



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

S U M M E R T E R M 1 3 T H M A Y 2 0 2 2

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



Don't follow your dreams. Chase them."

An inspiring quote can often be found adorning motivational posters, whether in the workplace, the gym or the classroom. There is a risk that we can stop considering the messages because they have become so ubiquitous. However, if we excuse the sentimental aspects, there is something of value within.

In this last week, there have been strong examples of children acting to create their own future, rather than be passively following a path. In Nursery and Pre-Prep, our new and established groups are quickly forging a path to success. Their confidence and positivity radiate from them, and whilst there may be tears on the first few mornings, all are settling to their learning with positivity.

We have had Year 2 presenting a powerful assembly and older Prep pupils on various adventure trips as they build the character to cope with challenges in the outside environment. And with Seniors, the drive to revise and prepare for the internal and external exams is apparent: pupils working diligently on their revision strategies, rather than relying on luck and passive reading approaches.

Hydesville children deserve their dreams and especially high aspirations. It is in how they act to pursue them that the full quality and success is secured.
Best wishes for a BBQ weekend...

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

EYFS: Reception

IF I WERE A FLOWER... I WOULD BE A SUNFLOWER



In Reception, children are artists from the very start of the year. Our environment encourages each child to be creative and begin to explore a range of artistic skills. Throughout the year, children are encouraged to use a range of mediums and resources. Pupils are taught how to use a range of materials and tools with care and precision. There are plenty of opportunities for the pupils to discuss their art work and their findings. Pupils enjoyed following a step by step instruction to complete their sunflower pictures.



During Forest School pupils have thoroughly enjoyed planting sunflowers. Pupils are looking forward to watching them grow over the next few months. Children can learn new skills, have fun, play and develop self-confidence by spending time in the garden tending plants and growing their own food. All of our pupils enjoy being outdoors and love digging in the soil, getting dirty, creating things and watching plants grow.

2D SHAPES

Pupils have been creative whilst using 2D shapes. Pupils were encouraged to recognise the 4 basic shape and discuss their properties. Some lovely creations were produced by the children.



LIFE CYCLE OF BUTTERFLIES

Our caterpillars arrived last week and pupils decided to call them Bob, Rosie, Coco, Colin and Roy. Over the last week pupils have noticed the changes that are occurring and will continue to monitor their growth.



Prep School - y6

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

SHARING SCIENTIFIC MINDS

Being part of an all through school has many benefits, not least that it gives our younger children the chance to learn from older pupils. Last week it was fantastic to see this in action as Prep & Senior pupils came together in a collaboration of scientific and curious minds alike when the blended classes took part in a heart dissection.

Supervised by our Senior School Science teacher, Miss Eynon, Year 9 and Year 11 pupils took on the role of teacher to model a masterclass in dissection technique to our younger Year 6 pupils, identifying the key sections of the heart and their functions. It was a truly thrilling and hands-on learning experience!



READY, STEADY, WALK!

Last week Year 6 pupils embarked on the second part of their Hydesville Challenge by undertaking a Sponsored Walk. To support our citizenship ideals, we chose to raise much-needed funds for The Alzheimer's Society, which provides most valuable help and advice for people and their families living with dementia.

The Sponsored Walk challenged pupils to complete as many 900m circuits of the Arboretum as possible between 9am and 3:30pm. Despite the damp and dreary weather, coupled with a few heavy downpours, the pupils completed an average of 26 laps - this totalled a hugely impressive 23.4km or 14.6 miles, a wonderful commitment to a very worthwhile cause! Sore feet were helped by a celebratory ice lolly in the afternoon.



TOPIC WORK GOES TO GREECE



Year 6 have been exploring the realm of the Gods, Elysium. In Maz Evans' novel 'Who Let the Gods Out?' an English school boy by the name of Elliot encounters numerous weird and wonderful characters from ancient Greek mythology. Pupils have been learning how to analyse the writer's language using quotes and explanations to support their points.

This humorous romp into the classic world is the perfect match for the Year 6 Topic this term which is Ancient Greece. Pupils have located Greece on a map of Europe, compiled a fact file about Greece and are currently researching key events in Greek history. Furthermore, they will have the opportunity to explore in depth topics such as religion, military conquests, mythology, democracy and the Olympic Games.

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

SUCCESS FOR SENIOR LINGUISTS



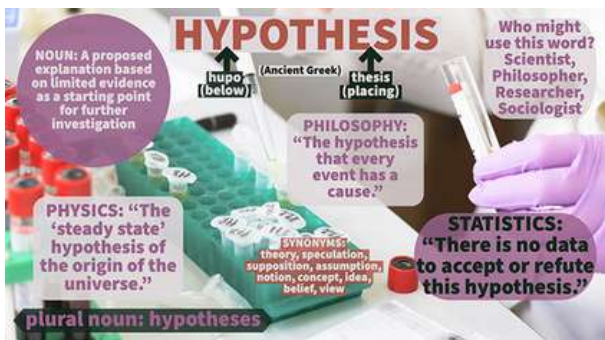
Last term pupils in Year 7 and 8 entered a global French poetry recital competition, Poésiae. First, all pupils competed against their peers for the best pronunciation. The languages department use Reading Progress on Microsoft Teams to quickly assess pronunciation and fluency. Pupils receive a percentage score based on correct pronunciation, speed, omissions, insertions, and repetitions. The teacher then provides individual feedback to support with fluency and pronunciation.

