

Dear Parent/Carer

HMS WEEKLY UPDATE 28

End of term reflection

As we reach the end of the spring term, we continue to have so much to be proud of at HMS. It's been another very busy and positive half-term with lots to celebrate – great learning, lots of representation of the school at fixtures and events and so many varied enrichment opportunities. We're fast-approaching the summer term and we're preparing to start welcoming our incoming Year 5 pupils for their transition to middle school and to support our Year 8s with the move to high school – exciting times ahead. It's always a very busy term and we'll keep you updated with important dates on a weekly basis. For now, I thank you all for your continued support of our school. I hope you have a fantastic Easter holiday – fingers crossed for some sunshine!

House Point Totals

Each week, we celebrate our P Point (positive point) total across the school. We include the 'Top 4' pupils in each year group, as well as the house totals for Aln, Coquet, Wansbeck and Tweed. Well done everyone for such a positive term in school.

House Totals		Top 4 'P Points' in each year							
		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	56,813	1	James C	1	Lucy E	1	Oswald B	1	Sarah N
Coquet	57,462	2	Philippa M	2	Alexander U	2	Tyler H	2	Evie D
Tweed	58,377	3	Ella A	3	Owen B	3	Anna F	3	Owen B
Wansbeck	57,900	4	Jake C	4	George L	4	Joseph B	4	Zack D

Decorated Egg Competition

Wow - the entries for this year's Decorated Egg Competition are absolutely fantastic! The creativity and imagination on display is so impressive! From 'Eggie Howe', 'Eggie Mercury' and even a version of our own 'HMS Orcheggstra' - we love them all! Well done to everyone who entered. A certificate and 'Head of School Award' have been awarded to recognise your brilliant efforts. I asked Mr



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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**

Atkins to judge the entries and prizes were issued this afternoon (see below winners). An 'eggcellent' effort all round - well done everyone! Check our [website](#) for more pictures.

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Jemima C Amber S	Meghan J	Callie T	Ivy M Shona R

Easter Celebration Assemblies

It was a joy to meet as year groups today for our Easter Celebration Assemblies. The assemblies are always an opportunity to reflect on the term, to celebrate the success of all pupils and to highlight the special achievements being made in school. Our assemblies include subject awards and nominations, recognition of great attendance and, of course, our P point awards. Our form tutor and Head of Key Stage awards are a moment of special recognition - congratulations everyone! Well done to each and every pupil in our school - you are absolute stars!

	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8
English	Winner: Amelia-Rose S Runner up: Mason D	Winner: Philippa U Runner up: Sam G	Winner: Ianto T Runner up: Isla N	Winner: Evie J Runner up: Sartaj D
Maths	Winner: Leo M Runner up: Aliza S	Winner: Jack L Runner up: Ruby S	Winner: Rose K Runner up: Finlay H	Winner: Joe F Runner up: Alice B
Science	Winner: Daniel M Runner up: Emelia T	Winner: Cody G Runner up: Aimee C	Winner: Leo H Runner up: Lizzie L	Winner: Sophie A Runner up: Ruby C
Art	Winner: David W Runner up: Erin M	Winner: Finlay F Runner up: Lauren D	Winner: Emily D Runner up: Duncan G	Winner: Noah W Runner up: Carrie G
Music	Winner: Oscar C Runner up: Marnie D	Winner: Isis T Runner up: Will M	Winner: Georgia O Runner up: Wilfy D	Winner: Poppy K Runner up: Anna M
PE	Darcey H Freddie S	Charlie P James S	Lily H Rosie O	Paloma P Euan A
Computing	Winner: Finn M Runner up: Phaedra-Sun H-F	Winner: Meghan J Runner up: Archie J	Winner: Oswald B Runner up: Esther C	Winner: Isobel S Runner up: James H
Design Technology	Winner: Felix H Runner up:	Winner: Sienna C Runner up:	Winner: Etta L Runner up:	Winner: James L Runner up:

