

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

**HMS WEEKLY UPDATE 26**

**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>	65,733	1	Alexander E		Artie o'B		Lola B		Abi B
<b>Coquet</b>	66,473	2	Edward H		Jacob A		Zach JD		Martha B
<b>Tweed</b>	64,801	3	Sofia P		Rosie O		Jonah D		Maeve H-D
<b>Wansbeck</b>	62,506	4	Noah S		Duncan G		Sarah N		Oliver E

**Spring Celebration Assemblies**

We were delighted to welcome each year group to their Easter Celebration Assemblies. It is always a joy to celebrate the achievements, positivity and engagement of our pupils - they really do deserve it! The assemblies included subject awards, P-point milestones, attendance certificates and recognition of those who engage brilliantly in extra-curricular opportunities. There is always so much to be proud of at HMS. Well done to everyone nominated and congratulations to the overall winners. As I always say, every single pupil should be proud of themselves for the effort and contribution they make day-in, day-out! Huge thanks to our PTA for buying our Easter prizes once again!

The winners and runners up are included in the table below.

**Hexham Middle School**

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**

	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8
<b>English</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Finlay F <b>Runner up:</b> Talia C	<b>Winner:</b> Aria H <b>Runner up:</b> Thomas M	<b>Winner:</b> James V <b>Runner up:</b> Esme B	<b>Winner:</b> Jack D <b>Runner up:</b> Sophie S
<b>Maths</b>	<b>Winner:</b> James D <b>Runner up:</b> Alexis L	<b>Winner:</b> Niamh K <b>Runner up:</b> Ivor T	<b>Winner:</b> Harriet A <b>Runner up:</b> Leo F	<b>Winner:</b> Emily B <b>Runner up:</b> Lucy P
<b>Science</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Arthur C <b>Runner up:</b> Alex T	<b>Winner:</b> Harry G <b>Runner up:</b> Elsie L	<b>Winner:</b> Lucas S <b>Runner up:</b> Bess D	<b>Winner:</b> Lewis P <b>Runner up:</b> Olivia D
<b>Art</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Eleanor W <b>Runner up:</b> Arthur C	<b>Winner:</b> Sofia O <b>Runner up:</b> Charlie P	<b>Winner:</b> Dylan B <b>Runner up:</b> Ruby P	<b>Winner:</b> Penny J <b>Runner up:</b> Ellie B
<b>Music</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Dylan W <b>Runner up:</b> Sadie B	<b>Winner:</b> Lauchlan H <b>Runner up:</b> Phoebe B	<b>Winner:</b> James L <b>Runner up:</b> Evie W	<b>Winner:</b> Alistair W <b>Runner up:</b> George H
<b>PE</b>	Isabella S Thomas M	Emily D Ben S	Mia S James H	Alex L Daisy W
<b>Computing</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Alexis L <b>Runner up:</b> Dylan W	<b>Winner:</b> Bertie T <b>Runner up:</b> India R	<b>Winner:</b> Sam B <b>Runner up:</b> Harry J	<b>Winner:</b> Freddie H <b>Runner up:</b> Lucy H
<b>Design Technology</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Robbin M <b>Runner up:</b> Sadie B	<b>Winner:</b> Ollie S <b>Runner up:</b> Lily A	<b>Winner:</b> Florence O'B <b>Runner up:</b> Ruby Clark	<b>Winner:</b> Abigail B <b>Runner up:</b> Lizzie B
<b>Food Technology</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Fern R <b>Runner up:</b> Mason M	<b>Winner:</b> Artie O'B <b>Runner up:</b> Evie R-C	<b>Winner:</b> Annabelle M <b>Runner up:</b> George W	<b>Winner:</b> Leo B <b>Runner up:</b> Grace B
<b>History</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Katlyn H <b>Runner up:</b> Annabelle L	<b>Winner:</b> Etta L <b>Runner up:</b> Robbie P	<b>Winner:</b> Evie J <b>Runner up:</b> Teddy D	<b>Winner:</b> Lexy G <b>Runner up:</b> Harry S
<b>Geography</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Aidan M <b>Runner up:</b> Tessa H	<b>Winner:</b> William D <b>Runner up:</b> Emily C	<b>Winner:</b> Sonny S <b>Runner up:</b> Evie A	<b>Winner:</b> Abbie W <b>Runner up:</b> Ferdie U
<b>French</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Isla T <b>Runner up:</b> Tessa H	<b>Winner:</b> Lizzie L <b>Runner up:</b> Henry L	<b>Winner:</b> Anthony M <b>Runner up:</b> Florence O'B	<b>Winner:</b> Saffron F <b>Runner up:</b> Max H

