



HUGH SEXEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

TOGETHER WE BELIEVE; TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE



WEEKLY UPDATE

CORE VALUE: TRUST

SUMMER TERM - ISSUE 12

17TH JULY 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I reflect on my first year as Headteacher, I am filled with an overwhelming sense of gratitude. It has been a genuine privilege to lead such a warm, supportive, and caring school community. I never lose sight of the trust you place in us each day, and it is a responsibility I hold with great pride and humility.

Your positive contributions, whether through encouragement, partnership with staff, support at school events, or simply the care and belief you show in your children have made a real difference to our school. Together, we have celebrated achievements, navigated challenges, and continued to build a community where children feel valued, inspired, and able to flourish. Thank you for your trust, your support, and for making my first year as Headteacher such a rewarding and memorable one. I look forward with great optimism to all that we will achieve together in the years ahead.

As the final bell sounded for our year 8 pupils today, I share my reflections from the final assembly.

Dear Year 8,

As you leave us today, you do so with far more than the knowledge you've gained in classrooms. You leave having grown into kind, thoughtful and resilient young people who have made our school a better place simply by being part of it. Your laughter has filled our corridors, your determination has inspired others, and your kindness has strengthened our community in countless ways.

Each of you has written your own unique chapter in the story of our school. Through your achievements, your friendships, your willingness to help others and the way you have embraced every opportunity; you have left a legacy that will not be forgotten. You have given so much to this community, and in return, I hope this school has given you memories, confidence and values that will stay with you for a lifetime.

As you step into the next stage of your journey, remember that success is measured not only by what you achieve, but by the difference you make to the lives of those around you. Continue to be curious, be courageous, be compassionate, and never underestimate the impact that one person, you, can have.

Although today marks the end of your time with us, it is not the end of your story. It is simply the beginning of an exciting new chapter. I am immensely proud of everything you have become, grateful for everything you have contributed, and excited to see all that you will accomplish in the years ahead. Wherever life takes you next, know that you will always be part of this school family; once a member of our community, always a member of our community.

Go forward with confidence, carry your memories with pride, and never forget that you are brilliant!

Best wishes,

Your headteacher, Mr Drew.

I look forward to writing towards the end of the summer holiday but for now over and out!



CALENDAR 2026

School Reopens to Pupils on Monday 7th September

Have a wonderful summer



CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

September After School Clubs and Activities will return week commencing 14th September 2026. Please keep an eye on the website for updates

[After School Clubs & Activities](#)

☀️ A SPECIAL FAREWELL VISIT FROM THE CEO OF THE WESSEX LEARNING TRUST, GAVIN BALL ☀️

We were delighted to welcome Gavin Ball to Hugh Sexey's as part of his farewell tour.

During a special assembly, our pupils shared heartfelt words of thanks and appreciation, reflecting on the positive impact Mr Ball has had on our community. They also sang a wonderful song, making the occasion even more memorable.

As a token of our gratitude, we were proud to present Mr Ball with "The Somerset Murmuration", a beautiful artwork created by our talented pupils. The piece captures the spirit of Somerset and serves as a lasting reminder of the connection between Mr Ball and the young people he has inspired.

Thank you, Mr Ball, for taking the time to visit us and for all you have done. We wish you every happiness in your retirement.



★ Year 8 Residential Adventure 2026 ★

What an incredible few days our Year 8 students have enjoyed on their residential trip to Hartington Hall!

From climbing high and stepping out of their comfort zones at Go Ape, to making unforgettable memories and having thrilling adventures at Alton Towers, the trip was packed with fun, laughter, teamwork and friendship.

This residential marks a particularly special moment as it is our Year 8 students' final trip before moving on to their next school. We are so proud of the way they represented our school, supported one another and embraced every challenge and opportunity along the way.

We hope they take these wonderful memories, new friendships and experiences with them as they begin their next exciting chapter.

Well done, Year 8! We wish you every success for the future. 🎉🌈🎊



FRIENDS OF HUGH SEXEY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Have your say. Shape the future. Get involved!

WHEN & WHERE

SEP 9 WEDNESDAY
9TH SEPTEMBER, 8PM

Online via
Microsoft Teams

JOINING DETAILS

Meeting ID:
9373684113567

Passcode:
LW3GM2

WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA?

Election of new committee members

We encourage all members and supporters to attend and take part in shaping the future of Friends of Hugh Sexey.

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE COMMITTEE?

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE

Email: friendsofhsms@outlook.com

YMCA DAYCAMPS

Adventure Awaits this summer!




**BOOK
NOW!**

- Seven weeks of fun; no two days the same
- Yew Trees Farm, BS26 2SA
- Now taking bookings for summer!

We've spent years building something brilliant with our Daycamps. Now we're taking everything you've loved and turned it into an outdoor adventure holiday club like no other.

For children in reception to Year 6

The same YMCA heart with a whole new level of adventure. The school holidays, sorted.

TEAM MATHS CHALLENGE

It was a real pleasure to host the Team Maths Challenges in the hall on Friday 3rd July. Well done to everybody who took part for their enthusiasm, positivity and collaboration with others. The KS2 one was held in the morning, and KS3 in the afternoon. The students competed in teams of 4 or 5, in houses, against 13 other teams, and it was wonderful to invite many of our former students who are now in Year 9 back to Hugh Sexey to assist as team leaders. Everyone has been given house points according to how their team did and how their house did overall.

