



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

S U M M E R T E R M | 1 8 T H J U N E 2 0 2 1

Welcome to #HydesvilleFamily Weekly Issue 8, our newsletter to keep you updated on all things going on at Hydesville.

Each week we'll share an insight into each area of the School. We will also celebrate pupil successes and share important notices and updates on what's coming up the following week.

To keep up with our daily news, please check Cognita Connect, or click on the icons below to follow us on social media.



We love to hear about what you're getting up to!

Send in your photos, news and updates to:

info@hydesville.com or Terri.Vas@hydesville.com

A NOTE FROM THE HEADMASTER

There are times as a Headmaster where all the stars align at once. Fortunately at Hydesville, I seem to experience more of those moments than some in other schools. A superb example has been seen across all three sections of the school this week.



Tuesday saw the first analysis of the Prep School GL assessment data. Looking at the class average scores, the teachers have done an incredible job to accelerate the learning of the children. Despite all the disruption of lockdown, bubble closures and individuals' self-isolation, the classes are securing scores that represent huge progress and learning this year. Well done to all in Prep for the excellence on display.

On Wednesday, I was conducting lesson observations in Nursery. To see our children playing with sandpits, water, and playdoh whilst engaging fully in mathematical development was a joy. Whether the Red group competing for who could come up with the best mental arithmetic for candles on a cake or the Green group deciding which was the best value catch, it was wonderful to see the learning in play.

Yesterday, I had the pleasure of listening to the Culture Awareness Assembly presented by four Year 10 boys. The time that went into their presentations and the importance of the message spoke volumes for them, but also the attitude within the Senior School. Banishing ignorance is key to solving many of the conflicts we see in the world, so this was a great example in action.

To misquote Coldplay, "Hydesville is a sky. A sky full of stars."

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

Nursery

IF YOU GO DOWN THE WOODS TODAY...

Blue Group headed out for adventure in the outdoor classroom on Wednesday. On the way they met a real life teddy bear, who invited the children to join her for a teddy bear's picnic.

The children interacted with their peers and took part in role-play to enhance their imaginative skills which helped to develop their creativity and intellectual skills. They also had the chance to practise decision-making and other social skills, such as sharing and collaborating.



EXPLORING FOR NUMBERS!

We have used our rice and sand trays to hunt, find and match numerals to the correct number flashcards. Children demonstrated great control as they formed numerals in the sand and rice. We extended this further by performing simple calculations using the numbers and our fingers to find the answer.

Number recognition is a key part of maths for children in Early Years. It's all about their ability to recognise and read numeral digits. It also helps the children to understand both how the number system works, and how numbers relate to each other.

STORYTIME FUN!

We have taken our reading outside to the outdoor classroom where we chose our favourite books and took it in turns to read aloud to our peers. Reading books help our children to develop basic language and critical thinking skills and profoundly expand their vocabulary, much more than any other types of media.



NEXT WEEK'S SOUND OF THE WEEK



Can you guess from the pictures and clues what our new sound is next week?

WHAT SHALL WE PLAY WITH TODAY?

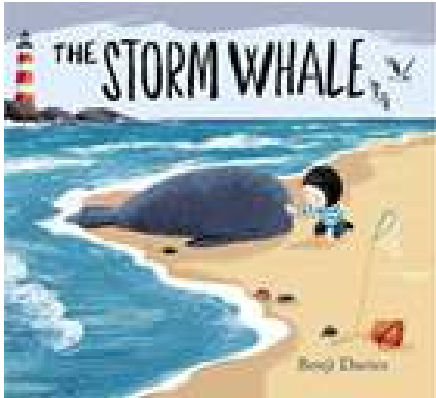
Nursery children have been enjoying free-play where they have been constructing and building. They used the foam blocks to construct a mouse house and a caravan, before heading off to explore the dinosaur swamp where they took their brachiosaurus, lophosaurus and the king of the dinosaurs, the T-Rex, to dig for treasure and fossils.



Prep - y2

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

WASHED ASHORE



Feeling refreshed from our recent half term break, Year 2 have returned to submerge themselves into their new class tale 'The Storm Whale' written by Benji Davies. Click on the storm whale to enjoy this tale with your child.

Pupils have put their prediction skills to the test to establish the relationship between the father and son in the story. They went on to write a diary entry from the perspective of one of the characters. Year 2 have impressed Mr Staffiere with fantastic descriptive poetry focusing on scenes of a calm sea scene vs a stormy sea. Later next week pupils will writing their own story based around Noi and the storm whale.



CAN'T STOP THE FEELING...

Year 2 have turned their school shoes into dancing shoes. They have been busy perfecting their end of year dance. Mrs Townsend has taken inspiration from the DreamWorks Animation; Trolls.



We can't wait to see the finished piece where the children showcase their control and coordination.



How exciting!

WHAT'S THE TIME?

In Mathematics Year 2 have been developing their time-telling skills.

Beginning with a recap of 'half-past' and 'o'clock' we then followed with the introduction of 'quarter past' and 'quarter to'.

We shall soon progress onto telling the time to the nearest five minutes.

The children have been set the challenge of telling the time at home at different times of the day.



LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!



EXTRA-CURRICULAR UPDATE

A reminder that we offer a wide variety of extra-curricular clubs for Prep School pupils. Find out more on our website:

<https://www.hydesville.com/school-life/extra-curricular/>

There are only two weeks left of after-school sports clubs. The final sessions will take place week commencing 28th June.