Congratulations to the runners-up who all scored over 80% accuracy:
 Year 7 - Priya, Zaina & Davina.
 Year 8 - Shona, Yasin Mohamed & Harshith.

Jamie in Y8 and Hamza in Y7 were entered for the global competition with over 40 schools participating from around the world. Sadly, they were unsuccessful this year, but they are eager to win in 2023. Well done boys!



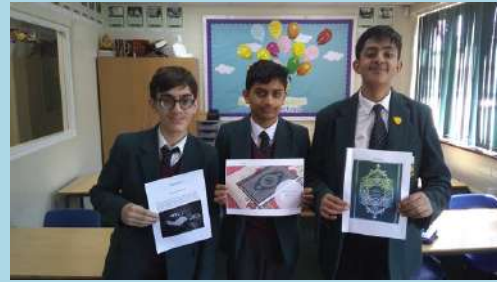
SENIOR WORD OF THE WEEK



Senior School

RIGHT DECISION, WRONG DECISION?

In RS pupils have begun to consider some big questions as they consider the ethics behind decision making. They have reflected on how they make the right decision and subsequently applied key theories such as utilitarianism and situational ethics to different scenarios. These theories will now be used by pupils in Year 8 to explore the ethics of warfare and the various arguments surrounding the morality of war.



Other Senior School pupils have been developing their knowledge and understanding of different faiths with Islam, Christianity and Sikhism all being explored by pupils.

AN UPDATE FROM YEAR 9

Year 9 have now chosen their GCSE options for next year and have started some of the GCSE material in some of the subjects. As a year group this term they are continuing to focus on healthy communication within friendship groups and kindness towards each other. The next few weeks will be essential for year 9's to focus on revision for their end of year exams which are coming up soon, in the last week of this summer half term.

This term year 9 have had the opportunities to participate in First Aid training with St Johns Ambulance and are currently discussing the use and abuse of drugs in PSHE which they are all responding to very maturely. Year 9 pupils also recently raised money for the Ukraine recently by selling Samosas so well done to Pavan and team for arranging this. Kaka played the piano delightfully and the year 9 girls choir sang beautifully at the assembly celebrating Mrs Jenkins last day at school before she went on maternity leave.

Miss Eynon

PUPILS OF THE WEEK

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

PREP SCHOOL



Reception - Zephyr
Year 1 - Muizz
Year 2 - Zayn
Year 3 - Jasmine
Year 4 - Yuvraj
Year 6 - Susannah



SENIOR SCHOOL



8A: Shona, Yasin, Aiden.
8B: Jamie, Anisa, Bilal.

MUSIC PERFORMER OF THE WEEK



Zaydan (Y1) - for excellent singing in our weekly singing assembly. He is a model to others.

NURSERY



Angelica - for settling well into nursery life and working well in all her activities. She is a lovely addition to Yellow Group.

ENGLISH STARS OF THE WEEK



Mrs Booth and Mrs Sharkey have nominated the whole of Year 11 as this week's English Stars of the Week and wish them all the very best in their GCSE exams!

NOTICES AND COMING UP...

SAVE THE DATE - JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS



2022 is an exciting year as not only is HRH The Queen celebrating her platinum jubilee but Hydesville is too! Our fantastic school was founded in 1952 and to jointly mark these momentous occasions we are planning a day of celebrations on Friday 1st July.

Pupils across the school will be taking part in lots of jubilee themed activities and we would be delighted if parents can join us for a lunchtime party.

More details will be released soon but for now, please save the date!

SUMMER HALF TERM FUN CLUB

Bookings for our Summer Half Term Nursery & Reception Fun Club will go live on the Payments area of Cognita Connect next week.

Fun Club will take place on Monday 30th May - Wednesday 1st June (inclusive). We will be open each day, 9am - 4pm, at a cost of £25 a day.

Places are limited so please hurry so as not to miss out!



1950'S MEMORABILIA - WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As part of our jubilee celebrations we are planning a vintage selfie spot/photo booth and need the #Hydesvillefamily's help with props! Does anyone have any 1950's clothing, hats or other accessories that we can borrow for the day? If you can help, please let sarah.archer@hydesville.com know or drop your props into the school office. Thank you for your support.



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**September 2022
spaces available**
Call 01922 624 374 to book a visit and find out for yourself why we are a leading independent school in Watford for boys and girls aged 3 to 16.
HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL
www.hydesville.com

ATTENDANCE WINNERS ARE...

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

Prep: RJ, 1BT, 2S, 3B, 6B
Seniors: 7A & 10A

SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 22

We are currently experiencing high volumes of enquiries for families interested in a school place for September so availability is limited now in some year groups.

If you have a friend, colleague or family member interested in their child joining us next academic year please encourage them to get in touch with us as soon as possible so we can begin their application. Please contact: admissions@hydesville.com or call us on 01922 624374.