

Dear Parent/Carer

HMS WEEKLY UPDATE 35

The HMS Way 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. Well done – we are very proud of you!



Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Daniel W	Zain B	Dominique H	Lavina T
Esme H	Dillon D	James C	Tom W
Sophie K	James D	Alfie L	Harry B
Mattie M	Lottie H	Betti A	Khloe M
Lewis B	Isabelle C	Emily G	Callum J



Spain Residential

The Spain Trip group had a magical week in Barcelona this week. Huge thanks to Mr Armstrong for planning such a great experience, and to Mr Stephenson, Miss Tauk and Mrs Toor for going on the trip. All of the pupils have had an amazing time and have been an absolute credit to HMS. I will include a full write-up next week.

Zoolab

Year 6 loved their workshops with Rob from Zoolab earlier this week. Zoolab visited Year 6 as part of their science curriculum to discuss all things evolution, inheritance and classification! Their learning was brought to life by an exciting selection of wildlife – have a look at some of the creatures that visited HMS. Rob was very impressed with the engagement of Year 6 who asked some very interesting questions as part of the Darwin-themed lessons.



Hexham Middle School

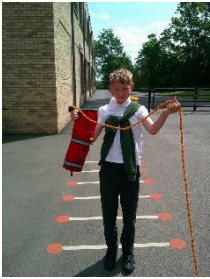
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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**



Water Safety

It was great to welcome the Fire and Rescue Service back into school this week. Year 7 had the opportunity to take part in water safety workshops as part of the 'Stay Safe and Well Curriculum'. This is such an important part of our curriculum, particularly as the summer months have started. Thank you to the visiting Fire Service crew for their engaging and vitally important sessions.

Well done, Ben!

We are so proud of Ben for raising £420 for Cancer Research UK by running a cake sale earlier this term. A huge thank you from Ben (and me) for the cake donations, the support in running the stall and to the children for making him so busy!



HMS Fundraising Day 2025

On Friday 27th June, we'll be holding a Fundraising Day in support of our HMS Council's two chosen charities: Northumberland Wildlife Trust and Cancer Research UK.

What can pupils do to raise funds?

- Cake Sale - buy cakes at our morning break sale
- Craft Fair - buy crafts from our stalls at morning break
- Pupil vs Staff Assault Course - donate to watch our assault course at lunchtime - promises to be great fun!
- Weakest Link - take part in our Weakest Link quiz event - represent your form class!
- Sponsored Fun Run - pick up a sponsor form next week and take part in our fun run
- Sponsored Hush-a-thon - pick up a sponsor form next week and take part in our sponsored silent event

What can parents/carers do to support?

- Donate cakes and bakes for our sale including GF, VG and V options if possible 🍰
- Make a donation via MCAS if you feel able to support the day
- Sponsor your child to take part in their chosen event and return the form by Wednesday 25th June

It sounds like a fantastic day to show our support to two pupil-voted charities. More information will be launched with pupils in Monday's assembly and next week's form times. Thank you in advance for your support.

HMS
Fundraising
Day

Friday 27th June

In support of: Northumberland Wildlife Trust and
Cancer Research UK (as voted by HMS Council)

Fundraising activities:
Cake Sale and Crafts Fair
Pupil vs Staff Assault Course
Weakest Link Quiz
Sponsored Fun Run
Sponsored Hush-a-thon

More information will be launched in Monday's
whole school assembly.
Thank you for your support.

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 start to term this week.

House Totals		Top 4 'P Points' in each year							
		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	67,552	1	Alice R	1	Finlay F	1	Etta L	1	Anna M
Coquet	68,974	2	Bertie L	2	Dylan W	2	Oswald B	2	Khloe M
Tweed	68,646	3	Jackson L	3	Nancy M	3	Tilly C	3	Finn C
Wansbeck	69,052	4	Sophie K	4	Dillon D	4	Joanna R	4	Sartaj D

Attendance – top 3!

Attendance was very 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.

