Issue 55 - Date: 10/11/2017 HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL

News in brief...

Senior Pupils of the Week: Nikki and Kerinda

(Y7) awarded for always being wonderful Year 7 ambassadors.



A note from the Headmaster



Although the two weeks' half-term holiday is valued and often needed by pupils and teachers, I found myself itching to come back in the second week! It became evident talking to the various pupils that many of them had also been longing to return to be amongst their friends at school, so we've all been happy together. Having had a couple of parents' feedback evenings earlier in the week, it has been valuable for teachers and parents to have had the chance to discuss progress. For some children, academic learning is a smooth journey, with understanding developing relatively easily. It is not necessarily so for all, and this can sometimes result in

worry or anxiety. Fortunately, the teachers know the children and their strengths and gaps so well that the scope for support and improvement is great. Involving parents in that process to close the gaps is a key part of our partnership: for example, encouraging reading at home is valuable in so many ways – and our oldest pupils are no different in this regard! The stronger we are as readers, the better we can understand the materials in front of us and thus answer them well. I am very grateful to the work of all teachers in promoting literacy, and especially to Mrs Booth and Mrs Still in the Senior and Prep Schools respectively.

We like to monitor how things are at school, so I have had the pleasure to observe lessons for children ranging in age from 3 years old to 15 this week. Rest assured, your children are in such good hands: the teachers care, they respond to the pupils' needs and they are expert practitioners: it has made me want to go back to school as a pupil myself! Kindest regards for a peaceful weekend.

A Star Hydesville pupils!



The A stars programme is re-launching in the Prep School.

This is our road safety programme that is led by Walsall Council with the aid of coordinators and sheriffs in school. The programme runs from Reception to Year 6 and includes lessons such as a road and car safety, a Reception walk to school and bikeability for Year 6 pupils.

Watch this space for more details about our new Year 6 sheriffs – names will be announced shortly!

Nursery Star of the Week:

Jasmine

(awarded for always being well behaved, polite and good mannered).



Shaan meets international author



Shaan in Year 1 was very excited to meet international author and storyteller Cat Weatherill at Blenheim Palace during the half term holiday.

He had a long discussion with her about books and his love of reading, which Cat was most excited about. Shaan and his family also heard Cat do a reading and performance of her story which they all loved. Shaan's love of reading was recognised in assembly in School on Monday - he read an impressive 50 books in the Summer Reading Challenge...wow!

Foodbank update



A huge thank you to parents for donations of food and toiletries for our Harvest Festival. Pupils from the Senor School delivered them to Walsall Food Bank on Friday, 20th October.

We collected 220 kgs which is an incredible amount and enough to provide emergency food parcels of three days' worth of food for six families of four people, or 440 meals.

This is absolutely wonderful and we are so thankful to parents and pupils for supporting this very important cause.

Year 2 head to the Arbo

Pupils in Year 2 ventured into the Arboretum on Friday, 20th October to create a piece of art work inspired by environmental artist, Andy Goldsworthy.



The lesson marked the end of the 'Eco-Warriors' topic and the children used natural materials and worked in groups to create their artwork. They have loved learning about Andy Coldsworthy and have been



Goldsworthy and have been inspired by his work.

Murder Mystery change of date



Due to unforeseen circumstances we've changed the date of our next parent social event.

Our star studded cast of teachers from across the school will now take to the stage on <u>FRIDAY 8th DECEMBER</u> at 7pm to bring 'Who Killed The Soap Star' to life! Tickets are on sale NOW from the school office, priced at £5 per person and

include entry, pie and mash, dessert and soft drink.

Performer of the Week:

Guvraj - Y9

(awarded for making exceptional progress in music and an excellent start on the guitar).



Prep School Awards and Achievements

We awarded lots of certificates for achievements in swimming this week! Well done to the following pupils:

Ryan (Y2) – 200m Susannah (Y2) – Stage 3 Award Jaya (Reception) – Stanley 6 Award Emil (Y1) – 20m Rio (Y1) - 5m



Notices/reminders:

Nursery	Friday 17 th November is our Mad Hatter's Tea party to celebrate World Nursery Rhyme week. Nursery children come to school in a fancy dress outfit.
Car parking	A reminder that Broadway North is a red route so stopping is not allowed at any time. Please seek alternative drop off/parking in Arboretum Road or neighbouring streets, but we ask you to park considerately, respecting local residents and adhering to the Highway Code.
Children in Need	Next week is Children In Need. For the Seniors, pupils will need to bring in money if they wish to take part in the break and lunchtime activities. Prep pupils will have a non-uniform day on Friday in return for a small donation. Letters will be going out shortly. Branded notepads will also be on sale, priced at £1.
Swimming hats	Children in Upper Prep will be going swimming in PE lessons this half term. Please note they will need to wear a House- coloured swimming hat. These are priced at £3.50 and are available to purchase from the school office.

Dates coming up week commencing 13th November 2017:

Congratulations to the following Senior Form Group who achieved the highest attendance (99%) this week:

Form 5

Congratulations to the following Prep School Class who achieved 100% attendance this week:

1C

Monday	All week: the Senior School will be fundraising at break and lunchtimes for Children in Need. Prep School will be selling branded notepads. Anti-Bullying Week (until Friday, 17 th Nov). After school clubs: Musical Theatre: Seniors Football: Seniors Archery: Upper Prep
Tuesday	Parents' Evening: Y10 (4.00pm – 6.30pm) After school clubs: Art Club: Seniors Musical Theatre: Seniors Spanish Film Club: Seniors Maths Club: Seniors Handball: Upper Prep Spanish Club: Upper Prep
Wednesday	GCSE Geography Fieldwork trip to Carding Mill Valley After school clubs: Hockey: Upper Prep Spanish: Upper Prep
Thursday	After school clubs: Musical Theatre: Upper Prep
Friday	Children in Need: Non-uniform day for Prep children Mad Hatter's tea-party: Nursery After school clubs: Duke of Edinburgh: Y9 – Y11 Karate: Reception – Y6