

26 November 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer

### HMS WEEKLY UPDATE

#### Update on life in school

Thank you for your support of our recent fundraising efforts. The pupils have raised £418.50 for this year's Children in Need appeal and £186 for the Royal British Legion through sales of this year's remembrance merchandise. Last week, we welcomed back ex-pupils Eliza and Molly who led a bake sale to raise funds to support their Project Trust gap year where they will be volunteering in Ghana as teachers. The funding will support the sustainment of the long-term projects in Africa and beyond and we are pleased that the sale raised £167.31. We have also now welcomed two new staff to our Learning Support Team: Miss McGlasson and Miss Scott, who we are delighted to have as part of Team HMS.

Please have a look at the key dates section in this week's update as I have included some festive events for your diary. Who can believe it's nearly December already?



#### House Point Totals

Below are this week's House Point totals as well as the **'Top 4' pupils in each year group this week**. P points are awarded for character value such as **resilience, respect, engagement and responsibility**. Well done to each and every one of them.

House Totals		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
<b>Aln</b>	12,056	1	Jyacinth B	1	Finley A	1	Laura W	1	James T
<b>Coquet</b>	13,570	2	Carrie G	2	Gabriel B	2	Gracie T	2	Brogan R
<b>Tweed</b>	12,753	3	Matilda S	3	Aidan T	3	Iris A	3	William S
<b>Wansbeck</b>	13,703	4	Poppy K	4	Alfie B	4	Robson B	4	Beth R

#### This week's assembly theme

Our assembly programme incorporates essential themes throughout the year. Assemblies at HMS are part of our personal development curriculum and teachers work very hard to ensure that they are diverse and informative learning experiences. This week, Mr Barry has led assemblies focused on UK Disability History Month. The organization promotes work to tackle harmful stereotypes and

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

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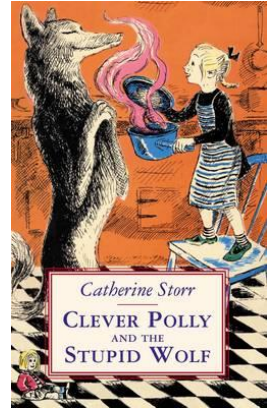
discrimination. At HMS, we value a highly inclusive learning environment where all pupils are enabled to thrive.

## We love reading at HMS!

This week, Mrs Hayler has written a recommendation for one of her favourite stories which is available in the HMS library. *“This is one of the funniest and most original books that I have ever read. Skillfully blending reality and fantasy, and genuinely suitable for all ages, the 12 short stories follow the many attempts of the Stupid Wolf to catch Clever Polly.*

*Polly is bright, confident and puts this wolf in his place. She outwits him at every turn, knowing that the Wolf is all huff and no puff. He is everything that you could want from a villain: devious, vain, proud and just a little bit likeable. He studies fairy stories believing that the wolves in *The Three Little Pigs* and *Little Red Riding Hood* will give him some top tips on how to succeed. However, nothing ever goes his way.*

*Author Catherine Storr wrote this book to help her daughter overcome her night fears that there was a wolf under the bed waiting to eat her. She dispels those fears as the Wolf blunders his way through life and Polly is always the one with the upper hand. A classic: 5 stars”*



## Extra-curricular opportunities

We are proud of the great range of clubs that take place at lunchtime and after school. Please have a look at our [digital brochure](#) where we have outlined the different clubs on offer and the essential skills that these different activities can help build in our pupils.



For all clubs, pupils can approach the member of staff leading to find out how to join. For out-of-hours clubs, they can have a discussion with the club organiser, and we will send a consent form home for parents/carers to complete. Please note that some out-of-hours clubs are over-subscribed and are currently operating on a carousel to ensure that all pupils can participate. We will be carefully tracking attendance at all opportunities to ensure that all pupils are accessing opportunities.

## Music Tuition at HMS

At HMS, we have a wide range of peripatetic music teachers who visit school on a weekly basis. If your child would like to start or continue music tuition, please have a look at the [information available on our school website](#). You can contact us via the admin email address to give school permission to share your contact details with the relevant music teacher and lessons can then be organized. We always encourage our pupils to immerse themselves in the musical opportunities at



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HMS – we have our School Orchestra, string group, ceilidh band, a wide range of choirs and vocal groups and even a rock band!

**Respect, Engage, Aspire: Pupil Awards**

To capture our school’s ethos more prominently, we are now focusing on three key words: **Respect, Engage, Aspire**. Each week, staff will make nominations in recognition of pupils showing these characteristics in and around school. **A special mention to this week’s Year 5 winners who have worked exceptionally hard in STEM Club with Miss Lamont.**

	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
<b>Respect</b>	Daysi B	Thomas H	Darcy S	Kai F
<b>Engage</b>	Lily B	Dylan C	Louis R	James M-D
<b>Aspire</b>	Ailsa S	Ellie B	Jamie P	Ruby C

**Attendance – top 3!**

1	2	3
6JJO	6MDO and 6FHI	7BLA



**Reminders/ Key Dates**

- **HMS play the ‘Christmas Light Switch On’:** Friday 26 November 4.15pm
- **Year 5 Parents’ Evenings (online):** Tuesday 30 November and Thursday 2 December
- **PTA Movie Nights:** Wednesday 8 December (Year 5) and Thursday 9 December (Year 6)
- **PTA Christmas Gift Shop:** launching soon (information/ order forms to follow)
- **HMS Christmas Lunch:** Thursday 9 December
- **KS3 Pantomime Visit:** Friday 10 December
- **House Christmas Reward:** Tuesday 14 December
- **Christmas Jumper Day:** Friday 10 December – *donations payable by School Gateway*
- **Christmas Celebration Assemblies:** final week term



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### HMS Parliament Update

At HMS, we value hearing from our pupils about their day-to-day experience in school. The HMS Parliament representatives for this year have been elected and will now work with Miss Downes and Mr Johnson to represent the members of their form classes. Over the next few weeks, I will also be meeting with groups of pupils from each year group to find out more about their experience of school life so that we can continually improve our educational experience and empower the children to feel that their views influence their school.

Form Group	Pupil Name	Pupil Name
5FHA	George W	Mary W
5JNI	Annabelle R	Brodie G
5EKI	Gabi R	Jyacinth B
5HCO	Hayden T	James H
6MDO	Livia M	Oliver H
6JJO	Thomas H	Emily B
6FHI	Abigail B	Teddy A
6RAL	Matthew E	Daisy W
7IBO	Lorna D	Bruce K
7JKW	Abbi M	Louis R
7BLA	Cole H	Robin B-M
7AMG	Archie H	Jennifer W
8EST	Max H	Oscar F
8IHO	Olive T	Sasha F
8PGA	Edie L	Freddie C
8ETA	Seamus R	Leo E-W

Have a wonderful weekend everyone.

Yours sincerely

Mr Watters

**Head of School**

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