



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

WEEKLY

News in brief...

Nursery Star of the Week:

Cataleya - awarded for being kind and helpful towards her peers in Nursery.



Reception Star of the Week:

Arvind – awarded for working hard and good listening.



A note from the Headmaster

This has been an exciting week back at school, and whilst the damp and increasingly chilly weather has reminded us that autumn is already preparing to turn to winter, there is still plenty to warm the heart at Hydesville!

First, it was great to see the release of the GCSE league tables for small independent schools in the Daily Telegraph. Our performance at GCSE last summer placed us 14th in the whole of the UK, and the best in the West Midlands. This is a tremendous reflection of the hard work of the pupils and staff, culminating in the excellent performances at the top grades. We do not take such achievements for granted, and know that to maintain this success requires dedication and a constant drive to improve, but it is still lovely to see that the hard work pays off.

Secondly, we were able to celebrate a range of achievements from Prep School, many of which will be highlighted later in the newsletter. Worthy of special recognition is Shriya, whose chess accomplishments continue to impress. She competed in the English Girls Chess Championships at Blenheim Palace, securing the Under 10 trophy! Understandably, the Mayor and Mayoress of Walsall were keen to rub shoulders with Shriya and hence invited her to a presentation ceremony 😊

Finally, I have had a series of chances to meet up with panels of pupils to talk about their experiences of school life. It is when you hear from our children that you realise what incredible people they are growing up in to. Views were shared on the merits (and drawbacks) of homework, the sense of community and support within the school, the catering improvements and requests for the future, and the way in which careers support is helping them prepare for life beyond Hydesville. All the feedback was helpful and enabled us to reflect on ways to get better, but as mentioned before, it was also the maturity and thoughtfulness of the pupils that really stood out.

There is so much about this school for us to be really proud...

Expectations of Senior pupils at the end of the School Day

Mr Honey and Miss Jenkins would like to remind all Senior school pupils and their parents that pupils should be in **homework club from 4pm onwards** if they are on the school premises and should not be waiting in the School Office for parents. Thank you for your co-operation.



Performer of the Week:

Parneet (Y7) –

awarded for excelling in her first few lessons on the guitar, moving onto a very difficult part with confidence and fluency already



Discounts available with the best of Walsall businesses

As a member of the Best of Walsall business network, we are excited to announce that we have negotiated a number of member discounts which are exclusively available to members of the Hydesville Family.

Current partner organisations are:

- Pickford's Solicitors
- Simply Gym
- Leamore Windows
- Mercedes-Benz of Walsall
- Village Hotel, Walsall

These companies are offering great discounts and offers to Hydesville parents.

Please see the school website for more details, including how to redeem these fantastic offers. Keep checking back, as new partners are being added constantly:

<https://www.hydesville.com/hydesville-business-partnership-programme/>

We hope you are able to enjoy lots of benefits from this initiative; we'd love to hear your feedback!



thebestofwalsall



Reading tips for Prep School

Introducing children to books is one of the most rewarding things we, as parents and teachers, can do. Reading is the basis on which literacy skills are developed and at Hydesville, reading is at the centre of our curriculum.

Further to the letter from Miss Crump, we would like to draw parents' attention to this page on the website, which contains lots of useful documents to help you to support your child with reading at home:

<https://www.hydesville.com/prep-school/prep-curriculum/>

We have also updated the School website with suggested reading lists for pupils as they progress through Prep School: <https://www.hydesville.com/reading-lists/>
Happy reading!

Odd socks to show our support for Anti-Bullying Week

Pupils in Prep and Seniors are invited to wear Odd Socks to school next Tuesday (12th November). This is to bring awareness to Anti-Bullying Week. You will be aware that we take bullying issues very seriously at Hydesville. There are many initiatives planned for the week, as we encourage all children to be aware of how dangerous bullying can be and to report any concerns they have to a member of staff.

Letters about the day have been sent home. Children can wear their chosen socks all day on Tuesday, with their usual school uniform, and girls can wear them over their tights. Socks can be as colourful as pupils wish or simply normal socks. Thank you for your support.



**Christmas presents
for the Elderly**

Presents will be distributed in local homes for the elderly and via age UK.
Presents can be wrapped or gift bagged.

Types of items to include:

- Socks
- Gloves
- Hats
- Deodorant
- Hand cream
- Puzzle books
- Pictures/ postcards of nice places for discussion
- Comb
- Compact mirrors
- Ties
- Scarves
- Slipper socks
- Sweets/ Chocolates/ Biscuits (check sell by!)
- Soap
- Specialty teas
- Perfume/aftershave etc.....

Please bring into school by Friday 6th December



Spreading Christmas cheer to the elderly

This year, Prep and Senior School pupils will be joining forces to deliver gifts to elderly people in our community as part of the Age UK Christmas Shoe Box Appeal.

Letters have been sent home (and are available on the school website) with some ideas for the types of items you may wish to include in your (shoe) box. Don't worry about wrapping your box, as we will be borrowing some of Santa's trusty elves (or some willing volunteers from our Seniors) to do this for you. Individual items are also welcome. Please bring your boxes into School by Friday 6th December. Thank you!

Walk to School Month – thank you!

A huge thank you to those parents who joined us for our 'Let's Walk Together' event just before the Half Term break. It was lovely to be joined by children and their families, who parked their cars a little further away and took part in a 20-minute walk to school. It was a beautiful sunny morning and we all enjoyed the walk!

