



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

WEEKLY

News in brief...

Head's commendations:



Aleena – Y1
Avneet – Y2
Cynthia – Y3
Shriya – Y4
Tanaya – Y5
Adeel – Y6

A note from the Headmaster

This has been a busy week for assessments, which can make a school seem quieter as the usual run of events and activities diminishes.

Prep School's assessment week is a valuable time for teachers to see where the children have reached as we near the finishing straight. It is important to recognise that the progress made in the final term can be significant as all the learning of the year is consolidated and fits together. This is often a magical time – both for pupil and teacher – as the various “light bulb” moments are seen for a variety of children in the class.

I was pleased to attend the GCSE Drama practical assessment exam, where our pupils demonstrated the fruits of their labours. The poise in their acting and the depth of their characterisation were a pleasure to observe. As the first formal part of the GCSE examinations, this will hopefully give everyone the sense that the hard work and effort pays off, leading to further good things in the weeks ahead.

Yesterday and today saw us interview over 30 candidates for the Senior School academic and non-academic scholarships for Year 7, September 2019. To have such a field of candidates is obviously a delight, since it is indicative of the continuing quality of child entering the Senior School. It was also great to see the many internal candidates, whose manner, etiquette and presentation were a huge credit to them.

Next week promises to be filled with incredible opportunities: *Hydesville in Oz* by the Prep School, and a variety of educational trips from Nursery through to the Senior School, and our information for parents from Y2-Y5 about our 11 plus preparations.

I hope the weekend gives you the rest and recharging required for all that is ahead!



Toy & Book sale proves huge success!

The Pupil Voice 'Great Toy and Book Sale' went down a storm last week and raised a fantastic £127.20!

All of the money raised will be spent on playground toys for the Prep School children.

The unsold books are being donated to the library at Walsall Manor Hospital, so we're delighted to be supporting the local community too.

A huge thank you to everyone who made a donation.



Nursery Stars of the Week:

Manoah and Zidan - both children have made considerable progress in Health and Self-Care and have both grown in independence.



Reception Star of the Week:

Roman – awarded for showing improvement in his reading.



Celebrating the Bard

Prep School fully embraced the national celebrations of Shakespeare Week with a range of exciting lessons and activities. The aim of the celebration was to excite and educate children about the life of William Shakespeare, England's most highly regarded playwright, poet and dramatist.

Read more about the activities pupils were involved in here:

<https://www.hydesville.com/celebrating-the-bard/>



Is your child a genius?

We have been approached by a TV Production Company regarding an opportunity to attend a **Child Genius Open Day** in London. Here is more information received from the Assistant Producer of this TV programme:

*We understand that taking part in a TV show is a big decision, so as part of our casting process we will be holding a **Mensa-backed Open Day** on **Saturday 4th May** in London for lots of children and their families to attend, **with no obligation to take part in the series**. It is a fun day, offering parents and children a chance to find out more about the show, plus an opportunity to meet other like-minded children, and take part in a series of fun challenges and games.*

If you are interested in finding out more, please email: child.genius@walltowall.co.uk



ISA Drama Success (by Mr Leslie)

Hydesville Drama Club was invited to compete in the Northern section of the ISA Drama Competition held at Hammond School in Chester last Sunday. We were delighted to be involved in a national competition alongside pupils from independent schools across the UK.

After months of rehearsing, our pupils were ready to perform the chocolate room scene from 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' by Roald Dahl. Our young actors did not disappoint and parents were treated to a comic delight!

The cast was given some very encouraging positive feedback on their scene by their judge. Mr Leslie was delighted that he said that the children worked well as a team and spoke clearly. He enjoyed the scene and praised Om's Augustus Gloop performance.

Many thanks to the cast, Miss Bowdige, Mrs Reece, Roy and Mike for giving up their time to assist in this production.



Senior Pupils of the Week:

Amun, & Priya (Y9)
– awarded for their fundraising efforts.



Congratulations to the following Prep School classes who achieved 100% attendance this week: RD, RJ, 2B and 2S.