<b>Spanish</b>			<b>Winner:</b> Charlie M <b>Runner up:</b> Paloma P	<b>Winner:</b> Cameron S <b>Runner up:</b> Sophie W
<b>RE</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Sophia R <b>Runner up:</b> Tansy BD	<b>Winner:</b> Amelie G <b>Runner up:</b> Jacob A	<b>Winner:</b> Isaac K <b>Runner up:</b> Anna O	<b>Winner:</b> Tom S <b>Runner up:</b> George H
<b>PSHE</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Zain B <b>Runner up:</b> Jack B	<b>Winner:</b> Betty F <b>Runner up:</b> Sam L	<b>Winner:</b> Anna McL <b>Runner up:</b> Noah H	<b>Winner:</b> Christian T <b>Runner up:</b> Callum B-S
<b>Drama</b>			<b>Winner:</b> Sarah N <b>Runner up:</b> Tristan J	<b>Winner:</b> Eliza R <b>Runner up:</b> Patrick F
<b>Forest School</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Andrei P <b>Runner up:</b> Tom G			
<b>Form Tutor Award</b>	<b>5EKI:</b> Will M Annabelle L <b>5FHA:</b> Charlotte B Archie J <b>5JNI:</b> Mollie P George R <b>5MDO:</b> Isabelle C Sam G <b>5ZSC:</b> Martha G George L	<b>6FHI:</b> Ida H Ben S <b>6JJO:</b> James C Katie R-B <b>6MBE:</b> Rosie O Ianto T <b>6RAL:</b> Oliver B Lily H <b>6YTA:</b> Oswald B Leo H	<b>7AMG:</b> Toby C Antony M <b>7EST:</b> Ossie D Alfie McL <b>7JET:</b> Holli M William T <b>7PGA:</b> Esme B Bobby E <b>7SFO:</b> Lola B Lavinia T	<b>8IHO:</b> Jack H Eve W <b>8ETA:</b> Jacob O Thea S <b>8IBO:</b> Lucy Mcl Alastair W <b>8BLA:</b> Lucy H Theo H-G <b>8SRI:</b> Rose C Olivia M
<b>Head of Key Stage Award</b>	<b>Winner:</b> Philippa U <b>Deputy:</b> Edward H	<b>Winner:</b> Kirstie A <b>Deputy:</b> Joseph H	<b>Winner:</b> Kayden W	<b>Winner:</b> Martha B

### Staffing update

Mrs Tanner is moving on to an exciting new role outside of teaching after Easter. Mrs Tanner has been at HMS for over 10 years and has made a significant contribution to our school. She has taught in

computing and maths, led the very popular London visit and supported our Digital Leader team in all they do. Mrs Tanner will be a big miss in school, and we wish her every success in her new adventure.

After Easter, Mr Jones will join the team for the summer term. From September, we have appointed a brilliant new computing specialist to join the HMS team and I will send further updates in due course.

### **Owen's Charity Haircut**

Owen in Year 6 has cut off his long hair and donated it to the Little Princess Trust, which makes real hair wigs for children who have lost their hair as a result of cancer treatment. Owen had not cut his hair for around four years, and very much liked it long. He was offered a part in a play which required him to have short hair. He was quite conflicted about this, but in the end decided that he would cut his hair off if he could donate it to charity. There is a £700 cost to supplying a wig to a child even after the hair has been donated, so Owen and his family have also set up a Just Giving page and he has so far raised over £800 so far! We are all very proud of Owen - [donations can be made at this link.](#)

### **Pupil Success**

We were very proud to hear that Winnie enjoyed huge success this weekend. She came first in the Irish National Boulder Championship beating the best of the best in Great Britain in her age category. What an achievement and yet more demonstration of her dedication to the sport! Well done from everyone at HMS!



### **Kooth**

Year 7 and 8 welcomed Michael Brioud last week who talked to our pupils about Mental Health and the Kooth online service designed to support young people. The assembly outlined and three main principles of Kooth - it offers free, safe and anonymous support to young people over the age of 11. After Easter, our KS3 classes will be provided with an opportunity to sign up and log-in to the Kooth service, under the guidance of our computing staff. This is not compulsory, and pupils do not have to sign up.

### **Holi – Festival of Colours – themed lunch**

We all enjoyed recognising the Holi Festival of Colours on Monday with a very special themed lunch in the HMS Dining Hall. Huge thanks to Mrs Satow and her very talented team who provided an extra special selection of homemade meals and desserts. We absolutely loved it!



## Mental Health First Aid Team

Congratulations to Mr Scott, Mr Nichol, Miss Bell, Mrs Downes, Mrs Bond, Miss Lamont, Miss Barrick and Mrs Tanner who have all completed their Mental Health First Aid training. Our new 'Mental Health First Aid Team' will be available to support all pupils and staff across our school and will further strengthen our work to promote mental health and wellbeing for everyone at HMS. Huge thanks to Amanda from the Be You team who delivered the training over a number of weeks and to colleagues from across the Hexham Partnership for joining the course.



## After school clubs

Thank you to all parents/carers that have signed up for clubs during the summer term. You should have received written confirmation by now. Some after-school clubs are no longer running during the summer term. If any previous clubs are not showing on the most up-to-date [club timetable](#) (on the website), the club is no longer running. Dungeons and Dragons Club will be changing times after the spring holidays - it will run from 3.15 to 4.15pm.

## Attendance – top 3!

1	2	3
8-BLA	6-YTA	6-FHI, 5-ZSC

## Online Safety Updates

### Instagram New Messaging Settings

Meta is introducing more safety features on its' Instagram platform over the coming months. These new Instagram features (some of which will be transitioned into Facebook Messenger as well) include:

- Limiting teens' ability to see sensitive content.
- Nudges to encourage teens to close Instagram at night.
- Stricter private messaging (adults should not be able to privately message children who don't follow those adults).
- Children can only be messaged by people they already follow or are connected to (no further information on that latter part).

You can read more about the features [HERE](#), but there's a little more. Meta, in the coming months, is also rolling out a feature where children will not receive, and will discourage from sending explicit images. However, not only is this feature optional, it is being reported that if illegal content is shared it won't be automatically flagged and reported (For Parents by Alan Mackenzie, online safety advisor.)

## Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	School re-opens at 8.40am	All year groups
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Young Green Briton Challenge - Dragon's Den	Year 7
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Junior Maths Challenge	Year 7 and year 8
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Head of School Award Breakfast	All year groups selection
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Careers: Exploring Aviation	Year 8
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	High Borrans Residential	Year 8

Have a fantastic Easter break 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 Morgan 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](mailto:admin@hexhammiddle.org.uk)).