



# The Hermitage Herald

Issue 8: April 2025

## Hello!

Welcome to April's edition of Hermitage Herald – We've had the Easter break within this month, but there's still been so much going on in school! Here's this month's round-up of all the fabulous things happening in our school - enjoy!

## We are the Chamipons!

Forget the Carabao Cup, Hermitage have **WON** the NELT Athletics Cup! 🏆

On the 10th April a number of our students took part in the inaugural NELT athletics festival, where all North East Learning Trust schools came together for a brilliant day of sports, fun and positivity.

The morning began with a wonderful opening ceremony where our students paraded our school flag with pride, before heading off to the track and field to complete in a range of activities from javelin and long jump to discuss and shot putt.

Students competed across the day in a range of athletics events against all the schools in our Trust. We brought home a total of **15 Gold**, **7 Silver** and **4 Bronze**, and the ultimate prize, being the winning Secondary school!



We are incredibly proud of every student who attended the festival, they represented the school exceptionally well and showed sportsmanship throughout! Here is a run-down of the medals won on the day:

### Year 7

**Silver** – Finn, Long Jump

**Gold** – Year 7 and 8 Relay Team: Finn, Alfie, Henry and Daniel

**Gold** – Year 7 and 8 Girls' Relay Team: Izzy, Isla, Ellie and Olivia

### Year 8

**Gold** – Eve, Shot Putt

**Gold** – Izzy, Discus and 1500m

**Gold** – Isla, 400m and Javelin

**Gold** – Ellie, High Jump and 100m

**Gold** – Olivia, 200m

**Silver** – Ted, Discus

### Year 9

**Gold** – Charlotte, 200m

**Gold** – Year 9 and 10 Relay Team: Niamh, Charlotte, Lilly and Freya

**Silver** – Charlotte, Long Jump

**Silver** – Freya, 400m

**Bronze** – Niamh, Javelin

**Bronze** – Lilly, 100m

### Year 10

**Gold** – Holly, 1500m

**Gold** – Olly, 100m

**Gold** – Year 9 and 10: Adam, Thomas, Mason and Olly

**Silver** – Will, Shot Putt

**Silver** – Mason, 200m

**Silver** – Thomas, 400m

**Bronze** – Mason, Long Jump

**Bronze** – Adam, Javelin



## Sporting round-up - April

As well as the fantastic achievements at the NELT Athletics event, we also have lots of other sporting achievements to be proud of, both in school and out of school – here is our monthly round-up:

- A massive well done to our U14 girls football team who beat Parkview Academy 10-0. The girls continue to go from strength to strength. They showed great teamwork throughout the game and we're unstoppable when it came to scoring!
- The year 10 Rugby Team supported by some of our Year 9 students took part in a rugby festival yesterday. 8/14 of the team had never played a competitive rugby fixture, however they did our school hugely proud and went unbeaten throughout the tournament!
- Yesterday our Y10 Handball team competed at Regionals and qualified for Nationals! This means they are representing the North-East at the National competition held at Nottingham University in June.
- Huge congratulations to our U15 Handball team — they came joint first at Regionals and now heading to the National Finals at Nottingham University! Representing the North-East in June. The team were absolutely fantastic showing skill, teamwork, and determination throughout the tournament. We're incredibly proud of everything they've achieved so far.
- Our year 8 and 9 girls Football team have won the Washington, Chester-le-Street & Derwentside District Football League and remained unbeaten throughout the season.
- Also, our year 7s came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Washington, Chester-le-Street and Derwentside District league just missing out on the win due to goal difference!



## Holly and Izzy conquer London

Izzy (Y8) and Holly (Y10) finished off their winter running season with a trip to the capital to represent the North East at the London Mini Marathon. This is a British championship race and both girls were selected to run for the region. A huge accomplishment getting to run the last 2.6km of the marathon and finishing the race along the iconic Mall.



In addition, both Holly (U14) and Izzy (U13) won their categories for the North-East Harrier League this year.

The Cross-country season spans between September and March, with points awarded for finishing positions in each race. A very impressive achievement from both girls.

## Footballing legend visits and inspires

We had the Captain and Goalkeeper for Newcastle United Women's Team deliver a really engaging talk. The lovely Grace Donnelly spoke about her experience of playing football and the changes she has seen over the years. Our students had plenty of questions and of course the autographs and photo opportunities were an extra surprise. Grace also supported some of our students in a P.E lesson which was greatly appreciated by staff and students.





Revisewise and Student POD

With Year 11 exams imminent, Student Pod has a wealth of resources and material to support students.



Year group pages have been updated to provide guidance and tips on how to prepare and revise. Visit the website and click on 'POD' in the top corner of the Hermitage Academy webpage.



We also have various sessions happening on Saturdays and over the Half term break to allow all students extra time to revise with expert tuition from their teachers.  
We do wish our Year 11 and 13 students the very best of luck in their upcoming exams!

Hola to Spanish Week!

