



HYDESVILLE  
TOWER SCHOOL

# #HYDESVILLEFAMILY NEWS

A U T U M N T E R M 2 1 S T O C T O 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

As I look back on our first half term of this academic year the children have accomplished so much in a short period of time.

Across the school pupils have experienced the breadth of extra-curricular activities, Global Be Well Day and residential trips.

I have been impressed by our pupils sharing their favourite poems and a special thank you goes out to all the pupils who presented at our Diwali assemblies both in Senior School and Prep School.

This week we see our Year 3 and 4 pupils return from the Frank Chapman Centre in Bewdley, whilst our Year 10 and 11 classes have been visiting Alton towers to understand the physics behind rollercoasters.

I would like to personally congratulate all our Year 6 pupils for their success across the grammar schools entrance tests.

Next half term we look forward to welcoming parents and carers to parents' evenings.

I hope you all have a restful half term and I look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 7th November.



*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....

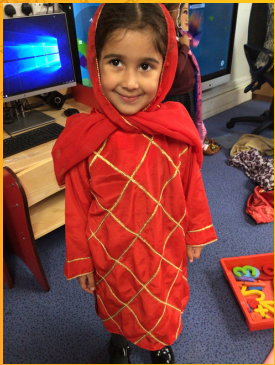


## *Pre-Prep's Red Group*

### DIWALI CELEBRATIONS

Red Group have started the Diwali celebrations early by engaging in a variety of fun filled activities. Children demonstrated good listening skills whilst listening to the story Rama and Sita, pupils were encouraged to predict any of the story pattern or name any of the characters. Children were then encouraged to re-enact the story using masks and finger puppets.

Following on with our exciting activities we made Diwali lamps using clay which helps develop children's fine motor skills. We encouraged the little ones to express their creativity as they painted the hardened clay.



### EXPLORING OUR INTERESTS

Red Group have been very busy choosing and following their own interests. Their favourite activities are sand play, mini-beasts, hammer and nails game, role-play, water play and painting. Child-initiated play supports children in having ideas and being in control of their learning. It enables them to learn through first-hand experiences, allowing them to choose how to use the resources to do so.

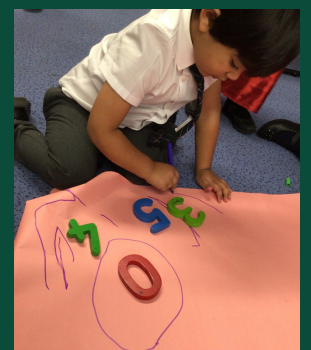
Child-led activities may start out as an adult initiated activity however by allowing the child space and time; the child may extend the resources and ideas given to create their own experience.



### MAKING OUR MARK

Children have been busy demonstrating their mark-making skills. They have enjoyed a variety of different mark-making activities using a selection of mediums. We value the importance of allowing children to demonstrate the freedom to express themselves creatively and allow them to communicate their feelings through their drawings or even use their marks to tell a story!

Mark-making is much more than just a scribble and has so many benefits in a child's development! This is the beginning of a child's journey towards writing and is an important step in a child's development for handwriting, creativity and coordination.

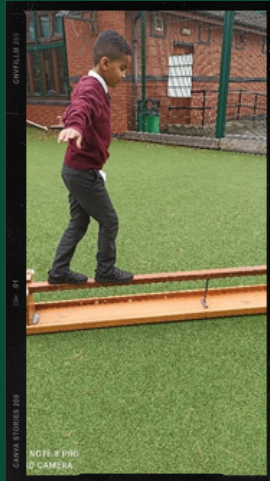




# WEEKLY ROUND UP....

## Prep School - Year 3

Are people with smaller feet better at balancing? This was a question put to Year 3 this week. The pupils had to plan an investigation to find out. They discussed what equipment they would need, what method they would use and variables to make it fair. Later they conducted the investigation and presented their findings in the form of a results table and graph.



This week in English pupils in Year 3 have been writing their own version of 'How to Train Your Dragon'. When planning their stories, they acted out different parts to spark their imaginations and come up with interesting ideas!



Year 3 have had the excitement of their first residential this week. On Wednesday, they boarded the coach for Frank Chapman, where they have taken part in activities such as mining, archery, low ropes and orienteering.

Despite it being some pupil's first time away from home, they have approached the tasks with so much determination and courage. There are some worn out children arriving home this evening!



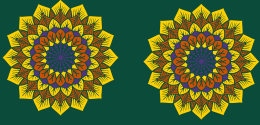
## HANDS ON TOPIC WORK

Lots of practical activities have been happening in Topic lessons this half term. Where Year 6 have been making ration cards to learn about life during WWII, Year 5 have been exploring life in Aztec Mexico. Year 4 have travelled back to 16th Century Britain to look at the Tudors and Year 3 have become Vikings and Anglo-Saxons to explore trade links. Whilst Year 2 headed for warmer climes to learn about safari life in Kenya, Year 1 took to the skies to discover who Amelia Earhart was. Amongst this, every year group has explored a different aspect or important historical figure to celebrate Black History Month.



# Senior School

## WEEKLY ROUND UP....



### DIWALI CELEBRATIONS

At this time of year most of the world religions hold a festival of Lights. From Hannukah celebrated by the Jewish Community to Christmas, or Diwali celebrated by Sikhs, Hindus and Jains, the theme of light triumphing over darkness brings hope and inspiration to all.

Next Monday 24th October is the festival of Diwali. Hindus commemorate the defeat of the Demon King Ravana by Prince Rama and the triumph of good over evil. Sikhs remember the release from prison of Guru Harogobind Dev Ji together with 52 princes (thanks to his quick thinking).

