



HYDESVILLE  
TOWER SCHOOL

# WEEKLY

## News in brief...

### Head's commendations:



Yuvraj – Y1  
Omveer – Y2  
Avaran – Y3  
Dhaya – Y4  
Simone – Y5  
Linda – Y6

### A note from the Headmaster

There have been many points during my time here when I have felt immensely proud of the performances of the children. Nursery and Reception Nativity plays, Prep School form assemblies, and Buggy have all been times when the talents of the pupils have shone through. Tuesday night's Valentine's Concert was the jewel in the crown, however. It was such an enjoyable production from start to finish, with children aged from 5 – 16 working together to give the audience a real treat. Whether music, acting or the spoken word, the performers gave a show of considerable quality and with wonderful stage presence. Well done to all, and thank you to the staff who made the magic happen.

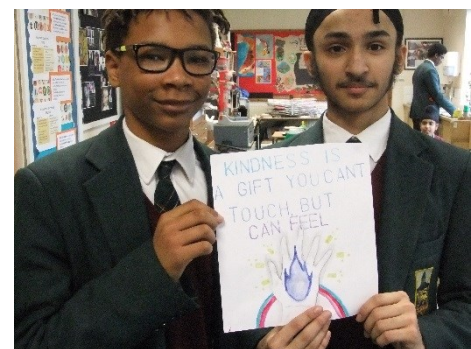
I was in London on Wednesday to meet with Cognita Heads about last year's GCSE results and the targets for this year. First, it was a lovely chance to reflect on just how well last year's cohort performed, with a high level of 'value added' not seen to that extent in most of the other secondary schools. In addition, we turned our attention to the current Year 11 to consider their prospects. They are a bright group with the potential to do very well. However, as we move into the half-term holiday, I want to issue a plea to them and all the pupils (and staff and parents) to have some time free from work in the week ahead. Clearly, in the final months before GCSEs a pupil cannot avoid work altogether, but we all understand that the quality of our performance is determined by our mood and energy; this is why some time off is so important. A structured plan for the week, entailing designated working time and designated rest time will help keep them fresh for the busy weeks ahead, and not become stale or stressed through overdoing it. As ever, tutors will be able to offer guidance if anyone wishes to check on what is realistic.

Despite the winter months, we have escaped without snow days or "Eastly Beasts", and as one pupil said to me yesterday after school, "It feels like Spring". Certainly the lighter mornings are helping, and I hope we can all recharge ready for a busy and productive second half of term starting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

With best wishes...

### Random Acts of Kindness

In preparation for Random Acts of Kindness Day (today), pupils in Years 7 - 9 have been considering the importance of kindness and how being kind can have positive effects. Pupils created poems, posters and artwork. Classes have also looked at quotes including: 'be the rainbow in someone's cloud' and their work is on display in the 'corridor of kindness' in Senior School. Pupils have also undertaken kind acts. For example, Year 8 pupils picked up the litter in the school garden. We have been delighted with how kind our pupils have been to each other, and we hope they continue to be kind during the half term break!



## Nursery Star of the Week:

**Arjun** – awarded for growing in confidence.



## Senior Pupil of the Week:

**Muhammed (Y8)** – awarded for his honesty and for setting a good example.



## A lot of love at Valentine's concert

Our re-branded Teatime Concert was a huge hit on Wednesday night! It was wonderful to see pupils from across the school, from our youngest in Reception to our more experienced performers in Seniors, take to the stage together to showcase their talents in music, drama, performing arts and elocution. Aptly titled, 'Valentine's Concert', visitors enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea whilst enjoying the show. We were guided on our musical journey by presenters Om, Tanaya and Veer.

The show had it all, from solo to group performances, as well as instrumental pieces and even an act from

Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet. Thank you to everyone who came along to support the event, and we're sure you'll agree, love is all we need!

## A call for help with 'Meet the Real Apprentice' event

Please help! We're looking for Hydesville parents who would be willing to give up a couple of hours of their time to talk to Senior School pupils about their job roles at a 'Meet The Real Apprentice' careers event on 7th March. The event will involve pupils participating in a 'what's my job' activity to guess visitors' job roles find out more about career pathways available to them when they leave school.

If you're interested in taking part, please email Miss Fairbrother on [danielle.fairbrother@cognita.com](mailto:danielle.fairbrother@cognita.com)

Please spread the word to family, colleagues and friends. The more varied and diverse the job roles covered, the better informed our pupils will be about future career pathways available to them. Thank you for your support!



