



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

WEEKLY

News in brief...

Nursery Star of the Week:

Abu – awarded for
always being polite and
well mannered.



A note from the Headmaster

Charity has been on my mind during this week – and whilst this is often a time of year for such thoughts, it is important that we recognise the importance throughout the year. A conversation with two pupils at Senior breaktime celebrations started me thinking: one had filled two shoeboxes for the elderly, bringing some happiness and comfort at a time when feeling alone might be a problem; the second had recently cut and donated her hair, so it could be used for wig-making for cancer sufferers. The fact that both of these children undertook such actions without seeking recognition or reward filled me with pride, and a sense of the wonderful warmth that exists in so many of our children.



During the week, Early Years undertook a Santa Run around the Arboretum for Acorns Children's Hospice and tonight's Christmas Fair has the same charity for our donations. This is a charity close to all our hearts, with the current £2 million appeal being central to securing its long-term future. I am delighted to say that from January, Acorns Children's Hospice will be one of our two major charities for 2020, and all our fund-raising will contribute towards ensuring it survives.

Our second collaboration has a global element. The Midland Langar Seva Society is currently working on Project GN550, which is looking to raise funds for and construct a multi-purpose building in the Panjab region of India. With 200 potential residents – children, adults and the elderly – it will provide a refuge for people of all faiths and nationalities in need through being orphaned, having disabilities, being homeless, or requiring geriatric care. This project has a true sense of offering care for those most in need, and having a team of people around to nurture and support them on the next stage of their journey.

I am thrilled to know that the #Hydesvillefamily will be able to make such a difference to these charities, and look forward to giving you updates on our progress as 2020 unfolds. We will invite in representatives of both charities to talk to the children about the work being done, so they understand how valuable their time and efforts are.

Looking forward to seeing who can “hook a duck” later, along with all the other exciting activities!

Best wishes for your weekend...

Online Safety – please read

No doubt our youngsters will be using some form of technology that links to the internet during the Christmas break, be it a smartphone, tablet or games console.

While their device will provide them with hours of entertainment, it can also present new risks.

Please follow link for further information on making your connected home more secure:

<https://tinyurl.com/tymsqcw>



Early Years perform 'The Nursery Rhyme Nativity'

Nursery & Reception kicked off the week with their Christmas performance.

The 'Nursery Rhyme Nativity' was a fantastic musical retelling the Biblical story of the first Christmas to the tunes of favourite nursery rhymes.

Well done to all the children. They worked incredibly hard to learn lines, songs and dance moves. Mums, dads and grandparents were all so pleased with the super performances, as were the teachers. Their hard work definitely paid off!

Christmas Carols

Pupils from across the School helped raise the roof at St Matthew's Church at our annual carol service yesterday. This important school and community event is always a fitting celebration of the festive season and this year was no exception. The church pews were thronged with parents, staff and the wider Hydesville community. It was a wonderful service that included readings, solos, elocution pieces, musical instruments and group performances. The congregation joined the children in singing a number of hymns and it was a lovely way to spend an afternoon with family, friends and colleagues. Thank you to everyone who came along!



#Hydesvillefamily discounts available at The Village Hotel, Walsall

Did you know, Hydesville families can access great savings on accommodation bookings at the Village Hotel in Walsall? This offer is thanks to the Village being a member of our exclusive business partnership programme. Hydesville families can receive a 10% discount off the hotel's best available accommodation rates. To redeem your offer, please telephone 01925 377 532. (Please ensure to ask to book the Village Hotel in Walsall and request the Hydesville discount).

Please see their website to find out more about Village Hotels: <https://www.village-hotels.co.uk/hotels/birmingham-walsall/>

You can find out more about the #Hydesvillefamily business partnership on our website: <https://www.hydesville.com/hydesville-business-partnership-programme/>



Christmas Presents for the Elderly

Mrs Shaw and Miss Crump rounded up the troops across Prep and Senior School to collect, pack and wrap more than 40 Christmas boxes for elderly people in our local community.

Mrs Shaw delivered the wonderful presents to local care homes via Age UK earlier this week. Thank you to everyone who contributed to such a worthwhile cause; the boxes were gratefully received.



Polite reminder regarding Prep School Uniform

As the winter weather is upon us, please could parents ensure pupils are sent to school in their school coats fastened. As blazers are worn in assemblies, please could these be either kept in school or brought in daily. As much as we want our pupils to keep warm, please could you ensure all winter garments are dark green which are available from our stockiest, Crested Schoolwear in Walsall. To upkeep the Hydesville standard, please could we ask pupils to wear their school hats and caps once they have reached the school gates. Woolly hats must not be worn from this point onwards. Our School uniform lists are available on the school website:

<https://www.hydesville.com/parents/school-uniform/>



KS1 perform 'Everyone Loves a Baby'

Pupils in Years 1 & 2 took to the stage for their fabulous Christmas production of "Everyone Loves a Baby".

The performance gave all pupils a chance to be part of the widely told magical story. The children made us so very proud; their acting and singing was amazing! Thank you to the Hydesville family for supporting the event; we hope you enjoyed the show.



Pupil Voice presents 'The Great Junk-Modelling Challenge'

Inspired by work in school on the importance of recycling, Pupil Voice decided to challenge Prep School pupils to create a sculpture or model from materials that would

otherwise be considered 'junk' and consigned to the bin.

There was a competition for Lower and Upper Prep and everyone was involved, with children working in teams to design and build something amazing from the materials they had collected.

The hall was filled with imaginative creations of all shapes and sizes and a fantastic time was had by all.



EYFS' Santa Dash!