The initiative is part of our A* Stars programme, where we promote active and sustainable travel.

Thank you for sharing your photos too, we loved receiving them!



COMPETITION!

As part of our A* Stars initiative, we have launched a new competition across Prep School, inviting pupils to design a reflective and fluorescent accessory that can be worn when children are walking to and from school in the winter months. Children can either draw or make their creation. This could be any type of accessory, for example, a lanyard, hat, bracelet or scarf.

Entries should be handed in to Mrs Taylor by Wednesday 20th November. Good luck, everyone!

Prep School Awards and Achievements



Swimming success! Well done to Viren in Year 4 for achieving his Stanley 7 swimming award, and to Simran in Year 2 for her 10m Rainbow certificate.

More congratulations to Viren for his certificate from a Coding Club he attended in the Half Term holiday. Clever Viren made his own game!



Reception pupil Dylan was awarded Star of the Class and Student of the Day at a martial arts club. Well done!

Our Prep School chess guru, Shriya, has scooped another trophy! This was for winning the Under 10 girls' trophy at the English Chess Girls Championships. Shriya was even more excited to receive a special invite to visit the Mayor of Walsall to share details of her chess achievements. What a fabulous opportunity Shriya: we are all very proud of you!





Well done to Hashmeet, Karanveer and Gavish in Year 4 for coming in the Top 10 in the Walsall Maths Challenge. Great work, boys!

And finally, well done to Sam in Year 2 for receiving a certificate for attending a sand art workshop.



Senior Pupils of the Week

Form 1 - Mya, for making an excellent contribution to the black history assembly.

Form 2 - Jessica, for her consistent positive attitude and helpfulness.

Form 3 - Arun, for being a positive role model to a new pupil.

Form 4 - Tzion, for his effort in Cross Country last half term.

Form 5 - Avneet, for growing in confidence.

Form 6 - Ibraheem, for improved work ethic and behaviour

Form 7 - Davina, for settling in well.



Notices/reminders:

Nursery sound of the week	Here is this week's phonic link for learning at home: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xh6Ux5D2D84
Children in Need	Friday 15 th November will be a Non-Uniform Day for everyone. Children can come to school in Children in Need merchandise clothing or wearing spots, in return for a £1 donation.
Year 1 & 2 trip to Theatre (10th Dec)	A reminder to return all payments for this trip as soon as possible, please.
This week's letters home	Each week we will share with you a list of the letters we have sent out. They are all available to view on the school website here: https://www.hydesville.com/parents/letters-home/ This week's letters are: Nursery: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children in Need - non-uniform Prep: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MAT pupils• Problem Solving Club (MAT pupils only)• Odd Socks Day• Christmas Gift Appeal for Age UK• Children in Need - non-uniform Senior: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Odd Socks Day Grand Theatre, 6th November• Skills Show – Y10• Christmas Gift Appeal for Age UK• Children in Need - non-uniform

Year 11 'Spotlight on Careers' - 6th Form Information Evenings coming up:

Queen Mary's High School (Girls) – 20th November, 6.30 - 8pm

Grace Academy – 20th November, 4 – 6pm

Queen Mary's Grammar School (Boys) – 28th November, 5.30pm

Application forms for Queen Mary's Grammar School (Boys) for 2020 entry are now available via their website: https://qmgs.walsall.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/2020_sixth_form_application_form.pdf

Hartshorne Group: HGV Apprenticeships

The Hartshorne Group are now considering applications for the above apprenticeship scheme for their August 2020 intake at their Walsall depot (Bentley Mill Close, WS2 0BN).

For more information, see: www.dealer.volvotrucks.co.uk/hartshorne/about-us/careers.html

Dates & After-School Clubs coming up week commencing 11th November:

Monday	Anti-Bullying Week: All School After School Clubs: Art Club: Y5 & Y6 (3.45 – 4.45 pm) Football Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm) Chess Club: Upper Prep & Seniors (4.00 - 5.00 pm) Drama Club: Seniors (3.45 – 4.30 pm)
Tuesday	Odd Socks Day: Prep & Seniors U9's ISA football Parents' Consultations: Nursery (3.40pm onwards) After School Clubs: Drama Club: Upper Prep (3.45 - 4.45 pm) GCSE Art Club: Y10 & Y11 (3.45 - 5.00 pm) Football Club: Seniors (3.45 – 4.30 pm)
Wednesday	Anti-Bullying Evening: Seniors (4.00-5.00pm) Year 3 & 4 boys football tournament at Sheffield Academy, 12.30-2.30 pm After School Clubs: Hockey Club: Upper Prep (3.45 – 4.30 pm)
Thursday	Year 5 & 6 boys football tournament at Sheffield Academy, 12.30-2.30 pm Themed lunch day: Nordic November After School Clubs: 11Plus Tuition sessions: Y4 & Y5 (5.30 – 6.30 pm) Musical Theatre Club: Upper Prep (3.45 -4.30 pm)
Friday	International Day of Tolerance: Seniors Children in Need: All (non-uniform) After School Clubs: DofE: Y10 (3.45-5.00 pm) Karate: Prep School (3.50 – 4.50 pm)

Chartwells Independent Theme Day on Thursday 14th November is:

Nordic November.

- Smoked trout pepper pot _____
- Handmade meatballs _____
- Pear & blue cheese tart _____
- Berry relish _____
- Creamed cabbage _____
- Potato flatbreads _____
- Viking apple cake _____
- Jacket potatoes _____
- Salad bar _____

