

Dear Parent/Carer

HMS WEEKLY UPDATE 14

Update on school life

As is tradition at HMS, each year group has enjoyed a Christmas Treat this week. Year 8 had their annual visit to the Life Centre and Ice Rink which was a huge success and is always a highlight for our Year 8 pupils when they leave us. KS2 visited the Tyne Theatre for the annual panto (I was lucky enough to join them this year which was great fun!) and Year 7 had a day of multi-sports, activities and an afternoon visit to Forum Cinema today. The staff work really hard to plan these opportunities and I appreciate their hard work and energy, and the support from all of you.

I am delighted to let you all know that our recent PTA events have raised a phenomenal amount of funds for our school. The discos raised a grand total of £958.63, the Festive Forest Evening raised a total profit of £559.90 and the Christmas Pop-Up Shops this week have raised a huge £858. We continue to be so grateful for your support of our events.

The HMS PTA have very exciting plans for this year and we will share further information on how some of the funding will be used this year very soon. The PTA are also looking for much-needed new recruits to join the group. Many of our very committed members will be reaching the end of their time as HMS parents and we really want to keep this brilliant energy going. If you feel you could join and support the work of the PTA, please contact Mr Watters or Sheryl (PTA Chair) on hmsptachair@gmail.com.

Our positive approach to our behaviour curriculum is always front and centre at this time of year as we celebrate the success and achievements of our amazing pupils. Today, we held the first of our new monthly 'Head of School Award Breakfasts' to recognise pupils across the school who consistently display our core school values and character traits. We also invited a group of pupils who have had 100% attendance to enjoy a special breakfast in the dining hall. The nominations for this term's 'Celebration Assemblies' are in and we can't wait to recognise the achievements next week.

Year 8 Christmas Trip

Year 8 had a fantastic day at the Life Science Centre in Newcastle on Monday. The pupils spent the day exploring the centre including a visit to the planetarium. Everyone was also able to enjoy a session on the ice rink for a real festive treat! The pupils were an absolute credit to HMS and the staff were proud of their engagement on the day! Great to see lots of smiley, happy faces throughout the day! A well-deserved Christmas treat for everyone.



Hexham Middle School

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Executive Headteacher: Graeme Atkins

Head of School: Liam Watters

Head of School Awards

Each month, form teachers nominate a pupil in their class for a 'Head of School Award'. Each month has a different theme linked to our school ethos and key character values. This month our focus has been on **generosity**. The award winners have joined Mr Watters for a special breakfast treat this morning, as well as receiving a certificate and special P-point recognition. Well done everyone!

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Isla T	Lauchlan H	Clara H	Olivia M
Archie S	Xav H-L	Tom W	Phoebe T
Charlie H	Sofia O	Esme B	Una C-W
Meghan J	Lily A	Poppy K	Emily B
Fern R	Bertie T	William T	Sophie S

Respect. Engage. Aspire Awards

Each week, teachers nominate pupils for awards to celebrate those who have demonstrated our school values and to recognise the brilliant achievements of our pupils. The awards celebrate children who have shown great respect, who have engaged well in all aspects of school life and who have shown high aspiration during lessons and around school.



Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Jacob B Nick T Lottie H Sophia R Isabelle C	<i>No assembly due to panto visit – update to follow next week!</i>	Bea S Sam C Brodie G Mia S Cristina C	Beth N Lorien V Joseph O Freya G Saffron F

KS2 Pantomime Visit

The whole of KS2 had a great time at the Tyne Theatre on Thursday where they enjoyed this year's festive pantomime - Peter Pan! It was a morning filled with laughs as we all enjoyed the brilliant show. I am sure we would all highly recommend the production and can't wait to visit again next December. The show included a few guest appearances from HMS with Amelie (Y6) and Tom (Y5) going up on stage and Mr Nichol featuring in part of the show too! Huge thank you to Miss Liddle and the KS2 team for leading the visit and the children for representing HMS so brilliantly.



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	38,226	1	Jennifer V	1	Lily A	1	Sophie S	1	Sophie S
Coquet	38,184	2	Adina C	2	Ted W	2	Joe M	2	Callum BS
Tweed	38,016	3	Alfred A	3	Lauchlan H	3	Noah S	3	Eve W
Wansbeck	36,573	4	Philippa U	4	Cody R	4	Jonah D	4	Max H

Football News

On Tuesday, our Year 6 boys participated in a multi-school football competition. They played against teams from across the local area. The boys worked as a great team throughout the entire tournament, and were the only team to have maintained a clean sheet in every game (thanks to the excellent goalkeeping of Oswald)!

Finley captained the side in each game and encouraged all of the boys to play with our ethos of Respect, Engage, Aspire on display. Will from Year 5 impressed with his debut in the Year 6 squad. Ben and Walt made some crucial tackles at the right time and Henry and Nico pressed well throughout the tournament. Harry handed Hexham their first win of the competition by leading an excellent counterattack from a Darras Hall set piece, scoring a superb goal! Overall, the Hexham boys represented the school tremendously well and Mr Nichol commented on how proud he was of the attitude and performance of the entire squad!



The girls travelled to Ponteland to play against Ovingham, Ponteland & St Joseph's. It was a tough evening for the girls as they had to battle the wet & cold conditions. Despite this, they won their first game, outplaying St Joseph's and managing a 1-0 win with Kirstie scoring a fine solo goal. They lost the next 2 games to well organised teams, but brave performances in defence by Emily G Emily C as well as some excellent goalkeeping from Betti kept the scoreline down. All girls were fantastic in their attitude and should be proud of their efforts.

Pupil Success

Lauchlan was one of four members of Hexham Judo Club who took part in a competition in Newcastle in November. Clubs came from as far away from Scotland to compete. Lauchlan had three fights and after a hard fall in the first fight, he recovered well for his next two fights and finished the day with a well-deserved bronze. Well done on your commitment and achievements, Lauchlan - we are proud of you!



Attendance – top 3!

1	2	3
5-JNI, 5-EKI	6-FHI, 5-ZSC	8-ETA

News from the community

- Christmas at Hexham Library – flyer attached and shared on our Facebook page.

Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Monday 18th December	HMS Carol Service – Hexham Abbey – 7pm	All welcome
Wednesday 20th December	Celebration Assemblies	All year groups
Thursday 21th December	Christmas Jumper Day (normal uniform except the jumper)	All year groups
Thursday 21th December	Christingle Services	All year groups
Friday 22nd December	Non-uniform or Christmas Jumpers!	All year groups
Friday 8th December	School Closes at 1.30pm (school transport arranged)	All year groups
Monday 8th January	School reopens for all pupils at 8.40am	All year groups
Wednesday 10th January	Year 5 Team Building Day	Year 5
Thursday 11th January	Newcastle University Workshops	Year 7
Monday 15th January	Buddhism Workshops	Year 6
Monday 15th January	Islam Workshops	Year 8
Tuesday 16th January	Judaism Workshops	Year 5

Tuesday 16th January	Cross Country Competition	KS3 group
Thursday 18th January	Year 8 Parents' Evening (face to face)	Year 8
Thursday 25th January	Year 8 Parents' Evening (online)	Year 8

Have a fantastic weekend everyone!

Mr Watters

Head of School

Pupil Support and Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mr Stephenson/ **Deputy Safeguarding Leaders:** Mr Scott and Miss Liddle

Heads of Key Stage: Mr Scott and Miss Liddle

SENDCo/Assistant SENDCo: Mr Stephenson and Mrs Adams

Academic Support Coordinator: Mrs Toor

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).