

**HMS WEEKLY UPDATE 33**

**Welcome back**

It's been a great first week of the final half-term of the year – I hope you all had a lovely holiday and enjoyed the sunshine! This half-term is a significant time of change as we prepare for the next school year, welcome our new Year 5 pupils into school and get ready to say goodbye to Year 8 who leave us very soon. I spoke to the pupils about this last week and reassured them that lots of support will be available over the half-term if anyone is struggling with the changes ahead. Over the next few weeks, class organisation for next year will be finalised and shared with parents/carers. There'll also be an opportunity for pupils to spend time with their new form teacher as part of our transfer process. In addition, the calendar is action-packed as ever with end of year trips, celebrations and leavers' events – please let us know if you need any additional information.

**HMS Summer Concert**

This year's HMS Summer Concert will take place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 7pm in the QEHS hall. This is a joyful celebration of the wonderful musical talent in our school. Miss Tindall and the team are rehearsing with pupils to plan an evening which truly reflects the breadth of unbelievable musicianship across all year groups. Tickets are available now and I would really encourage you to attend – it's always an inspiring celebration of our pupils. [Tickets are available here.](#)



**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	
<b>Aln</b>	<b>69,078</b>	<b>1</b>	Chris F	<b>1</b>	Niamh B	<b>1</b>	Leela H	<b>1</b>	Gruffyd T
<b>Coquet</b>	<b>69,594</b>	<b>2</b>	Jack P	<b>2</b>	Alex G	<b>2</b>	Jessica T	<b>2</b>	Edward S
<b>Tweed</b>	<b>69,128</b>	<b>3</b>	Matilda H	<b>3</b>	Sally B	<b>3</b>	Lottie H	<b>3</b>	Tobias S
<b>Wansbeck</b>	<b>69,292</b>	<b>4</b>	Lillie S	<b>4</b>	Marcus M	<b>4</b>	Frank K	<b>4</b>	Thomas M

**Hexham Middle School**

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**  
 Head of School: **Liam Watters**



## Sports News

### Year 8 Boys' Cricket County Cup Quarter Final



Well done and hard luck to our U13 boys cricket team who travelled to Tynemouth on 21st May to play against Kings Priory School in their quarter final of the county cup. After being asked to bat first, HMS started building steadily with Rory A (28) Harry B (7) and Charlie (7) keeping the scoreboard ticking. Then came the middle order collapse, with HMS losing 5 wickets for only 14 runs.



There was a decent effort from the lower order as the boys chipped in with some much-needed runs from Ivor (6), George (2) and Bertie (4 n/o).

Defending a total of 76 was a tough ask at this stage of the competition, but HMS started brightly with Theo (1-10) taking a wicket in the first over. Further wickets fell with Joseph D (1-11), Ivor T (1-10) and Rory N (1-2) taking wickets to reduce the opposition to 25-4 and putting HMS in a very strong position. Unfortunately, despite another wicket from George F (1-10), KPS batted well to get over the line with 4 overs left to win by 5 wickets. It's always difficult to take to go out at this stage of competition, but the lads should be proud of their efforts.

### Rugby Update



Before half-term, two teams of Year 5 pupils were invited to Kingston Park Stadium to participate in a tag rugby event. All pupils played excellently and showed respect to their teammates and referees. Mr Nichol and Ms Watkinson were incredibly impressed by the quality of rugby shown by the pupils. Special thanks to Year 8 coaches, Ella R,

Rosie O, Jacob A and Walt M, for being such outstanding role models for our Year 5 pupils. Overall, a great day was had by everyone!

### Quad Kids Athletics

Well done to our Year 6 athletes who competed in the quad kids' athletics event in the sunshine on Friday 22nd May. All athletes were excellent, demonstrating their all-round abilities in sprinting, middle distance running, throwing and jumping. This was a team event, where each athlete was competing for points for their team. Results are currently being collated and will be shared once they are received. A big thank you must also go to our Year 8 leaders who ran the events, demonstrating their excellent organisational skills. Without them, the competition couldn't run so well. Well done to them!

### Attendance – Top 3!

This week's attendance dropped slightly to **94% and it'd be great to see a positive increase next week.**

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.

1 <sup>st</sup> form class – 98.5%	2 <sup>nd</sup> form class – 98%	3 <sup>rd</sup> form class – 97.5%
6-FHA	7-SGE	5-JNI

### News from the HMS Library

#### Scholastic Book Fair 2026



Thank you to all pupils, parents, carers and staff who supported the Scholastic Book Fair just before half-term. The Fair created a real buzz about reading with lots of exciting new titles plus books from well-known authors on offer.

Huge thanks also to the wonderful Library Champions who helped to run the Fair and the Library during some very busy lunchtimes.

