



The Hermitage Herald

Issue 9: May 2025

Hello!

Welcome to May's edition of Hermitage Herald – It's been a very short half term, but that doesn't mean we've been quiet; there's been so much going on in school, as usual! Here's this month's round-up of all the fabulous things happening - enjoy!

Hermitage Academy remembers and celebrates VE Day

Hermitage Academy joined the nation in commemorating the 80th anniversary of VE Day, on the 8th May.

Students created VE Day bunting in the lead up to the day which was hung around the main hall and dining hall.

As a school, we observed the two minutes silence before enjoying some WWII themed food at lunchtime, accompanied by songs from the 1940s. Students were able to try Homity pie, an open topped pie, said to have been made by land-girls during World War 2 and supposedly to have originated in the West Country. And of course, we had jam roly-poly for pudding!

There were also activities for students to get involved in including making and flying their own Spitfire as well as designing a commemorative cup and WWII quizzes.

Students who are part of uniformed services wore their uniforms to school to show their involvement, as part of our commemorations. We were proud to see so many students wearing their service uniforms with pride!

Also, through our Good News Button, we heard of Willow in Year 7, who took part in the Flag Day/VE Day parades at Beamish with her scout drumming group, playing alongside bands from across the North-East. In the photo we also see two Year 8 students, Isla and Sofia taking part in the parade.



Celebration Station – Fantastic Friday!

We LOVE to celebrate everything that goes on in Hermitage Academy, however small, and our Celebration Station allows students to showcase their best work, collect badges for collecting house points, and just show off how brilliant they are!

We had our busiest Celebration Station during our latest fantastic Friday! Some of our students received their pin badges for reaching either 250 or 500 house points this academic year. A huge congratulations to everyone who received their bronze or silver badge - what a fantastic achievement!

Our Celebration Station also gives students an opportunity to showcase any achievements from outside the classroom whether it's outstanding homework, homemade crafts or even sporting achievements. Let's see what the next Fantastic Friday brings!



Library Rewards

We have an amazing Library at the heart of our school (quite literally – it is in the very centre of the site!)

We want everyone to use this space and see the value of books, whether it be books for research and homework, or books to read for pleasure – we encourage and celebrate ALL kinds of reading here!

Now you can read and reap rewards, with our Library Loyalty Card – collect five stamps to win a prize! For more information, please see Mrs Dixon in the Library or Mrs Hodgson-Whittle in En2.



Homework Hub

A reminder that Homework Hub is still ongoing into the Summer term. We have sessions on a Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtime as well as Thursday and Friday after school. All students are welcome and we also have a loyalty card where six sessions attended can win a prize!

Please come and talk to your Head of Achievement for more information – the Homework Hub is always held in IT1 – we'd love to see you there!

North-East SCITT – Teacher Training

Calling the Teachers of the Future!

Graduating soon and not sure what's next? Or looking for something new and exciting to do with your weekdays? Come along to our next taster session to get an idea of what a career in teaching could look like.

When? Friday 6th June, 9.30am until 1.30pm

Where? The Academy at Shotton Hall, Peterlee, SR8 1AU

On the day you will:

- Observe lessons
- Chat with students and current teachers
- Discover our outstanding course
- Learn about financial support of up to £31,000
- Enjoy a delicious school dinner on us!

Take the first step towards a rewarding career Book now:

<https://www.northeastscitt.co.uk/060625>



May's Amazing Hermitage Talent!

We are always happy to shout out about how amazing our students are – we have a school full of them! This month, let's celebrate the Artists of the week, and showcase some amazing Year 7 Homework Heroes! For more Artists of the Week, head over to our social media platforms...



We have some fantastic Year 7 Homework Heroes this term, for their brilliant English work. Whether it be poems about Jellicats, soldiers or themselves, or beautifully presented presentations, we were wowed by them all. Well done to Henry, Aiya, Willow, Jamie and Bennie! Alexis M produced an excellent homework, based upon research about the War poets, as we have been studying Wilfred Owen's 'Dulce eat Decorum Est' and Rupert Brooke's 'The Soldier' in class this term. The poetry is part of our 'Individual Voices' unit of work, looking at how poetry is personal and how it reflects events and experiences in different writers.



