



HYDESVILLE  
TOWER SCHOOL

# #HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

SPRING TERM | 14TH JANUARY 2022

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

Even though it is some time after the official start, Happy New Year!

It has not been a good week for putting faith in the judgement of the government! Given that there seems to have been difficulty distinguishing a party from a work meeting, and how either were appropriate in a time of national lockdown, trust is naturally low. However, one thing that does seem to be emerging is the sense of keeping schooling as normal as possible: something for which we can all be very grateful. It is always heartening to see the enjoyment of the children amongst their friends at school, engaging in all that each day brings.

Whether the younger pupils settling back into post-holiday routines, or the Year 11s concluding their seven days of mock examinations, it is good to see Hydesville back in the flow again.

After sixteen amazing years at school, today is Christine Phillips's final day. In her role as Admissions Registrar, she will have been the first contact for almost all families as they started their journey towards a child starting at Hydesville.

Christine's dedication to those early stages has been legendary, with some parents continuing to contact her long after their child had started. Her reputation for her gold star service was well-deserved, and she leaves with the very best wishes of us all.

All the best for your forthcoming weekend...

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

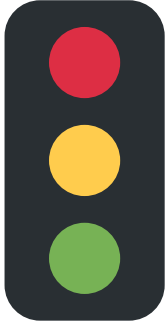
# LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

*Hydesville Nursery*

## STOP, LOOK, LISTEN!

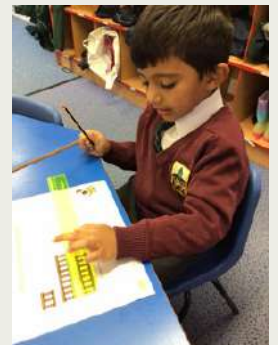
This term Hydesville Nursery children are learning all about 'people who help us'. This week we have been covering road safety and enjoying a variety of activities around the subject. The children enjoyed acting out a role play scenario associated with crossing the road safely.

Road safety education plays an important role in shaping the attitudes and behaviours of children in order for them to become responsible drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists in the future.

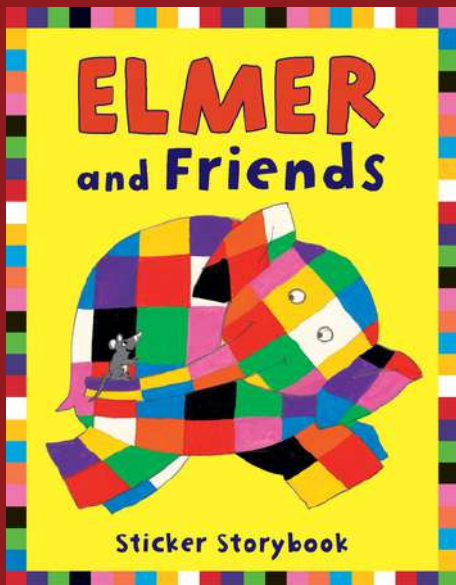


## MASTERS OF MEASURING!

This week Blue Group have been measuring and comparing fire fighters ladders using different equipment to support them, from using the steps on the ladders, cubes, and rulers where we introduced the terminology of centimetres to measure different heights. We have also measured ourselves seeing who is the tallest and shortest within the Blue Group. Measurement is important as it provides a rich and meaningful context for the use of number skills and of spatial concepts. Measurement also provides links between mathematics and other areas of learning.



## SOUND OF THE WEEK



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



# LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

Prep School - y1



## TACKLING A NEW TOPIC

This week pupils in Year 1 have started to look at their new half term topic based on the Arctic and Antarctic.

Children have looked on a map to find out where these places are and are looking forward to researching what the weather is like in these two places and the various animals that can be found in the Arctic and Antarctic.

They are hoping to find out all about how these animals survive by keeping warm and what sorts of food the animals eat.



## + SUPER MATHS SKILLS +

In Maths lessons pupils in Year 1 have started to practise their addition skills by counting on from a given number. Children have been using groups of objects and counting on to find the total amount. They started doing this practically and then began to transfer this skill by using tens frames and number lines to count on. Once they were confident with their counting on skills, the children then went on to use their knowledge of number bonds to work out the answers.

