



HMS WEEKLY UPDATE 3



This week in school...

Another week has flown by and the positive start to term has continued. Thank you very much for the cake donations for our Macmillan fundraising earlier today – we really appreciate the support as always, and I know the children enjoyed their cakes! Our extra-curricular clubs launched this week, and it's been great to see everyone getting involved. After-school clubs start on Monday, and you can check club lists via MCAS. Mrs Mackenzie had great fun at lunchtime with over 80 pupils enjoying our new 'Feel Good Friday' with music, dancing, singing and joy all round!

Head Pupils

I am delighted to announce that this year's Head Pupils have been appointed this morning. Huge congratulations to Leela, Meike, Lauren and Micheal who will all be at the forefront of our Pupil Leadership Team for the year ahead. I couldn't be prouder of them all - they will be outstanding ambassadors for our school for the year ahead. As always, it was a very tough decision and every single applicant would've been superb in the role. All pupils involved submitted excellent letters of application and attended an interview with senior leaders. This takes real courage and bravery and we are exceptionally proud of them all. We know that those who weren't appointed today will go on to represent the school brilliantly throughout the year. Congratulations again to Leela, Meike, Lauren and Micheal – we are so proud of you!

Congratulations!

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
Amber L	Izobel O	Matilda H	Tom G
Finn R	Eliza B	James C	Frejya R
Jack L	Eden O	Arthur B	Dylan W
Ivan T	George N	Charles G	Tessa H
Sam B	Mya M-D	Jemima C	Chloe K

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**

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. **The 'HMS Way Awards' will return in next week's assemblies** and our monthly 'Headteacher Awards' will be back later this month. Year 5 pupils have now been allocated to their house groups ahead of our hustings on Monday morning.

House Totals		Top 4 'P Points' in each year							
		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	5,029	1	Annie F	1	Ethan W	1	Sophie C	1	Meike O
Coquet	4,808	2	Felicity D	2	Robyn T	2	Archie H	2	Marth P
Tweed	5,103	3	Amy C	3	Fern D	3	Nella A	3	Jessica Do
Wansbeck	4,602	4	Harry B	4	Nola P	4	Henry D	4	Finlay F

HMS Council

This year's HMS Council has now been appointed, and we are delighted to see such a great team ready to represent the pupils for the year ahead. Mr Kiln and the Head Pupils will be meeting the newly formed HMS Council very soon. Well done for putting yourselves forward everyone – enjoy your new role.

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Olivia J Poppy T Grace W Bella L Eva G Harry R Fred G Andrej V Mabel M Raven H	Jemima D Edith O Artie J Will F Isla C Marko M Demi R Bertie B Eden O Eliza C	Layla-Mai H Lauren H William R Libby C Laurie H Alice E Leo H Jackson L	Tessa H Sofia P Hollie W Arthur C Isla T Dylan W Eva G Hazel L Alex T

Clubs News



Show Choir

We are delighted to say that Show Choir Club will start on Wednesday 23rd September. This very popular club will be open to pupils in Year 7 and above. For anyone interested in singing, performing and theatre, this is the club for you!

Board Games Donations

We are looking to expand our collection of board games for pupils to enjoy during lunchtimes and enrichment activities. If you have any board games at home that are complete, in good condition and no longer needed, we would be very grateful for any donations. Games can be brought into school and handed to the school office. Thank you for your support!

As a school, we are always looking for new and exciting clubs and enrichment opportunities. If you or someone you know would be interested in working with school to deliver a club, please contact Mr Kiln (pkiln@hexhammiddle.org.uk).

