

HMS WEEKLY UPDATE 27

Easter Decorated Eggs



Wow - we have all been amazed by the level of creativity, skill and imagination on display in this year's 'Easter Decorated Egg' competition. Creations ranged from some very cute 'Guinea P-eggs', the two witches of 'Wick-eggs' and even a Claudia Winkleman-inspired 'Traitors' scene - everyone loved all of the entries this year - it was clear to see how much time, care and effort had been put into each design. Well done to everyone who entered - we are very proud of you! All entrants will get a certificate, a P5 Head of School Award and a chocolate egg. The very difficult decision to select four winning entries has now taken place - it was a VERY tough decision.... the overall winners for 2026 are:

- Beau C - Year 5
- Eliza C - Year 5
- Leo Mc - Year 6
- Jemima C - Year 6

Easter Hamper Winner!

Congratulations to Oliver who was the winner of our Easter Hamper Raffle. Enjoy the chocolates over the holiday! All funds raised will be sent to our PTFA. Thanks for your support! Thank you so much everyone - a great HMS effort once again!



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 overall house totals for AIn, Coquet, Wansbeck and Tweed.

House Totals		Top 4 'P Points' in each year							
		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
AIn	59,151	1	Pippa L	1	Heidi B	1	Adam H	1	Joseph D
Coquet	59,343	2	Bertie B	2	Evelyn C	2	Jessica T	2	Sam L
Tweed	58,673	3	Eliza C	3	Alfie S	3	Hazel L	3	Joseph B
Wansbeck	58,725	4	Evie B	4	Kaylin F	4	Frank K	4	Callie T

Hexham Middle School

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**

Staffing Update

You may have noticed that we have advertised for an Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for SEND to join our team in September 2026. Mr Morgan (current SENDCo) will be leaving HMS to start a new role. Once the recruitment process has concluded, I will update you on SEND leadership arrangements. We will say proper farewells and show our appreciation to Mr Morgan before he leaves the team.

Spring Celebration Assemblies

	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8
English	Winner: Jackson L Runner up: Halle B	Winner: Daniel M Runner up: Esme H	Winner: Alexander T Runner up: Claudia M	Winner: Harry B Runner up: Betti A
Maths	Winner: Erin B Runner up: Bobby B	Winner: Eve G Runner up: Elke H	Winner: Tessa H Runner up: Alexander U	Winner: Grace M Runner up: Maddoc H
Science	Winner: Libby L Runner up: Oliver M	Winner: Daniella H Runner up: Laurie H	Winner: Martha G Runner up: Meghan J	Winner: Ozzy B Runner up: Florence B
Art	Winner: Tiggy H Runner up: Frank H	Winner: Margot D Runner up: Winnie B	Winner: Finlay F Runner up: Isabella S	Winner: Finn S Runner up: Ollie E
Music	Winner: Bertie B Runner up: Nola P	Winner: Agnes F Runner up: Archie H	Winner: Phoebe D Runner up: Natalia S	Winner: Joseph B Runner up: Anna F
PE	Elliot C Zoe L	Jackson L Martha P	James L Jessica D	Lizzie L Charlie P
Computing	Winner: Jacob L Runner up: Rebecca N	Winner: Jenna T Runner up: Elliott W	Winner: Edward S Runner up: Francesca F	Winner: Elise W Runner up: Cody R
Design Technology	Winner: Isla C Runner up: Xander H	Winner: Isabella N Runner up: Heorhii M	Winner: Charlie M Runner up: Meike O	Winner: Karam D Runner up: Edith L
Food Technology	Winner: William A Runner up: Eliza C	Winner: Alice R Runner up: Tabitha B	Winner: Hollie W Runner up: Douglas B	Winner: Niamh K Runner up: Ruby K
History	Winner: Jack P Runner up: Daisy H	Winner: William R Runner up: Ronnie F	Winner: Talia C Runner up: Isla T	Winner: Archie G Runner up: Katie R