Thank you to the Nursery & Reception parents and family members who joined us for our sponsored Santa Fun Run in the Arboretum on Wednesday to support Acorns Children's Hospice. As well as raising lots of money, everyone had fun dressing up and completing a lap of the lake!

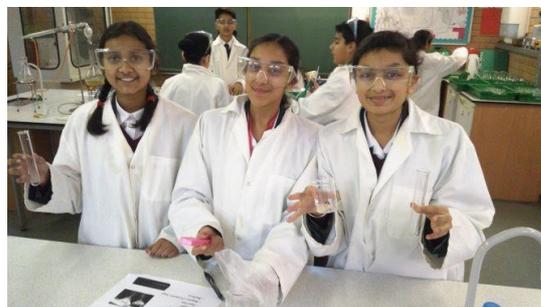
Grown out of your school uniform?

We appreciate that purchasing school uniform can be expensive for parents, and upon the request of several Hydesville families, we are pleased to announce we will be holding a second hand uniform exchange next week. Therefore, we would like to ask for donations of any good quality, clean uniform that your child has grown out of. We are particularly keen to receive branded uniform items, including blazers, school coats, jumpers and boaters/caps.

Please hand your unwanted items into the school office before the last day of this term. We will then hold our second hand uniform sale from 10am – 12noon on Thursday 19th December. Please arrive at the school office during these hours. Please note, we will be asking for a small donation of £5 per item taken, which will be given to our school charities for 2020 – Acorns Children’s Hospice and The Midland Langar Seva Society.



Quick round up from across the School:



- Year 7 undertook their very first Metacognition practical task in Science. Given four mixtures and a 'toolkit' and they had to work out and plan how they were going to separate them all. They were VERY imaginative and successfully completed showing great teamwork. Well done Year 7!

- Pupils in Year 3 got to grips with verbal reasoning in their 11+ preparation lesson this week. They worked in pairs to 'guess the word.' Mrs Chand was very impressed with how well the children worked together.
- Congratulations to the 15 pupils in the Senior School who have exceeded their points target this term on Accelerated Reader. These pupils have been invited to a lunchtime pizza part on Monday 16th December to celebrate their success. The most popular book this term was *Divergent* by Veronica Roth and a special congratulations goes to Jai and Aini in Year 8 who are this term's Word Millionaires.



Senior Pupils of the Week

Form 1 - Jade for bringing in lots of gifts for the elderly and bringing in an elf costume too!

Form 2 - Hargun for helping with the reception story.

Form 3 - Hashim for improved organisation.

Form 4 - Kyan for positive work experience feedback.

Form 5 - Sam B for a positive work ethic in preparing for the mock examinations.

Form 6 - Faseeha for helping with the Christmas Fair.

Form 7 - Kushy for positive work ethic in preparation for the mock exam



Notices/reminders:

<p>Nursery sound of the week</p>	<p>Here is this week's phonic link for learning at home:</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VE9ZYKGFx68</p>
<p>Early Years' Reminder</p>	<p>Nursery and Reception have their Christmas Party on Monday 16th and it is non-uniform day. Please can your send in £2.00 contribution towards entertainment.</p> <p>Also, please can any sponsor money from Santa Fun Run for Acorns Children's Hospice be sent into school.</p>
<p>Spring term enrichment programme – Prep & Seniors</p>	<p>The enrichment programme for the Spring Term has now been updated on the school website (for both Prep & Senior pupils):</p> <p>https://www.hydesville.com/school-life/enrichment/</p>
<p>This week's letters home</p>	<p>Each week we will share with you a list of the letters we have sent out.</p> <p>They are all available to view on the school website here: https://www.hydesville.com/parents/letters-home/</p> <p>This week's letters are:</p> <p>Nursery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery & Reception Christmas Party <p>Prep:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery & Reception Christmas Party <p>Senior:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y11 Poetry Live trip
<p>Information Evening re Borneo 2021</p>	<p>A reminder that Y10 pupils and their families are invited to an information evening in School on 23rd January, to find out more about the Borneo expedition in 2021.</p>

OUTLOOK EXPEDITIONS

INFORMATION EVENING:
The Cognita Schools Group Expedition
Borneo 2021

WHERE:
 Hydesville Tower School

WHEN:
 Thursday 23rd January
 6:00PM

WWW.OUTLOOKEXPEDITIONS.COM

Year 11 'Spotlight on Careers'

Go Find Your Future – BMW Group Girls Go Technical programme now open for applications

Girls in Year 11 might be interested in taking part in a 'Girls Go Technical' work experience programme during February half term (17th-19th February 2020). The programme offers young women the opportunity to see what working in engineering and manufacturing is like and to explore if a technical apprenticeship at one of the BMW Group plants in the UK could be a good choice for them.

Find out more: www.bmwgroup.jobs/uk

Dates & After-School Clubs coming up week commencing 16th December:

Monday	Nursery & Reception Xmas Party Menu: Christmas lunch in Lapland No after school clubs
Tuesday	End of Term: All (normal dismissal time) Menu: subject to change No after school clubs
Wednesday-Friday	Nursery Complimentary Days (NURSERY ONLY)
Thursday	Second hand uniform sale. 10am – 12noon.

Monday 16th December's menu is....

Christmas lunch in Lapland.

Traditional roast turkey with sage & onion stuffing

Pigs in blankets

Tomato basil goats cheese tart

Roasted Quorn

Roasted potatoes

Brussel sprouts

Honey roast parsnips

Steamed carrots with garden peas

Salad and deli bar

Mince pie with cream

Festive Christmas pudding with brandy sauce

