



HYDESVILLE  
TOWER SCHOOL

# #HYDESVILLEFAMILY NEWS

A U T U M N T E R M 2 3 R D S E P T E M B E R 2 0 2 2

Welcome to #HydesvilleFamily News, our bi-monthly newsletter to keep you updated on all things going on at Hydesville.

Here we will share updates on what's been going on across Hydesville. 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.



## A WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It has been a busy week here in school which has included the return of all our extra-curricular activities for the term. School has been a hive of activity both before and after school, not to mention lunchtimes too, with the varied range of clubs all holding their first sessions with some very enthusiastic children.

Thank you to all staff members who offer these extra-curricular activities for our children; we all very much appreciate it.

We have also been busy welcoming all our new parents in Senior School for our first new parent information evening of the year. It was lovely to meet all the parents personally and I look forward to working with you and seeing your child's journey progress through Hydesville.

I would like to warmly invite all parents to our open morning on Saturday 1st October. Parents will have the opportunity to see all sections of the school and meet staff. There will also be an opportunity for pupils to get involved in activities.

*Mrs Samra*



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)



#HYDESVILLEFAMILY NEWS

# WEEKLY ROUND UP....

## Pre-Prep's Green Group

### ALL ABOUT ME

This week we have been getting to know each other by discussing all of the things that we like the most, and to extend the activity, all the children have painted their own self-portraits, paying close attention to detail including their unique features. All of the children have been encouraged to have their own voice to celebrate their individual ideas and promote self-esteem and a feeling of self-worth.

Such activities that engage the children into feeling valued play a large role in how a child learns. In order for them to play and explore, actively learn and critically think the need to feel confident in their environment and have the knowledge that their voice and way of explorations will be noted.

**Let's discover some interesting facts about the Green Group in Pre-Prep:**

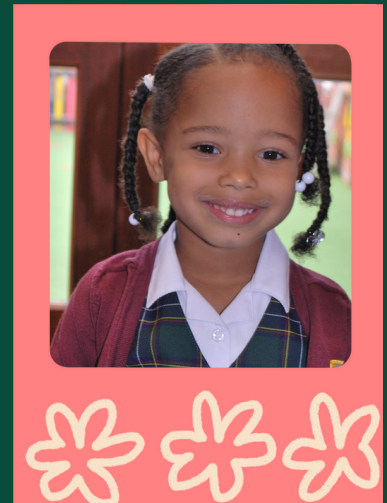
### ANGELICA - AGE 3

Birthday : December  
Favourite colour: Purple  
Favourite food: Broccoli & potatoes  
Favourite book: A Fairy Book  
Favourite TV programme: Paw Patrol



### GABRIELLA - AGE 3

Birthday : November  
Favourite colour: Purple & Pink  
Favourite food: Spaghetti bolognaise  
Favourite book: The Lion who goes to sleep  
Favourite TV programme: CBeebies  
& The Incredibles



### MAHEERA- AGE 3

Birthday : January  
Favourite colour: Pink  
Favourite food: Pizza  
Favourite book: The Very Hungry Caterpillar  
Favourite TV programme: Marshall

### IDRIS - AGE 3

Birthday : September  
Favourite colour: Blue  
Favourite food: Pizza  
Favourite book: Goldilocks & the Three Bears  
Favourite TV programme: Superman



### YUNUS -AGE 3

Birthday : December  
Favourite colour: Black  
Favourite food: Bread, pizza & sweetcorn  
Favourite book: Superhero book  
Favourite TV programme: Power Rangers



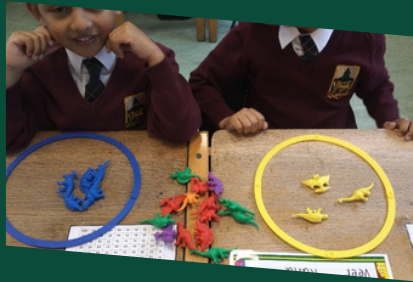
### SAHIB - AGE 3

Birthday : January  
Favourite colour: Yellow  
Favourite food: A wrap  
Favourite book: The Gingerbread Man  
Favourite TV programme: Humpty Dumpty

# WEEKLY ROUND UP....

## Prep School - Year 1

Year One have settled into their new classes and are learning all of their new routines. These smiley faces are ready for their new learning adventure in year 1. Let's Go Year One the only way is up, up and away!



They began their maths lessons by sorting objects and describing their reason for what they had chosen e.g. by colour, by features such as wings or spikes on the dinosaurs.



Pupils started looking at their focus book 'Emma Jane's Aeroplane' and they role played different scenes from the story to think about how the characters were feeling.



As a stunning start to our topic 'Up, up and away' the children made paper aeroplanes demonstrated by Zayn who seemed to be an expert in making them. After decorating them we took them outside to see if they would fly up...up and away!