Geography	Winner: Lucy L Runner up: Marko M	Winner: Evelyn C Runner up: Darcey H	Winner: Hayden M Runner up: Eva G	Winner: Freddie H Runner up: Elsie-May P
French	Winner: Olivia W Runner up: Seth D	Winner: Sebastian M Runner up: Maggie M	Winner: Dylan W Runner up: Catelin D	Winner: Robbie P Runner up: Sofia O
Spanish			Winner: James D Runner up: Claudia D	Winner: Esme C Runner up: Lucas S
RE	Winner: Borys P Runner up: Mia B	Winner: Carter C Runner up: Rory M	Winner: Sadie B Runner up: Freddie S	Winner: Rose L Runner up: Rory N
PSHE	Winner: Adam A Runner up: Lillian R	Winner: Freddie S Runner up: Amelia F	Winner: Romi F Runner up: Frank K	Winner: Rose L Runner up: Finley H
Drama			Winner: India S Runner up: Theo B	Winner: Leon B Runner up: Rex H
Forest/Explore School	Winner: Evie B Runner up: Tristan S	Winner: Alexandra G Runner up: Jackson E		
Form Tutor Award	5EKI: Iona E Max N 5JNI: Millie B Hugo B 5MDO: Kai B Olive E 5YTA: Beau C Hugo E 5ZSC: Ciaran H Lucy T	6FHA: Lucy G Reggie T 6FHI: Agnes F Daniel W 6JJO: Harry A Bella B 6MBE: Emily C Harry M 6RAL: Sally B David W	7CAR: Charlotte B Dylan W 7PGA: Ayla B James S 7SGE: Charlie M Isabella S 7SMC: Hazel L Alexander T 7SRI: Owen B Micheal C	8AMG: Florence B Lizzie L 8BLA: Tilly C Ed S 8ETA: Esme C Ben N 8IBO: Freddie H Katie G 8SFO: Rose L Ollie S
Head of Key Stage Award	Winner: Beau C	Winner: Kaylin F	Winner: Martha G	Winner: Emily W

Attendance – Top 3!

This week's attendance was 94%. We really value that our 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. We encourage pupils to be resilient to ensure that they don't miss out on great learning each day – especially as we enter the colder months. Thank you for your support.

1st form class – 97.5%	2nd form class – 97%	3rd form class – 96.5%
8-BLA	7-CAR, 5-YTA, 6-RAL	8-ETA

Sports News

Rugby Sevens

Well done to our boys and girls who competed at the county sevens competition on Friday at Percy Park RFC. There were 10 teams in the boy's competition, and our boys managed to finish second in their group with good wins against Blyth and Bede after a defeat against Dame Allan's. This meant they moved to the next group with other



second-placed finishers, where they narrowly lost an end-to-end game against Marden and were well beaten by Kings Priory. The lads dug in until the end and scored some great tries in the tournament. Tries were shared out between Thomas M, Theo, Tom G, Charlie C, Edward and Archie.



In the girls' competition, HMS joined up with some players from Kings Priory and enjoyed 4 games against Kings and Bede. The girls won 3 of their games with tries coming from Sofia and Lucy, with some positive play demonstrated by Claudia, Tessa and Kate. All our girls played really well and should be proud of their efforts!

U14 Girls' County 7s Tournament at Cochrane Park

Fresh from their success at Dame Allan's 7s the previous week, the QEHS and HMS girls returned to Cochrane Park for the U14 County 7s competition. With excellent depth in this age group, we entered two teams—one Year 8 and one Year 9. Despite some late withdrawals from other schools, leaving only three teams in total, the afternoon still delivered competitive and entertaining rugby. The format saw matches played on a full-size pitch, a change from the week before. While the larger field demanded more physical effort, the girls rose to the challenge and adapted well. The full match report is [here](#) on our website.



Hockey Festival Nottingham

Well done to our Y7 and 8 hockey players who represented the school in a national competition in Nottingham on Friday alongside some Y9 QE students. The boys finished 5th (of 7) and the girls finished 6th (of 12), and Maggie was super-impressed with the way everyone played, especially from the non-club players. They showed real talent, fitness and determination throughout. It was also commented that their behaviour was exceptional, and they were a real credit to the schools. Well done all!

Y7 girls' hockey fixtures vs Emmanuel College

Well done to our Y7 girls who played hockey on Monday night at Emmanuel College. EC had 3 teams in total and each played against our girls with HMS managing to win all of our games to nil. Then in the final game against their strongest players, we managed to secure a draw.

Maggie commented that it was a lovely way to spend the afternoon and the girls really enjoyed their experience!



Year 7 Football News

The Year 7 boys travelled to Walker Riverside Academy to play in the semi-final of the U12 County Cup. The boys gave everything in the game. Individually, each player fulfilled their role and collectively as a team were excellent. Despite their efforts, Walker dominated the first 15 minutes with Hexham having to withstand attack after attack. Walker, finally scored 10-minutes before the break. Hexham responded brilliantly and started to fight back with some excellent play, creating a flurry of chances. 1-0 at half time. The second half began with some intense and fiercely contested play, they players battling for ever ball. Unfortunately, a second Walker goal came 15 minutes into the second half. The final 10 minutes Hexham really attacked and created several chances, Unfortunately, it wasn't our day in front of goal. The game ended 2-0 to Walker. However, the best display of the season from the boys left Mr Scott feeling proud as punch - a great effort. Well done boys!



Futbol Lingo Workshop at Northumbria University

This week, 17 pupils visited Northumbria University to take part in a **Futbol Lingo** workshop. The afternoon included both classroom-based and practical football sessions, designed to show how languages can be used in football and a wide range of future careers. Pupils learned about communication in sport, teamwork and how languages can open opportunities in areas such as coaching, media, travel and international sport. All pupils engaged extremely well throughout the afternoon and represented HMS brilliantly. They showed excellent teamwork, communication and enthusiasm during both the practical activities and the classroom session. The visit was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to experience a university environment and to see the real-world value of

language learning.