Your fantastic support has helped to fund a wide range of new books for HMS Library: please see some of them pictured on the library desk. Many of our keen sports

players will be delighted that we have also been able to refresh and add to our football selection ahead of the 2026 World Cup!

### HMS PTFA News

#### HMS PTFA SUMMER FAIR

Our HMS PTFA Summer Fair is now fast approaching, and you're all invited to join us on the day. The PTFA are very busy planning a World Cup themed extravaganza for the whole family to enjoy - please try to save the date and invite family and friends along too.

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

#### How can you help?

- Books of raffle tickets are now being sent home with pupils – ***they may be in your child's bag.*** If you would like to buy tickets, please return the completed stubs and payment to the HMS Office. If you don't want to buy tickets, please could you return the tickets. ***We have some fantastic prizes - a full list will follow soon!***
- If you could donate any raffle or tombola prizes, please send them into school or contact the PTFA.
- You may be able to bake cakes for us to sell on the day. If so, they can be brought to school on the Friday or Saturday.



- If you're able to help plan the summer fair, the PTFA could really use your support! Lots of stalls need themes, decorations, prizes and a bit of preparation support. All support is HUGELY appreciated - these events take a huge amount of coordination so please consider supporting if you can.
- **If you can volunteer on the day, please try to sign-up here:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F084FAAAC28A6F85-64095724-summer#/>

Thank you for your support - we hope to see you all on the day!

## PSHE Updates

### Year 5 PSHE - Summer Term

- Year 5 pupils will have a lesson on how puberty could impact them.
- There is also going to be a lesson on how drugs and alcohol can make people feel.
- We would like to give you advance notice of this so you may want to frame conversations or discussions with your child.

### Year 7 PSHE - Summer Term

- Year 7 pupils will have a focus on puberty and emotions, menstrual wellbeing and an introduction to contraception.
- This will take place in PSHE lessons and comes from a staying safe and relationships perspective. Teachers will use teaching resources by the PSHE Association.
- We would like to give you advance notice of this so you may want to frame conversations or discussions with your child.

### Year 8 PSHE - Summer Term

- Year 8 pupils will have a focus on consent and - more specifically - avoiding assumptions.
- They will also engage with learning about contraception.
- We would like to give you advance notice of this so you may want to frame conversations or discussions with your child.

## Community News

### The Big Future national children and young people's survey

The Children's Commissioner is asking for all children and young people to complete the new survey, [The Big Future](#). The Commissioner wants to make sure that she hears from as many children and young people as possible, aged 0-18, from all backgrounds, in all schools and colleges, and in every part of the country. She is asking them about the changes they want to see in their communities, their biggest concerns and their hopes for the future. More than anything, she wants to know what they think a good childhood should look like today.



We will be promoting this in school but, if your child hasn't yet submitted a response, please ask them to complete the survey via this link: <http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>. The findings will be published next year and they will be used to advocate at the highest level for solutions that children want to see to the problems that they say are most important to them.

### Be You

Please find [here](#) the latest Be Brave newsletters for schools and for parents/carers. This month's focus is on *being brave* in everyday ways.



### Online Safety

#### For Parents - A Practical Toolkit for Families

The Molly Rose Foundation has some wonderful resources for parents including guides and other resources. One of these guides helps families understand who and what may be shaping a child's online world and how these influences can affect mood, confidence and safety. To download this guide and check some of the other resources see the link below.

Link - [Molly rose Foundation - A Practical Toolkit for Families](#) (By Alan Mackenzie, 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 8 to Wednesday 10 June	PSHE: Safety Works Visit	Year 6
Wednesday 10 June	Year 8 QEHS PE Transition Session	Year 8
Thursday 11 June	Newby Wiske Residential Parent/Carer Info Evening, 5pm	Year 6
Thursday 11 June	Tynedale Area Athletics Championships	All year groups
Thursday 11 and Friday 12 June	Year 3 Taster Days	Year 3

<b>Monday 15 June</b>	Science: Zoolab Evolution Workshops ( <i>kindly funded by our PTFA</i> )	Year 6
<b>Friday 19 June</b>	HPV vaccination catch up session	Year 8
<b>Saturday 27 June</b>	<b>HMS PTFA SUMMER FAIR, 12-3pm</b>	All welcome!
<b>Monday 29 June</b>	HMS Summer Concert, 7pm	All welcome

Have a great weekend - 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 Year:** Miss Bell (Y5), Mr Scott (Y6 and Y7), Miss Lamont (Y8)

**SENDCo:** Mr Morgan (Mr Walton from September 2026)

**Academic Support Coordinator:** Mrs Toor

**Pupil Support Workers:** Ms Thompson and Mrs Richards

**Attendance Officer:** Miss Parradine

**Inclusion Administrator:** Mrs Armstrong

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](mailto:admin@hexhammiddle.org.uk)).