In KS3, congratulations to Normans 6 who won overall, and consisted of Arthur R, Louie L, Aurora W, Jasmine E Overall, Vikings came 4th, Saxons came 3rd, Celts came 2nd and Normans were winners.

In KS2, congratulations to Vikings 1 who won overall, and consisted of Adam F, William G, Mia H, Eva M Overall, Normans came 4th, Celts came 3rd, Saxons came 2nd and Vikings were winners.

Also, a very well done to Adam F and Flossy H who qualified to enter the Junior Kangaroo, which is a follow-on round for those who get high scores in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. Adam did particularly well in gaining a silver award, especially as he is in Year 6 and it is designed for Year 7 and Year 8 students.

What an achievement! Well done Adam 😊



HSMS SWIM GALA

Well done to all the pupils who took part in the House Swim Gala's. It was beautiful weather for a day in the pool and the sunshine and positivity helped contribute to some new School records.

Year 5

The Year 5s were fantastic on their first Gala. The Celts were crowned champions, closely followed by the Vikings and Saxons. All of the swimmers did a great job representing their Houses. There were memorable swims from Martha, Amelie and Penelope. Georgia had a great day in the pool with a number of 1st place finished. Bodhi, William, James and Rhys showed great ability in the pool. It was a privilege to see them all enjoying it.

- 1st Celts 🏆
- 2nd Vikings
- 3rd Saxons

Year 6

The Vikings were victorious in the year 6 competition. Zachery had a day to remember breaking James Isden 2 Length Breast Stroke record set in 1990 (46.34). Zachery clocked a time of 43.83 putting his name in the record books in the process. Poppy and Charlie also set new records in the 4 length freestyle with times of 1.29.93 and 1.44.03 respectively. , Alice, Jemima, Adam and Kierar also enjoyed great swims in the pool. All the pupils involved should be proud of the contribution they made.

- 1st Vikings 🏆
- 2nd Celts
- 3rd Saxons

KS3

The KS3 Event saw records broken and a new Year 8 event addition at the request of Lily and Jessica. Maddox in year 7 broke a 28 year record in the 1 length butterfly. Swimming 14.77 to break Jamie Selwood 2000 time of 15.44. Maddox also set a new record in the 2 length freestyle with a terrific time of 29.98, surpassing Matthew Shannon's effort from 1999 of 32.60. Lily B also set a new time of 25.10 in the Old English. A culmination of backstroke arms and breaststroke kicking. It was lovely to see so many of our pupils enjoying the pool and engaging in House Competition.

- 1st Celts 🏆
- 2nd Vikings
- 3rd Normans
- 4th Saxons

Thanks also to the Sport Leaders, Mrs Allen and all the other staff who contributed to a great day.



JEWELLERY, EARRINGS AND PE SAFETY REMINDER

To help keep all pupils safe during PE and sporting activities, we kindly ask parents and carers to ensure children do not wear jewellery, including earrings, on PE days. Current health and safety guidance advises that all jewellery should be removed before activities, and earrings should not be covered with tape as this does not adequately reduce the risk of injury. Where possible, jewellery should be removed at home before coming to school.

If your child is having their ears pierced, we recommend arranging this at the start of the summer holidays to allow sufficient healing time before returning to school.

LOOKING AHEAD TO SEPTEMBER

Please ensure your child has the following items ready for the new school year:

- Shin pads
- Gum shield (mouthguard)
- Football/rugby boots

These items are essential for pupils' safety and participation in sporting activities. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

FOREST SCHOOL

5RM visited the Forest School area to attempt to make a shelter that something from their chosen biome could use! I was amazed by their creativity and teamwork - well done 5RM!



WESTON-SUPER-MARE OPERATIC SOCIETY
THE OPPITTS PRODUCTION OF

THE WIZARD of OZ

17TH & 18TH JULY

@ THE PLAYHOUSE THEATRE
WESTON-SUPER-MARE

This amateur production of THE WIZARD OF OZ is presented by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC.

<https://www.parkwoodtheatres.co.uk/playhouse-theatre/whats-on/the-wizard-of-oz>

NEXT WEEK IN
PICTURE NEWS

HSMS VALUES IN ACTION @ HOME
WB 20TH JULY 2026



Reflection: Reading can help us imagine, learn, laugh, listen and discover something new. Stories can have their own rhythm, sounds and mood. Over the summer, we can choose things we enjoy and share books, stories, sounds, songs and ideas with others.

DONATE YOUR OLD UNIFORM



If your child is leaving Hugh Sexey Middle School at the end of this term, we would greatly appreciate any donations of uniform or PE kit. Please leave any donations at our Main Reception.

Many thanks



READ to the BEAT

Summer Reading Challenge

Each year, children across the UK are invited to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge. This year's theme, Read to the Beat, celebrates the links between reading, music and creativity. Children can visit their local library, choose things they enjoy reading, and set themselves a reading goal for the summer holidays.

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmDULtgGfz4>