



HYDESVILLE  
TOWER SCHOOL

# #HYDESVILLEFAMILY NEWS

S U M M E R T E R M 2 3 R D J U N E 2 0 2 3

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

Welcome to our penultimate newsletter.

It's hard to think the academic year is almost over. It is lovely the sun has kept shining. The end of the academic year is always busy and the teachers work incredibly hard to ensure pupils are able to enjoy all the opportunities available to them.

A beach party and transition day are just two of the activities that have taken place in the nursery this week.

Year 6 have been busy with the Hydesville challenge and the trip to Ninja Warrior was the most rewarding.

The highlight has to be sports day seeing all pupils participate and thank you to all the parents for their support.

Pupils in year 10 have been busy planning their next moves as they look at sixth form. They visited Sutton College and attended a one-to-one career meeting.

The Magma Museum was visited by students in Years 7 and 8 as part of their science education.

Senior School teachers gathered to bid our Year 11 students farewell. It was fantastic to see them all enjoy a special lunch and celebratory assembly. We wish each of them luck in August for their GCSE results.

Sports events, award ceremonies, and our Senior School's preparations for a trip to Paris will keep us quite busy over the course of the next two weeks.

In closing, let me express my sincere gratitude to Sarah Archer, who will be leaving us. The school would like to express its appreciation to Sarah for her unwavering dedication and labour of love. Although we shall miss her, we wish her all the best.

*Mrs Samra*



#HYDESVILLEFAMILY NEWS

# WEEKLY ROUND UP....

## *EYFS: Reception*

In ICT this half term Reception have been looking at programming. The children were introduced to what 'programming' meant and then witnessed some examples of following a set of directional instructions.

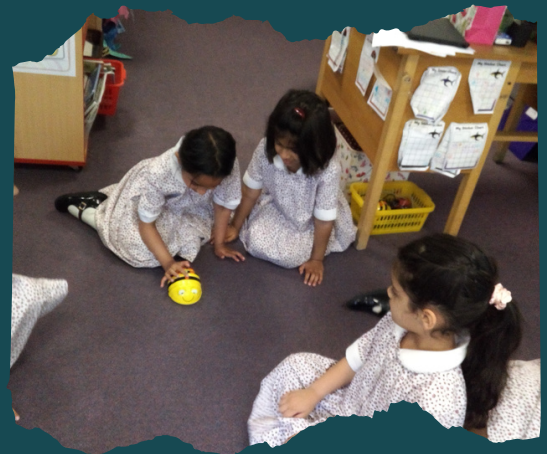
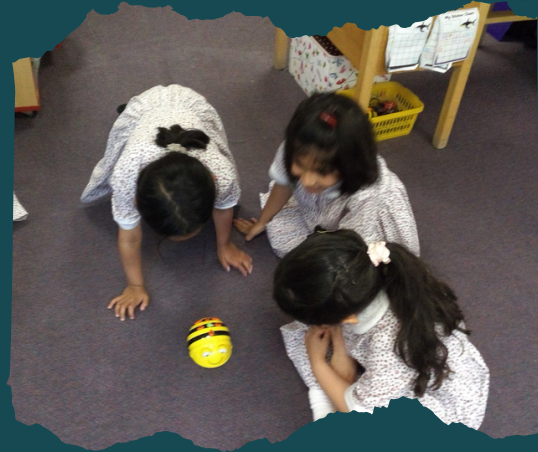
Once the children were confident which way to turn, they were introduced to a programmable toy called a BEE-BOT.

The children were so excited to see a toy following their set of instructions.

They were then put into small groups of two or three and were allowed to take it in turns to make the BEE-BOT move. They worked together to make the BEE-BOT travel from one place to another and realised it was not as easy as they thought. Many of the BEE-BOTS ended up in a completely different place!

Once the children were more confident on programming the BEE-BOTS they decided to have a race to see which one would reach the finish line first.

The children are now looking forward to the next lesson where they are going to create their own set of instructions to make the BEE-BOT travel in different directions to find the 'treasure'.



This term Reception have been looking at the seaside and what lives in the sea, so they decided to create their own fish using a paper plate.

The children were provided with paint, glue, tissue paper and a wide selection of resources nearby and they were given the instructions to create whatever sort of fish they would like and to use any resources they required.

The following day they wrote their own instructions on how they created their own individual fish using time words.

All children thoroughly enjoyed this activity, and every single fish is different and with its own character. One pupil even added razor sharp teeth to their fish and another added a crown because they were the 'king of the sea.'



