



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

WEEKLY

News in brief...

Head's commendations:



Hussain – Y1
Alex – Y2
Jessica – Y3
Tanaya – Y4
Rhuben – Y5
Cameron – Y6

A note from the Headmaster



This week the Department for Education released the GCSE Performance Tables for last summer's examination series. I am always a little wary that such tables can omit some critical aspects to do with a school's importance: how happy are the children? What is their opportunity for character development? How does the school support them pastorally? Nevertheless, we cannot avoid them or ignore their importance in indicating how we do in the key element of educating the young people who arrive in Year 7.

I am proud to report that Hydesville Tower School's achievements are truly inspirational, and illustrate the excellent work of the pupils and staff in preparing for the examinations. Placed in the top 3 in the borough for Attainment 8 (a measure of the best eight GCSEs for each pupil) and for Grade 5 or higher in English and Maths, Hydesville's academic input is clear to see. Behind the scenes, this involves the expert staff giving great tuition and additional support; and pupils, surrounded by similarly motivated and positive peers. Again, missing from the Performance Table is the value that has been added to each child. From the University of Durham's independently-sourced data, we typically add half a grade on to each child's performance in every exam. Well done to all involved in such achievements!

It has been a busy couple of days this week, with strategic planning for the future development at Hydesville. These are exciting times for all phases of the school, with the outstanding Nursery, imaginative and innovative Prep School (have you seen the videos of dragons and snowmen stimulating creative writing?) and the successful and supportive Senior School all featuring in the plans for enhancement. It's going to be an exciting journey...

Smiles all round!

On Monday, pupils in Lower Prep enjoyed a talk from WS4 Dental Care in Walsall. The children learnt about the importance of dental hygiene and watched a demonstration on how to brush their teeth correctly.

They also learnt about other ways to care for their teeth and they found out about different food and drink and how they can damage their teeth. The children asked lots of interesting questions and were very excited to receive a goody bag to take away with them.



Performer of the Week:

Shriya (Y3) awarded for her consistent hard work in music lessons and in her piano lessons. She has shown such progress and is a superstar in every music lesson!



Nursery Star of the Week:

Shaan (awarded for working hard and always being well behaved).



Visiting Music Teachers event



Well done to all pupils who took part in the Peripatetic Event last Friday, which showcased the talents of our visiting music teachers and the many opportunities available for our pupils.

We have such a wide range of instruments available for our children to learn, including violin, cello, trumpet, trombone, singing, drums, flute, saxophone, clarinet and guitar.

We even have violins, cellos and trumpets for pupils to borrow at no cost should they wish to take up lessons.

Pick up a booklet from the School Office for more information or contact Miss Kingston, Head of Music, via email on aimee.kingston@hydesville.com)

Upper Prep's Times Table Challenge

Congratulations to pupils in Upper Prep who did so well in their Times Table Challenge. The results are:



Bronze Award – for answering 50 questions in 6 minutes (2, 5 and 10 times tables): Aryan (Y3), Rayah (Y4), Tom (Y6), Obaid (Y6), Keisha (Y5), Ameen (Y5) and Jessica (Y5).

Silver Award - for answering 50 questions in 10 minutes (2, 5, 10, 3, 4, 6 and 9 times tables): Daisy (Y6), Navneet (Y6), Ismail (Y4), Linda (Y5), Jamie (Y4), Noor (Y6), Zakir (Y4), Safiya (Y5)



Gold Award – for answering 100 questions in 10 minutes (all times tables, up to 12 x 12): Shriya (Y3), Tanaya (Y4), Sukhmani (Y5), Jag (Y6).



Diamond Award – for answering 100 questions in 7 minutes (all times tables plus related facts): Nitin (Y5)



Hall of Fame – for answering 50 questions at Diamond standard as quick as possible, with a 5 second penalty added for each error. We have a new record....well done to Jay in Y6 for achieving a time of 2 mins 37 seconds (plus an honourable mention to Rayen in Y6 for a new 3rd place time of 2 mins 47 secs).



The next challenge will be at the end of this term....so children should get practising!

Senior pupil of the Week:

Arjan (Y8) awarded for showing an improvement in a number of subject areas.