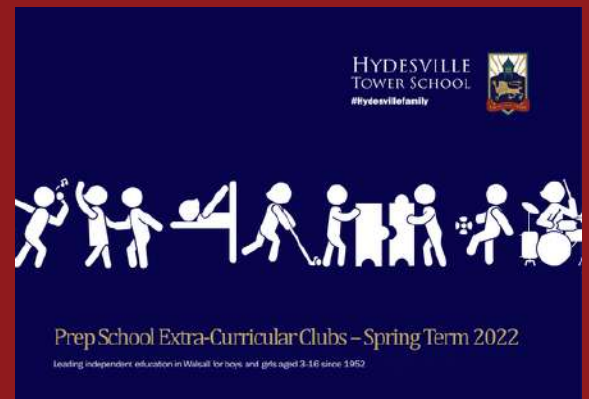
Well done children, you did really well with this activity!



## EXTRA CURRICULAR FUN!

We are excited to launch our Spring Term Prep School Extra-Curricular Programme. Some clubs began this week, whilst the rest will start next week.

If parents have not heard from us then you can assume your bookings have been honoured. We have now re-opened bookings for those clubs where there is still availability. Please check the payments area of Cognita Connect to reserve your child's place.



# LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

## YEAR 8 TURN DETECTIVE!

On their return to school in January, Year 8 have embarked upon their genre study of detective fiction by working together to solve a murder mystery, enhancing their decoding and inference skills and well as team work and presenting their findings to the rest of the year group. They had forensic clues and audio and video files to examine, using precision and lateral thinking to help them reach their final conclusions. Was a terrible murder carried out, or was it simply a tragic accident? You will have to ask Year 8 to find out!

Their genre study follows a term of studying gothic fiction, and we explore the links between the two, particularly the golden age of detective fiction at the end of the nineteenth century with the introduction of famous detectives as Sherlock Holmes. If you have ever wondered how to create the perfect detective and how writers lay a trail of red herring clues to baffle their readers, then speak to our Year 8 pupils!

As well as the classics of Agatha Christie's Poirot and Miss Marple novels, for wider reading we recommend Phillip Pullman's *The Ruby in the Smoke*, and Robin Stevens' *Murder Most Unladylike*.



## WORD OF THE WEEK



## Senior School

### UPDATE FROM THE HEAD OF YEAR 7

Year 7 pupils are back after the holidays rested and refreshed. Many have commented on how much they enjoyed meeting and spending time with extended family.

Before the holidays, Ibrahim, Deen and Harleen led a fantastic assembly on kindness and talked to the year group about the importance of being kind to everyone.

It was lovely to see Priya, Alice and Zaina perform with the senior choir at the Christmas concert. Congratulations for a beautiful performance girls!

The Autumn term awards have been announced this morning (read more later in the newsletter!) with some of our Year 7 pupils winning prizes: Samraaj has received the Head of Year award for always being kind and helpful to his peers and staff. Harleen and Ibrahim have achieved the highest merits in Year 7 in Term 1. Congratulations to you all!

We look forward to another busy term, during which we will continue to encourage students to participate in a range of extracurricular activities to build their skill and confidence.

*Mrs Khan*



### ART MAT PUPILS SHINE!

Mrs Shaw has been blown away by the extremely high standard of artwork produced by Year 9.

Ore, Nilesh and Hargun created figurative sculptures inspired by Black History Month. It will be difficult to decide which one to enter for the ISA art competition this year!

Ore said: "I made this sculpture to represent Nigerian women and to show how they have flourished over the years. I painted the cape the Nigerian flag colour (green, white, green). I also included a Ciele, which is the headpiece to show true culture."

Hargun commented: "My sculpture depicts a man from the Windrush generation. He is holding an umbrella because the weather is rainy and gloomy. The suitcase shows the idea of travel."





