



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

AUTUMN TERM | 12TH NOVEMBER 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 or sarah.archer@hydesville.com



A NOTE FROM THE HEADMASTER

It has been lovely to see everyone returning once again after the half-term holiday. Often, the return to school can result in a fatigued response for pupils and staff, so I suspect plenty of sleep will occur over the weekend. Nevertheless, this is a good time to consider the opportunities for everyone heading towards a school transition point.

The high performance within our Early Years (Nursery, Pre-Prep and Reception) thrills me. It is apparent that our children are developing their confidence and enthusiasm for learning. These years are critical – and many in education suggest they are the most important three years of all – for how they set up a child for their subsequent success. Mrs Downen and Mrs Smith lead these age groups with an eye to supporting the children so their future school-readiness is significantly enhanced.

We know that for our oldest Prep pupils, the last couple of months have been dominated by the 11+ examinations. It can be a tough and unforgiving environment, and the pupils cope with a great deal throughout the process. We are proud of all our Y6 children, and see in them the readiness to move on to secondary school with confidence when the time comes.

For Y11 pupils, thoughts are starting to move towards the GCSEs and the subsequent post-16 plans. Support from their teachers is already well underway, and the hard work and collaboration of staff and pupils will go a long way to ensuring success.

It is a privilege to know we are steering these children on to their best possible outcomes...

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS



NUMBERS, NUMBERS ALL AROUND!

Hydesville Nursery children enjoy playing with numbers. They rose to the challenge when supporting each other to order the number tiles and make birthday cakes in the play dough. Mathematics is an important part of learning for all children in the early years and receiving a good grounding in maths is an essential life skill. As well as numeracy, it helps skills such as problem solving, understanding, using shapes and measure and developing spatial awareness.



**PLAY
LEARN
GROW**



ROLE PLAY FUN AND FROLICS

This week we have continued our focus on 'Nursery Rhymes' and have completed a selection of role play activities for different rhymes including 'Jack and Jill' and 'Miss Polly had a Dolly'.

The children have played the roles of both the doctor and nurse to mend Jack's crown and to make Miss Polly's doll better.

Role play is a key component within a child's development, as it builds confidence, physical development and problem solving that develops their speaking and listening skills. Along with being fun, it also gives the children the opportunity to reflect on and develop their knowledge of a topic. Whilst sparking and enhancing creativity and imagination engaging with role play also allows children to get into character and act out real life roles.

LEST WE FORGET



Hydesville Nursery children have coloured in pictures of poppies and discussed why it is important to remember the soldiers and give thanks for their sacrifice on Remembrance Day.



NEXT WEEK'S SOUND OF THE WEEK



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

Prep School - Y6

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS



BLOOD-CURDLING SCIENCE

In Science, Year 6 are currently studying Body Pumps, which explores the inner workings of the human circulatory system. As part of the unit, pupils explored the structure of the heart and how it functions to pump blood around our bodies. Amazingly, they even had the chance to dissect a sheep's heart in the Senior School science laboratories and then create their own clay hearts to display their learning.

This combination of art and science led to some wonderfully realistic models. Later, pupils researched into the four main components of blood: red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets and plasma. On completing their research, they 'earned' each ingredient to make their very own blood soup...delicious. What messy, but fun, hands-on learning!

MILITARY MATHS

Linking to their WW2 unit, pupils were recently set a military challenge in maths lessons. After exploring Alan Turing's groundbreaking work at Bletchley Park, Year 6 were tasked with solving a Codebreaking Challenge using their reasoning and problem-solving skills. With skill and determination, they eventually cracked the Enigma codes to reveal the German secrets, bringing WW2 to a close in what was a productive morning!

During World War 2, the German military used an advanced machine called the Enigma Machine to hide messages from the Allies. Each time a message needed to be sent, it was first typed into an Enigma machine and changed into secret codes.

For several years, men and women worked tirelessly at Bletchley Park, England, trying to crack the codes and reveal German secrets. Crack the codes and put an end to World War 2. Your country needs you!

The codes to crack are as follows:

d x h = gh	a x h = ja
e x h = ad	i x h = dj
j x h = be	h x h = eg
e x h = la	g x h = bc
f x h = hf	h x h = gi

In your books, show all of your working out and reveal the value of letters a to j.

Challenge: Use the code to create encrypted messages for the class. Now try a real-life code-cracking competition: https://schoolscodecracking.com/code_challenge.html

11+ PREPARATION CONTINUES

Tuition in our Centre for Excellence in 11+ Preparation has got off to a flying start this term.

There have been significant developments in our provision this year with the opportunity for Year 3 pupils to attend sessions being offered for the first time and a new staff member, Mr Dhadda, being welcomed to the team.

This term, Year 3 are being taught verbal and non-verbal reasoning skills by Mr Burnham, Mrs Kenton is covering a range of verbal and English skills with Year 4 pupils and Year 5 pupils are working in two groups, with Miss Crump delivering sessions on a range of focused English and reasoning skills and Mr Dhadda, maths teacher from our Senior School, working on developing pupils' mathematical knowledge and application.



We look forward to a productive term and continuing to enhance our pupils' learning opportunities.

'LETTERS FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE'

Linked to our topic of WW2, pupils have been able to place events of the war chronologically; understand the battle of Dunkirk using a range of different sources; study propaganda posters of the period and explain the significance of the Battle of Britain.

Linked to our novel in English; 'Letters from the Lighthouse', pupils have researched and role played the experience of evacuation.



LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS



BUSINESS MATTERS

Now that the first term is over, we have made some great accomplishments with both Year 10 and Year 11 in Business. Year 10 are now working towards their end of unit tests and will be starting their new topics for the second half term. It's great to see pupils making links with real businesses and their findings in lessons. They have covered the theory on the different types of businesses and the different types of ownerships.

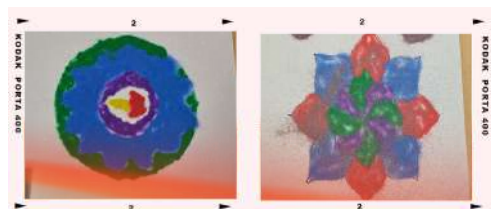


Year 11 have worked very hard looking at the ethical and environmental considerations that a business needs to take. They have shown great understanding in recognising that businesses will be judged on their overall contribution to society and not just their success in selling goods and services. This term pupils were given areas to research and share their findings with the class. They have taken ownership in their learning and lead lessons to deliver content to the class about globalisation.



COLOURFUL CREATIONS

Year 8 have spent the Autumn Term learning about the religion of Hinduism. Pupils have studied the core beliefs and practices of the Hindu religion, including Hindu beliefs about God and the diversity of beliefs within the faith. At the latter end of the first Autumn Term, pupils looked at the festival of Diwali and had great fun creating their own rangoli patterns out of coloured sand.



Miss Hamilton was particularly impressed with the patterns created by 8B. In the second half of the Autumn Term Year 8 pupils will continue learning about the Hindu faith by exploring Holi - the festival of colours. This is a particularly vibrant festival wherein Hindus throw an array of coloured powders at each other!

Miss Hamilton does not think that Mr Honey would appreciate us recreating the traditions of this festival!

Closer to Christmas, pupils will have the opportunity to design and make their own board game based upon the Hindu idea of karma.

KS3 UPDATE...

With a fantastic start to the new school year, pupils are enjoying being back in school. Year 7s have settled into Hydesville life well and several of them have volunteered for our ambassadors programme. It has been great to see Year 7 pupils taking the lead at our extracurricular clubs.

Year 8 are also embracing being back at school. A special mention has to go to Shriya who has led the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. The Ambassadors led a whole school assembly and are currently planning for our Anti-Bullying Week.

Year 9 pupils have made a mature start to the year and are getting ready to make their GCSE option chooses. Several teachers have reported that pupils are asking really insightful questions regarding their GCSE options. We are also pleased that lots of Year 9 pupils have volunteered to be Wellbeing Ambassadors and supported Mrs Dhadda with Global Be Well Day.

Mr Lawrence

SENIOR WORD OF THE WEEK

ASSESSMENT
 assess, assessor, reassess

WHO would use this word?
 Medical professional, teacher, politician, economist

SYNONYMS:
 evaluation, judgement, appraisal

ad (Latin: to)
 sedere (Latin: sit)

Geography: An assessment of population in China may result in the government raising retirement age.

Economics: Later this year, the IMF will conduct an assessment of the British Government's fiscal stimulus.

We are delighted to announce that the English Department has purchased a First News subscription for all pupils.

First News allows pupils to access appropriate and challenging non-fiction reading material to boost their progress and inform them about current affairs. Pupils will be given support and guidance in their English lessons to help them to maximise their use of this resource.

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 - Zayn
- Year 1 - Zaydan
- Year 2 - Amrit
- Year 3 - Roman & Saahil
- Year 4 - Karam
- Year 5 - Laila
- Year 6 - Hanzala

NURSERY



N***I, for trying very hard in everything he does.

SENIOR SCHOOL



Senior School pupils of the Week:

Coming next week!

SENIOR ENGLISH STAR



Hamza 7A - for his excellent holiday homework story.

MUSIC PERFORMER OF THE WEEK



Amarveer 9B - for an excellent film music composition. His horror piece was filled with tension and developed throughout.

NOTICES AND COMING UP...

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

This half term's menus have now been uploaded to the school website. Click the Chartwells whisk to view the menus.



Children will be enjoying lots of tasty and nutritious meals, and we're also excited for the return of themed days. Yesterday's Greece day was a hit with everyone, especially Mr Honey who was on the brink of breaking out into his zorba dance after eating his spanakopita!

Mr Long is looking for ideas for next Thursday's theme lunch. Please send your suggestions to: info@hydesville.com

COMMUNICATION CHARTER

To support our commitment to keep improving communication across the school, this week we have issued our updated Communication Charter, which includes a set of principles about how we as a School communicate with you as parents, and how you can best feed back to us.

Check your inbox for the Charter, or click the icon to download a copy from our website:



IT'S A BOY!

A huge congratulations to Mr and Mrs Burnham who have announced the safe arrival of Sebastian Stefan Burnham, born on Monday 8th November, weighing 8lbs.

What fantastic news, Mr & Mrs Burnham, and welcome to the #Hydesvillefamily Sebastian!

DON'T DELAY, SECURE TODAY!

Places are still available at our Senior School Parent Engagement Group meeting taking place in the School Hall from 5pm – 6pm on Wednesday 17th November.

Letters were sent out about the meeting earlier this week. Please reserve your place to: sarah.archer@hydesville.com



Good luck to our Senior debating team who face their first round match against Handsworth Girls' school on Thursday 18th November.

Our team will be supporting the motion 'Fathers should be required to take paternity leave' and the team have been working hard through their half term holiday to craft their arguments.

Parents will be able to watch the match via Zoom, and a link will be sent out next week.



AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS COMING UP W/C 15.11

(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 - RD, RJ, 5K & 6B

Seniors - 7B

