



HUGH SEXEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL
TOGETHER WE BELIEVE; TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE



WEEKLY UPDATE

AUTUMN TERM ISSUE 15

CORE VALUE: JUSTICE

19TH DECEMBER 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

That's a wrap! As I drove into work on Wednesday this week, I arrived to this image... Little did I know the 'shepherds' were warning me of a huge amount of fun, laughter and community spirit about to erupt within our wonderful school.

Our amazing pupils have reached the end of a really impressive term in the most positive of ways; thank you to you all for keeping them going right to the end, whether that be delivering friends to the Christmas disco, sewing a sheep costume for the nativity, wrapping a Secret Santa present or driving to the supermarket for last-minute cooking ingredients...!

"It takes a village..." feels never truer than at this busy time of year. I feel a deep sense of privilege and honour to be sat writing this at the end of my first term as a Headteacher; the community that my staff and I serve is very special indeed. As one of my favourite times of the year (Sunday 21st December 3:03pm) draws closer, join me in looking forward to lighter evenings, more sunshine and the chance to bring the new school term in with a bang.

Today is tinged with sadness as we say a final farewell to Miss Porter and Mr Jackson. Both have given a huge amount of energy, commitment and support to our pupils during their time with us - I am sure you join me in wishing them well for the next chapter.

Term starts again for us on Monday January 5th, there is no INSET day. Please support us in getting pupils lesson ready wherever possible over the Christmas break. The school shop is well stocked with stationery if Santa and his elves are low on items this year; colleagues and I look forward to seeing you all again in 2026.

For now, I hope you all find time to rest, laugh, love and enjoy time with your loved ones. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Matt Drew



CALENDAR 2026

JANUARY

- 5th School Reopens - First Day of Spring Term
- 5th KS2 Parents Evening Bookings Open on SchoolCloud
- 8th Y8 HPV Vaccinations
- 9th Y6 - Clive Pig Mayan Visit
- 12th Y8 Only - Parents Evening Bookings Open on SchoolCloud
- 12th KS2 Parents Evening - In School
- 14th Kings Leisure - Sports Passport Assembly
- 15th KS2 Parents Evening Online
- 16th Y8 Options Assembly

HAPPY
New Year

CYBERFIRST GIRLS COMPETITION

Abi, Anna, Chloe and Grace in Year 8 took part in a 10 day national online competition to complete lots of code breaking and cyber security challenges. Whilst not one of the winners (out of over 2,500 teams), they achieved the highest score from any team that has ever taken part from Hugh Sexey. Well done girls.



PE - SPRING TERM 2026

Next terms **Games** lessons - **Boys = Football, Girls = Netball**

Next terms **PE** lessons = **Dance**

1st week can all pupils bring boots and trainers to their lessons

PE Kit Reminder - All pupils are required to bring their full PE kit to every lesson, even if they are not taking part in physical activity. The only exception to this is pupils with broken bones. Even when not participating, pupils will take on a leadership or supportive role within the lesson and are therefore expected to be appropriately dressed in their PE kit.

Year 5 Bring the Groove to Christmas!

A huge congratulations to our Year 5 pupils for their spectacular production of Groovin' the Nativity. After weeks of tireless rehearsals and hard work, the children delivered four incredible performances that truly brought the house down. From perfectly timed lines to dance routines that were choreographed with flare, their dedication shone through in every scene. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow with each show - well done, Year 5, you certainly got us all in the festive spirit!



YEAR 5 - ARCHBISHOPS YOUNG LEADERS AWARD

Well done to the Year 5 AYLA group who have had a busy term completing numerous individual Acts of Kindness. You are all amazing!

A special thank you to Harry and Ava who read part of the Christmas Story to over 7000 people across 150 locations as part of the Bath and Wells Diocese online worship.

The AYLA group also collected food for a local foodbank and kept the school tidy with their litter picking sessions too.



We look forward to continuing our journey with the Archbishop's Young leaders Award next term.

HSMS SUPERSTARS

GIRL GUIDES

Congratulations to Freya, Amelia, Saskia, Lily, Isabelle, Willow and Indi who as part of Cheddar Girl Guides, were recognised in their guiding achievements at the recent presentation evening.



SWIMMING

The last competition of the year was a fantastic one for Madox W 7EF, who ended the season on a high note by securing an incredible 2 Golds, 3 Silvers, and 1 Bronze. His dedication and hard work have truly paid off!

Looking ahead, Madox is gearing up for the County Championships in January, where he has impressively qualified for 9 races. On top of that, he has already achieved 5 Regional Times, setting him up perfectly for next summer's competitions.



Safeguarding - Keeping Children Safe Update: Roblox Security Changes - South West Grid for Learning

The introduction of the Online Safety Bill earlier this year has brought welcome controls over what we and our children can access online. As internet speeds have increased and the digital world has expanded, the ability for anyone of any age to reach almost any content has grown at a pace far beyond our capacity to safeguard against it. The risks have become unmistakable. Adults now face increasingly sophisticated attacks from hackers and scammers, while children remain acutely vulnerable to online predators.

Although some internet services initially resisted tighter regulation, the government's commitment to reducing online harms has ultimately prevailed. For children, one of the most persistent avenues for predatory behaviour has been online video games. These are spaces where young users gather, communicate, and interact, often with limited verification or oversight.

Roblox, a platform widely associated with younger players, is now beginning to address this by introducing facial analysis age checks and optional ID verification for users over 13. These real-world verification measures are designed to confirm a user's age more accurately and to restrict interactions that could place children at risk. In practice, they signal an important shift in how major platforms are starting to manage online safety and respond to the expectations set out in the Bill.

You can read more about these checks on the SWGfL website:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/roblox-announces-facial-age-checks-for-chat-features/>



A MESSAGE OF PEACE AND PRAYER FROM BISHOP MICHAEL, BATH AND WELL DIOCESE

Bishop Michael is asking us all to have an especial focus on prayer. Find out what it's about and how you can join in at

<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/prayer>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SpozN-sXZaQ&t=61s>



KS2 MEET THE TUTOR EVENINGS

The booking window for Parents/Carers to book on to the KS2 Parents Evening will open from **7pm on Friday 2nd January**.

All bookings are made currently through the SchoolCloud parents Evening Booking System (Not MCAS). Please follow the link [SchoolCloud - Hugh Sexey C of E Middle School](#) and enter

the details that you have registered with the school.

- KS2 Meet the Tutor Evening - In School face to Face - Monday 12th January 2026 (from 4pm - 6:30pm)
 - KS2 Meet the Tutor Evening - Online Appointments - Thursday 15th January 2026 (from 4:00pm - 6:30pm)
- Any problems please email school@hughsexey.org.uk

Bookings will close on Monday 12th January at 9am.

Booking slots are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

