



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



WEEKLY UPDATE

CORE VALUE: THANKFULNESS

AUTUMN TERM - ISSUE 2

18TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reading for Pleasure

Firstly, a huge congratulations to our year 5 pupils, who have achieved outstanding reading results this week. Their progress and commitment to reading for both pleasure and academic success have been excellent, and we are incredibly proud of their efforts. Thank you to all our parents and carers who continue to encourage reading at home – it really does make an enormous difference. Daily Register & Read time in the morning is proving a huge success with many of our less-enthusiastic readers having already completed a book since the start of term; “I forgot I actually like reading!” was among the feedback I received on visits to year 8 classes this week. It is so pleasing to see the whole school embracing such a fundamental element of their learning.

Open Evening

A reminder that our Open Day is this Thursday 24th September, and we are so grateful for your support in allowing your children to take part. This event is a real showcase of everything that makes our school community so special – and there is no better advertisement than the confidence, kindness, and pride shown by our pupils. Please feel free to invite friends, neighbours, or family members who may be considering school places for next year.

Parent Partnership

As always, I want to thank you for the key role you play in our school's success. Whether it's supporting learning at home, attending events, or simply talking to your child about their day, your involvement strengthens everything we do. It was fabulous to welcome so many parents and carers to our curriculum evenings this week and hear first-hand how well you feel the pupils have settled back into the new school year. As colleagues and I mentioned this week, we would welcome any feedback on these evenings in order that we can plan the most proactive use of time for next year's parents / carers.

Early Sporting Success

A huge well done to our year 8 footballers who came up against some strong opposition from Millfield School this week. I was delighted to speak with the players and learn that by playing unselfish football we triumphed 8-0. A great way to start the season. Well done team.

Meet the Tutor Evenings

Advanced notice that the key stage 2 and 3 evenings are in the calendar for Monday 5th and Monday 12th October respectively. For the first time this year we are trialling a hybrid evening with early appointments available via our online platform SchoolCloud and later (in-person) appointments in the school hall. Booking information will be emailed out to all Parents/Carers on Monday 21st September.

Matt Drew

CALENDAR 2026

21st KS2 RockSteady Lessons - Prebooked
22nd KS3/KS2 Switch Rugby
22nd Y5 Blackford Church Visit
24th Open Evening
28th - 1st Oct - SATs week (1)
29th Y8 Hockey @ Wells Blue
30th Y6 Animals UK
30th Y8 Watchet Beach Field Trip 1
30th KS2 Aquafest - Burnham on Sea

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

All clubs and activities will begin week commencing 21st September 2026.
NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS ON THURSDAY 24th SEPTEMBER DUE TO OPEN EVENING

Please keep an eye on the website for updates

[After School Clubs & Activities](#)

HUGH SEXEY HARRIERS RC

The Hugh Sexey Harriers Run Club embarked on its first outing on Thursday morning, putting some miles in before school. Enthusiasm, positive energy and a shared passion for exercise were in abundance, creating a fantastic atmosphere from the very start. The strength of our school community was clear to see, with encouragement, teamwork and support shown throughout the run. What a brilliant way to start the day!

If your child is in Y6, 7 or 8 and would like to join, please see Mr McKeachan.

Sessions are every Thursday morning, 8-8.40am.



FIXTURES

BOYS - HUGH SEXEY 8 - 0 MILLFIELD

The Year 8 boys football team started their preparation for the Somerset Cup with an early season game against Millfield School. A large squad was selected to give a range of players valuable game time. The players did not disappoint and really made the most of the opportunity. Tai had an excellent game in goal. He made some excellent saves and he was able to use his footwork to good effect with a number of intelligent passes. Rohan had a really impressive game at centre half. Commanding and confident and showing the ability to carry the ball forward when needed. Haydon was another player who impressed in the first half. He did the basics really well and was always looking to move the play forward.

Overall it was an impressive all round performance. In the first half goals were scored by Bode, Woody and Ben. In the second half Douglas and Reggie added to the scoring, with Woody (2) and Ben adding extra goals. Thanks to Millfield for a great game and well done to all involved.



GIRLS - HUGH SEXEY 1-5 MILLFIELD

A fantastic start to the season with our first fixture coming nice and early against Millfield's U13 girls. Due to extenuating circumstances, Millfield arrived slightly later than planned, which meant a more condensed game than usual.