## PUPIL AWARDS

Congratulations to the following pupils who have received awards this week:

### PREP SCHOOL STARS OF THE WEEK



Rec: Isla  
Y1: Ismail  
Y2: Maven  
Y3: Subhan  
Y4: Rianah  
Y5: Jaanvi & Lara  
Y6: Susannah



### NURSERY



Gabriella - for settling in really well into Hydesville Nursery and trying hard with the activities.

### MUSIC PERFORMER OF THE WEEK



Jaanvi, Y5 – for the confidence and determination demonstrated in choir, leading to a whole school performance after just two rehearsals.

### SENIOR SCHOOL

Well done to the following pupils for the most merits in autumn term...

- Ibrahim 380 - Year 7
- Harleen 289 - Year 7
- Safa 286 - Year 8
- Shria 233 - Year 8
- Nilesh 420 - Year 9
- Ore 280 - Year 9
- Georgia 148 - Year 10
- Anand 145 - Year 10
- Ekim 127 - Year 11
- Ravin 100 - Year 11



#### Ambassador Awards

- **Anti Bullying ambassador:** For leading on all of the assemblies and organising all the other pupils on such an important issue. Well done Shria.
- **Kindness award** to Safa for always being polite and offering to help. She also created the best arostic poem about being kind for Anti-Bullying Week.
- **Wellbeing Ambassadors:** Mrs Dhadda would like to thank Jess, Ore, Safiya and Ayesha in particular for giving up their lunchtimes to organise the Christmas Eve boxes for the Women's Refuge.
- **Language Ambassadors** - Well done to Y7 Harleen, Y8 Eeshal, Y9, Nilesh for always going above and beyond in French. They will be supporting Mrs Dhadda with language clubs and intervention.

#### Head of Year Awards

- Year 7: Samraaj for always being kind and helpful
- Year 8: Anisa for always helping and trying her best
- Year 9: Jessica for her contribution to charity work and for being helpful to Form Teacher and Head of Year
- Year 10: Cedric for settling excellently into life at Hydesville, always cheerful and jovial, and has the most admirable work ethic!
- Year 11: Karam for always doing his prefect duties and being a good role model to those in the younger years

### SENIOR ENGLISH STARS



Balvin, Y11 - for his effort during his Mock exams.  
Ishika, Y9 - for her effort in last term's poetry assessment.

## NOTICES AND COMING UP...

### HYDESVILLE NURSERY PLACES FILLING FAST!



We are currently working with a large number of families wishing to join Hydesville Nursery either in April or from this September.

To avoid disappointment, we would urge you to contact us if you have a child who is of (or approaching) nursery age, so we can discuss their admission and begin an application without delay.

Please do also pass this message on to colleagues, friends or family who might be considering Hydesville Nursery for their son or daughter.

You might like to register to attend one of our forthcoming open events where you can discover more about Hydesville Nursery.

To find out more, or to confirm your attendance at an open event, please email [sarah.archer@hydesville.com](mailto:sarah.archer@hydesville.com)

### SAVE OUR GREENBELT CAMPAIGN

We have been contacted by members of a support group to 'Save our Greenbelt alongside Walsall Arboretum'.

Members of the #Hydesvillefamily may be aware that the Black Country Plan proposes building over 400 houses and additional amenities on the calder field adjacent to the Arboretum. The Walsall Arboretum User Group is concerned that this would impact upon the open vista, destroy a wildlife corridor and erode the greenbelt.

Should you wish to find out more and sign the live petition (under change.org) please search for the Facebook page under the name of "Save our Greenbelt -Alongside Walsall Arboretum".



### After-School Clubs: w/c 17.1.22

Monday	Year 6 Art Club (3.45pm – 4.45pm) KS3 Art Club (3.45pm – 4.45pm) Year 3 & Year 4 Football Club (3.45pm – 4.30pm) Year 1 & Year 2 Multi Sports (3.45pm – 4.30pm)
Tuesday	KS4 Art Club (3.45pm – 4.45pm) Year 7 - Year 11 Football Club (3.45pm – 4.30pm)
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 100% attendance this week:

Prep - 3BW

Seniors - 7A & 11A