1 st form class 99%	2 nd form class 98%	3 rd form class 97%
5-ZSC	7-PHA, 6-JJO	8-BLA, 5-FHA

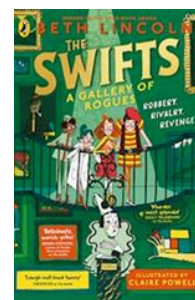
Library News



Author visit book orders: Y5 and Y6

This is just a reminder that we are proud to be welcoming local author Beth Lincoln to HMS on Wednesday 25th June and book orders close on Wednesday 18th June.

The visit is at no cost but if you would like to order a book for your child, please do so through the 'Shop' on MCAS. Books are available for £6 each or £10 for the pair. Orders will close on Wednesday 18th June to give time for delivery to school. Copies will also be made available to borrow from HMS Library as swiftly as possible after Beth's visit. Many thanks to Forum Books in Corbridge for bringing Beth to us!



Personal Development

Space Webinars – Learning from the experts

Check out our website for further information about and to sign up for the next Space Webinar: [here](#).
Maria Hasler – Space Weather & Data Science - Date: Monday 23rd June - Time: 13:00–13:30

Music News

Student Music Success



On Saturday, Miss Richardson and Mrs McIntyre were lucky enough to get tickets to watch the very talented Sam L (Year 7) perform piano at The Vault in Hexham. Sam was absolutely fantastic! He showed such confidence in playing (and talking!) to a packed venue, including to some of his classmates and teachers. We were really proud of him.

HMS Summer Concert

Tickets are now on sale for the [HMS Summer Concert](#) on the 26th June! This show will include the Orchestra, Show Choir, HMS Singers, Advanced Singing Group, String Ensemble, BandCamp and soloists! Don't miss out, get your tickets now! **Buy tickets** (ticket tailor website) – we'd love this to be a sell-out event!



Songs from the Shows

Our fantastic '[Songs from the Shows](#)' event is Monday 7th July and Wednesday 9th July – an evening of songs from musicals all accompanied by a live band! Just some of the musicals that will be featured; Mean Girls, Everyone's Talking About Jamie, Les Misérables, Hamilton, Matilda, Wicked, Cats, Annie. Get your tickets now, this will sell out fast! **Buy tickets** (ticket tailor website)



Sports News

Rugby Success!

This was easily the most rewarding and pleasant experience I've had on a school fixture/trip. The girls were immaculate from start to finish in terms of their behaviour, attitude, respect for others, politeness and general conduct throughout the day. One quote from another school was: "You are just the nicest people ever" - wow!

On the pitch however, the girls became warriors! The girls competed against schools from all over the country and in the earlier rounds held their own against some big rugby playing schools, winning one and losing two. In the afternoon session, they were placed into a new 'seeded' group, and played some of their best rugby I have ever seen them play (in the baking heat as well!), winning all 3 games and therefore winning their group. As you can see from the smiles on their faces during the presentation, they had a fantastic day overall and fully deserved their moment of glory.

They also got to meet some of the stars of the Women's Super League, where they were able to get some photos and autographs. The tries were spread out across the team with Gaby, Annabelle and Connie scoring many fantastic tries, whilst Clara, Ella, Rosie and Evie also chipped in with important scores. Poppy & Rose Kelly were immense, Amelie showed excellent



leadership skills, Mia tackled ferociously and Emily and Mary also played well. Clara was awesome throughout, and never stopped running and tackling. Annabelle was recognised by other coaches/players and players as an outstanding player which is a huge compliment to her recent progress. And Rosie was relentless with her powerful runs, bone-crunching tackles and superb solo tries.

Thank you to the girls for making Mr Cameron and Mrs Hopper very proud of them for their achievements and making sure Hexham's name will be remembered for their rugby excellence (and for being the nicest people ever!).



U13 Cricket Success!

On Wednesday, the U13 cricket team won an epic county cup quarter-final match against NSB to send them to the semi-final a day later! HMS batted first and set a target of 121 to win, with Sonny (38), Rory (35 not out) and Benson (17) all posting excellent scores with the bat. They followed this with an excellent bowling performance to restrict the visitors, and although the result hung in the balance, they were able to take crucial wickets and bowl them all out for only 90. Sonny (4-9) and Brodie (3-14) were the standout performers with the ball, whilst Euan (1-10), Paloma (1-30) and Rory (1-20) also took important wickets. The whole team fielded brilliantly to help seal the win.

