



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 Aln, Coquet, Wansbeck and Tweed.

House Totals		Top 4 'P Points' in each year							
		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	63,734	1	Casey S	1	Sally B	1	Charlie M	1	Luke B
Coquet	64,236	2	Matilda H	2	Bertie L	2	Alec W-W	2	Lily H
Tweed	63,682	3	Lillie S	3	Sophia M	3	Isabella S	3	Karam D
Wansbeck	63,802	4	Chris F	4	Daniel M	4	Orla P	4	Ida H

Staffing Update

There are a number of staffing changes within our team for you to be aware of:

- As you know, Mr Morgan (SENDCo) will be leaving the school at the end of this academic year. I am delighted to let you know that we have appointed a new Assistant Headteacher who will also be our SENDCo from September 2026. Mr Walton will join us from Monkseaton High School in North Tyneside where he is currently the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for SEND. Mr Walton is bringing a wealth of expertise in SEND, and we are looking forward to welcoming him to the team. Mr Walton will be visiting school over the summer term to meet our pupils, staff and many parents/carers as well as meeting our new Year 5 children.
- Miss Poxton (Assistant SENDCo) will be leaving the school at the end of this half term. Miss Poxton has made a positive contribution to our SEND team and we wish her all the best of luck for her next steps. There'll be an update on 'Key Worker' allocations for the final half term in due course.
- As you know, Mrs Wade (Subject Leader: English) started her maternity leave earlier this term. Mrs Davison - our new English teacher - will be joining the team after the May half term break. Mrs Davison will take over Mrs Wade's classes until the end of the term before taking her own classes from September. Miss Richardson is currently leading KS3 English and Miss Scott is coordinating KS2 English alongside Mrs Ingledew whilst Mrs Wade is away. We thank Mrs Whitmore for her great contribution to the team in this interim period - she will be missed as she moves onto a new job after the holiday.

Hexham Middle School

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**

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
Chris F	Harry A	Lucy G	Oscar S
Hugo C	Tabitha B	Tansy B-D	Ivor T
Abigail B	David W	Scarlett R	Sinjin R
Jackson L	Reggie T	Bailey-Rose B	Mia R
William A	Emily Mc	Dylan W	Jacob A

HMS PTFA News

HMS PTFA SUMMER FAIR - SAVE THE DATE

We are very excited to announce the date for this year's [HMS PTFA Summer Fair](#). The PTFA are very busy planning a World Cup themed extravaganza for the whole family to enjoy.

- Saturday 27th June 12-3pm
- Hexham Middle School
- Giant inflatable, raffle, tombola, themed games and stalls, BBQ, refreshments.



Please save the date if you can join us and share the poster with your family/friends - we'd love to see you all there! Any donations of raffle and tombola prizes would be hugely appreciated, as well as bakes/cakes to sell on the day. If you can support our PTFA in planning and running the event (it's a huge team effort), please reach out via hmsptachair@gmail.com or contact school - all support is very much appreciated.

HMS PTFA Summer UV Discos – sign up now

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!

Library News

Scholastic Book Fair for all pupils: lunchtimes Tuesday 19th – Thursday 21st May

We will be welcoming the Pop-Up Scholastic Book Fair to HMS before we break up for half-term. This will be held in HMS Library at lunchtimes on Tuesday 19th, Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st May. Our fantastic Library Champions will be helping to run the event. For an idea of the prices and sorts of books that will be available to buy, please follow the links here: <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/ro>



<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/ra>

NB: cash payments only please and change would be welcome. Thank you!

Maths News

Newcastle University Maths Challenge

Back in March, several of our pupils achieved excellent results in the Newcastle University Maths Challenge. Gruffydd T and Joseph D were awarded Junior Prizes, while Joanna R, Tyler H, Effie R-B and Ben S received Junior Certificates.



This week, they enjoyed celebrating their achievements at a special awards evening at Newcastle University with their families. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication, and we are delighted to see them recognised in such a prestigious setting. Their success is truly inspiring, and we look forward to seeing what they go on to achieve next.

UKMT Maths Challenge

We are very pleased to announce our results in this year's UKMT Maths Challenge. Lots of our students entered the challenge and enjoyed the opportunity to stretch their thinking. We are delighted to announce that we have received record-breaking numbers of bronze, silver and gold certificate winners for HMS! We are very proud that Arthur C, Francesca F, Joseph D, Tyler H, Finn S and Ben S have been invited to the prestigious Kangaroo Challenge due to their phenomenal results. Good luck to all of you! Well done to all who participated – this is a great achievement.

Attendance – Top 3!

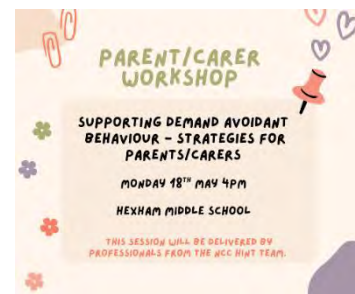
This week's attendance was 95%. We really value that our pupils and parents have a positive attitude towards school attendance – pupils should be in school every day, ready to learn and to make the most of their school opportunities. We encourage pupils to be resilient to ensure that they don't miss out on great learning each day – especially as we enter the colder months. Thank you for your support.