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Year 1 have also been learning about 'online bullying'. They have been identifying and describing the ways in which some people can be unkind online. They have participated in interactive online lessons and used visual aids to share with their peers if a message is kind or unkind.



Well done Year 1, staying safe online is very important!

## Y6 ARE 11+ READY



As the season of 11+ exams approaches, Year 6 have been using their time wisely for last-minute preparations. To help consolidate their 11+ learning from Years 3 to 5, they have been completing comprehension, SPaG, arithmetic and reasoning activities in their core skills sessions, alongside similar online activities for homework.

To guard against anxiety and panic, pupils have also been taking regular breaks in the afternoon sessions, and have been discussing the importance of a healthy diet and sleep prior to the exams.

Mr Burnham is sure that all Prep teachers will join him in wishing our wonderful Year 6 pupils the best of luck in their forthcoming exams.

## Senior School

## WEEKLY ROUND UP....

### THE HYDESVILLE MATHS DEPARTMENT CHALLENGES YOU TO ENTER....

#### What is the National Cipher Challenge?

The National Cipher Challenge is a free to enter, national competition which has been run by the University of Southampton for over 20 years. The competition normally begins in early October, with registration opening on September 15th, and is aimed at Year 7-13 pupils. Every week a new encrypted text is released, all themed around a story which is often linked to real historical events. The competition feels like an immersive adventure, with all the materials designed to feel authentic. The first-rate design of the competition is impressive, and will appeal to pupils who are used to playing computer games with high quality graphics.

#### How many rounds are there?

The first three rounds are 'practice rounds', and there is a certificate for every pupil who completes any one of these rounds. There are usually around 10 rounds in total, which increase in difficulty. If pupils can crack round four there is a Bronze certificate available and after that, subsequent rounds will attract Silver or Gold certificates.

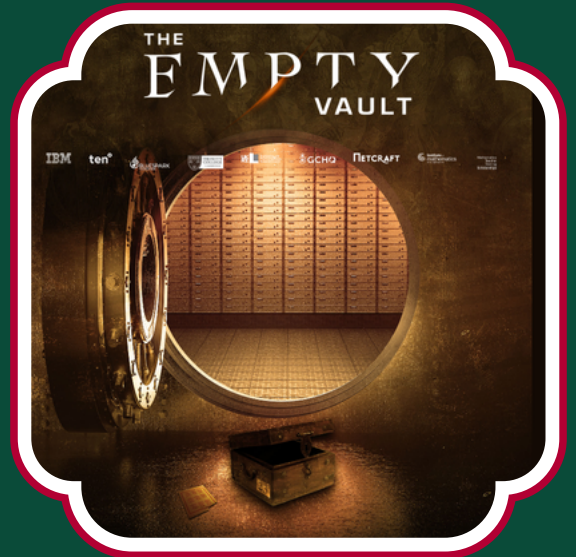
#### What are the prizes?

For those who win the whole competition there are prizes of up to £1000. Pupils can enter as individuals or in teams – if they enter as a team then the prize money will be split amongst the team. With several thousand entrants each year, most won't win the main prizes – but that is not the point as taking part in this competition is extra-curricular maths at its most engaging.

There are also certificates available for every completed round and a leader board.

Why not form a Hydesville Team with some friends and arrange a lunchtime support club with Mr Walker.

To register your team into the challenge head over to <https://www.cipherchallenge.org/>



### CELEBRATING OUR YOUNG WRITERS

We are always delighted to put forward excellent writing for national competitions, no more so than for the current Year 10 pupils who entered a national poetry competition last year on the topic of 'Empowerment'. This linked with their study of Benjamin Zephaniah's Refugee Boy and many pupils made links to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. Not only have they seen their work in print, but they will also receive personalised feedback from the judges about their writing.



Congratulations to Nilesh, Ryan, Kaka, Ishika and Ayesha. Later this term, we are running creative writing competitions for KS3 around the magical plants in the world of Harry Potter, as well as our annual debating competition against other schools with the English Speaking Union and we look forward to the enthusiastic participation from our pupils.

## PUPILS OF THE WEEK

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

### MUSIC PERFORMER OF THE WEEK



Jaeveer - for his very impressive keyboard playing and rapid progress made during lessons.

### NURSERY STAR OF THE WEEK



Nidhan – for coming into Nursery with a big smile all week and for his positive attitude towards his learning. Well done, Nidhan!

