



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

AUTUMN TERM | 10TH DECEMBER 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

Wednesday's Carol Concert provided a very special point in the entire academic year: one of the rare occasions when all Prep and Senior pupils are together. It was a joyful occasion, with the quality of performance from young and old dazzling all present. There was huge appreciation from the attending adults, who I thank for joining us and making it a true family event.

With considerable sadness, we say goodbye to two retiring members of staff next week. Mrs Jackie Coombes has been Assistant Finance Assistant since 2010. Her support in the financial elements of the school have been hugely appreciated, and I know parents have always recognised her calm, considerate approach to her work. She is looking forward to more time doing the school run with her grandchildren! Mr Alex Ross has been one of our minibus drivers since 2011. In his time, he has become loved and appreciated by the many parents for his care and attention over the home-school transport. He is happily telling us of the cruise he intends to be on when school resumes in January!

One week to go, and we are keeping a close eye on COVID cases – both before and since the PM's announcements.

Our number of cases have been low all term, and not close to needing to reinstate previous measures like bubbles, home schooling or the like. However, please do not send children in if they have symptoms and ensure that Seniors keep twice-weekly testing so we can reach Christmas safely.

With kindest wishes...

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS



LOST SHEEP

As Little Bo Peep had lost her sheep, Hydesville Nursery children have been very kind and helpful by developing their thinking skills and using words to describe the missing sheep.

The children were very particular, drawing attention to detail when writing all about texture and features as they made a 'lost sheep poster'. We are all certain that they will come home soon, wagging their tails behind them....



FOUND THEM!

Luckily Little Bo Peep found her sheep just in time for Hydesville Nursery children to start their maths activity!

The activities included sorting the sheep according to their size, number ordering and recognition and matching the pictures to the correct shadows.

Mathematics is an important part of our children's learning as it helps with the ability to recognise and apply maths concepts in all areas of life. Every day activities like counting, looking at shapes and talking about sizes can help children develop early numeracy and maths skills, allowing them to grow in confidence and encourage flexible thinking.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!

Hydesville Nursery children enjoyed playing shops this week. Role play is an excellent way of developing skills. When children play shops, they are using counting and number recognition skills. They are also building on their vocabulary when they pretend to purchase items and they enhance their social interactions and their imaginations as they play with each other.

NEXT WEEK'S SOUND OF THE WEEK

Can you guess what it is? The clue is in the pictures.



Prep School - Y4

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

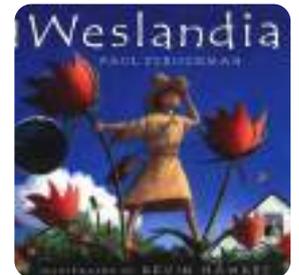
SOUNDS LIKE FUN!



In Science this half term, Year 4 pupils have focused on developing their understanding of sounds. They have explored how sounds are made and how they travel. They have even tried to amplify sounds by creating and using some rather fetching pairs of ear gongs! Pupils will round off this unit by creating their own string instruments and shakers, giving them the opportunity to explore how we can change the pitch and volume of different sounds.

WESTLANDIA

This half term in English Year 4 pupils have been studying *Weslandia* by Paul Fleischman. Pupils have been working hard to design their own civilizations, including a key crop that would be essential to sustain the lives of its residents. They have had lots of fun creating a guide book to their civilizations and have used their computing skills to design a front cover. Further to this, in topic lessons, the pupils will be creating maps of their new lands and have included OS symbols to show where key facilities are located.



KALIGO!

Pupils in Years 1 and 4 have been part of a Cognita wide trial of the handwriting app Kailgo. Pupils have really enjoyed the opportunity to put their handwriting to the test using the iPads. Kaligo not only shows the pupils videos of how letters and joins should be formed before the pupils have a go at writing the given words themselves but also then analyses their handwriting and gives instant feedback on whether correct letter formation and joins have been achieved but also looks at pencil pressure. The children have really enjoyed being part of this trial and we are hoping to see what they have learned applied in their written work.



SUPPORTING OUR MORE ABLE & TALENTED PUPILS

Whilst we are confident that our already broad and balanced curriculum provides opportunity for all our pupils to develop to their full potential, we recognise that some children may need extra challenge. We encourage our more able and talented pupils to become independent leaders who can inspire others.

It's been a busy term for our more able and talented pupils. In particular, pupils in Year 2 and Year 6 have been working hard. Dhiyan, and Dylan have impressed Miss Jhaj with their maths work, and Karamveer has been a star in English! And in Mr Leslie's class Avnie-Mae, Gursim, Viren, Hashmeet and Karanveer have stood out across a number of subjects this term.



LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

Senior School

HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

With so many important dates to commemorate at this time of year, Senior School pupils have had the opportunity to pay their respects to those individuals who have served their country in the past and present.



All pupils contributed towards creating a window display for Remembrance Day and participated in an assembly.