On Thursday, they completed the quick turnaround, travelling to Tynemouth for their semi-final against Duchess. HMS fielded first this time, and again performed brilliantly with the ball to keep the Duchess team to 78. Euan (4-10) was top wicket taker with Sonny (3-10) having another goo day with the ball, Paloma (1-26), Rory (1-1) and Benson (1-12) taking wickets too. Needing 79 to win, Hexham struggled to get anything going with only Seb (22) managing to reach double figures and unfortunately, they fell short of reaching the final. Overall, it has been a real pleasure to work with this team this year who are a talented bunch and were unlucky not to reach the county cup final. Well done to them!

HMS PTA

Summer Fair 2025

Our PTA Summer Fair is TOMORROW! Please try to come along and bring your family and friends with you – 12-3pm Saturday 21st June.

- **Cakes/bakes** - if you are able to bake some cakes and sweet treats for us to sell on the day, we'd really appreciate that. Cakes can be dropped off on the Saturday morning.
- **Raffle tickets** – can be returned or bought on the day from the main entrance to the Summer Fair. The draw will be made at around 2.50pm on Saturday.
- **Volunteers** – we always need more volunteers on the day – please email us on hmsptachair@gmail.com if you can help or just turn up on the day! Thank you.



Online Safety Update

For Parents - Webinar - Understanding and Safeguarding Children's use of AI Chatbots

Internet Matters are putting on a free webinar for parents to examine their findings in their latest report about how children in the UK are engaging with AI chatbots including the risks and opportunities. This would be a really worthwhile webinar for parents to attend, it will be taking place on 17th July at 1100 and parents can register [HERE](#) (By Alan MacKenzie, e-Safety Advisor).

News from the Community

The Future is Now Festival

[The Future is Now Festival](#), is taking place for the first time this weekend on **Saturday 21 & Sunday 22 June 2025** at Queens Hall and various locations around Hexham. *The Future is Now Festival* celebrates the vibrant community spirit of Hexham and the surrounding area. It brings together passionate local groups and organisations committed to environmental action, showcasing existing projects and encouraging collaboration, shared learning, and real change. It's a weekend full of activity — from the Net Zero Fair to inspiring films, workshops, talks, and the return of the brilliant On Yer Bike Tynedale for its second year plus much more. View the full programme [here](#). See you there!

Family Repair Café

The next family Fix It will be held at the Torch Centre on Corbridge Road on Saturday 28 June. The event will run from 10am to 1pm. See [here](#) for more information.



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
Saturday 21 June	HMS PTA Summer Fair, 12-3pm	All welcome
Monday 23 June and Tuesday 24 June	REA Days	All year groups
Monday 23 June	Chess Finals in Nottingham	Chess Team
Tuesday 24 June	Year 8 Transition Assembly with Mr Main	Year 8

Monday 23 June – Friday 27 June	Year 8 Group Career Advice and Guidance Sessions	Year 8
Wednesday 25 June	Beth Lincoln author visit	Years 5 and 6
Wednesday 25 June	KS3 Newcastle Eagle's Basketball Visit	KS3 Team
Wednesday 25 June	Year 4 Rounders Afternoon	New Year 5
Thursday 26 June	Young Engineer's Make the Future Visit	Year 6 group
Thursday 26 June	Police Education – Social Media Workshops	Year 6
Thursday 26 June	HMS Summer Concert	All welcome
Friday 27 June	Head of School Award Breakfast	Winners
Friday 27 June	Year 7 Visits to QEHS	Year 7
Friday 27 June	HMS Fundraising Day 2025	All year groups
Wednesday 9 July	HMS KS2 Sports Day	Years 5 and 6
Monday 7 July and Wednesday 9 July	Songs from the Shows	All welcome
Thursday 10 July	HMS KS3 Sports Day	Years 7 and 8

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).