Sporting round-up - May

As usual, lots of sporting achievements to be proud of, both in school and out of school – here is our monthly round-up:

Our Year 8 and 9 girls football team have won the Washington, Chester- Le- Street and Derwentside District Football League and remained unbeaten throughout the season.

The Year 7 girls football team have finished second in their league just missing out on the win due to goal difference!

Our Year 7 girls football team proudly represented the school at a 6-a-side football tournament . They approached each game with enthusiasm, focus and a fantastic attitude.

**Girls' football
Roll of Honour**

Year 7:
Sus-Ann B
Alexis M
Faye E
Phoenix W
Lexi W
Olivia H
Mollie P
Alisa A
Evie T

Year 8/9:
Eve I
Jessica T
Poppy C
Kate W
Alice S
Freya B
Evie-Grace H
Ruby A
Lily P



From the Athletics competition held this month, ten of our amazing students have qualified for Durham County Schools Track and Field Championship:

- Track:**
Charlotte P - 100m
Lily P - 300m
Charlotte M - 300m
Izzy H - 800m
Holly R - 1500m
Ellie H- Hurdles
- Field:**
Ella R - High Jump
Isla F-H- Javelin
Emily H - Long Jump
Finn P - High Jump



In addition, some of our fantastic athletes from years 8 and 10 took part in the North-Eastern Championships, competing against the best of the best in the region, in a vast array of track and field events. Despite all the girls just entering their new age categories and being the underdogs, they all came home with medals and several 4th and 5th places to shout about! A big well done to:

- Izzy - 800m - Silver /300m - Bronze
Isla - Javelin - Silver
Ellie - 75m Hurdles - Gold /100m - Bronze
Holly - 1500m - Bronze
Charlotte – Shot put - Bronze



Our Year 8 girls took part in the 'Chance to Compete' cricket tournament run by Durham Cricket. The girls were unbeaten going into the final but unfortunately narrowly missed out on the winning trophy. More importantly, the girls played excellent cricket all day and showed what great young people they are by taking opportunity to provide advice and support to schools they were playing against.



Year 9 student Charlotte P was part of the Grangetown Netball Club's u14 Squad who won the Grand Final of the England Youth Netball League. This is a prestigious high-level National League where the best netballers in their age group across England compete all year in a league which culminates in the top 4 teams in the North and the top 4 teams in the South meeting to crown the Champions.



A huge congratulations to our Year 10 football team who secured a solid 2-0 win against St. Robert's this week! The team put in a fantastic all-round performance, showing great teamwork and determination from start to finish. Special mention to A. Lumley, who was voted Players' Player for his standout display in midfield and a well-taken goal.



The Year 9/10 rugby team extended their unbeaten run with a thrilling 15-15 draw against Park View. In a fiercely contested fixture, both teams showed grit and determination from start to finish, going from 15-5 down to drawing! Special mention goes to co-captains A. Lumley and W. Davison for their outstanding leadership and teamwork, and Merrick G who unfortunately sustained an injury in the game – get well soon!



We had a large representation at Durham City Regatta, held in Durham on the 16th May. This is a popular sporting event, where rowing teams from around the North meet up and race. At Hermitage Academy, we had a number of students taking part, who row for local Chester-le-Street, Lambton and Durham clubs.

These students all took part, with the majority managing to win their semi-finals and go on to winning medals. Well done to: Sam H (Durham), Megan A, Elliott F, Alice M, Emily M, Erin M, Mila S, Mia H (CLS), Harry D and John B (Lambton).



Our Year 7 rugby team put in a brilliant performance in their first fixture, beating a tough Park View side with a 20-15 win!

The whole team showed incredible effort, teamwork, and determination throughout the game. Special mention goes to Kyle M, who was deservedly voted Players' Player for his monster tackles that helped keep Park View at bay.



From our Good News Button: Warren and his football team Hilda Park u12s blues, won the Silver cup in a tournament on Easter Sunday at Downhill hub in Sunderland. Warren saved a beautiful penalty in the final, helping his team to the win.

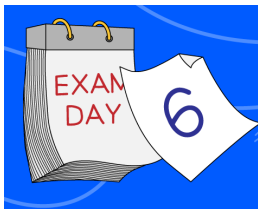


GCSE Exams are in full swing!

We are well into exam season and our Year 11 and Year 13 students are working hard to secure grades needed for their next steps. We still have some way to go, and our ReviseWise and Student Pod support will help every step of the way!

