



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

WEEKLY

News in brief...

Head's commendations:



Ismaeel – Y1
Ibrahim – Y2
Viren – Y3
Safa – Y4
William – Y5
Tom – Y6

A note from the Headmaster

It is true to say that no one would wish a vehicle barrier to be their legacy to a school! Nevertheless, those of you who have visited us in the last few days will have seen the installation of such a structure by the main gates of the playground. Its purpose is simple and of the greatest importance: the safety of our children.



We have many children on the site after school, whether for clubs, academic support or homework club purposes. Unfortunately, with cars often using the playground as a parking space at these same times, we experience the risk of a child being hit by a vehicle. Thus the barrier will give us a way to avoid the playground being filled with cars on an evening, keeping children and adults safe.

More details will emerge in the next few weeks about its operation, and how access will be possible for parents of Nursery children.

On a similar note of safety, someone contacted the school this week concerned about children crossing Broadway North without using the traffic lights and "lollipop" ladies. Whilst parents may feel happy to accompany their child across the busy road, there are some unaccompanied children who are starting to follow this lead. It was less than three years ago that a Hydesville pupil was involved in a car accident on this area, so I would ask that parents put the safety of the children uppermost and use the designated crossing point.

Final safety point: Miss Bungler has put together a highly informative presentation for e-safety awareness, and this will be delivered on Tuesday evening, 5.00 – 6.00pm. More details follow in the newsletter but I am very grateful to her for giving such attention to this vital aspect of modern life.

Have a great (and safe!) weekend...

Hydesville Headmaster is on Twitter!

For those parents who use social media, we are excited to announce that our Headmaster, Mr Honey, is now on Twitter. You can keep up to date with his school views and news via @HTS_Headmaster

You can also follow @HydesvilleTower as well as 'like' us on Facebook (search 'Hydesville Tower School') for more news, events, photos and regular updates from the school.



Performer of the Week:

Zakir (Y4) awarded for contributing and progressing well in music lessons this week with Mr Vickers.



Nursery Star of the Week:

Asir (awarded for making excellent progress).



More dragon hunting



Year 2 pupils have been busy trying to find the dragon! Last week they made some food to try and entice the creature, and this week they ventured into Walsall Arboretum to go on a dragon hunt. Despite their efforts the dragon has still not been found. Check out the School's Facebook page for the video the children recorded whilst on their hunt.

Melting penguins



Year 1 have had fun with science this week, when they realised the naughty snowmen had visited their classroom and frozen toy penguins in ice! The children worked together to devise a plan to melt the ice and rescue the penguins.



Can you believe your eyes?

GCSE biologists have been studying the eye and brain and how sometimes they can play tricks on each other. Reiss volunteered to lend a 'hand' and allowed his mind to 'adopt' a wooden hand. He commented: "that was a very strange experience...the conscious part of my brain knew it wasn't my hand but my senses and reflexes told me differently!"

Raising Awareness of Teenage Cancer



Thank you to Parese Ahmed from the Teenage Cancer Trust who visited us last week to raise awareness of teenage cancers and to encourage pupils to take responsibility for their health and make positive lifestyle decisions.

The session offered invaluable guidance for our pupils and encouraged thought-provoking discussions around topics such as illness, supporting friends and family with cancer and healthy living.

Senior School residential

Letters are going out shortly about a forthcoming great opportunity for Senior pupils to experience an outdoor adventure break at [Bushcraft's](#) woodland centre in Boughton Woods, near Kettering, Northamptonshire. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis and can be secured by a deposit of £50, payable by **Friday, 16th February**. The dates of the break are Wednesday 27th to Friday 29th June. The total cost is £230 per pupil.

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

1C

Congratulations to the following Senior Form Group who also achieved 100% attendance this week:

Form 6

Celebrating Safer Internet Day 2018



Keeping our children safe online is very important to us as a school and to help us do this we will be celebrating Safer Internet Day 2018 next week, with a range of activities across the School.

This year's theme is *Create, Connect and Share*

Respect. A better internet starts with you.