Despite the 5-1 result, the girls showed real character throughout, working exceptionally hard and never letting their heads drop — even after two unfortunate own goals. Our goal came in the second half, scored by Jess L, who finished brilliantly after a strong run down the wing. Across the pitch, the team fought for every ball, went in bravely for tackles, and continued developing their communication skills. Their resilience and togetherness were clear to see.

With the challenge of playing up in the U14 County Cup ahead, it's set to be a tough season — but there's no doubt they're ready for it.



Y8 - Invitation to Kings Academy Open Evening



Kings Academy
Believe and Succeed

Kings Academy Open Evening

Wednesday 30 September 2026 between 5.30pm - 7.30pm

Headteacher's Welcome at 5.30pm or 6.15pm
in the Academy Hall.

*There is also an opportunity to tour the Academy
and experience the subjects on offer.*



APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 9 - SEPT 2027

The online application window for places in Year 9 for September 2026 opens on **Monday 14th September 2026**. To apply for your child's place next phase of education please apply via the link below

[Somerset Council - School Admissions -](https://emsonline.somerset.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

https://emsonline.somerset.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

For further information please follow the link below
[Starting at a secondary or upper school in September 2027](#)
The application window closes on **31st October 2026**

PE/GAMES NOTICE

All pupils to attend school on **Tuesday 22nd September** in PE kit.

- **Boys** Rugby top, t-shirt, shorts, rugby socks, trainers, rugby boots, gum shields
- **Girls** Games PE kit

Please bring extra shorts/tracksuit bottoms in case kit gets dirty.

Could you tell if your child was being **exploited** online?

Join one of our free online sessions led by Child Exploitation Prevention Officer **Andri Nicolaou**

29 September 19:00 - 20:30pm **06 October 13:00 - 14:30pm**

Learn about the different forms of child exploitation and how offenders groom/exploit children both online and offline. We'll highlight warning signs a child may be at risk and practical steps you can take to keep them safe and respond to any concerns.

Visit the **Avon and Somerset Police Eventbrite page** or scan the QR codes below

29 Sept



06 Oct



KI AIKIDO

Junior Classes

Gentle but powerful

- Learn to co-ordinate mind and body & improve mobility, flexibility, and stamina.
- Suitable for all ages, all levels of fitness and all body types.
- Classes in a dedicated dojo in Mark, Somerset.



Ki Aikido does not rely on size or strength - students develop skills to redirect a partner's energy rather than resist it. There is no aggression or violence; it is a supportive community where discipline and etiquette are maintained in a friendly atmosphere of mutual respect.

Ki Aikido students report feeling more resilient and confident, and happier and healthier in their lives.

**MARK,
SOMERSET
TA9 4PZ**

**JUNIORS: 5 - 12 YEARS
WEDNESDAY TERM TIME: 6PM TO 6:45 PM
£3 PER CLASS + £12 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP**

* kifederationofgreatbritain.co.uk

* 01278 641166

* The Causeway, Mark, Somerset, TA9 4PZ

* bruce.reedsense@gmail.com

The Ki Federation is a non-profit organisation with area clubs throughout the UK and beyond.

FIDGET TOYS

A number of pupils use a fidget toy as a learning/emotional support tool during their lessons. It helps pupils to focus on their learning and supports pupil progress. As a school, we also recognise that those children who do not require a fidget toy for support, can often make the toy their focus rather than their learning and it can become a distraction at times. Fidget toys have also migrated from being small, discreet and silent toys to squishes with unknown liquids inside, along with louder and larger items being brought into school. We have had instances where squishes have popped in drawers/lockers and the liquids have hardened which is difficult to remove, and reading/exercise books will sometimes suffer. As we are unsure of the contents of squishy toys, we have put the following in place from Tuesday 15th September.

- A fidget toy is something used as a learning/emotional support tool for an identified need in lessons.
- A fidget toy should be small, silent and discreet. Liquid filled squishes are not permitted in school due to the unknown substances inside them.
- If your child has an identified need, your child may bring something from home that meets the school's expectation (small, silent and discreet).
- If your child does not have an identified need for a fidget toy in lessons, but their teacher thinks they require that means of support, their teacher will loan them something for the day (KS2)/hour (KS3) then liaise with our support team here at the school.
- If your child does not need a fidget toy - they can leave it at home or keep it in their school bag for social time use only (it should not appear in lessons).

Thank you in advance for your support in helping our pupils to thrive and our school to remain safe and clean.

