



HYDESVILLE  
TOWER SCHOOL

# #HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

AUTUMN TERM | 22ND OCTOBER 2021

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

Each week we'll share updates on what's been going on across the School. We will also celebrate pupil successes and include 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](mailto:info@hydesville.com) or [sarah.archer@hydesville.com](mailto:sarah.archer@hydesville.com)

## A NOTE FROM THE HEADMASTER

The first half-term of the year draws to a close. My hearty congratulations go to all the pupils who have sustained such a great approach throughout. They have been bright and engaging every step of the way, bringing the energy and enthusiasm that makes education such a pleasure. Whether offering to be Art Ambassadors (24 Senior pupils applied for this role!) or Reading Mentors, our older children are setting a very strong lead. In the Prep School, teams of children work hard as Hydesville Champions and Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, keeping everyone feeling happy and supported. The children in Nursery have made an incredible start to the year, with today's Bake Off being the icing on the cake (groan!).

During the half-term, I will be lucky enough to go and inspect another school. Lucky on the one hand that it avoids missing our school term time, but also to see another independent school as a yardstick for ourselves. Such an experience always helps me to see ways we can keep improving, so our provision for the children is the best possible.

My thanks go to all the staff and families for the support in the last seven weeks. It has been a period of considerable success despite external challenges. Special thanks are due to my leadership team for their drive and determination. Hydesville Tower School is enriched by their dedication.

Whether you are staying home or venturing away, I wish everyone in the #Hydesvillefamily a wonderful half-term.



#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

# LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

## Reception & Nursery

### ABRACADABRA, HOCUS POCUS PUMPKIN PIE

Forest Friday sessions offer the chance to take learning out of the classroom and into the great outdoors. Hydesville Nursery children took the opportunity to learn in a new way and in the fresh air. Imaginations were running free as the children concocted their own magic potions in the Halloween themed activity. Anyone for pumpkin pie????



### MORE PUMPKIN FUN!

To support the children's fine and gross motor skills in order to develop their pencil control and grasp, Nursery practitioners have engaged the children with pencil pumpkin rolling where they rolled their pumpkins through paint before pinching the pencils and then using their hands to guide the pumpkins around the paper to make a selection of marks and tracks. We also provided hammers and golf tees and the children had fun using the hammer to bang the tees into the pumpkins. Both of these activities help develop core skills. They also help to develop children's self-esteem, physical strength and movement. We can see their confidence growing on a daily basis. Well done Hydesville Nursery children!



### Mini Mathematicians!



The focus in Reception this week is one more and one less than a given number. Children have been working hard to complete a wide range of activities through both adult-led and child-initiated activities. They enjoyed exploring, recognising, ordering and sequencing numbers through numbers in the sand, cubes, laptops and activity sheets. The numbers are represented in a range of ways such as words, numerals, dots or counting frames.

### SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW



During Forest School this week, Reception pupils were asked to pick up vivid reds, bright oranges, sunny yellows, gorgeous greens and deep purple leaves. Once pupils gathered the different coloured leaves, we lay them out in a semi-circle on the ground to make a beautiful rainbow whilst singing 'I can sing a rainbow...'





# Prep School - Y5

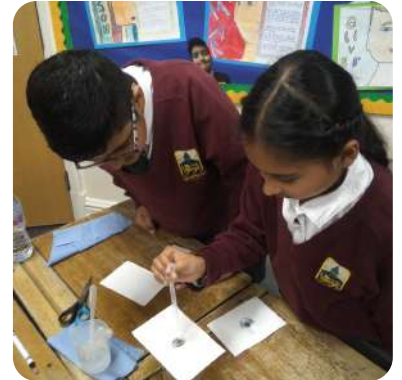
# LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

## SCIENCE IN ACTION



In Science lessons 5K have been investigating the properties of materials. This week we looked at how we could use the process of chromatography to separate dyes.