## Quick round up from across the school



- Thank you to Nursery parents who joined us at the mark-making event on Wednesday. The children enjoyed exploring the rainbow salt tray, play dough, sunshine pegs, self-portraits and scrunching newspaper.

Mark-Making is very important within Early Years as it is crucial for children to develop fine motor skills in order for them to hold a pencil and to

become independent writers.

- Mrs Chand's Problem Solving Club proved a challenge for these masterminds when they were asked to build the tallest tower using 10 straws. Congratulations to Safin and Viren for making the most stable tower and getting the foundations right.







- Reception enjoyed their trip to Frankie and Benny's yesterday. They had great fun making their own pizzas and eating them!

## Prep School Uniform Check

“There will be a uniform check on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February. Could you please ensure that your child arrives in correct uniform with every item of clothing named,”

Many thanks and have a lovely half term holiday, Mrs Whitehouse.

## Prep School Awards and Achievements



Congratulations to Shriya in Year 4 for her LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts) Speaking in Public Award (Distinction).

Shriya also received a certificate for taking part in the Nottingham Schools Chess championships.



Reuben in Reception was given a medal for completing a 5k charity run (photo, left)

Tanaya in Year 5 has achieved a Black belt (1<sup>st</sup> Dan) in karate from Kombat Federation (photo, right)



**Congratulations to the following Prep School class who achieved 100% attendance this week: 2B**

**Congratulations to the following Senior Form Groups who achieved the highest attendance (99%) this week: Form 1**

Tianna-Rose in Reception and Tamika in Year 2 were recognized for achievements in hockey. Both girls play in the Under 8's team at Wednesbury Hockey Club. They recently played in the Lichfield Hockey Festival and their team did really well, finishing top in their section. They now go onto the Staffordshire County Tournament on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Zakir in Year 5 also plays for Wednesbury Hockey Club, in the Under 10s. He plays in goal and also played in the Lichfield Hockey Festival. His team won against some really strong teams, and they finished overall 2<sup>nd</sup>, only 1 point behind winners, Beeston. Zak played really well, keeping out lots of goals!



Congratulations to Tanaya and Dev in Year 5 who will be having their 500-word mini saga published as part of the Young Writers Spooky Sagas writing competition.

### Notices/reminders:

<p><b>Nursery sound of the week</b></p>	<p>Here is this week's phonic link for learning at home:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HIKQVqtMZco">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HIKQVqtMZco</a></p>
<p><b>Year 9 Options</b></p>	<p>Please return all remaining Y9 GCSE option choice forms to Miss Jenkins on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.</p>
<p><b>Nursery to Reception transition event reminder</b></p>	<p>A reminder to N2 parents to please book in for the Nursery to Transition presentations. These take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb at 9.30 am and Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb at 2.00 pm.</p>

## Dates coming up week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019:

<b>Monday</b>	<p>Term resumes: All</p> <p>Fair Trade Fortnight: Prep &amp; Senior School</p> <p>After School Clubs:</p> <p>Musical Theatre: Seniors (3.45 – 4.45 pm)</p> <p>Art Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.45 pm)</p> <p>STEM Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.45 pm)</p> <p>Problem Solving: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)</p> <p>Archery Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)</p> <p>Football Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)</p>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<p>Nursery – Reception Transition event: 9.30am</p> <p>After School Clubs:</p> <p>Drama Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.45 pm)</p> <p>Spanish: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)</p>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<p>Nursery – Reception Transition event: 2.00 pm</p> <p>After School Clubs:</p> <p>Hockey Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)</p>
<b>Thursday</b>	<p>Nursery Parent Engagement Event: British Values (2.15 pm)</p> <p>Trip to see 'To Kill a Mockingbird': Y11</p> <p>Themed lunch day: National Cornish Pasty Day</p> <p>After School Clubs:</p> <p>Multi-Skills: Y1 &amp; Y2 (3.30 – 4.30 pm)</p> <p>MAT Elocution: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)</p> <p>11Plus Booster session: Year 5 (4.00 – 5.00 pm)</p> <p>Musical Theatre: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)</p>
<b>Friday</b>	<p>What Career Live, Birmingham NEC: Y9</p> <p>Tanzania Training Expedition: Seniors (until Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>)</p> <p>After School Clubs:</p> <p>Karate: Prep School (3.50 – 4.50 pm)</p> <p>Duke of Edinburgh: Y9 - 11 (3.45 – 4.45 pm)</p>