



WEEKLY UPDATE

CORE VALUE: JUSTICE

AUTUMN TERM ISSUE 13

5TH DECEMBER 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The annual year seven Cheddar Caves trip and a visit from Tessa Munt concluded what has been a really busy term for our enhanced curriculum visits and experiences – our pupils gain a huge amount from having their curriculum brought to life in this way and these events no doubt contribute positively to the follow up work that takes place in class. I was privileged to catch the end of the Rocksteady concert this week – what a joy it was to witness so many pupils finding their feet as Rockstars. I very much look forward to listening to their progress as the individual bands progress through the school.

Despite the weather and poor light, our sports teams have had some notable recent successes, not least in football with our senior boys and girls team progressing to the next round of the Somerset Cup, the boys having beaten Priory away and the senior girls team enjoying the same success following a long drive to Minehead.

It is fabulous to see so many pupils opting to attend their respective Key Stage discos next week. Having observed our pupils over the years at these events, I am in no doubt that it is a great way to kick start the run in to Christmas.

To help us manage a busy period with traffic and pupils, I am grateful to you all for following the plan as below:

DROP-OFF

Please feel free to park either on the car loop, in the rear staff car park, to the front of the school building in the gravelled spaces or in the bus bay. Pupils should be dropped to main reception at the front of school where staff will greet them and sign them in from 18:00.

PICK-UP

The tennis courts will be open from 7:45pm in addition to all the drop-off areas. Please park and walk around to reception; we will open the main reception doors at 8pm and as in previous years, pupils will be reunited with their loved ones in the school hall, slightly more energised than they were when you dropped them to us...!

Continuing with the Christmas theme, our school choir are performing at St Mary's Church, Wedmore on Wednesday 10th December from 5:30pm as part of the Wedmore by Lamplight festivities. If you are able to attend this event, I am sure Mrs Harrison, Mrs Johnson and the choir would appreciate your support if you are passing by the Christmas tree.

Whatever the weekend brings for you and your loved ones, I wish you a restful and exciting time together

Best wishes,

Matt Drew

CALENDAR 2025

DECEMBER

- 8th Y5 House Matches (P4&P5) B:Hockey/G:Rugby
- 8th KS2 Disco (6-8pm) - Tickets on MCAS
- 9th Y8 House Matches (P1&P2) B:Hockey/G:Rugby
- 9th KS3 Disco (6-8pm) - Tickets on MCAS
- 10th Blackford Cafe
- 10th Wedmore by Lamplight
- 11th Y7 House Matches (P1&P2) B:Hockey/G:Rugby
- 11th Y6 House Matches (P4&P5) B:Hockey/G:Rugby
- 12th Christmas Jumper Day
- 12th KS2 Rewards Day - Film Club
- 15th KS3 Rewards Day - Film Club

ARCHBISHOP'S YOUNG LEADERS FOOD BANK COLLECTION

The Young Leaders in Y5 are asking Parents/Carers to donate non-perishable food items to put towards a Food Bank Collection for Christmas. Donations can be left in the boxes in the corridor by reception.

Donations can be made up until the end of term

Thank you from the Year 5 Young Leaders Team



Y7 CHEDDAR CAVES TRIP

Year 7 students were lucky enough to visit the beautiful Cheddar gorge and caves last week as part of their Humanities unit on limestone landscapes. They were treated to a fantastic tour of the caves by the knowledgeable staff and learned all about cave formation and how the limestone features were created. Many of them were amazed to be standing in caverns that were millions of years old and they had lots of interesting and challenging questions for the tour guides. Thank you to all of the staff who accompanied us on the trip and to the admin staff for their time in organising such a wonderful opportunity for our students.



YEAR 6 VIRTUAL JUDAISM VISIT

Last week year 6 had a virtual visit from Iris Segall, a member of the Bristol and West Progressive Jewish Congregation, as part of their learning about Judaism in RE. Iris spoke to the students about how she practises her religion to help bring their classroom learning to life and to make Judaism more tangible. She was very impressed with how keen the students were to share their knowledge and the questions that they asked.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY @ HSMS - FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2025

Hugh Sexey Middle school will be supporting a National and Local charity on Christmas Jumper day this year.

- Our Local Charity is The SPACE in Cheddar who are a Children's mental health charity that support many children and families within the Wessex Learning Trust community. If you would like to donate towards this worthy charity, please follow the link [Donate - The SPACE-Cheddar - Jumpers for Joy](#)
- Our National Charity is Save the Children, this charity supports children across the world who are victims of famine, war, trafficking to name but a few, if you would like to donate, please follow the link [Donate - Save The Children - Christmas Jumper Day](#).



WELLINGTON MATHS CHALLENGE

Year 6 students, Lottie, Sam, Wolf and Adam, took part in the prestigious Wellington School Maths Challenge last weekend. They worked as a team, competing against over 50 other schools from Somerset and Devon, to answer 25 tricky maths questions, solving a range of different problems and using a variety of different methods. They have been attending a KS2 maths challenge club at lunchtimes for the past eight weeks or so, and all the practice paid off. Just missing out on the top 3 places, Hugh Sexey scored 20 points, putting them in 4th place overall. What an achievement! Organiser and Head of Maths at Wellington School, Peter Buckingham, said he was very impressed with how well Hugh Sexey had done, and Mrs. Cameron is very proud of all four of them.

