



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

AUTUMN TERM | 19TH 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

The best moments for teachers tend to come when individuals or groups reach for a level that seemed unattainable at the outset, yet achieve that goal through persistence and aspiration. Observing a Year 8 class present on ways to defuse tensions between rival factions was a wonderful illustration of this, with media that included self-scribed poems, artistic posters and videos created by the pupils. Similarly, I watched a Year 1 class of children reading aloud the synonyms to enhance their writing, and wondered how amazing that 5 and 6 year olds had acquired such phonetic skills already. And then a Year 6 class, maturely considering the emotional issues both facing an evacuee during World War 2 and the reasons for animosity from some of the villages where they were sent. Our children are incredible, and reflect the encouragement by being amongst similarly focused pupils and the inspiring teaching they receive.

My sincere thanks to the Senior School parents joining us for the Engagement Group on Wednesday evening. Their suggestions and acknowledgements were really appreciated, both for indicating the sources of positivity and the ways we could make for an even better experience for pupils and parents.

It was nice to hear how residential trips are being looked forward to as a vital chance for character development, and we look forward to revealing the plans for a Senior School trip later this year. I will write to all Senior School parents presently with further details coming out of the suggestions.

All the best for your weekend...

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

Reception

OLD MACDONALD HAD A FARM

Pupils wrapped up warm as we headed to Ash End farm for a lovely day out. When they arrived, pupils got up close and personal to some of their favourite animals: pigs; horses; alpacas; sheep and cows. As we entered the hatchery, pupils took part in the 'chat to a chick' session, which gave children a chance to stroke a baby chick. We even chose our own free-range egg to take home! Children also visited the birds of prey centre where they enjoyed holding the kestrel and they also explored the outdoor play area. Pupils were exceptionally well behaved and were a credit to Hydesville!



STAMPING OUT BULLIES

This week we have discussed what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour and how we must always be considerate of others. Pupils wrote and drew a picture of how they can show an act of kindness. They then shared their wonderful suggestions to the rest of the group.



LEST WE FORGET

Children designed their own poppy pictures using paint and different sized paintbrushes for a display board. They discussed why we wear poppies and how we show respect to our fallen soldiers.

Lovely creations, Reception!



OLIVER'S MILKSHAKE

Reception listened to the story 'Oliver's Milkshake' and pupils wrote a list of ingredients using their phonic knowledge to sound out the words. They then put on their aprons, chopped up some fruit and made their very own milkshakes...how yummy!



PUDSEY IN LEAVES

Children had great fun making a Pudsey Bear out of leaves. What brilliant work, Reception!



Prep School - Y1

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

TOYS, TOYS, TOYS!

Year 1 were very excited to begin their latest topic all about toys.

Throughout the half term they will be learning about toys from the past and writing stories featuring toys as the characters. To begin our topic, the children were asked to share their favourite toys with the rest of the class. They enjoyed sharing them and explaining why they liked playing with them.

In English, the children learnt about adjectives and thought of adjectives to describe their toys. Finally, they wrote amazing descriptions of them!



TOYS OF THE PAST

To begin our new topic, Year 1 started to use a range of historical evidence to learn about toys in the past. They looked at magazines, photographs, paintings and adverts.

They studied the evidence in groups and created a mind map of ideas about the toys they could see. The children were amazed to see some familiar toys and realised that many of their toys were similar to those played with decades ago. They thought about which toys from the past they would enjoy playing with today.



PRICKLY HAY

With only three weeks to go until our Christmas performance, the children in KS1 have been busy rehearsing for their Christmas production. Mrs Brown has been working hard with the children in music lessons to learn an array of showstopping songs, ready to wow the audience.

Children have also been learning their cues and lines, beginning to rehearse on stage. We are looking forward to our performance and can't wait to share it with the Prep School and our families.



CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY

During October we celebrated Black History Month across Prep School. Pupils explored their own history through creating family trees and researching their family history. Children furthered their understanding of black history by exploring the lives of inspirational black people and creating biographies. Year 1 wrote some lovely messages of fairness and hope. Year 2 and Year 3 learned about African drums and designed their own instruments. Year 2 also studied the lives of Rosa Parks and Marcus Rashford MBE and considered the positive changes they made to society. Year 4 researched the lives of black people in the Tudor period. Year 5 created power point presentations about black people who they admire. Year 6 produced a black history assembly in which they presented the lives of black men and women who have made a significant contribution to the world. They also acted in a short play about the life of Walter Tull, one of the first black professional footballers in the UK and the first black officer in the British Army.

A big thank you to all pupils, parents and staff at Hydesville for making this such an enlightening and enjoyable experience.



LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

Senior School

CELEBRATING MORE ART SUCCESS



The Senior School art department has had more success in the ISA Art competition; Kushy's sculpture won the KS4 3D category and has gone through to the national final, Ria's beautiful paper dress was placed second in the KS4/5 fashion category and Inddy beat off stiff competition to gain 3rd place in the KS3 drawing category. Well done to all!

