

**HMS WEEKLY UPDATE 28****School Update**

Welcome back to the summer term – I hope you all had a fantastic Easter break. It's been great to welcome our pupils back to school this week – the sun always helps to build a very positive feeling for the term ahead. It's a relatively short half term but, as always, there's lots going on over the next few weeks – please keep tuning into the calendar in this update and checking our website/social media for the latest news. Our Year 6 pupils will sit their End of KS2 assessments (SATS) in a few weeks and our transfer processes for Year 4 and Year 8 are now well underway – information for parents/carers of Year 8 pupils is being shared today including key dates for the term ahead.

It's the summer term and I know the children may be out and about more often in the lovely weather. I would appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to discuss safety in the community with your child and this includes travelling to and from school:

- If your child bikes to school, please make sure they wear a helmet. If your child bikes or uses a scooter, please discuss safe routes around town and discuss road safety with your child. We have had several concerns raised about pupils using scooters in the middle of the road/going too fast – this is dangerous.
- If your child bikes or uses a scooter, please remind them about safe use on the school site. They should not bike or use scooters in busy areas and should push bikes/scooters until they get out of the main school gates.
- If your child walks to school, please ask them not to cross Whetstone Bridge Road at the bus park entrance (closest to Allendale Road). This is a corner in the road and visibility can be limited for drivers. The safest crossing is supervised by school staff, and we'd encourage pupils to walk down the path and to cross safely at the front of school.



As always, we ask you to be considerate of our neighbours. Where possible, please encourage your child to walk to school if you live locally. If you need to drop your child off, please consider dropping them away from the school site to limit congestion around school, particularly in the morning. Your support is appreciated.



The sun is shining and it's a good opportunity to ask parents/carers to ensure that your child has a water bottle in school each day. There has been an increase in pupils asking for cups at the office – it's much easier if they bring in a bottle which they can keep topped up all day. We have many bottles in lost property which are never claimed – if you are fed up with buying replacements, please encourage your child to check the lost property and make sure their bottle is named. It would be great if pupils could wear sun cream and remember a hat to keep them cool on sunny days.

Hexham Middle School

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**

Celebration Assemblies



It was a joy to meet as year groups for our Spring Celebration Assemblies before the break. The assemblies are always an opportunity to reflect on the term, to celebrate the success of all pupils and to highlight lots of special achievements 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! See [here](#) for more photos of the Spring Celebration Assemblies.



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	60,227	1	Marko M	1	Alfie S	1	Dylan W	1	Alex A
Coquet	60,487	2	Erin B	2	Archie H	2	Dillon D	2	Walt M
Tweed	59,892	3	James A	3	Amelia F	3	James L	3	Emily W
Wansbeck	60,044	4	Nate R	4	Heidi B	4	Alex T	4	Henry L

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.

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Elliot C	Finn M	Sam G	James B
Georgie G	Zach N	Adam H	Lily A
Jemima D	Darcey H	Sadie B	Joseph B
Xander H	Emily C	Frejya R	Harold H
Reggie H	Laurie H	Tom G	<i>8AMG to follow</i>



Pupil Success

Congratulations to Duncan and Theo for their recent success out of school. Duncan competed in his first climbing competition at Eden Rock in Carlisle and he was placed 3rd in his category – what a fantastic achievement. Theo has been selected to be part of the U12 Northumberland County Cricket squad. This is testament to his commitment and hours of training – good luck in the squad, Theo – we are all very proud of you.

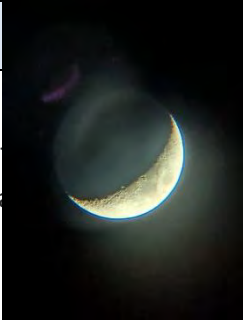

Attendance – Top 3!

This week’s attendance was 95%. 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 – 99%	2nd form class – 98.5%	3rd form class – 97.5%
8-IBO, 6-FHA	5-YTA	7-PGA

HMS PTFA News	
<p>HMS PTFA Summer UV Discos – sign up now</p> <p>We are very excited to announce that our Summer Discos – this time with added UV – will take place on... The sign-up form is available here. Please send £3 into the school office for your child’s ticket. Please be... UV ‘paint’ should be applied before arriving at school. Bright or white clothing encouraged!</p> <p>PTFA Meeting</p> <p>Our PTFA will be meeting on Monday 27th April 6pm in school. New members and supporters are more than welcome to join us. If you are interested in joining our Summer Fair Planning Group, we’d love to hear from you. Whether you can help on the day, support with the planning, collect raffle prizes or anything else at all, please get in touch with us or come along -we really need your support. You can reach out via hmsptachair@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!</p>	 

Space News

One of our Year 6 pupils has been busy with a recently purchased telescope, which he saved up for himself. Lochie, a member of the spring term Space Club, has been taking some close-up images of the moon. Possibly inspired by our recent focus in Space Club - exploring The Artemis Mission - he was fortunate to show his new telescope to a relative who is director of Astronomy at Cambridge

University. Thank you, Lochie for being inspired to brave the cold and get some great snaps of our nearest celestial neighbour.

St George's Day Lunch

Thank you very much to Mrs Satow and her team for preparing our St George's Day Picnic Lunch on Thursday last week. Our picnic themed lunches are always a hit! Pupils enjoyed a range of sandwiches, sausage/cheese rolls, cherry tomatoes and cucumber and a range of homemade cakes incl. a classic Victoria sponge...a lovely treat for everyone!



Community News

Hadrian's Wall: Coast-to-Coast Cycle Ride – Design Contest

Young creatives are being invited to design the cycling jerseys and shorts the riders will wear for a coast-to-coast charity ride along Hadrian's Wall to support The Sir Bobby Robson Institute and The Great North Children's Hospital. The winning design will be worn by all riders in the charity cycle. The winner will start the ride, meet the cyclists at the finish and receive £100 in vouchers for an evening out with their family and £500 worth of art supplies for their school. For more details, please see [here](#).

Family Hubs: Hexham Family Hub dates for April and May 2026 are [here](#) on our website.

Online Safety Update

For Parents - Roblox Kids and Roblox Select

Roblox have been making some big changes recently, and that now includes 'age-gating' so that children and young people get the experience according to their age. This means that there are now 3 types of Roblox accounts:

- Roblox Kids - for children 5-8 years.
- Roblox Select - for children 9-15 years.
- Roblox - for anyone 16+.

For any users that have not completed an age check, they will be put into the youngest user's category, and parents can update or correct a child's age through a linked account. The link below will take you to a simplified breakdown of the different accounts. Link: [What are Roblox Kids and Roblox Select?](#) (Alan McKenzie – Online Safety specialist).

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 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 1 May	High Borrans Adventure Residential	Year 8 (group)
Friday 1 May	Y7 Cricket Taster Event	Year 7 (group)
Friday 1 May	Head of School Award Breakfast	Selected pupils
Monday 4 May	Early May Bank Holiday – school closed	All year groups
Tuesday 5 to Thursday 7 May	PERS Assemblies	All year groups
Monday 11 to Thursday 14 May	Year 6 End of Key Stage 2 Assessment Week (SATS)	Year 6
Friday 15 May	Year 6 Treat Day	Year 6
Friday 15 May	Michael Sehgal New Uniform Pop-up Shop, 3.30-5.30pm	Book your time slot here

Have a lovely weekend 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-Orrcock, 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-Orrcock 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).