School Photographs

Next Friday, children will have individual school photographs taken by Lafayette Photography. There is an opportunity for parents/carers to request sibling photographs. All children must be in HMS (i.e. we can't cater for requests for QEHS students to join family photographs). Please complete this form to request a sibling photograph by end of Tuesday 22nd September. [Sibling Photograph Request – Fill out form](#)

School Admissions

September 2027 – School Places

Parents/carers of pupils Year 4 and Year 8 can now apply for school places in Years 5 and 9 for September 2027 via the Northumberland County Council Admissions page. The deadline for applications is 31st October 2026. Details of the NCC application process can be found [here](#). The HMS Open Evening will be held on Thursday 1st October. The QEHS Open Evening will take place Thursday 24th September 6-8pm and Open Day Tours are available Tuesday 29th September, Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd October.



Meet the Tutor Evening

You can now book appointments to meet your child's form teacher at our 'Meet the Tutor Evening' on Wednesday 23rd September 3.45pm - 6.30pm. All appointments can be booked via MCAS. Meetings will take place in your child's form classroom. The evening is always a good opportunity to meet your child's form teacher and to discuss how the term has

started for your child. To help our form teachers to prepare for the evening, we would value your feedback by completing this very short ['Start of Term Survey'](#).

Languages News

European Day of Languages Celebration



HMS will once again be celebrating the European Day of Languages on Friday 25th September. Our annual 'Bake Off' challenge is returning as well as learning activities in form time and themed breaktime snacks available. You can find out more information on the flyer sent home today. The 'Bake Off' is always very popular and we are looking forward to seeing this year's entries. Good luck!

Attendance - top 3!

Attendance this week has been 96%. Our aim is that pupils maintain very high attendance of at least 97%+. 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 ensure that they don't miss out on great learning each day – especially as look towards the colder winter months. Thank you for your support in ensuring your child attends well.

1 st form class	2 nd form class	3 rd form class
7-SGE	6-JJO	7-SFO

HMS Sport News

HMS Football Trials

If your child in Year 6 would like to play for the school football team, please ask them to come along to the after-school trial. The trial is open to both boys and girls and will take place on the 3G pitch. Pupils will need to bring suitable sports kit, football boots and shin pads. The trial will run until 4.30pm. A message has been sent home to parents/carers who will be asked to complete an online form to confirm attendance. If you have any further questions, please feel free to speak to Mr Cameron, Mr Scott or Mr Nichol. Year 6 will take place on Monday 21st September. **Year 5 trials will run a little later in the year.**



Online Safety Update

For Parents and Carers – Find the Fake

How good are you and your children at spotting misinformation? Internet Matters' free **Find the Fake** activity is designed for families to try together. It's a simple way to start conversations about whether something online can be trusted and what children can do before believing or sharing it. Why not try it together and see who gets the highest score?

Link: [Find the Fake – Internet Matters](#) (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 21 September	House Hustings	All year groups
Monday 21 September	Clubs – after-school clubs start today	All year groups
Thursday 24 September	Theatre Royal – Mrs Doubtfire Musical	Year 8 – group
Friday 25 September	Individual School Photographs	All year groups
Friday 25 September	European Day of Languages – see info	All year groups
Monday 28 September	HMS Council – first meeting of the year	Council Reps
Thursday 1 October	HMS Open Evening, 6-8pm	Prospective parents/carers and pupils
Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 October	HMS Open Day Tours	Prospective parents/carers and pupils
Tuesday 6 October	London Trip – Parent/Carer Information Evening,	Trip group
Friday 9 October	Hello Yellow Day for Young Minds and Feel Good Friday!	All year groups
Thursday 22 October	HMS PTFA Disco Night (tickets on sale soon!)	All year groups

Have a great weekend!

Mr Watters

Headteacher

Pupil Support and Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mrs Mackenzie

Deputy Safeguarding Leaders: Mr Scott, Mr Walton, Miss Lamont and Miss Bell

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

SENDCo: Mr Walton

Academic Support Coordinator: Mrs Toor

SEMH Practitioners: Ms Thompson and Mrs Richards

Attendance Officer: Miss Parradine-Robson

Inclusion Administrator: Mrs Blakeburn

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).