

5 May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

### **HMS WEEKLY UPDATE**

#### **An update on life in school**

HMS has been a busy place once again this week with pupils engaged in amazing learning and a wide range of enriching experiences. 50 Year 8 pupils have been across in the Lake District on our annual visit to High Borrans. The photographs have been coming through from the team and it looks like everyone has had a phenomenal week making lifetime memories. We will share further updates next week. Huge thank you to the staff team – Mrs Stewart (who planned the visit), Mr Scott, Miss Taylor, Mr Forster and Mr Drummond – I know everyone will be ready for a good sleep tonight!

It's a very busy week coming up for Year 6 as they sit their End of KS2 assessments from Tuesday. Year 6 have worked so hard all year and we are beyond proud of each of them. I know that they will all shine next week – they really deserve to! This weekend, it's time for them to relax, eat lots of lovely food, enjoy fresh air and family time ready for a busy week ahead. *Remember – breakfast is available for Year 6 all next week in the dining hall from 8.15am.*

The bunting was up around HMS today as we celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III. The dining hall team prepared a wonderful afternoon tea lunch which the children really enjoyed. The 'HMS Coronation Quiche' is still open – entries are needed by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May (sent to Ms Kwella via the admin email address). Mr Johnson has planned some special Coronation history lessons which will be taking place over the next few weeks. I hope you all have lovely plans this special Bank Holiday weekend.

#### **Arts Award visit to The Baltic**

As part of our Bronze Arts Award, pupils visited The Baltic in Newcastle last week. Art is such a popular subject at HMS and Miss Taylor had to double the number of spaces on the visit! The pupils got to explore the gallery and work with an artist for a very engaging session. The calm, enthusiastic atmosphere and engagement was a joy, and the artist was blown away by the talent and skill of the HMS pupils. It was also lovely to be complimented by staff and members of the public - we are very proud! We can't wait to visit again and have very exciting plans to further enrich our arts curriculum with engaging opportunities.

Well done everyone!



#### **Hexham Middle School**

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**

## HMS Lottery

Don't forget about our HMS Lottery. Run by our PTA to raise funds for enrichment activities and equipment such as Forest School, author visits, playground equipment and new library books. Tickets are just £1 each and enrolment is easy. Just follow the link <https://forms.gle/a2gkWhkQJ9YwK6zw9> or email [hmsprizedraw@gmail.com](mailto:hmsprizedraw@gmail.com) for more information.

### Pupil Success!

A huge well done to Thomas, Max and their teammates who ended a very successful football season with an exciting 3-0 victory this weekend. The team were delighted to win two cups - what an achievement! Congratulations from everyone at HMS!

We love to hear about the success and commitment of our pupils outside of school - please keep sharing your great news!

### 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	
<b>Aln</b>	79,700	1	Rosie O	1	Tristan J	1	Emily S	1	Esme W
<b>Coquet</b>	73,216	2	Georgie W	2	Benson H	2	Ferdi U	2	Adam L
<b>Tweed</b>	75,347	3	Lily H	3	Esme B	3	Beth N	3	Tiana M
<b>Wansbeck</b>	74,302	4	James T	4	Cameron S	4	Ellie B	4	Laura W

### Year 6 Cubist Art

Our year 6 pupils finished their cardboard faces inspired by the work of Pablo Picasso and a contemporary Spanish artist, Belin. Pupils created a collage of a celebrity face, then made their own design of the Pablo Picasso Cubist face with some great results!



**Kickboxing comes to HMS!**



We were so excited to welcome Charlotte from Full of Beans Fitness to start our new after-school Kickboxing Club. The pupils really enjoyed their first session.

**Pupil Achievement**

Huge congratulations to year 6 pupils Lily B, Mia S & Annabelle R, & year 7 Lucy H, who played netball matches for Northumberland County Netball against teams from North Durham, South Durham & Cleveland at the Beacon of Light in Sunderland on Sunday. The girls' team was unbeaten and won all 5 matches! Well done from everyone at HMS!



**Year 8 High Borrans Trip**



Year 8 pupils are having a fantastic time on their trip and so far groups have enjoyed a glorious day out on Ullswater canoeing and cliff jumping! Many a mental battle was fought as brave souls jumped into the chilled depths of the lake. Another group scaled the Kirkstone pass, developing their scrambling skills in preparation for their afternoon Ghyll scrambling. Plunge pools, waterfalls and the ice-cold natural "jacuzzi" were highlights of the day. The final group went deep underground in the Yorkshire Dales, near the Ribbleshead viaduct. They demonstrated excellent teamwork skills, helping each other through the caves as well as learning about stalactites and stalagmites.

**Community News**

**Hexham Holiday Club & Messy Church**

Hexham Holiday Club is taking over Messy Church on Sunday 14 May from 10:30 am – 12:30pm. There will be crafts, stories, songs and free lunch! Your child is invited along to have a taster of Holiday Club and to meet some of the team. If you're interested, email [holidayclubhexham@gmail.com](mailto:holidayclubhexham@gmail.com).

**Attendance – top 3!**

1	2	3
5-FHA/ 5-HCO	5-ABA/5-JNI/6-FHI/8-IHO/7-AMG	5-MDO/7-JKW/7-ETA

## Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Monday 8 May	May Bank Holiday – King’s Coronation	School Closed
Tuesday 9 – Friday 12 May	Bikeability Course	Year 5
Tuesday 9 – Friday 12 May	SATs Week	Year 6
Tuesday 9 May	SATS, EGPS	Year 6
Wednesday 10 May	SATS, English Reading	Year 6
Wednesday 10 May	NU Futures Careers Programme (selected pupils)	Year 7
Wednesday 10 May	NU Futures Careers Programme (selected pupils)	Year 8
Thursday 11 May	SATS Week, Maths	Year 6
Thursday 11 May	Ushaw Ensemble, Jazz Workshops	Year 7 and Year 8
Friday 12 May	SATS Week, Maths	Year 6
Thursday 18 May	Year 6 Height and Weight Checks (NHS)	Year 6
Saturday 10 June	HMS PTA Summer Fair 2023	All pupils and families

Have a fantastic weekend everyone!

Mr Watters

Head of School

### **Pupil Support and Safeguarding**

**Designated Safeguarding Leader:** Mr Stephenson/ **Deputy Leaders:** Mr Scott and Mr Freeman-Myers

**Heads of Key Stage:** Mr Scott and Miss Liddle **SENDCo/Assistant**

**SENDCo:** Mr Stephenson and Mrs Adams

**Pupil Support Workers:** Mrs Dodds and Mrs Richards

Please remember that we are here to support you and your child at any time. You can contact us via the main office (phone) or by email ([admin@hexhammiddle.org.uk](mailto:admin@hexhammiddle.org.uk)).