All students can access Student Pod, which is your one-stop shop for knowledge organisers, past exam papers, and relevant information relating to all aspects of all subjects taught here at Hermitage Academy.

Helping to navigate this with your child will help in the revision process and set healthy revision strategies and expectations. Please do contact school if you have any further questions or wish to speak to a subject lead.



Activities Day 2025

Activities Day 2025 is fast approaching, and by now all students in Years 7-9 will have made their choices on where they'd like to go and what they'd like to do.

ParentPay is active for all of our school trips, with the deadline for payment being **Wednesday 4th June**. Students will have received an information letter, with a tear off reply-slip – these do need to come back into school by **Monday 14th June**.

Please help us by completing the reply-slips and making your payments by ParentPay as soon as you can. As always, please contact the school office if you have any questions or would like to discuss payment options.

Parent Information evenings

Last month 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 Homework and Digital Literacy, something we are very passionate about here at Hermitage Academy.

Mr Rowles and Mrs Bulmer talked parents through our homework policy, and how you can help your child at home, to help them succeed in school. We produced a helpful booklet to take home – please do get in touch at enquiries@hermitageacademy.co.uk where we would be happy to send out an electronic copy to you.

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!

Our production last summer drew in record crowds and the hard work and professionalism of the students made it a show to remember. Rehearsals are now 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 email enquiries@hermitageacademy.co.uk

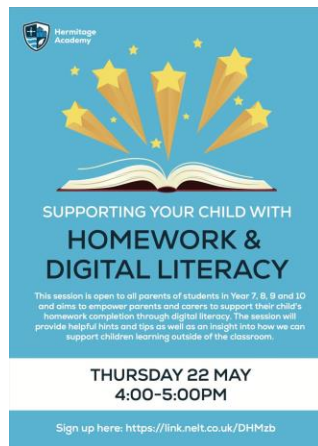


Cadets Success

Regulars to the Herald, Adam and Karl have earned more badges from cadets.


Adam has earned his Paddlesport safety and rescue course.

Karl has earned his green module, discover water badge and has become an able junior cadet. Well done boys!




Positive Points - May

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



7	Bobby G
8	Stephanie H
9	Emily F
10	Daniella M
11	Ella SP
12	BenIsrael A
13	Max J



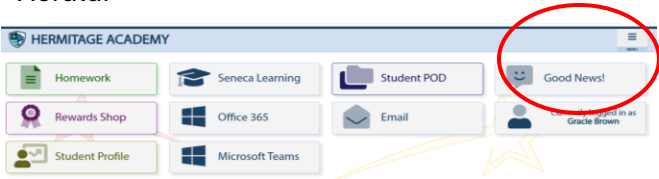
Upcoming Assemblies – June 2025

Week beginning:	Assembly focus
WB 2 nd June	Leadership
WB 9 th June	6 th Form Student Leaders
WB 16 th June	Radicalisation
WB 23 rd June	LGBTQ+ Month
WB 30 th June	Individual Liberties

NEW! The Hermitage Good News Button!

We have a new addition to our student dashboard!

The Good News icon is available whenever your child logs onto Easi. 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!



Dates for your Diary - June 2025

June	What's on?
2 nd	RE Curriculum Day
12 th	GCSE Art Moderation
13 th	UCAS Discovery Event Y12
17 th	Year 6 Information Evening
18 th	Year 7 Parents' Evening
19 th	Year 6 Friendship Day
20 th	Glasshouse rehearsal
23 rd	6 th Form Leavers' assembly and Afternoon Tea
24 th	Year 6 Transition Day Year 10 Discovery afternoon @New College
25 th	Year 6 Transition Day
26 th	School photographs
22 nd	Year 12 Work experience Year 10 Careers Day Year 6 Uniform event (Mop-up) 3:30-4:30pm

Save the Date!

Sports Day, Colour Run and Hermitage Festival - Friday 18th July

We are extremely excited to confirm our Hermitage Academy 'Colour Run' for 2025! Entry is £2.50 (through ParentPay) and this includes a t-shirt for all participating students to wear whilst running. We will also enjoy a 'Hermitage Festival', with lots of activities to celebrate the start of summer.

As in previous years, students will also be invited to compete in Sports Day, participating in some fun competition with friends and in their houses.



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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