



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

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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



There is a definite spring in our steps with the warmer weather! Sunshine undoubtedly plays a part in our mood, and many studies in Scandinavian countries have illustrated the difficulties faced in latitudes that limit exposure to daylight. Hence, it is so lovely to have the warmth and to see the children relaxing in their play and breaks.

It has been a busy week for some, rounding off their assessments, and for many staff working through the production of reports. Reading through the Nursery and Pre-Prep pages, it is lovely to see how well the staff know the children, their strengths and characters. It is such a key start to their learning, and the reports reveal the great care in place.

The plans are nearing completion for the Jubilee event and the subsequent Prize-Giving ceremonies. For the former, staff and pupils will be dressing in clothes appropriate to a specific decade of Hydesville's existence. I will write with more details at the start of next week but it will be lovely to see the moods of the 50's and 60's jammed up beside the 90's and 00's!

Our best wishes go to Year 6 who depart for the Hydesville Challenge residential next week. It should be an amazing trip, with experiences and memories that will last for many a year.

Some of you have told me it will be stormy at the weekend, so I hope you find a few oases of sunshine despite this...

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY WEEKLY

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS



YELLOW GROUP BECOME SCIENTISTS

Yellow group have done a little Science experiment this week, they have tried to change the colour of the white flower petals, by leaving the flower in water with food colouring in. The children guessed what colour the petals may change and were happy the next day to discover after leaving the flower in red food colouring that the petals had turned pink.

They correctly predicted that the petals will change according to the colour of the food colouring.

The children enjoyed being mini scientists, which allowed them to discover how properties of things can change, make guesses by offering thoughts and predictions and physically conduct experiments to test their own theories. They can't wait to do it again using other colours and different flowers.



EXPERIMENTING WITH COLOURS

Hydesville Nursery children have been having lots of fun experiment with colours. The children chose from a selection of primary colours to practise their science thinking skills to make predictions, comparisons whilst observing the results when mixing two colours together. Clever little scientists in the making!



SPLISH SPLASH!

The children enjoyed exploring the different texture of the gelli baf. The gelli baf is used with the children to provide fun and entertainment activity which is also supports and develops the childrens' motor skills and concentration and is also used as a therapeutic sensory experience to support them to relax and remain calm.

OUTDOOR FUN

The children had so much fun in the sunshine where they were able to independently choose where they would like to play, and enjoyed interacting with their peers and through solitary play.



We have some budding builders, mechanics, writers, drivers, and those who like to play and create scenarios with the dolls and babies, acting out a variety of roles.

SOUND OF THE WEEK....



Can you guess what it is?

Prep School - y4

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS



MUMMIFICATION MADNESS

As part of our topic of 'Tomb Raiders,' Year 4 have had the opportunity to be visited by staff from Sandwell Museum Services who brought along their collection of Ancient Egyptian artefacts, along with a mummified head! Inspired by this, the pupils took on the role of embalmers and carried out their own mummifications. Due to a shortage of volunteers, the children had to make-do with mummifying a tomato instead. The tomatoes had their insides removed, they were cleansed with Nile water (also know as hand sanitizer) and then filled with natron (salt and bicarbonate of soda) before being placed in a ziplock bag. The tomatoes are currently drying out in various locations across Egypt (the Year 4 classroom), ready to be weighed before we send them on their final journey into the afterlife...



Keeping with the theme of Ancient Egypt. The pupils got to put their maths and non-verbal reasoning skills to the test by following instructions to turn nets of pyramids and the Sphinx into 3-d models. All children were able to successfully make their models despite the sphinx model being rather challenging!



TUT'S TERRIFYING CRASH!



In our class reader, *Secrets of a Sun King*, we found out that King Tutankhamun had been involved in a terrible chariot racing accident! The pupils had the chance to travel back in time and interview some of the witnesses to this horrifying event before writing a newspaper report about the chariot crash.

In our story this week, Howard Carter has just discovered the entrance to Tutankhamun's tomb but the question is, will Lil manage to get the stolen canopic jar back to the tomb before her grandad succumbs to its curse?

AN UPDATE ON ART FROM UPPER PREP

Year 3 have been working on a unit entitled 'Under the Sea' and have made amazingly colourful fish from plastic bottles.



Year 4 have been creating work inspired by their knowledge of The Egyptians, they all made canopic jars from clay before decorating them and adding hieroglyphics.



Year 6 have been creating 'Cityscapes' and enjoyed the challenge of drawing a one-point perspective city before painting using water colours.



Year 5 have been learning about the Art Deco period and the work of pottery artist Clarice Cliff, they were inspired to design and decorate their own pieces of pottery.

LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

AN UPDATE FROM THE HEAD OF YEAR 7

Pupils have been busy receiving examination feedback from teachers and setting targets for their progression. During pastoral morning next week, pupils will have the opportunity to discuss these targets with their Form Tutors, who will ensure that the targets are not only achievable but also challenging.

As we head towards the end of this half term, Year 7 pupils are preparing their final assembly on 'Reflections'. They are working in groups and will all be encouraged to take part. It feels like just yesterday when they began their senior school journey and now they are nearly at the end of their first year. I'm not sure where the time has gone, but as their Head Of Year, I am proud to see them growing into mature young adults.

There are lots of exciting events to look forward to during the next few weeks: Sports Day, Prize-Giving and the Jubilee Celebrations to name a few. For the Hydesville Jubilee celebrations, Year 7 will be representing the 1980s and have been encouraged to dress up. We are all enthusiastically looking forward to it!!

Mrs Khan



RAISING MONEY FOR GAMBIA

Senior School pupils are excited to be starting a charity campaign for the village Madina Salaam in Gambia. Wonder Years International has been sending aid and helping this village for over 20 years and we would like to offer our support. We are hoping to raise £7000 in order to send a container with donations to them next year. The container will remain in the village and be used to offer premises for training, workshops or businesses to benefit the village. The donations will help with the education, health and enterprise within the village.

We started fundraising this week with the sale of ice pops at break and lunch and have already raised over £100! Next week, senior pupils will be tasked with organising a charity event with their form groups ready for September 2022. We shall share the programme of activities with you and if you have any ideas, please feel free to share them with Ms Archer.

Senior School

HISTORY AMBASSADORS

Since returning after half term, pupils in Senior School have been receiving feedback for their History Summer exams. There were many excellent assessments across both Key Stages 3 and 4, showing a high level of revision, as well as skills such as interpretation of sources and making synoptic judgements about key people and events in History.

Miss Thorne has selected Subject Ambassadors due to their impressive efforts in lessons and supporting their peers.

Well done to these pupils who have been awarded badges for this role: Samraaj, Harleen and Radin (Year 7), Gurdeep and Leo (Year 8), Kudzy and Zach (Year 9), Harman, Cedric and Mya (Year 10). Miss Thorn look forward to seeing them taking on their new responsibilities in September.



SENIOR WORD OF THE WEEK

INTERPRETATION

SCIENCE: "The interpretation of experimental findings."

PHILOSOPHY: "A different of interpretation of the story arose."

SYNONYMS: explanation, clarification, definition, analysis, evaluation, meaning, rendition, presentation, performance

NOUN: - the action of explaining the meaning of something
- a stylistic representation of a creative work or dramatic role
PLURAL NOUN: interpretations

MUSIC: "The singer was admirable in his interpretation of the piece."

Who might use this word?
Philosopher, Musician, Actor, Director, Politician, Judge, Journalist

from Latin 'interpretari' (to interpret)



PUPILS OF THE WEEK

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



MUSIC PERFORMER OF THE WEEK



Amaya (Y3) - for two excellent performances during singing assembly over the past two weeks.

NURSERY STAR OF THE WEEK



Gabriella - for demonstrating good listening skills and following the Golden Rules of the Nursery.

RECEPTION STAR OF THE WEEK



Zahra - for making good progress in all areas of learning

SENIOR PUPILS OF THE WEEK

10A: Isabella, Amira, Jay.

10B: George, Jasmeen, Anand.



NOTICES AND COMING UP...

PRIZE-GIVING 2022 - TICKETS AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK

- Nursery - Tuesday 5th July at 9am (School Hall).
- Reception - - Tuesday 5th July at 2pm (School Hall).
- Prep School (Y1 - Y6) - Wednesday 6th July at 1 pm at Bescot Stadium.
- Senior School - Thursday 7th July at 2.30 pm at Bescot Stadium.

Ticket information regarding our forthcoming Prize-Giving ceremonies will be sent out via Cognita Connect next week so look out for an email. Due to space restrictions, tickets will be limited to two per pupil.



11+ TUITION SESSIONS



Following feedback received from a recent survey to parents in Year 2 – Year 4, we are pleased to announce positive changes to our after school 11+ tuition sessions from September.

Tuition sessions will now run from 4.00 pm – 5.00 pm. Children will remain supervised at the end of school dismissal until the commencement of the tuition, and we hope that the majority of parents find the collection more straightforward subsequently. For those unable to collect at 5.00pm, children could even be booked in for the After School Club, affording more flexibility for parents.

We hope this is exciting news for those parents with an eye to 11+ success for the future. The chance to sign up for the limited places in September will be announced soon.



ATTENDANCE WINNERS ARE...

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

Prep: 2J & 3B

Seniors: 7A