We used pipettes to drop water onto ink to work out what colours had been mixed to create the colours of our felt-tips. The results were quite surprising.....who knew that black isn't 'black' at all!?!?



## AZTEC ART

Alongside our topic of The Aztecs, Year 5 have been working on creating Aztec-style head dresses. These were amazing creations decorated with the feathers of exotic birds and only the most important Aztecs got to wear them. Ours will be fit for the emperor!



## MAKING MUSIC....

Prep pupils have been developing their instrumental skills, with each year group experiencing a different instrument. Year 3 have been working with chime bars; Year 4, keyboards; Year 5, glockenspiels and Year 6 guitars. They've had so much fun using their newly acquired understanding to perform songs individually and in ensemble. With individual instrumental lessons becoming more popular, it's clearly inspiring pupils too.

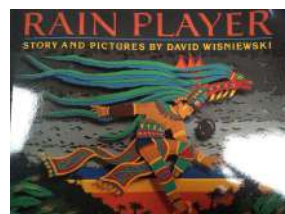
We are also starting to see a regular stream of talented instrumental performers leading us into assemblies - from piano to electric guitar - and we look forward to seeing many more. For those that are interested in performing, arrangements can be made through Mr Hill-Jayne.



## ARE YOU BRAVE ENOUGH TO PLAY?

Do you dare play the most dangerous game of all time? This was the question faced by the main character of one of our texts for this term - The Rain Player by David Wiesniewski.

Our character, Pik, challenges the Ancient Mayan god of rain, Chac, to a game neither will ever forget. Win, and Pik will be the hero of his people, lose, and he will be condemned to spend his days as a frog!! 5K thoroughly enjoyed the story and finding out about the Mayan game of Pok-A-Tok. Why not look it up and ask yourselves whether you would be brave enough to play?



# LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

## Senior School



### HISTORY HEROES

It has been exciting to witness Year 7 pupils turning into detectives this term. Students have used a range of essential skills to investigate a number of historical mysteries as they try to uncover the truth about what happened in events such as who is to blame for the tragedy of the Titanic and whether Richard III really did murder his own nephews.

Black History Month has also been honoured by senior school students during October. Everyone has researched a significant individual and created an historical biography about their person. This year's focus is "Proud to Be.". This has provided a valuable opportunity for students to reflect and consider what makes them proud to be them.

Mrs Harding is very impressed with the hard work and dedication shown by all students, in particular Safa and Shria who took responsibility for producing the whole school BHM display board. Ore's work (pictured below, right) on the Treaty of Versailles is also superb.



### SENIOR WORD OF THE WEEK

**SYNONYMS:** estimate, rough, guess, inexact, close to

**ANTONYMS:** precise, exact

**HISTORY:** the approximate time the Romans spent in Britain was 400 years.

**MATHS:** I approximate that the answer will be between 4.5 and 4.9.

APPROXIMATE

↑      ↑

ad (Latin: to)    proximus (Latin: very near)

Adjective - close but not exact  
Verb - come close to; estimate

approximate  
approximates  
approximated  
approximating

Who would use this word?  
Mathematician, scientist, chef,  
police officer, historian

### A NOTE FROM HEAD OF YEAR 10

Year 10 have actively begun their GCSE studies this year. Thankfully, we have already laid a very strong foundation upon which to build, so pupils have approached their learning with a good measure of confidence, determination and even excitement. Excellent teaching and support from every subject teacher means that our pupils are already making good progress, preparing them well ahead for the examinations in 2022.

Pastorally, there is on-going support for different areas of school life, so that pupils can approach their learning with ease every day. Several have asked me about prefectship in year 11, and are already preparing themselves by leading or engaging with different aspects of school life. We have some well-being ambassadors among us already!

We will be reminding all our year 10 pupils, as the school year progresses, the value of sowing good seeds, the value of endurance, and the looking forward to a very strong finish.

*Mrs Odunjo*

### PSHE UPDATE...

It has been an extremely busy half term for PSHE. There have been a number of external speakers and workshops.