Sportsperson of the Week:

Roman (Y7) awarded by the table tennis coach who visited this week. Roman was praised for his top spin serve. He was also involved in the competition on Tuesday – the team came that came top in their group!



Murder comes to Hydesville....



Staff from across the school took to the stage last Friday evening to perform 'Who Killed the Soap Star'.

The play told the tale of the special 30th anniversary edition of the enduringly popular TV soap, Ravenscar and included lots of dodgy accents, big wigs and cringe-worthy acting...plus a whole lot of fun and super

sleuthing!

A huge well done to staff who put on a night to remember – who can forget Gilly Foreshaw's questionable black country accent, Alan Battersby's oversized shotgun and Mary Makepeace's Bet Lynch inspired wig!

Poor murdered Solomon Wainwright (Mr Leslie) saw his evening cut short but the rest of the cast carried on....

The evening was a sell out, so thank you to everyone who came along to join in the fun and enjoyed a soap star inspired pie & mash supper before putting their sleuthing skills to the test. Well done to Zammar Khan in Year 10 and his guests for solving the crime and working out 'who dunnit'.

Our next parent social event will be on March 15th – please save the date!

Prep School Awards and Achievements



Congratulations to the following pupils who received awards for swimming:

Yuvraj (Reception) – Stanley 2 Award

Viren (Y2) – Stanley 4 Award

Congratulations to Shaan in Year 1 for an award for a Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Mini Tennis Award - for hard work & commitment to tennis.



Well done to Harry (Y2) for being awarded 'Man of the Match' by his football team this weekend.



Sports round up:

- Well done to the Year 5 and 6 swimming team who the Walsall schools' gala this week, after winning 10 out of 12 races.
- More sporting success for the Year 7 & 8 boys who took part in a table tennis competition at Streetly Academy this week. They won their group, against 4 Streetly Team B, Aldridge and St Francis. They will now play a semi-final against Streetly Team A to hopefully get into the final. Good luck boys.



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

RJ

2P

4L

6K

Notices/reminders:

Congratulations to the following Senior Form Group who achieved the highest attendance (98%) this week:

Form 5

<p>School Uniform – Prep School</p>	<p>A reminder that girls should be wearing hats and boys should have caps. The fleece hats are acceptable if it is cold and the children can wear them whilst playing out however they are not to wear them to school.</p> <p>We will be having a full uniform check next week and we ask parents to kindly comply with our uniform, including outdoor coats and shoes not boots. We really want our children to feel a belonging to Hydesville and to be proud of their uniform.</p>
<p>Feb Half Term – Sports Plus Scheme</p>	<p>We will be hosting a Sports Plus Holiday Club during February Half Term (Mon 19th to Fri 23rd Feb) for children in Year 1 to Year 6. Contact the School Office for more details.</p>
<p>World Book Day – 1st March</p>	<p>Pupils are invited to come to school dressed up to celebrate World Book Day. Seniors can dress as their favourite book character or author and Prep classes will be given different themes (letters will go out soon). There will be a prize for the best-dressed pupil. More information will follow!</p>
<p>Nursery & Reception Feb Half Term Holiday Club</p>	<p>We will be holding a February Half Term Holiday Club for children in Nursery & Reception (9am – 4pm), priced at £25 per day. Contact the Office for more details.</p>
<p>Walsall Football Club – School Partners Scheme</p>	<p>Walsall FC is offering Hydesville pupils and their families discounted tickets to Walsall v Wigan on Saturday, 17th March. Letters are going out shortly.</p>

Dates coming up week commencing 29th January 2018

Monday	After school clubs: Musical Theatre: Seniors Football: Seniors Archery: Upper Prep (12 places, payment required).
Tuesday	After school clubs: Music intervention: KS3 & KS4 Art Club: Prep Spanish Film Club: Seniors Spanish: Upper Prep Lacrosse: Upper Prep (payment required)
Wednesday	After school clubs: Hockey: Upper Prep (payment required).
Thursday	Themed lunch day: Yorkshire Pudding Day Intermediate Maths Challenge: Y9 After school clubs: Book Appreciation Club: Upper Prep (4.00 – 4.45pm). Art Club: Seniors (3.45 – 4.45pm) Musical Theatre: Upper Prep
Friday	After school clubs: Duke of Edinburgh: Y9 – Y11 Karate: Reception – Y6.