Twelve art ambassadors have been appointed in the Senior School and they are doing a wonderful job promoting art in the school already. Ore in Year 9 completed the Remembrance Day mannequin, Jasmeen and Davina in Year 10 lead the Diwali workshops as part of Creative Challenge Week and Cedric, Michael and Rohan (also Year 10) have organised and judged the Inktober competition this year. Mrs Shaw looks forward to seeing how our ambassadors develop art within Senior School.

Pictured below: Inddy's biro bear and Ishe's warrior, (entries for the Inktober competition).



GREAT DEBATES

The Senior debating team took on other schools in the first round of the English Speaking Union's annual competition last night. The debate took place online and we were extremely proud of the way our pupils had worked during the half term holiday and during Debating club to plan their speeches.

The ability to speak in public, to prepare and organise an argument, to think quickly and respond to opposition are all challenging skills, and we were delighted by the way our pupils conducted themselves throughout. This is our first year taking part in the competition and, although we didn't make it through to the next round, the team received an honourable mention from the judges.

KS4 UPDATE...

Before breaking up for a restful half term, all pupils in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 completed their first Personalised Learning Plans. The plans provide a summary of pupil progress and achievements, and include extracurricular activities, pupil well-being and successes. They will be completed every half term, with the ownership on pupils to reflect on their academic and pastoral strengths, and areas for development, before setting themselves specific, measurable, achievable and realistic targets for the following half term. Form teachers, Heads of Year and Key Stage Coordinators will continue to review these with pupils so that they remain relevant and individual.

Year 10 have now settled into their GCSE subjects, with many pupils taking on additional responsibilities, either as Business Ambassadors, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, E-Safety Ambassadors, Wellbeing Ambassadors or with the Eco Committee. The Senior Anti-Bullying Ambassadors took the lead in assembly this week for Anti-Bullying Week, speaking and presenting confidently. Well done to them all. This term, following the success with Year 11, the police will deliver some sessions about healthy relationships, I am sure that they will find them to be informative.

Year 11 are currently busy collating their school responsibilities and achievements ready for their Post-16 applications. In preparation for their mock examinations, Thursday 6th January until Friday 14th January inclusive, I will be seeing them to talk about revision strategies and revision timetables. Please continue to support your child at home with their independent study.

Mrs Dhadda

This competition allowed pupils at all stages in their Hydesville careers to contribute, support and encourage each other, and it was impressive to hear our KS3 team members, Ore and Anisa, posing challenging questions to teams from other schools.

Congratulations to Keaton, Amira, Cedric, Muhammad, Ravin, Ekim, Aini, Isabella, Nilesh, Ore and Anisa.



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 - Dylan
Year 1 - Aydin
Year 2 - Zayn
Year 3 - Haris
Year 4 - Yuvraj
Year 5 - Tayo
Year 6 - Aryan

SENIOR SCHOOL



Senior School Pupils of the Week:

7A - Ibrahim, Annaya and Priya
11B - Alice, Ismael and Samraaj

NURSERY



Jenna - for working really hard and applying her thinking brain to her learning. Well done superstar!

SENIOR ENGLISH STARS



Keaton, Ravin, Ekim, Nilesh, Amira, Isabella, Ore, Muhammad, Cedric and Anisa.

MUSIC PERFORMER OF THE WEEK



Arjan Y6 – for his greatly improved focus in music lessons that has led to excellent progress in recent weeks.

NOTICES AND COMING UP...

UPDATE FROM THE SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

Crested Schoolwear, our uniform shop, would like to let parents know that they no longer need to book appointments to visit the shop. The shop's current opening times are 9.30am – 5.00pm. Their address is Unit 1 Bradford Mall, Victorian Arcade, Walsall, WS1 1RE. We'd also like to make parents aware that as well as clothing items, the shop also stocks school shoes. Please click on the Crested logo to be re-directed to their website:



POLITE NOTICE ABOUT PARKING....



Please can we remind parents and carers to park courteously in local roads, adhering to the Highway Code and not blocking access to any residential properties.

Parents and carers should not park on Kilhendre Court on Broadway North when dropping/collecting children. Thank you for your support.

...AND MOBILE PHONES



Please do not bring your mobile phone to school

Safeguarding our children is of paramount importance to us, therefore the use of mobile phones is not permitted within our school site. Thank you for supporting us in this.

AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS CLUBS

Our after school sports clubs will finish w/c 6th December and will resume in January.



AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS COMING UP W/C 22.11

(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)

SAVE THE DATE!

We are excited to announce our All School Carol Service will take place at St Matthew's Church on Wednesday 8th December.

Parents and members of the Hydesville Family are welcome. Details will be sent out soon....

ATTENDANCE WINNERS ARE...

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

Prep - RD, RJ & 3BW

Seniors - 9B & 11A