Year 11 had three talks from the Police exploring healthy relationships and how to manage unwanted attention.

Following on from this, Year 11 have completed display work to share with the rest of the school community and some pupils are going to take a lead role in an assembly next half term. The Police also ran a session with Year 11 on county lines last week.

The Loudmouth Educational Theatre Group have also visited twice this half term; it was wonderful to have the live performances and workshops back in school again. Year 9 had the 'Trust Me' workshop which explored teenage relationships and sexual health. Whilst the Year 7 'My Mate Fancies You' workshop is an entertaining performance which explains the physical and emotional changes that are experienced during puberty.



## PUPILS OF THE WEEK

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

### PREP SCHOOL



Prep School Stars of the Week:

- Reception - Harnam
- Year 1 - Ishaani
- Year 2 - Jemima
- Year 3 - Arjan & Amaya
- Year 4 - Samuel
- Year 5 - Ismaeel
- Year 6 - Viren

### NURSERY



Alex - for having a fantastic attitude towards his learning this week. He has listened carefully and tried his best in every activity that he has taken part in.

### SENIOR SCHOOL



Senior School Pupils of the Week:

- 11A - Kurun, Jai and Karam.
- 11B - Muhammad, Ishe and Ravin.

### SENIOR ENGLISH STARS

Nilesh, Year 9 - for his entry into the James Bond 'Into Film' writing competition.

Safa, Year 8 - for her resilience in English.

Harman, Year 10 - for his progress in English.



### MUSIC PERFORMER OF THE WEEK



Leo, Year 8 - for making impressive progress on the bass guitar in his first lesson using the instrument.

## NOTICES AND COMING UP...

### COVID MEASURES

There has been a request from the DfE for Senior School pupils to continue twice-weekly testing during the half-term holiday and especially immediately prior to returning to school on Monday 8th November.



We have given Senior pupils more lateral flow testing kits this week and would be grateful to parents to encourage and support their child with twice-weekly testing during the holidays.

Thank you for helping keep the #Hydesvillefamily safe.

### UNIFORM REMINDER....



Please can Prep School parents label their child's school uniform items and ensure pupils wear their winter coats and bring blazers to school each day.

Thank you.

### NURSERY & RECEPTION HALF TERM FUN CLUB

We are hosting a Nursery & Reception Half Term Fun Club during week commencing 1st November. Places are limited, and can be booked and paid for via the Payents area on Cognita Connect so hurry to ensure you don't miss out!



### PREP SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

There has been a change to the forthcoming Prep School assembly schedule:

Year 5 will now be delivering their anti-bullying assembly on Friday 12th November and Year 4 will be delivering their Children in Need assembly on Friday 19th November.

You can check out the full schedule on our website: <https://www.hydesville.com/parents/prep-school-assemblies-2/>

### DATES AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS COMING UP W/C 8.11

(All subject to parental booking via Cognita Connect)

Monday	Years 1 & 2 Multi Sports Club (3:45pm – 4:30pm) Years 3 & 4 Football Club (3:45pm – 4:30pm) Year 4 Art Club (3:45pm – 4:45pm) Years 7 – 9 Art Club (3:45pm – 4:45pm)
Tuesday	Years 7 – 9 Football Club (3:45pm – 4:30pm) Years 10 & 11 Art Club (3:45pm – 4:45pm)
Wednesday	Years 3 – 6 Hockey Club (3:45pm – 4:30pm)
Thursday	Years 5 & 6 Football Club (3:45pm – 4:30pm) Years 3 – 5 11+ Tuition (5:00pm – 6:00pm) Years 3 – 6 Musical Theatre & Drama Club (3:45pm – 4:45pm)
Friday	Prep School Karate (3:50pm – 4:50pm)

### ATTENDANCE WINNERS ARE...

Congratulations to the following classes in Prep and Senior School who achieved the highest attendance this week:

Prep - 3BW

Seniors - 7A & 11B

