



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

WEEKLY

News in brief...

Nursery Star of the Week:

Aleena (awarded for working hard and doing her best at everything).



A note from the Joint Acting Headteachers

It has been yet another busy week at Hydesville with our two Nursery and Reception Nativity plays and the Lower Prep choir's first public concert at Walsall Methodist Church. All of our children performed wonderfully and were a true credit to the school. We are now very much looking forward to the annual carol service next Wednesday.

We had a visit from John Coleman, Assistant Director for Education at Cognita, this week and he has expressed his thanks to parents, staff and pupils at Hydesville for their hard work and commitment. He commented on how heartening it was for him to see children at ease in their environment and focusing well in lessons. It is a tribute not only to our teachers and school staff, but also to you as supportive parents that our children and school life continue to flourish.

This week we also held a biannual meeting led by our Independent Chair for safeguarding, Patrick McDermott. Patrick spent a day and a half in school talking to staff and pupils and looking at documents. The outcome was extremely positive and recognised the way everyone in the school puts safeguarding at the top of the agenda. Staff with particular responsibilities for safeguarding were praised for their work. There is always more to do but it is pleasing to receive such excellent feedback.

As we move into the final week of this term we are looking forward to welcoming John Coleman to next Wednesday's carol service and we look forward to seeing you at this important school community event.

Pupils swap classrooms for climbing walls

This week saw the start of a number of trips to the West Midlands' biggest and best indoor bouldering wall, Boulder Central. Pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 kicked off the fun and all had a great time experiencing a new activity. Organised by our PE department, the wall climbing trips take place every year and give pupils the chance to try something new, often taking them out of their comfort zone. It will be the turn of our of Upper Prep pupils to scale the dizzy heights of the climbing wall next week!



Performers of the Week:

Adiel -

Year 2

Kimren –

Year 1

(awarded for their solo performances at the Lower Prep Choir concert).



Sportsperson of the Week:

Avneet -

Year 9

(awarded for her excellent efforts in rock climbing).



Lower Prep Choir's first Christmas concert



The halls of Walsall's Central Methodist Church came alive with the beautiful singing of our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils at a special choir concert this week.

Performing to a packed hall of parents and other invited guests, our choir helped spread festive cheer as they joined pupils from other local schools. The special service was led by friend of Hydesville Reverend Mark

Kinder and the children performed two amazing pieces – Mary had a Baby and Do you Want to Build a Snowman. It was the first time the Lower Prep Choir has performed in public and they did themselves proud! An extra well done to soloists Adiel and Kimren who sang wonderfully.

The event was a great start to our festive choir celebrations; please don't forget our all school carol service at St Matthew's Church at 6.30pm on Wednesday, 7th December.

Christmas counts for Nursery & Reception

What do you get if you mix three wise men, a group of angels, shepherds and kings, a flock of sheep and a baby? A school nativity play of course! And we're sure Nursery and Reception families will agree this week's 'Christmas Counts' concert was certainly one to remember.

Ours told the traditional Nativity story by following a group of census takers around Bethlehem on Christmas Night carrying out Caesar's orders that everyone in his Empire should be counted. Check out our gallery of images on our website: www.hydesville.com/nursery-reception-nativity-2016/



Honours Board unveiling



We officially unveiled our 2016/17 Honours boards this week – recognising the achievements of our pupils – house captains, Head Boy and Head Girl and Scholars. We are very proud of our pupils and are delighted to see their names on display. (We are sorry that the Head Boy and Girl and two of our Scholars were missing from the official photograph due to exams, illness and a football match).

Save the Date....

We're holding a Murder Mystery social event - in the school hall on Friday 27th January. This year's theme is 'Who killed the soap star', will be set in an unnamed northern town and features a star studded cast of teachers from across the school. Please save the date for now and more details will follow at the start of the next term...and cue lots of fun, suspense, flat caps and dodgy accents.

Notices/reminders:

Senior School Pupil of the

Week:

Sinclair – Year 7

(awarded for his impeccable manners and cheerful attitude).



Friday Dec 9th theme day: Christmas lunch	Menu will include: traditional roast turkey, mushroom, brie and cranberry wellington, Christmas pudding and mince pies.
Amantia Spanish trip – Y7 & Y8A	The Amantia Spanish trip consent slip and £16 trip money needs to be returned to Miss Jenkins by Friday 9 th December.
Year 9: Aston University Cultural Day trip	Year 9 pupils who have been selected to the Aston University Cultural Day need to return their reply slips and £8 to Miss Blaringhem by Friday 9 th December.
Upper Prep musical theatre	This class has now finished for the term. We will start back after Christmas in preparation for the Prep School Extravaganza.
Wall climbing trips – Mon 5th – Years 3 & 4 Thurs 8th – Year 5 & 6	All trips will leave school at 9am. Pupils are asked to come to school in their PE kit and full tracksuit. They will change back into school uniform at break time. Lessons from break time onwards will be as normal.
After School Sports Clubs	All sports clubs have now finished and re-commence w/c 11 th Jan 2017. Sign up for the new clubs on Wed 5 th Jan – collect new letters from the PE department if pupils wish to participate in any clubs in the Spring Term. Due to the dark nights – Spring Term clubs will be finishing at 4.30pm. <u>Prep Clubs – Spring Term</u> Mon – Football and Archery Wednesday – Hockey and Table Tennis (Yr 5/6 only for table tennis) <u>Senior Clubs – Spring Term</u> Tuesday – Girls Football Thursday - Boys Football
PE kit reminder – Y3 & Y4	5 th Dec - pupils in Year 3 and Year 4 will need their PE kit NOT swimming kit.
Cross-country – Y5-11	Re-scheduled for Monday 9 th January, from 2pm onwards.
Senior School - donations to homeless charity	We are taking collections of scarves, gloves, hats and socks for homeless charities in Walsall. Please bring your donations into school (to the School Office or direct to Miss Jenkins) by the extended deadline date of Tuesday 6 th December.

Christmas jumper day	We are supporting the Save the Children's Christmas Jumper day on Friday Dec 9 th . Pupils are invited to come to school wearing a Christmas jumper (or non-uniform) for a small donation.
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Dates coming up week commencing 5th December:

Monday	Christmas party and pantomime: Nursery and Lower Prep Indoor climbing trip: Y3 and Y4 After school clubs - STEM Club: Upper Prep French intervention: Y11 German intervention: Y9 Hydesville Tower Singers Musical Theatre: Seniors
Tuesday	After school clubs - German intervention: Y11 Spanish: Upper Prep Spanish Club: Upper Prep GCSE Maths French Film Club: Seniors
Wednesday	Visit to Walsall Food Bank: Senior Community Fundraising group. Visit to The Crescent Theatre to see A Christmas Carol: Y11 Christmas Carol Service at St Matthew's Church at 6.30 pm: all school. Children to arrive at 6pm. After school clubs - Taekwondo: Prep & Seniors
Thursday	Indoor climbing trip: Y5 and Y6 Theatre trip 'A Christmas Carol': Y11 Before school clubs - ICT: Y11 (8.00 – 8.45am) After school clubs – Drama: Upper Prep Musical Theatre: Senior History intervention: Y11 German intervention: Y10
Friday	Lunch theme day: Lapland comes to Hydesville Save the Children Xmas Jumper Day: all School School finishes for Christmas break After school clubs - Karate: Reception - Y6

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