	Bella S	Oliver S	Robin W	Felicity F
Food Technology	Winner: Alba B Runner up: Sophia M	Winner: Sam S Runner up: Eva G	Winner: Gwen C Runner up: Daniel B	Winner: Lola B Runner up: Sophie S
History	Winner: Sophia B Runner up: Rowan D	Winner: Arthur C Runner up: Meike O	Winner: Harry B Runner up: Sam L	Winner: Hayden D Runner up: Florence B
Geography	Winner: George H Runner up: Vinnie D	Winner: Mollie P Runner up: Joey R	Winner: Doran K Runner up: Elsie-May P	Winner: Tom W Runner up: Ollie P
French	Winner: Rory M Runner up: Amelia-Rose S	Winner: Sophia R Runner up: Eric J	Winner: Tilly C Runner up: Joseph D	Winner: Antony M Runner up: Alivia A
Spanish			Winner: Joanna R Runner up: Sinjin R	Winner: Finn C Runner up: Zoe G
RE	Winner: Daniella H Runner up: Jesse C	Winner: Sadie B Runner up: Micheal B	Winner: Isla N Runner up: Rory A	Winner: Brodie G Runner up: Khloe M
PSHE	Winner: Jenna T Runner up: Jay Jay W	Winner: Riley B Runner up: Tessa H	Winner: Freddie H Runner up: Evie R	Winner: Noah W Runner up: James V
Drama			Winner: Matty M Runner up: Katie R	Winner: Kaidyn B Runner up: Alfie R
Forest School Explore	Winner: Jackson E Runner up: Millie H			
Form Tutor Award	5EKI: Esme H Harry M 5FHA: Bella B Jesse C 5JNI: Amber S Elliott W 5MDO: Millie C Ruairi C 5ZSC: Winnie B Marcus M	6FHI: Philippa U Dylan W 6JJO: Isobel B Riley B 6MBE: Jack B Isabella S 6RAL: Martha G George L 6YTA: Micheal C Isabelle C	7AMG: Joseph D Aria H 7IBO: Artie O Niamh K 7PES: Tilly C Edward S 7SFO: Anabelle C Esther C 7PHA: Gwen C Ben N	8PGA: Poppy K Ollie P 8SMC: Bess D George W 8ETA: Annabelle R Mia S 8BLA: Joe F Paloma P 8SRI: Sophie A Kaidyn B

Head of Key Stage Award	Winner: Bertie L	Winner: Will M	Winner: Etta L	Winner: Evie J
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Maths Success

A huge congratulations to our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils who achieved over 10,000 XP points on Sparx Maths this half term! This is a fantastic accomplishment, and we are incredibly proud of the dedication and effort they have shown, both in school and at home. To celebrate their hard work, the students were treated to a well-deserved movie afternoon, complete with popcorn and snacks— a fun and relaxing reward enjoyed by all. We're already looking ahead to our exciting Summer event, which all students will have the opportunity to take part in. Well done again to everyone involved— keep up the great work!



We are also delighted to celebrate the success of Sarah N and Beatrice S on achieving the Junior Certificate in the 2025 Newcastle University Maths Challenge. This is a fantastic accomplishment that reflects their hard work, enthusiasm, and talent in mathematics. We are incredibly proud of both students and congratulate them on representing the school so brilliantly. Well done, Sarah and Bea!

RSE Update - Summer Term

During the summer term, pupils will have the opportunity to explore elements of the statutory relationship curriculum across both Key Stage 2 and 3, as well sex education for your year 7 and 8 pupils. Our long-term plan for PSHE (including relationships and sex education (RSE)) can be found on the school [website](#).

- In year 5, we are exploring puberty (physical changes, emotions and feelings, and personal hygiene).
- Year 6, we will be considering the safety issues around sharing images.
- Our Key Stage 3 pupils have a comprehensive sequence of relationship and sex education lessons including staying safe online. As a school, we are a member of PSHE Association and use accredited, age-appropriate resources.

We would like to draw your attention to our Relationship and Sex Education [policy](#). If you have any questions about the RSE curriculum proposed for this year, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

HMS Club News

Forest School

There are spaces for the Forest School in Summer Term. The first session is the first Monday after the holidays. Sign up is required via the MCAS app.

STEM to STARS webinar

Just a reminder that we have the STEM to STARS webinar on Tuesday 29th April. This is for KS2 pupils only. You can register on MCAS. We will be welcoming Kielder Observatory staff to talk more about careers in astronomy. We will be hosting this half-hour session from 3.30pm.

