

21st June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

HMS WEEKLY UPDATE 35

Head of School Awards

This month's Head of School Awards focused on one of our eight essential skills – teamwork. Congratulations to this month's winners – I am very proud of you all!

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Alec W-W Martha G Iris H Jack B William G	Wilfy D Joseph D Harry G Lily H India R	Antony M Harry J Ruby C James H Jessica P	Isla M George H Lucy M Archie D Jacob O

House Point Totals

Below are this week's House Point totals as well as the **'Top 4' pupils in each year group this week**. P points are awarded for character value such as **resilience, respect, engagement and responsibility**. Well done to each and every one of them.

House Totals		Top 4 'P Points' in each year							
		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Year 8	
Aln	86,692	1	Isla Y		Lucas S		Shona R		Luke G
Coquet	88,095	2	Adina C		Emily G		Cristina C		Xavier F
Tweed	85,818	3	Charlie M		Wilfy D		Anna O		Abigail B
Wansbeck	82,971	4	Eric J		Ianto T		Benjamin F		Ella H

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Liam Watters**



Zoolab Workshops

Year 6 were so excited to welcome Zoolab into school yesterday. They enjoyed the Charles Darwin Evolution workshop to enrich their learning in science. The children loved the sessions and were so excited to meet some of the animals - they were very brave! We can't wait to welcome Zoolab back into school soon.

Respect. Engage. Aspire 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
Liam J-G Ruby D Damir P Hayden M Lottie H	Mia R Ryan S Luke B Neve B James D-S	Layla S Sophie A Harriet A Amelia M Sam B	Carley B Zach T Eliza R Jack H Archie D



Arts Award Update

As part of their Arts Award Bronze qualification, our pupils worked with Miss Taylor to plan and deliver art lessons to some of our HMS staff last week. They were amazing teachers, and I am told the staff were great learners and made strong progress during their session. Well done everyone!

Rugby Success

Mr Scott was very proud of the rugby team who represented HMS so brilliantly at the 'Inspired by 9s Festival' finals in Warrington this week. Their teamwork, spirit and sportsmanship shone throughout the day and the team finished 9th overall in what was a very challenging but rewarding tournament. Special must go to Jacob A who played up into the Year 7 team and had a great experience with the older players. We were all very proud of them!



Use of the word 'Sigma'

I mentioned in an earlier email that the use of the word 'sigma' would result in a sanction. As always at HMS, we will take a measured and sensible view on the issuing of any sanctions. First and foremost,

we will provide age-appropriate and balanced education to explain the risks of interpreting and using language heard online. Any discriminatory language will always result in a sanction as well as an educative conversation. That said, we will be realistic in reviewing the individual circumstances as we always do. Children are more than welcome to discuss words they are unsure about or viewpoints of others with teachers/staff in school - we are here to educate and to support our pupils as they develop.

Attendance – top 3!

1	2	3
5-JNI	7-JET, 8-BLA	6-MBE, 6-YTA

Online Safety Updates

For Parents - WhatsApp Safety Guide

Given that WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world it's no surprise I find children from Year 3 upwards using it with very little understanding of what safety features are available. Internet Matters has a great guide for parents about privacy settings, where to get support and more.

You can find the guide [HERE](#). (Online Safety Updates for Parents by Alan Mackenzie, online safety advisor).

Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Monday 24th June – Thursday 27th June	Group Careers guidance	Year 8
Monday 24th June	Gideons Assembly	Year 8
Tuesday 25th June	REA Day - enrichment activities	Year 6 and Year 7
Wednesday 26th June	Tag Rugby Tournament	Year 5 and Year 6 - group
Thursday 27th June	HMS Music Evening – 7pm	All welcome
Friday 28th June	NERAP Careers Workshops	Year 6
Friday 28th June	QEHS Visits	Year 7
Friday 28th June	REA Day – enrichment activities	Year 5 and Year 8

Friday 28th June	Reward: Forest school	All years - group
Monday 1st July – Friday 5th July	London Residential Trip	Year 7 - group
Thursday 4th July	Young Green Briton Challenge Final, London	YGBC Team
Tuesday 9th July	Hexham Transfer Day	Year 4 and Year 8
Monday 15th July	End of Year Trip – Dukeshouse Wood	Year 7
Monday 15th July	End of Year Trip – Kirkley Hall Zoo	Year 5
Wednesday 17th July	End of Year Trip – Tynemouth Beach Day	Year 8
Wednesday 17th July – Friday 19th July	Newby Whiske Residential	Year 6 – group
Thursday 18th July	End of Year Trip – Halty Pool Day	Year 6 (not on residential)
Thursday 18th July	Year 8 Leavers' Party	Year 8

Have a fantastic weekend everyone!

Mr Watters

Head of School

Pupil Support and Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mr Stephenson/ **Deputy Safeguarding Leaders:** Mr Scott and Miss Liddle

Heads of Key Stage: Mr Scott and Miss Liddle

SENDCo/Assistant SENDCo: Mr Morgan and Mrs Adams

Academic Support Coordinator: Mrs Toor

Pupil Support Workers: Mrs Dodds and Mrs Richards

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).