Miss Fairbrother

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS



A NOTE FROM HEAD OF YEAR 8 - MISS EYNON

After a long few weeks of exams last half term, Year 8 have been receiving their examination feedback from each subject and setting targets and challenges for progression.

This term they have started athletics in PE, lino printing in art, have enjoyed an online version of the theatre group Loudmouth in PSHE and have continued with practicals in Science. Their School life is certainly and learning is back to business this half term as we gear up to the end of another academic year.

Pupils are also enjoying more supervised free time in Walsall Arboretum every Monday lunchtime, as well as turning their hands to arts and crafts and handball (not at the same time) in Enrichment on Fridays. It looks set to be a very enjoyable last few weeks of term for Year 8.

PERFORMING ARTS IN THE MIDST OF A PANDEMIC

It has been an unusual year for the Performing Arts department here at Hydesville due to social distancing, mask wearing and lockdowns!

Over the course of the year, pupils in the Senior School have taken part in a production of 'A Christmas Carol' and a pantomime extravaganza. Over recent months, pupils have competed in the virtual ISA Shakespeare monologue competition and we are finally working towards a production of A Midsummer Night's Dream, alongside the Prep School, which will take place in the scenic Arboretum.

Prepare yourselves for comedy, romance and fairy frolics as the Prep School and Senior School come together to perform an uplifting classic.



MUSICAL LOWDOWN

With all the restrictions and restarts, it's not been easy, but quietly in the background pupils have begun to rehearse for a performance, one that will encompass multiple year groups and a range of instruments, from vocals to percussion, strings, woodwind, soloists and ensembles. The piece is an old favourite that you might recognise, but to keep with the times, there's a twist! Watch this space...

On other musical matters here's what's been going on across the year groups:

Year 7: have been working on their composition skills. They have looked at the work of Minimalist composers, borrowing features such as ostinati and layering to create their own minimalist pieces.

Year 8: Fresh off the back of a rap unit, Year 8 have just completed their final rap composition, with one exceptional piece making it into the upcoming cross-school performance. Now it's their chance to sharpen up on their keyboard skills to demonstrate their prowess, performing with both hands.

Year 9: With the cancellation of festivals, Year 9 have been looking into what it really takes to organise a festival, covering everything from budgets to job roles and picking a suitable roster of artists.

Year 10: Our GCSE group have just recently taken part in their mock exam, being assessed on performing, composing and listening. But there's no time to put their feet up yet! It's time to get creative again with a new composition based on a jam night.



PUPILS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following pupils who have received a Head's Commendation for excellence in the classroom this week:



NURSERY STAR OF THE WEEK:
ZAYN



RECEPTION STAR OF THE WEEK:
AISHA



YEAR 1 STAR OF THE WEEK:
ARVIND



YEAR 2 STAR OF THE WEEK:
SAAHIL



YEAR 3 STAR OF THE WEEK:
SIMRAN



YEAR 4 STAR OF THE WEEK:
FOLA



YEAR 5 STAR OF THE WEEK:
ADAM



YEAR 6 STAR OF THE WEEK:
NARIAN



7A PUPILS OF THE WEEK:
ANAIYA & AIDAN



7B PUPILS OF THE WEEK:
HARSHITH & SUKHSIMRAN



MUSIC PERFORMER OF
THE WEEK: LARA
(YEAR 4)

NOTICES AND COMING NEXT WEEK...

PRIZE-GIVING 2021

Letters were sent out on Tuesday about Prize-giving 2021. Due to the ongoing Government restrictions our plans are now as follows:

Nursery & Reception prize-giving will take place on Tuesday 6th July in school, adhering to social distancing and other government restrictions. Nursery is at 9am and Reception is at 2pm.

Nursery & Reception families – please check your 'offers' on Cognita Connect to book your ticket for this event. We respectfully ask for one representative from each family.

The Prep & Senior events will take place at Bescot Stadium on 5th & 6th October. Prep will be at 1.30pm on Tuesday 5th October and Seniors at 6.30pm on Wednesday 6th October.



More details will be sent to Prep & Senior families before the end of this term.

INSPIRING FUTURES PROGRAMME



On Monday 21st June, the two-week Cognita Inspiring Futures Programme will commence for our Y11 pupils who have opted to take part.

If you haven't already done so, please confirm your days of attendance to Miss Jenkins via email.

FINAL DAY OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

With four weeks remaining until the end of Academic Year 2020/2021, a reminder that the last day of term is Thursday 15th July.

School will close at 12 noon for all pupils on this day.



ATTENDANCE WINNERS ARE...

Congratulations to the following classes in Prep and Senior School who achieved the highest attendance this week (Nearest to 100%):

Prep - 1E

Seniors - 9B

DATES AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS COMING UP WEEK

(All subject to parental booking via the Cognita Connect app)

Monday	Year 5 Art Club - 3.35-4.35 Lower Prep Elocution Club - 3.30-4.00 Upper Prep Cricket Club - 3.40-4.30
Tuesday	Senior Girls (Years 7, 8 & 9) Sports Club - 3.35-4.30
Wednesday	Upper Prep Hockey Club - 3.45-4.30
Thursday	Upper Prep Drama & Musical Theatre Club - 3.45-4.30 11+ Tuition - 5.00-6.00 Senior Boys (Years 7, 8 & 9) Cricket Club - 3.45-4.30
Friday	