In March we celebrated all things Spanish at Hermitage and our wonderful catering team offered students a range of delicious Spanish foods to try from chorizo to churros!  
During form time, Mr Lister, Mr Boyce and Miss Bratton impressed students by showing off their fantastic Spanish-speaking skills!  
Students also had the opportunity to attend a range of lunchtime clubs including Spanish games club with Miss Dragoi, Spanish Disney karaoke with Mrs Heath and Spanish film club with Mrs Chiarenza.



Parent Information evenings

Last term saw another Parent Information session held here at school, which provides information and advice on topics relating to both young people and their parents. The most recent session outlined the hot topic of Online Safety, and parents were given hints and tips on how to talk to their children about safety but also how to spot warning signs.  
The next information session is on Homework support later in May.



Spring has sprung in the Mindful Garden

A lovely picture sent to us by Sheila, our School counsellor, who wanted to celebrate the beauty of our Mindful garden. We are so very lucky to have this space within school, and there are many students and staff who benefit from it – I'm sure you'll agree it looks lovely at this time of year!



Street First Aid

Selected students across year 7-10 attended the Young Responders Street First Aid Programme run by St John Ambulance. Throughout the sessions students had fun whilst learning practical skills to help them to recognise risk, and safely manage their own health needs, as well as those in their communities!  
Well done to all students who completed the workshop!



Int-EGG-rity win the House points challenge for Easter

Integrity had an EGG-cellent game of bingo to celebrate being the winning house for that half term!  
This is the current standing for house points this term:

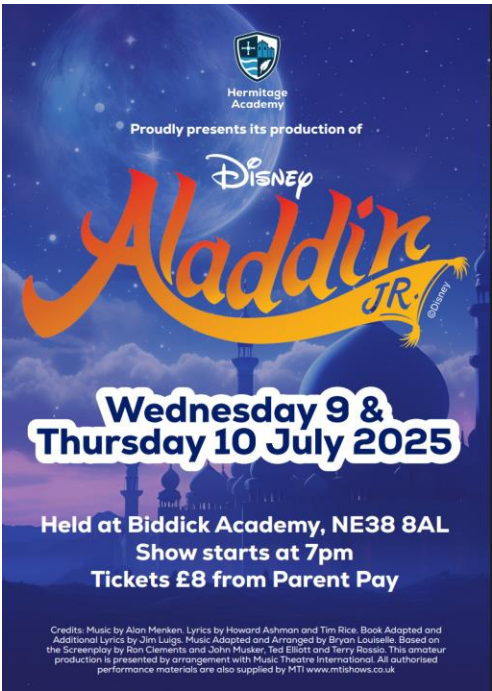


	Half-Term
1.	1,972
2.	1,870
3.	1,808
4.	1,785

Positive Points - April

These students have collected the most positive points in April – Well done and keep up the great work!

7	Willow S
8	Miley A
9	Emily F
10	Millie D
11	Ella SP
12	Katie M
13	Dan O



Aladdin Jr

With the success of our ‘Beauty and the Beast’ production last year, we are delighted to announce the dates of our new production, Aladdin, and a new venue. Rehearsals are in full swing and the students and staff are working hard after school most evenings. This really will be a show not to be missed!

For more information about tickets, please contact the school office or contact [enquiries@hermitageacademy.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@hermitageacademy.co.uk)

Assembly Round-up – May 2025

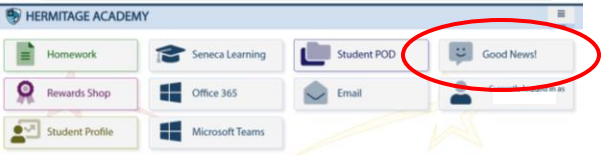
Week beginning:	Assembly focus
WB 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Resolving Conflict
WB 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Hate Crime and Bystander Apathy
WB 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Britain – Part of a Global Society

Dates for your Diary - May 2025

May	What’s on?
7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 10 Parents’ Evening (Online and face-to-face)
WB 12 <sup>th</sup>	Mental Health Week
13 <sup>th</sup>	Duke of Edinburgh Award Parents’ Information evening (Main Hall)
15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 12 Next Steps event
16 <sup>th</sup>	The Hermitage Book Swap
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Parent Information Evening – Homework Support

NEW! The Hermitage Good News Button!

We have a new addition to our student dashboard! Please use this to let us know about anything great happening with your child. It could be good news about sporting achievements, or anything wonderful that your child is doing outside of school. Do let us know – your child could feature in our next edition of the Herald!



The Family Hub – Chester-le-Street

The Family Hub supports families in the area, offering workshops and courses, as well as advice on a range of topics. Find out more by emailing [programmes.familyhubs@durham.gov.uk](mailto:programmes.familyhubs@durham.gov.uk) or contact on 03000 261 111



Other ways to Keep in touch

If you have anything to share about your child, or anything that may be happening in the community that you think we would like to hear about and could feature in our newsletter, please do get in touch.

Also, please let us know what you think of our newsletter! We’d love to hear from you!



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