### RECEPTION STAR OF THE WEEK



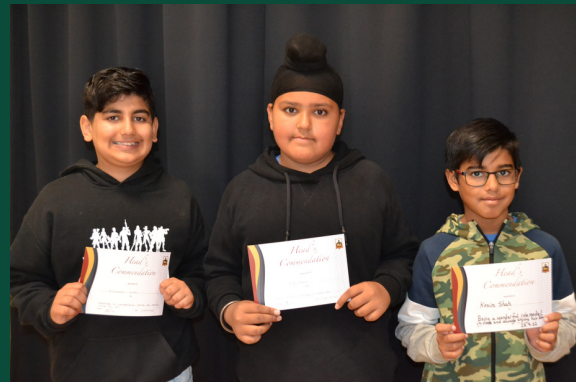
Avraaj - for fabulous listening and attention.

## HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

Well done to the following children for receiving the Headteacher's award this week:

Year 1 - Veer  
Year 2 - Zaydan  
Year 3 - Amrit

Year 4 - Kasim  
Year 5 - Tegh  
Year 6 - Isaeel



## NOTICES AND COMING UP...

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## ONLINE SAFETY FOR UNDER 5s

### 10 Top Tips for Parents and Carers

According to Ofcom's most recent research, a significant proportion of children are already online by the time they start school, with 17% of 5-year-olds owning their own mobile phone and 50% using messaging platforms. As becoming familiar with technology is generally encouraged in younger children – and has been essential for education during the pandemic – it is crucial that trusted adults recognise both the benefits and the risks of infants and toddlers using digital devices. We've compiled our top tips to help the under-5s start their online safety journey.

- USE DEVICES TOGETHER**  
This lets you monitor and control what your child is using the device for, it also provides the interaction that supports children's understanding of what they're seeing – allowing them to ask you questions, and so on.
- ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS**  
Most digital devices have built-in parental controls that can limit the type of content children have access to. If your little one uses any device (even borrowing yours), it's a good idea to explore what controls the device has and enable them whenever they have access to it.
- MANAGE SCREEN TIME**  
This can be tricky, especially if your child is interested in a certain video, app or game. Try to agree on some ground rules and get your child into a routine which includes certain times of the day when they go without devices.
- TALK ABOUT BEING SAFE ONLINE**  
Just like we teach children about being safe in the real world, we need to educate them about how to stay safe online. Use age-appropriate language to help them understand, and plenty of hand gestures can reinforce what you're telling them.
- SET A GOOD EXAMPLE**  
Children often learn by watching and copying those around them, and using digital devices is no exception. When you're around your child, try to follow the same rules that you've set for them. Let them see you balancing your time online with interacting with people in real life, too.
- PARENT CODE: \*\*\*\*\***
- BLOCK IN-APP PURCHASES**  
If your child uses a device that's linked to a payment method (such as a bank card), use the parental controls to block buys from app stores, as well as in-app purchases. That will prevent your child from accidentally spending money while on your device.
- CHOOSE SAFE APPS AND SITES**  
There are some fantastic apps and platforms that are specifically designed to be safe for children. Always check the PEGI age rating before downloading an app, and test it yourself before allowing your child to use it.
- INVOLVE THE FAMILY**  
If your toddler has older siblings, it's likely that their rules for device use will be different – and that they'll access content that isn't appropriate for younger ones (a particular worry if they share devices). Encourage the whole family to be good role models and help little ones stay safe online.
- IF IN DOUBT, ASK**  
The easiest way to find out what your child is doing online is usually just to talk about it with them. Developing an open dialogue at an early age helps them grow up feeling able to talk to you about their digital life – providing opportunities to intervene if you're concerned.
- SUPPORT CREATIVE & ACTIVE PLAY**  
Physical and creative activities are important for a child's wellbeing, and there are plenty of ways to incorporate technology into that. For example, you could encourage games that require physical movement; dance and sing along to songs your child loves; and follow step-by-step crafting videos.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Konstantina Moustakas is a professional development and EYF5 coordinator at an 'outstanding' nursery school in London. She has been working as a nursery and early years practitioner, both in the UK and internationally, for the past 16 years.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.ofcom.gov.uk/consult/condocs/childrensmediauseand attitudesreport/childrensmediauseand attitudesreport.pdf>

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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**HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL**

## AUTUMN TERM DATES

**AUTUMN 1:**  
WEDNESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER - FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER

**AUTUMN HALF TERM HOLIDAY:**  
MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER - FRIDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

**AUTUMN 2:**  
MONDAY 7TH NOVEMBER - FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER

#HYDESVILLEFAMILY

**Open Morning**  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October  
10am - 12noon

**HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL**

Join the #Hydesvillefamily  
info@hydesville.com 01922 624 374

## YEAR 10 INFORMATION EVENT

Parents with children in Year 10 are invited to join us at our Year 10 Information Evening on Wednesday 5th October, starting at 4.30pm.

The event will enable us to share information with you about what to expect over the next two years and how you can support your child at home.

Letters have been sent out via Cognita Connect and we would be grateful if you can confirm your attendance.

Year 10  
Information  
Evening

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