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

Prep School Awards and Achievements

Congratulations to the following pupils for successes in the Dudley Elocution Festival:

Shriya (Y4) – 1st & 2nd prize
Nitin (Y6) – 2nd prize, and 2nd prize
Veer (Year 4) – 2nd prize, and 3rd prize

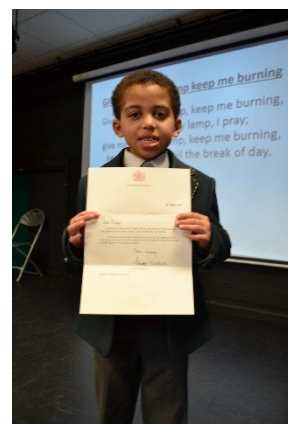


Well done to Armaan in Year 1 for swimming 5 metres.

Congratulations to Simran in Year 1 for her Streetdance award and for successes in Prep Grade tap dancing.



Well done to Gavish in Year 3 for doing so well in football. His football team won!



We are very excited for Tayo in Year 2. He sent a letter to the Queen and received a reply from Buckingham Palace!

Performers of the Week:

Parmal & Priya (Y9)

– awarded for creating a really catchy and interesting composition. Miss Kingston can't wait to hear the finished song!



Supporting Your Child During Exam Time (Advice from Young Minds)

As we start to move towards exam season, Young Minds has launched advice for parents about supporting their children.

Tips include:

- Encourage your child to take revision breaks and find a balance between studying and doing things they find enjoyable and relaxing.
- Make sure they are eating and drinking at regular intervals.
- Reassure them – reinforce that you are and will be proud of them no matter what happens.
- Remain positive and hopeful!
- Let them know their feelings are valid and normal, but also offer support and solutions where possible.
- Anxiety is often worst at night and this means it is useful to encourage good bedtime routine.

You can find out more here: <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/parents-guide-to-support-exam-time/>

Notices/reminders:

Nursery sound of the week	Here is this week's phonic link for learning at home: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0YLRRdZ3R4
Mad Science	Places are still available on the Mad Science Easter Holiday Science Club. Call 01926 429845 or see www.madscience.org/westmidlands
Nursery & Reception Easter Holiday Fun Club	We are offering an Easter Holiday Fun Club for children in Nursery & Reception. Contact the School Office or Mrs Smith in Nursery for more details or to book.
Nursery Trip to Ash End Farm: Thursday 4th April	Children must come to school before 8.45 am in clothes suitable for the farm and the weather. Please ensure that you have made the payment to Mrs Smith.
After-School Sports Clubs	Week commencing 1 st April is the last week for Archery and Football Club. Hockey Club has now finished for the term. Next term - Cricket Club will take place on a Monday for Upper Prep. Letters will go out next week.

Dates & After-School Clubs coming up week commencing 1st April:

Monday	Settling in Morning: Nursery new starters Trip to Shakespeare Birthplace Trust: Y9 Hydesville in Oz: Prep School (1.30pm) After School Clubs: Problem Solving: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm) Archery Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm) Football Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm) Musical Theatre: Senior (3.45 – 4.45 pm)
Tuesday	After School Clubs: Drama Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.45 pm) Spanish: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm) Art Club: Seniors (3.45 – 4.45 pm) Football Club: Seniors (3.45 – 4.30 pm)
Wednesday	Hydesville in Oz: Prep School (4.15pm)
Thursday	Themed lunch day: Portugal 11+ Preparation Event: Y2 – 5 (4.00 pm) After School Clubs: Multi-Skills: Y1 & Y2 (3.30 – 4.30 pm) Musical Theatre: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)
Friday	Hydesville in Oz: Prep School (9.30am) Fearless workshop: Y7 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:

Portuguese day.

Portuguese pork stir fry

Bacalhau à Brás (cod, fried potato, egg and olives)

Feijoada à portuguesa (bean & vegetable stew)

Roasted vegetables

Buttery herb potatoes

deli bar

salad bar

Arroz doce (Lemon & cinnamon rice pudding)