Clubs in summer term

Our great club offer has been updated and can be found on the school website in the personal development section. Please take the time to review this, especially the lunchtime clubs. Please can all parents/carers review the MCAS app for after-school clubs that their child is registered for. If there are clashes for clubs, please do contact us at admin@hexhammiddle.org.uk, letting us know which club pupils would like to prioritise. If your child does not attend a club for 3 sessions without fair reason, we may need to remove them from the club and add another pupil from the waiting list. If your child is going to have a planned absence from an after-school club, please let us know and we will pass this information on to the club leader. Thank you 😊

Archaeology Club

The first four sessions of Mr Boyle's new club have gone really well! We have done little bit of digging with our dig boxes and tried to develop an understanding of stratigraphy. The club then looked at archaeological drawing to test the students' artistry skills and why we still draw sites. Finally, we've explored the origins of coins, why they are important and what they can tell us about a society (even our own!) as well as designing our own coins.

I look forward to welcoming even more budding archaeologists as we learn to decipher ancient languages, discover the secrets of stone circles, what ancient clothing tells us and then exploring what's beneath our feet in and around Hexham.



HMS PTA

Save the date: Summer Fair 2025

The HMS PTA are very excited to announce this year's Summer Fair. The PTA are planning a movie-themed extravaganza for the whole family to enjoy.

- Saturday 21st June 12-3pm
- Hexham Middle School
- Giant inflatable, raffle, tombola, themed games and stall, BBQ, refreshments.

Please save the date and share the poster with family/friends - we'd love to see you all there! Any donations of raffle and tombola prizes would be hugely appreciated. More information about supporting at the event will follow after the Easter break.



Attendance – top 3!

Attendance was good this week with 95% of pupils being in school. However, our school target is 97%. It's so important that pupils and parents have a positive attitude towards school attendance – pupils should be in school every day, ready to learn and to make the most of their school opportunities.

1st form class 99%	2nd form class 98%	3rd form class 97%
5-MDO	8-PGA, 6-JJO, 5-EKI	5-FHA, 6-MBE, 6-FHI

Online Safety Update

For Parents - Game Safe Guide

With the school holidays just around the corner, some children will be looking forward to spending longer online, with their friends, playing online games. There always has to be a balance, but gaming can be a really positive activity for lots of reasons. But as we all know there are lots of risks and issues. Internet Matters has a brilliant guide for parents which goes into lots of detail in relation to balancing gaming with other activities, setting up consoles correctly, connecting with others and much more.

The full guide can be found [HERE](#) (by Alan McKenzie, online safety advisor)

News from the community

DISH

Trinity Methodist Church will provide free meals for families during school holidays with activities and space to play. Doors open 11am – 2pm. Food served 12-1pm. See poster attached to today's update email.


Free School Meals

Free School Meals

You can find the eligibility criteria for free school meals here. If you think your child may be eligible, please make an application to the local authority who review your request. You can find out more [here](#).

Upcoming Dates

Date	Event	Who
Monday 28 April	School re-opens at 8.40am	All year groups
Monday 28 April – Friday 1 May	High Borrans Residential	Year 8 (group)
Monday 28 April	Music Department Talent show auditions	All year groups
Tuesday 29 April	STEM to Stars Careers Webinar 3.30-4pm	Year 5 and Year 6 selection
Thursday 1 May	Music Department Talent show auditions	All year groups
Friday 2 May	Year 5 Careers: Photography Workshops	Year 5
Tuesday 6 May – Friday 9 May	Stay Safe and Well: river safety workshops	All year groups

Tuesday 6 May	HPV Vaccinations	Year 8
Thursday 8 May	VE Day Lunch	All year groups
Monday 12 to Thursday 15 May	Year 6 SATs assessments	Year 6
Friday 16 May	Year 6 Treat Day	Year 6
Monday 19 May	Cuppa and a Catch-Up – Mr Watters/Mr Stephenson	All welcome
Tuesday 20 May	Year 5 and Year 8 Year Group Photographs	Year 5 and Year 8
Tuesday 20 May	Year 4 SEND Evening	New Year 4 parents/children
Monday 19 May	KS2 Music Showcase – 6pm	All welcome
		
Friday 23 May	Head of School Awards Breakfast	Winners
Friday 23 May	House Prize – non-uniform day	Winning House

Have a great weekend!

Mr Watters

Head of School

Pupil Support and Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mr Stephenson
Deputy Safeguarding Leaders: Mr Scott and Mr Rutherford-Orrock
Heads of Key Stage: Mr Scott and Mr Rutherford-Orrock
SENDCo/Assistant SENDCo: Mr Morgan and Mrs Ballantyne
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).