This week in Senior School Year 8 have led assemblies telling us why and how Diwali is celebrated around the world and reminding us of the stories. They have also made Diya lamps in Art and RS which are used to in Hindu homes to welcome the goddess Lakshmi to bring light, luck and wealth. Happy Diwali to you all!



### AN UPDATE FROM THE HEAD OF YEAR 9

Year 9 have made a pleasing start to this half term across their lessons and in extra-curricular activities. The Year 9 girls netball team were very proud of their win against St George's school this week, showing their teamwork, strength, and resilience. As well as this, Shria, Safa and Anisa led an assembly to the whole of Key Stage 3 on Black History Month, which they delivered confidently and with excellent subject knowledge. I look forward to seeing Year 9's achievements and contributions towards school life next half term.

*Miss Thorne*

This week, some pupils have been taking part in Coding Week. Pupils have been given flexibility and a range of programming challenges to participate in at their own pace. Some of these have allowed pupils to utilise knowledge from other platforms, whereas others have chosen tasks that have stretched and challenged them.

A big well done to all pupils who have taken part.



### SHINING A LIGHT ON LANGUAGES



It's been a busy term for the languages department, kicking off with European Day of Languages, which is celebrated each year on 26th September. This year we asked pupils to watch a film or series in another language and to share their review on our new notice board. Year 7 have adapted well to the demands of learning a new language, with a few of our pupils already achieving a grade 5. Well done to Haashim who achieved a grade 6 for his first speaking exam!

Senior School pupils are excited about the long-awaited educational visit to Paris in the summer term, which was postponed in 2020. Mrs Dhadda will provide more information soon.



## Sports round-up



## FIXTURES UPDATES

Well done to our Year 7 football team who put on a brave performance against St George's School on October 10th.

Despite losing 3-0, our team battled throughout, and never gave up. Deniz had a brilliant match at centre back, defending well and making some great tackles at key moments throughout the game. St George's had a few talented players who struggled to get past Deniz!

Another standout performer was Rathan, who made some great passes during the game.

Well done Team Hydesville for your resilience and determination.



Our Year 9 girls who played their first netball match against St George's, winning 6-4. It was a very evenly matched game with Hydesville taking the edge on shooting. The girls grew in confidence throughout the match, well done!

**After Half Term we will be running a Senior School Netball Club on Fridays, 3.45pm - 4.30pm. Reserve your child's place via the Payments area of Cogita Connect.**



## UPCOMING FIXTURES

U11 ISA Football: 7th November (10.30-3.30)  
Year 9 Football: 8th November v Highclare School (away)  
Year 9 & 10 Table Tennis v St Georges (home)



## GYMNASTICS A GO GO!

Pupils in Year 8 have been having gymnastics lessons from a qualified coach this half term. They've learnt a number of new skills, including basic movement and vaulting.

After half term we will be offering an after school gymnastics club (3.45 – 4.30pm) on a Thursday for pupils in Years 3 – 6. The Club will be run by qualified level 2 British Gymnastics coach.

Pupils will learn the fundamental movements of gymnastics, whilst developing their action, balance and co-ordination. Pupils will be given the option to work towards 'rise Gymnastics' certificates throughout the club. Please look out for the offer on Cognita Connect. Please note, places are limited to 15 pupils.



## PUPILS OF THE WEEK

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

### MUSIC PERFORMER OF THE WEEK



Yuvraj (Y5) - for showing determination and focus to achieve not just the glockenspiel pattern, but also the challenge.

### NURSERY STAR OF THE WEEK



Ather - for making good progress in all areas of development and for showing pride in his achievements.

### RECEPTION STAR OF THE WEEK



Amanat – for working extremely hard to take onboard the new challenges of the Hydesville way. She has started to listen, follow the instructions and respond appropriately when spoken to by an adult.

## HEADTEACHER'S AWARDS

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

### Prep School

Year 1 - Kavi  
Year 2 - Sophia



### Senior School

10A: Ishika, Amrit,  
Ore



Year 5 - Rianah  
Year 6 - Ismaeel



10B: Jessica, Kaka,  
Nilesh



## NOTICES AND COMING UP...

### SAVE THE DATE: CHRISTMAS FAIR



**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December: 5pm to 7pm**  
A leading independent school in Walsall for boys and girls aged 3 to 16.

Please join us at Hydesville's Christmas Fair on Wednesday 14th December, 5-7pm.

There will be lots of exciting activities and stalls, including festive refreshments, carol singing and opportunities to win prizes from a range of different Christmas themed stalls, which will be led by both staff and senior school pupils.

All profits will be donated to Save the Children, which is a charity close to the Hydesville family's heart.

There will also be an opportunity for children to make a special visit to meet Santa and his elves.

We hope you can join us and look forward to seeing you there!

**If you are interested in hiring a stall during the evening, please email [info@hydesville.com](mailto:info@hydesville.com)**

### NURSERY & RECEPTION FUN CLUB

Places are still available on our October Half Term Nursery & Reception Fun Club.

Please see the Payments area of Cognita Connect to book your child's place.



Our term dates for the Academic Year 2022-2023 have now been published on the school website here:

<https://www.hydesville.com/school-life/term-dates/>



### UPCOMING TRIPS

Aston Villa Football Coaching, Y8 & Y9 - 13th Dec: £31

Rock Up trip, Y7 - 12th Dec: £9

**Please pay for all trips on Cognita Connect.**