Miss Keep

FUTURE READY

Why Careers Education Starts at Middle School



**Hugh Sexey
Middle School**

Work Hard | Be Kind

TOGETHER WE BELIEVE, TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

When we talk about **Careers & Employability** at Hugh Sexey, we certainly aren't expecting a 10-year-old to know what they want to do for the rest of their life!

At middle school, careers education is about **exploration, not deciding**. Children begin forming ideas about jobs from an early age – including assumptions about which careers might be open to them, what they might be good at and where their future could take them.

Good careers education helps us **broaden horizons and challenge stereotypes**. Opportunities shouldn't be limited by gender, background, additional needs or simply by the jobs and pathways children happen to have encountered so far.

Every child is entitled to an **excellent, broad and balanced education**. Careers education helps children connect that learning with the wider world – moving from “*Why am I learning this?*” towards “*Where could this take me?*”

Those first choices aren't far away. Our Year 8 pupils will make their **GCSE option choices in the new year**, as they prepare for their next step – **moving on to Kings of Wessex for Year 9 in September 2027**. We want them to make those choices with a growing understanding of their interests, strengths and future possibilities.



TRY THIS AT HOME

Instad of asking “What do you want to be when you grow up?”, try:

“What do you really enjoy doing – and where might that take you?”



EXPLORE TOGETHER

Talking Futures has free resources to help parents and carers start positive conversations about education, careers and future choices. You don't need to know all the answers – explore the possibilities together.



Visit Talking Futures
www.talkingfutures.org.uk



UPCOMING CAREERS EVENTS

**14 October –
Kings of Wessex
Careers Fair**

Our **Year 8 pupils** will visit the **Kings of Wessex Careers Fair**, giving them an opportunity to meet employers and education/training providers, explore different careers and pathways, and start asking questions about what their future options might look like.

The timing is particularly useful as they begin preparing for their GCSE option choices in the new year.



COMING NEXT: Careers at HSMS – More Than a Careers Day

We'll show you how careers and employability are woven through life at Hugh Sexey – from curriculum subjects and employability skills to Job of the Week, employer encounters, Unifrog and Careers Challenge Day.

Work Hard | Be Kind

TOGETHER WE BELIEVE, TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

HSMS SUPERSTARS

MUSIC

Charlie H (6OM) achieved a RSL Level 1 Award - Grade 1 for Ukulele. He takes weekly music lessons at The Music Makers Academy in Worle. Charlie is now working towards his level 2.



SCOUTS

Lottie and Esme both received their chief scout silver awards yesterday at Huntspille and Highbridge Cubs. This is the highest award you can get in Cub Scouts. To complete the award, a Cub must finish two main sets of tasks:

Seven Challenge Awards: Our Adventure, Our Outdoors, Personal, Our Skills, Team Leader, Teamwork, and Our World.

Six Activity or Staged Activity Badges: Any choice of badges worked on during meetings or outside activities.



CYCLING

At the end of the Summer holidays, 4 pupils from Y8 took on the challenge of completing a charity bike ride for Weston Hospice Care. The course saw them take on numerous big climbs (including Cheddar Gorge), and in total they covered 44 miles; all done with a smile on their faces!

Well done Flossy H, Elsa G, Bea M & Tilly M.



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 21ST SEPTEMBER 2026



IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Nepal has announced that its wild tiger population has more than tripled, rising from 121 tigers in 2010, to 429 today. Officials say the turnaround is the result of years of protected wildlife corridors and local communities working hand-in hand with conservationists to protect the big cats. With tiger numbers now increasing, more encounters between tigers and nearby villages are leaving experts asking how people and wildlife can safely share the same land going forward.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Do you think it's fair that wild animals need the same land that people want to use? Why?
- If you lived near a forest with tigers, would you feel excited, nervous, or both? What would help you feel safe?
- Is there an animal, plant, or wild space near where you live that you believe deserves more protection? What would or could you do to help it?

HSMS Christian Value and Virtue next week: Thankfulness & Courtesy

Bible Link: Genesis 6:19

British Value and Protected Characteristic: Rule of Law/Mutual Respect and Tolerance & Religion or Belief

UN Rights of the Child: #29 Aims of Education

Invitation prayer

Dear God,
Thank You for the wonderful world You have created. Help us to care for the people, animals and places we share. Please guide us to make kind and fair choices towards all Your creatures
Amen.