



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

WEEKLY

News in brief...

Nursery Star of the Week:

Dylan – awarded for being a good listener and working hard in all areas of learning.



A note from the Headmaster

The Voice of Parent survey closed this week, and I want to start by thanking all of you who spent the time offering your reflections on the school. It works on the principle that only a score of 9 or above represents a “promoter” (and I always revert to 7/10 in surveys to indicate I’m happy!), so our net score this year showed how very positive the majority of parents feel about Hydesville. However, I want the school to be the best it can be – and keep getting better. Hence every comment, whether from a happy or discontent parent, will be scrutinised by the leadership team to ensure we are responding to the observations made. We will send out some communications about major themes in due course to all parents, as well as give specific feedback to individuals when they have raised points. Once again though, thank you for helping us build a fantastic school.

This week has seen me working through the Year 9 reports, and for the weekend and next week it will be the turn of the Upper Prep for me. I read every word – so apologies if I miss any typos! – and it is so impressive to see how aspirational and determined our pupils are. 13-14 years of age is a tricky time in the emotional wellbeing of all adolescents, and this can result in some finding academic work an additional challenge that they resist or rebel against. Luckily, with the support of the teachers and tutors, our pupils are nurtured through those highs and lows so they emerge positive and looking to fulfil their potential. It is the same across the school, from those first steps in Nursery, through Prep and then Senior. Growing up is not easy, but here they are doing it in a very strong manner.

After the excitement of last weekend’s England-Ireland rugby match, it was nice to reflect on Kyan’s call up to the Black Country Under 15 squad and Adeel’s excitement at going to school rugby practice (“I couldn’t take my eyes off the game, sir”). It would be nice to hang another representative shirt alongside that of Ellie Simmonds in the hallway, so maybe this is the start of their journey. Picture them wearing the “red rose”, if you are watching at the weekend...



Year 1 trip to Snowdome

Pupils in Year 1 enjoyed a cold but very enjoyable day at the Snowdome in Tamworth yesterday. They imagined what it would be like to be an Inuit living in the North Pole; and what it felt like for Scott of the Antarctic on his expedition to the South Pole with his woollen garments and being in the freezing temperatures for months on end. But most of all they wanted to have lots of fun with their friends. And after a day of sliding down the slope in doughnut rings, pulling each other on sledges, making snow angels and playing in the wooden house they confirmed that they certainly did have lots of fun!



Reception Star of the Week:

Kadii - awarded for excellent manners and working hard in all lessons.



Performer of the Week:

Rayah (Y5) - awarded for impressing Mrs Harvey in her flute lessons, demonstrating excellent progress especially for someone who has only been playing since the summer!



Working together for a better internet

We celebrated Safer Internet Day on Tuesday with a range of activities across the School. This year's theme is *together for a better internet*.

Prep classes produced lots of lovely posters and shared their advice for staying safe online with each other and their teachers.



Senior pupils spent time during

PSHE lessons and in Form time, discussing consent in a digital world, looking at how our data is stored and how to use technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. See our gallery of images here:

<https://www.hydesville.com/celebrating-safer-internet-day-2019/>

A 'fearless' lesson for Seniors

Pupils in Years 8-11 enjoyed an informative and interactive workshop on Wednesday which raised issues about the dangers of knife crime among young people in today's society. While the workshop was presented in an entertaining and lively manner, the central message to pupils was clear: Crimestoppers recorded over 40,000 incidents of knife crime reported to the police in 2018 and many of these involved young people. Our pupils were given information and advice about how disagreements among friends can sometimes escalate and how to offer more appropriate responses and reactions.



Nursery Fun Club programme

We're excited to announce the programme for the forthcoming Nursery and Reception February Half Term Fun Club:



Mon 18th - art & craft and face painting & glitter tattoos

Tues 19th - making chocolate crispy cakes and making puppets

Weds 20th - art & craft and fun with playdough

Thurs 21st - Making marshmallow pop melts/decorating biscuits and art & craft

Fri 22nd - art & craft and popcorn & movie afternoon fun

We do have limited places still available so please book your child on ASAP if you haven't already.

Please see Mrs Smith in Nursery or your child's Reception teacher for more information.

Senior Pupil of the Week:

Harman (Y7) – awarded in recognition of his hard work and high standards.

Congratulations to the following Prep School classes who achieved the highest attendance (98%) this week: 3CW

Congratulations to the following Senior Form Groups who also achieved the highest attendance (97%) this week: Form 1

Prep School Awards and Achievements

Congratulations to Shriya in Year 4 for achieving Grade 1 (distinction) in piano by the Royal School of Music.



Mahima in Year 5 received Grade 2 (Merit) in violin by the Trinity School of Music.

What talented musicians we have in Prep School; well done girls!



Notices/reminders:

Nursery sound of the week	Here is this week's phonic link for learning at home: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztsfsOI9I9Q
Half Term Holiday Clubs	A reminder that we are running two external Holiday Clubs during Half Term: Mad Science Sports Plus Scheme Both clubs are open to non-Hydesville children also. Contact the School Office for more information.
Photo consent forms	We still have some outstanding photo consents. Please return your child's form ASAP, if you haven't already done so.
Nursery to Reception transition event reminder	A reminder to N2 parents to please book in for the Nursery to Transition presentations. These take place on Tuesday 26 th Feb at 9.30 am and Wednesday 27 th Feb at 2.00 pm.

Dates coming up week commencing 11th February 2019:

Monday	After School Clubs: Musical Theatre: Seniors (3.45 – 4.45 pm) Art Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.45 pm) STEM Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.45 pm) Problem Solving: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)
Tuesday	Parents' consultations: Nursery Valentine's Concert: All (4.15 pm – 5.30 pm) After School Clubs: Drama Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.45 pm) Spanish: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)
Wednesday	Trip to Warwick Castle: Y2 Nursery Parent Engagement Event: Mark-Making (2 pm – 3 pm)
Thursday	Prevent 'Game On' Workshop: Y9 Visit to Frankie & Benny's: Reception Themed lunch day: Thailand After School Clubs: MAT Elocution: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm) 11Plus Booster session: Year 5 (4.00 – 5.00 pm) Musical Theatre: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)
Friday	Nursery Stay & Play session: 1.30 pm – 3.00 pm (for prospective Nursery families) Random Acts of Kindness Day: All After School Clubs: Karate: Prep School (3.50 – 4.50 pm) Duke of Edinburgh: Y9 - 11 (3.45 – 4.45 pm)

Next week's 'Around the World in 24 Dishes' menu is:

Thailand.

Thai red chicken curry

Thai green vegetable curry

Noodles with chilli & quorn

Thai fried rice

Rice noodle salad

Deli bar

Jacket potatoes

Sticky rice with mango