In addition, the History Ambassadors (Safa, Shria and Harveen in Year 8 and Keaton in Year 11) delivered an assembly that explored the United Nations Day of Anti-Slavery. To coincide with the theme for this year, the Anti-Racism Alliance was launched, and we look forward to receiving applications from pupils interested in becoming an Anti-Racism Ambassador in the New Year.

GREAT GEOGRAPHERS

Whether the weather be fine, whether the weather be not; whether the weather be cold, whether the weather be hot...Hydesville geographers have had an eventful Autumn Term!

In our different year groups we have increased in understanding of processes within the context of place (Year 7), landscapes and environments across the world (Years 8, 9 and 10), recognising great differences in cities and economies (Year 11), and exploring the links between them.

Our aim is to contribute substantially to the management of our resources and environments, becoming better informed and more responsible citizens. Geography is an education for life and living!



UPDATE FROM YEAR 9

This term Year 9 have started discussing their GCSE options and are looking forward to trying out some taster lessons in the optional subjects. They have also focussed on healthy communication within friendship groups and will continue to look at kindness and community next term.

Year 9 have also had opportunities to participate in Children in Need and Mental Health Awareness Day. They also made Christmas boxes for refugees. Yesterday we enjoyed the Christmas Carol Service and were bowled over by Maya and Amrit's singing. Simran has also been fund raising for the fantastic MND charity and has arranged a football match next week to raise more funds for this cause. Ore created a fabulous piece of artwork with her life size sculptured poppy dress for Remembrance Day. Nilesh and Zach created a podcast for the whole school to listen to and look forward to creating a Christmas special...so watch this space!

Miss Eynon



WORD OF THE WEEK

BENEFIT benefits | benefitted | benefitting

NOUN
 1. Advantage or profit gained from something.
 2. A payment made by the state to someone who is unable to work.
 3. An event intended to raise money.

VERB
 To receive an advantage or profit.

EXAMPLES:
 P.E. "The benefits of exercise are endless."
 ECONOMICS: "People with disabilities can access benefits."
 GEOGRAPHY: "The region would benefit from increased rainfall."
 HISTORY: "The new laws benefitted the country."

Who would use this word?
 politician, economist, marketing team, social scientist



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 - Zephrah
Year 1 - Sophia
Year 2 - Briana
Year 3 - Aveer
Year 4 - Ruby
Year 5 - Lara
Year 6 - Hashmeet

SENIOR SCHOOL



Senior School Pupils of the Week:

COMING NEXT WEEK!

NURSERY

Well done to Serayah for always trying hard & displaying exceptional behaviour and good manners.

SENIOR ENGLISH STARS



Michael, Y10 - for his effort in his English lesson on Monday.
Aleena & Ekim, Y11 - for their Speaking & Listening presentation.

MUSIC PERFORMER OF THE WEEK



Shona, Y8 - for leading her group band performance playing not just the chords, but also the melody on piano.

NOTICES AND COMING UP...

VIOLIN & FLUTE LESSONS

With another term drawing to a close, we are pleased to announce the availability of violin and flute 1:1 lessons.

This week, our teacher Mrs Harvey, visited Y2 and Y3 to demonstrate the two instruments and was pleased to see the enthusiasm exuded by the classes. We were also honoured to hear our newly formed string and wind ensemble perform at this year's Carol Service. It was great to see new beginners in Prep performing alongside seasoned Senior performers and even staff.

We hope these performances inspired some of our younger pupils and we see some new faces in our upcoming shows.

For those interested in signing up for lessons, please send an email to: joe.hill-jayne@hydesville.com by Tuesday 14th December.

*Please note, flute lessons are for Year 3 and above. Violin lessons are for Year 1 and above.



UPDATING IMPORTANT DETAILS



Can we remind all parents/carers about the importance of keeping us informed of any changes to your child's medical situation, dietary needs and allergens.

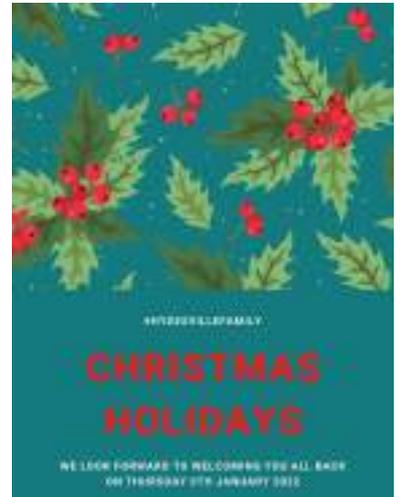
Please notify the School Office via info@hydesville.com should any changes in circumstances arise.

Thank you for your support.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The last day of this term is Friday 17th December. School finishes at the usual time. We will re-open for pupils on Thursday 6th January 2022.

We wish all pupils, staff and Hydesville families a very happy, restful and safe Christmas holiday.



ATTENDANCE WINNERS ARE...

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

Prep - RJ

Seniors - 11A

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS COMING UP W/C 13.12

(All subject to parental booking via Cognita Connect)

Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	Prep School Karate (3:50pm – 4:50pm)