News from the Library

Year 5 Author Visit

A huge thank you to Philip Kavvadias, author, illustrator and engineer, for visiting HMS to present his brilliant series, Mission Microraptor, to Year 5. Mission Microraptor combines adventure, humour, and science with environmental themes. Philip Kavvadias used his illustrations to encourage pupils to think about characterisation and settings. Well done to Year 5 for participating so enthusiastically and asking lots of questions! Thank you also to the wonderful organisers of the Hexham Schools' Book Festival for bringing Philip Kavvadias to us.



KS3 Get Creative with Shakespeare



KS3 Shakespeare Project

Our annual creative project returned this term and we have been amazed by the phenomenal effort and creativity on display. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 have worked extremely hard and demonstrated exceptional talent in the KS3 Creative Project – Miss Richardson has been absolutely blown away by the quality and diversity of the work submitted. Projects included wonderful models, interpretations, artwork, books, animated media and even a music video! More examples from our Year 8 showcase are on our website: [here](#). Thank you everyone for your inspiring work!



Our Year 7s also produced some fantastic work! Despite it being a little daunting, they fully embraced the open nature of the brief and used it as an opportunity to explore their own interests and showcase their skills. The range of submissions was superb: from a cake baked using an original Elizabethan recipe, to a medicine bag filled with unusual historical remedies, to beautifully crafted clay sculptures of Romeo and Juliet. It's safe to say our Year 7 pupils are a truly talented bunch. Miss Richardson and the whole English department couldn't be prouder! See more pictures of their work [here](#).

HMS PTFA News



PTFA Games Night

It was a night of fun and games at HMS last night and what a great way to end the term with our first PTFA Games Night! From Warhammer, D&D, chess, Battleships and much more - pupils enjoyed a fantastic evening with the added bonus of a hot dog and pick 'n' mix! It was great to see so many pupils enjoying this event - here's to many more in the future! Special thanks to our PTFA and to Mr Nichol and Mrs Herrmann for their support on the night!

Summer UV Discos – **save the date**

We are very excited to announce that our Summer Discos – this time with added UV – will take place on Thursday 21st May. The [sign-up form](#) is available here. Please send £3 into the school office for your child's ticket. Please be advised that any UV 'paint' should be applied before arriving at school. Bright or white clothing encouraged!



Art News

Year 8 Fantasy Shoe Project

It was the final showcase of our Year 8 shoe project today and it was great to see such a display of creativity and skill. Finalists were selected following class votes and the final shoes were proudly displayed for a whole school vote at lunchtime today. The designs are wonderful – and I am sure you will enjoy looking at the range of photographs to celebrate the achievements of our pupils. Miss Taylor is very proud of our Year 8 pupils and grateful for their positive project engagement. More pictures of the project are on our website [here](#). Winners of the shoe project are: 1st: Holly W with the Stranger Things shoe; 2nd: Etta L with the Cheshire Cat and 3rd: Ollie E with the Hog Rider. Thank you to staff for voting it was amazing to see all the shoes together and all the hard work paying off!



Free School Meals

If you feel that your child may be eligible for free school meals, please read the criteria and make an application as soon as you can. Find out more on the [Northumberland County Council website](#). To apply, please [complete this form](#) via Northumberland County Council.

School Calendar

Date	Event	Who
Monday 20 April	School re-opens for all pupils at 8.40am	All year groups
Monday 20 April	Spring Games	Year 7
Wednesday 22 April	Spring Games	Year 5 and Year 6
Thursday 23 April	Spring Games	Year 8
Thursday 23 April	St George's Day – Picnic Lunch	All year groups
Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 April	PSHE: Water Safety Workshops	Year 5 and Year 7
Wednesday 29 April	UK Junior Maths Challenge	Key Stage 3
Monday 27 to Friday 31 April	High Borrans Adventure Residential	Year 8 (group)
Monday 11 to Thursday 14 May	Year 6 End of Key Stage 2 Assessment Week (SATS)	Year 6

Have a fantastic Easter break everyone! Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Watters

Pupil Support and Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mrs Mackenzie

Deputy Safeguarding Leaders: Mr Scott, Mr Rutherford-Orrrock, Miss Lamont and Miss Bell

Heads of Key Stage: Miss Bell (Y5), Mr Scott (Y6 and Y7), Miss
Lamont (Y8)

SENDCo/Assistant SENDCo: Mr Morgan, Mr Rutherford-Orrrock and
Miss Poxton

Academic Support Coordinator: Mrs Toor

Pupil Support Workers: Ms Thompson and Mrs Richards

Attendance Officer: Miss Parradine

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).