

14 October 2022

Dear Parent/ Carer

HMS WEEKLY UPDATE

Update on life in school

It's been another very busy week at HMS. Last night, we were delighted to welcome so many families to our school for Open Evening. There was a real buzz around the classrooms and the children who came back to help out were amazing – thank you to all of them. We enjoyed our 'Hello Yellow Day' on Monday to focus on World Mental Health Day and it was great to see everyone getting involved. This week's assemblies have focused on the core emotions and how we regulate emotions in our day to day lives. Please remind your child that they should feel able to talk about their mental health and that support is always available in school should they need it.

Your children may have mentioned that Mr Scott has not been in school. Mr Scott is unwell at the moment and we all send best wishes to him in his recovery. While he is away, your child should speak to their form tutor who they see on a daily basis, and to me, Mr Stephenson or Miss Liddle who are all more than happy to help them. If you contact school wishing to speak to Mr Scott, one of us will pick this up. I will keep you updated as to when Mr Scott will be back – we are all missing him!



Fellside Forest

As we continue to develop our outdoor space, we are delighted to have opened 'Fellside Forest' - our new outdoor classroom space. Huge thank you to our PTA who have supported us to purchase new equipment and to the many staff/children involved in setting up the new area. Mrs Gray, Miss Kingett and Mrs Hall are enjoying their lessons and we can't wait to share more updates throughout the year. Look out for more news on our garden area very soon...



Early Birds: Breakfast Club

Bookings can now be made for next half term's Breakfast Clubs. '[Early Birds: Breakfast Club](#)' runs every morning except Wednesday. Bookings can be made via School Gateway. Please note, the club can only run if we have the demand for places – this half term has not much uptake but we are continuing in the hope that more places are taken. If you are interested, please be sure to read the 'Breakfast Club Policy' on our website which will give you the information on attendance and payments. If you'd like to discuss the club further, please email us via admin@hexhammiddle.org.uk.

Hexham Middle School

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**



Enriching our Languages Curriculum

Back by popular demand, we had our Spanish-themed lunch on Wednesday to celebrate the 'Fiesta Nacional de España' - The National Day of Spain. Pupils enjoyed Spanish treats such as *pollo y chorizo con arroz, tortilla española, croquetas de patata, churros con chocolate and bizcocho de limón!*

We are also very happy to share the results of our fantastic European Day of Languages Bake Off 2022!

	KS2	KS3
Winner	Evie J	Annabelle O
2 nd place	Noah W	Mariya K
3 rd place	Kirstie A & Betty F	Daisy W & Wilfred P
4 th place	Gaby R & Thomas M	Fiana M & Myroslava P

Skills Builder Homezone

As a **Skills Builder 'Bronze Award' school**, we are now beginning the next stage of our journey to support the personal development of young people. Our first Skills Builder day of this year takes place on Monday 17 October – 'A Day in the Life of Politics'.



We also value the role that parents and carers play. We would like to bring to your attention a great resource by Skills Builder aimed at developing opportunities for parents/carers and young people to expand their knowledge, understanding and application of the eight essential skills. This [link](#) takes you to the **Skills Builder Homezone** website. You will find a set of Skills Challenges. They are great points of discussion and can also be used to motivate pupils. If you would like to take on any challenges, you can choose: getting started, intermediate, advanced, or mastery (click the drop down for further criteria), and then choose a skill to get started on.

Our intention in sharing this resource with parents/carers is to build a partnership approach, ensuring that young people at Hexham Middle School are aware of this universal set of skills which will, in time, prepare them for future life. Please do email [HMS Admin](#) with feedback on how you find these challenges. It would be great to share this with other parents and carers.

Attendance – top form classes!

1	2	3
7JKW / 5MDO	8PGA / 6EKI / 6FHI / 5ABA	7JET / 8IHO

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		Top 4 'P Points' in each year							
		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	15,877	1	Harry B	1	Gracie R	1	Madelyn C	1	Darcy S
Coquet	15,321	2	Joseph D	2	Jack H	2	Marnie C	2	Jennifer W
Tweed	14,941	3	Rufus A	3	Paloma P	3	Noah A	3	Laura W
Wansbeck	15,091	4	Jayden C	4	Billy B	4	Liv M	4	Betsy B

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.

	Year 5	Year 6
Respect	Lilly R-B	Paloma P
Engage	Cody R	Alfie R-W
Aspire	Wilfy D	James H

Reminders/ Key Dates



Monday 17 October	Skills Builder Day: 'A Day in Politics'	All
Tuesday 18 October	Breakfast Treat for New Starters	Year 5 (and new starters)
Tuesday 18 October	'Harmful Practices' workshops with Northumbria Police	Year 8
Wednesday 19 October	Anti-Bullying workshop	Year 5
Wednesday 19 October	'Safe on the Streets' workshop	Year 6
Friday 21 October	INSET day – pupils not in school	All

Have a fantastic weekend everyone!

Mr Watters
Head of School