Senior Form tutors will be delivering a special assembly on Monday and on Wednesday pupils will have the chance to participate in a range of activities during form time, including creating jigsaw pieces to put up around school. There will also be a poster competition.

Parents of children in Years 5 and 6, along with parents and pupils in Senior School are welcome to join us on Tuesday evening at 5pm for a **presentation on Safer Internet Awareness**. Letters have gone out and are available on the school website, giving more information. Stay tuned on the School's Facebook and Twitter pages during the week for updates on our activities. Thank you for your ongoing support in helping protect our children online.



Prep School Awards and Achievements

Well done to Ryan (Y2) and Shreeya (Y1) who received Kombat Federation Awards for recent successes in karate.



Congratulations to Martin in Y1 who was given a Soccer Star Coaching award.



Well done to the Year 5 and 6 swimming team who won the Walsall Schools' swimming gala last week. Jessica, Keisha, Ethan, Sukhmani, Jaydeep, Harrison, Simran and Toby were officially presented with a certificate in assembly.

An extra special mention goes to Mrs Whitehouse who (along with a swimming buddy) has successfully swam the equivalent distance of crossing the channel. The challenge had to be completed by the end of January and the winners were the first to achieve it. The duo challenged themselves to swim more and more every day and Mrs Whitehouse is delighted that her personal achievement is now 1.5 miles in one go, which is the most she has ever done! During a period of eight days the duo completed in excess of 21 miles and we are delighted to announce they won the competition...wow, well done Mrs Whitehouse!



Notices/reminders:

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| Year 2 trip to Warwick Castle (9th Feb) | A reminder that payment for this trip is now due. |
| Year 5 & 6 trip to Black Country Museum (15th Feb) | A reminder that payment for this trip is due by Friday, 9 th February. |
| STEM Club | There is no STEM Club on Monday, 5 th February. |
| Swimming Galas | The School Swimming Galas are coming up after Half Term: 19 th March for Upper Prep and 20 th March for Seniors. All children need to have purchased a House swimming cap from the School office in time for the galas. They are £3.50 each and the House colours are as follows: Bradford: Yellow Dilke: Blue Hatherton: Red |
| Senior School Badminton trip (14th March) | The Senior School Badminton trip to the NIA on March 14 th is now FULL. No more payments can be taken. |
| Year 1 PE | Parents are reminded that full tracksuits are required during the cold winter months. Children are also allowed to wear gloves as long as they are navy blue. |
| Table-tennis experience day (14th Feb) | Places are still available if pupils wish to attend – it is open to pupils in Years 7-9. |
| After school sports clubs | There are only two weeks left of sports clubs this half term. Watch this space for letters going out for pupils to sign up for clubs for the next six week block after half term. |
| Year 6 trip to Woodlands Adventure (9th Feb) | A reminder that PE kit is required, with warm layers underneath. Children will also need a waterproof, towel and change of clothes, including shoes. |

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| Feb Half Term – Sports Plus Scheme | We will be hosting a Sports Plus Holiday Club during February Half Term (Mon 19 th to Fri 23 rd Feb) for children in Year 1 to Year 6. Contact the School Office for more details. |
| World Book Day – 1st March | Pupils can 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. There will be a prize for the best-dressed pupil. More info to follow. |
| Nursery & Reception Feb Half Term Holiday Club | We will be holding a Half Term Holiday Club for children in Nursery & Reception (9am – 4pm), priced at £25 per day. Contact the School Office for more details. |

Dates coming up week commencing: 5th February 2018

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| Monday | Trip to Amantia French restaurant: Y7 After school clubs: Musical Theatre: Seniors Football: Seniors Archery: Upper Prep (12 places, payment required). |
| Tuesday | Safer Internet Day Awareness Evening 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 | Trip to Snowdome, Tamworth: Y1 Animal Man visits Nursery Parents' Evening: Y9 (4.00 – 6.30pm) After school clubs: Book Appreciation Club: Upper Prep (4.00 – 4.45pm). Musical Theatre: Upper Prep |
| Friday | Trip to Woodlands Adventure: Y6 After school clubs: Duke of Edinburgh: Y9 – Y11 Karate: Reception – Y6. |