1st form class – 98.5%	2nd form class – 98%	3rd form class – 97.5%
6-RAL	6-MBE	5-ZSC

Parent Workshop

HINT Parent Workshop: Demand Avoidance

We have organised a parent/carer workshop to be delivered by professionals from the HINT team focused on sharing strategies for supporting children who show demand avoidant behaviours. The workshop will take place on Monday 18th May 4pm at Hexham Middle School. The session will focus on understanding demand avoidance and strategies to support parents/carers and children at home.



If your child is struggling with everyday demands, shows a need for control and may struggle with direct requests, transitions, unexpected change, sensory overload and anxiety, this session will be very useful for you. See [here](#) for more information. [Please sign up here](#) (Microsoft Forms).

Sports News

Y8 Indoor Cricket Competition



Well done to our year 8 boys who competed in the local indoor cricket competition on Wednesday. This was the first time our lads have experienced any indoor cricket, and soon learned it is a very different game to the outdoor games. They played 3 games, managing one win. They bowled really well across the 3 games, often restricting their opponents to relatively low totals, but found that they struggled with the bat. That was until the final game where they scored over 100 runs!

Y8 Boys Cricket County Cup 1st Round

Congratulations to our Year 8 boys who played in the first round of the county cup on Thursday against Marden High. Hexham were asked to bat first, and in the early overs it looked like a tricky pitch to score well on. The ball was moving around quite a lot and showing unexpected (lack of) bounce. Despite the challenges, Rory A played beautifully for his 57 not out, backed up by Harry (19) and Joseph (9). Hexham played out their 20 overs with a total score of 117-3.

The boys were confident of defending their total as they took to the field. It was great to see everyone get to bowl at least 2 overs, and all contributed by bowling effectively. The game looked like it was going to the wire, until the final few overs clinched it for Hexham with some excellent bowling with Sinjin and Joseph taking crucial wickets. Top bowling figures were Joseph (3-8), Harry (3-14) and Sinjin (2-0) with Archie and Rory A chipping in with the other wickets. Well done to the boys for winning an entertaining game as they move in to the next round of the county cup!



Join us...



HMS Talent Show – Grand Final

The grand final of the HMS Talent Show is on Tuesday 19 May 2026. For tickets see [here](#) on our website – we'd love you to join us. It's always a fantastic evening of variety acts and entertainment. We are very proud of all of the pupils who have reached the grand finals. We hope to see lots of you there to support the finalists on the night. Thank you for your support!

Staying Safe Online

For Parents – Talking to children about traumatic events

Many children will have seen or heard some of the horrific events that have been happening recently. Whether that's on the news, someone discussing it in-person, or perhaps online, children can be traumatised by what they are seeing and hearing. This article from The Conversation discusses the issue and gives some really good advice. Link: **The Conversation - How to talk to children when terrorist attacks and violence dominate the news.** (Alan McKenzie – Online Safety specialist)

Community News



Hexham Bike Bus – volunteers needed!

Following November's successful piloting of a 'Bike Bus' initiative in Hexham, Tynedale's Bicycle Mayor, David Dixon, has secured more funding for bike bus training for volunteer guides. A bike bus is a supervised grouping of cyclists who move together as a unit and therefore have greater protection from traffic than when cycling alone. Our support of this reinforces the message that cycling can have many benefits for individuals – fitness, fun and convenience – and the community, as ever-increasing traffic congestion contributes to higher accident rates, pollution and Climate Change. However, without more adult guides, the scheme won't be sustainable. If you or someone you know can spare a small amount of time on a morning or afternoon each week to support this initiative, it would be greatly appreciated. Training is taking place on **Wednesday 13 May**. For more details, please contact David via daviddixon649@gmail.com.

Happy Faces Youth Group – Mondays (Term Time Only)

Happy Faces is a friendly and supportive group for young people with additional needs, including those with ASD, ADHD, or who are neurodiverse (diagnosed or undiagnosed) led by trained youth workers providing a safe space to build friendships, develop life skills, and enjoy fun activities through informal learning. See attached flyer for more information.

Corbridge Music Festival - design a poster competition

Corbridge Chamber Music Festival is an established Chamber Music Festival and has been running for over 25 years. This summer they are delighted to welcome the return of our much-loved Family Concert and they would love some help from HMS students designing the poster to advertise this concert. Closing date 20th May. See this [poster](#) for more information.

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 11 to Thursday 14 May	Year 6 End of Key Stage 2 Assessment Week (SATS)	Year 6
Friday 15 May	Year 6 Celebration Day	Year 6
Friday 15 May	Michael Sehgal New Uniform Pop-up Shop, 3.30-5.30pm	Book your time slot here
Monday 18 May	HINT: Demand Avoidance Parent/Carer Workshop	All year groups + Partnership Schools
Monday 18 May	Scholastic Book Fair opens – see info above	All year groups
Tuesday 19 May	Year Group Photograph	Year 5 and Year 8
Tuesday 19 May	HMS Talent Show 2026 – Grand Final, 6.30pm	All year groups
Wednesday 20 May	Year 4 SEND Welcome Evening	Year 4
Thursday 21 May	PTFA UV Disco	All year groups

Thursday 21 and Friday 22 May	Art Gallery Visits – Baltic, Newcastle	All year groups – groups
Friday 22 May	Non-Uniform Day – <i>please try to send in donations for our Summer Fair tombola if possible</i>	All year groups
Saturday 27 June	Save the date – HMS PTFA SUMMER FAIR, 12-3pm	All welcome!

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).