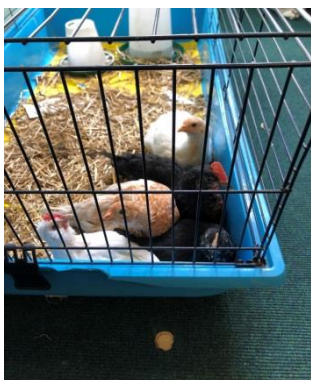
This week's theme was **pupils who represent the values of the form group.** Well done to all of the pupils below.



Year 5		Year 6	
EKI	Amber L	MDO	Katie H
JNI	Xavier F	CPR (HCO)	Samuel F
FHI	Marnie C	RAL	Cameron B
FHA	Daisy W	JJO	Ryan D

Chick update

The chicks are continuing to flourish and grow and are nearly ready to move into their new home. Over the last few weeks they have changed from cute fluffy chicks and are now almost fully grown. They are still housed in Orchard spending the days outside in a homemade run made by Mrs Hall and the nights in the warmth of the Orchard building. They are nearly too big for their temporary accommodation and work has begun on repairing the coop (*thank you Tom H in year 8*) and run kindly donated by Mrs Nash. Hopefully, it will be completed in the next few weeks and they can move to their permanent home in Beaumont where they will be cared for by a group of KS3 pupils.



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](#).

Sanitary products: Just a brief reminder to all parents and pupils that we have an abundant supply of sanitary products available, free of charge, in school. Pupils can collect at any time from the main office or from Mrs Adams' office in Beaumont building.

HPV Immunisations for Year 8: Monday 10 May

Afternoon Tea: Tuesday 11 May (*for those who have purchased it from the Reward Store*)

Year Group Photos (all): Monday 24 May (*corrected day*)

Have a fantastic weekend everyone!

Yours faithfully

Mr Watters

Deputy Headteacher