Thank you to all the parents for transporting them on Saturday morning. 😊



PARENT/CARER UPDATE

DRINKING IN LESSONS

As a school, we actively encourage pupils to drink water, as part of a healthy balanced lifestyle. Pupils are allowed their water bottles in lessons but to avoid missing key learning, parts of lessons and to promote personal responsibility, children must fill their water bottles up before school, at break or at lunch. Thank you for ensuring your child has the right water bottle in school on a daily basis.



EQUIPMENT

Thank you to all pupils that have the correct equipment and are ready to 'Work Hard' in their lessons. When pupils are well-prepared, this facilitates a strong start to lessons and improved outcomes.

Equipment is the responsibility of pupils and when teachers have to manage a lack of equipment, it takes them away from teaching and learning. If pupils fail to meet the expected standard and do not have the required equipment from Monday 8th December, a C1 for a lack of equipment will be issued. This will help to inform parents that pupils are not ready to learn and puts an emphasis on pupils taking more personal responsibility. It will also help us to identify, who may need further support with their personal organisation. As a school we request all pupils bring the following 6 items as a minimum stationery expectation, as seen in the picture. Pupils are more than welcome to bring more than that and, in some lessons, subject-specific equipment will be issued by the appropriate staff members.



- **2 Black Handwriting Pens.**
- **A Pencil.**
- **A Ruler.**
- **A Whiteboard Pen**
- **A Red Pen.**
- **A Pencil Case.**

Thank you in advance for your support on this.

PE KIT W/C MONDAY 8th DECEMBER

PE lessons on Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th December are all outside. Please make sure pupils bring in suitable clothing for the outdoors and the colder conditions.

Games top, Hooded Sweatshirt, under layers and suitable footwear for MUGA, courts or grass.

HSMS SUPERSTARS

DARTS

Tai in Y7 won the U65 dartzone championship this week playing against adults - What a great achievement, well done Tai.



SWIMMING

Ollie B in Y5 competed in an Academy Swim Team club championships on 18th and 20th November but the prize giving was on Friday 28th. He did really well and got 3 golds and 4 silvers then another silver for second highest point scorer. He's doing really well at swimming at the moment. He's got 4 county qualifying times so far for the county championships in January.



Madox W in Y 7 had an outstanding couple of weeks in the pool. He competed in his Academy Swim Team Club Championships, winning 7 gold medals from seven races and was also awarded Boys' Swimmer of the Year.

At the Bristol and South Gloucestershire meet in November, Madox continued his impressive form, bringing home 3 more gold medals, along with 2 County Entry Times and a Regional Entry Time.

Madox also took part in the Swim 10K for Cancer Research Challenge in memory of his grandmother, raising an amazing £1,113 for the charity.

TRAMPOLINING

Murrin and Antonia both from Y6 competed in the South West trampoline competition in November. Both girls got silver medals for their categories and more importantly cheered each other on with amazing support when competing. Both girls took on more challenging routines at this competition and did amazingly well.



GYMNASTICS

Megan W in Y6 competed in Gloucester for the southwest tumbling competition and received a gold medal, in level 2 tumbling which involved a standing back flip! Megan is a competitive gymnast and also competes in the southwest for acro as well. She is looking forward to the schools competition in March.



DT /FOOD TECH REQUEST.....

If you have any leftover or borrowed plastic sweet boxes or confectionary tins please can these be donated or returned to the DT department. Our current stock of sealable containers has been depleted, so we are unable to send pupils home with any items made in Food Tech if we do not have any containers.

All donations gratefully received, whether full of chocolates or not.....!!

Many thank in advance.



KS2 - ROCKSTEADY

Our Key Stage 2 Rocksteady pupils shared their hard work on Monday afternoon to their parents and carers. They rocked the hall away with some amazing performances including 'Ghostbusters' and 'Livin on a Prayer' showing the skills they have developed this term.



ABSENCE NOTIFICATIONS ON MCAS



All 'on the day' absence notifications can be sent in to school via the following

- Bromcom app,
- School absence line [01934 712211](tel:01934712211) or
- email school@hughsexey.org.uk

All future dated absences **must** be sent in via the school email as these need to be approved by the Headteacher.

Many thanks for your continued support

NEXT WEEK IN
PICTURE NEWS

HSMS Values in Action @ Home
WB 8th December 2025



How might
challenges
help us
grow?



In the news this week

An adventurer named Darren Edwards, who is paralysed from the chest down, is preparing to travel 137 miles across Antarctica using a sit-ski. If he succeeds, he will break the world record for the longest sit-ski journey to the South Pole. Darren hopes his challenge will raise money for charity and show that his injury does not limit what he can achieve.

Things to talk about at home ...

- How do you think Darren will feel at each stage of his challenge (before, during, and after)?
- What kinds of challenges do you think can help you grow the most – something physical, emotional, or trying something new?
- Can you recall a challenge you have set yourself and achieved? Ask others at home about their experiences.

HSMS Christian Value and Virtue next week: Justice & Cooperation

Bible Link: Job 8:7

British Value and Protected Characteristic: Individual Liberty and Disability

UN Rights of the Child: #6 Life, Survival and Development

Dear God,
Thank you for giving us opportunities to learn and grow. Please give us the courage to keep going forward and the strength in our hearts to keep trying hard.
Amen