# WEEKLY ROUND UP....

*Prep School: Year 4*

## WHY DO WE HAVE DIFFERENT TYPES OF TEETH?



In science class this week, pupils explored the functions of different teeth. They began by comparing kitchen utensils to teeth and how they break down food. Then, they had the challenge of eating apple slices and dried apricots to understand the roles of incisors, canines, and molars while eating various foods.

## TRIP ADVISOR REVIEW BASED ON THE TRAIN JOURNEY IN 'SECRETS OF A SUN KING'

In English, pupils focused on Chapter 11 of "Secrets of a Sun King," where the main character embarks on a train journey. They were challenged to write a review for 'Trip advisor' evaluating the train's facilities and rating the journey. Year 4 engaged with this activity with great enthusiasm which suggests they may have a promising future as budding travel critics. Who knows, we may see some of their captivating reviews on 'Trip advisor' in the years to come!



## MUMMIFICATION MADNESS!

Following a visit from Sandwell Museum services and seeing the mummy's head, the pupils were inspired to carry out some of their own mummification. After much consideration, the pupils decided that it would be a good idea if we used a tomato for this, rather than an actual person! The pupils got to work on removing the internal organs from the tomatoes (the seeds) before washing it in Nile water (hand sanitiser).

Once the body (tomato) had been prepared it was filled and covered in natron (a mixture of salt and bicarbonate of soda) before it was placed in a coffin (zip-lock bag) and buried in the deep, dark depths of random locations in the Year 4 classrooms, so that it can dry out. In 20 days' time, the pupils will retrieve their tomatoes and see what impact the natron has had on the overall weight and condition of the body!



## RECYCLED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Mrs Rees has been really impressed with Year 4 in their Art and ST lessons this term: they have made musical instruments from recycled materials.



# WEEKLY ROUND UP....

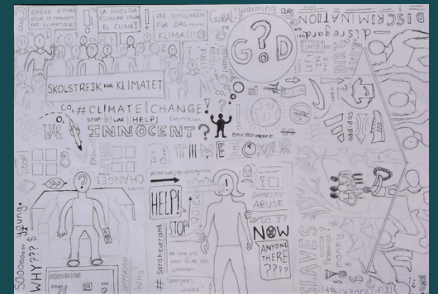
## Senior School

### SPIRITED ART IN RS

Year 8 are working hard within their Religious Studies lessons to produce entries for NATRE's Spirited Art competition. The themes for this year's competition include: 'Faith in action', 'Where is God?' and 'Equality'.

Both Miss Hamilton and Mrs Shaw are excited at the range of unique ideas Hydesville pupils have come up with. Ideas include an examination of the faith and action(s) of inspirational figures such as Muhammad Ali and Malala Yousafzai, an exploration of where God can be found in nature and a deep dive into the commonalities held between all humans regardless of faith. As final pieces are still under construction, we are unable to share any of the entries with you at present however, the images to the right were completed by pupils a few years ago and reflect the immense artistic talent pupils at Hydesville possess.

We are looking forward to entering the competition and feel hopeful that one of our pupils will submit a winning entry. Good luck Year 8!



### AN UPDATE ON PSHE

It has been a busy Summer term in PSHE with a range of topics that pupils have been exploring. Loudmouth are visiting school on Monday 26th June to support Year 7 with exploring relationships and friendships. Mrs Shaw and I are looking forward to watching the performance of this and supporting pupils with their interpretations and ideas. This month pupils have been learning about how companies and brands have developed their logos to promote inclusivity.



Key Stage Three pupils have also researched and created autobiographies on authors such as Carol Ann Duffy in their English lessons. Well done Senior School for all of your excellent work in PSHE.

*Miss Thorne & Mrs Shaw*

### PREPARING PUPILS FOR LIFE AFTER HYDESVILLE



Our Careers Advisor, Miss Fairbrother, has been busy preparing pupils in Year 10 for life after Hydesville. Earlier this month the year group visited Queen Mary's High School to find out more about joining their sixth form. Pupils have also been taking part in personalised 1-2-1 careers advice and guidance meetings from a visiting careers advisor to help them start thinking about their Post 16 and Post 18 career choices and options.

Can we remind Year 10 that they should be arranging work experience (a minimum of five days) over the summer holidays. They also need to complete their personal statements. Pupils should speak to their form tutors if they haven't yet completed them.

Pupils and parents are encouraged to contact Miss Fairbrother direct if they have any questions:  
[danni.fairbrother@hydesville.com](mailto:danni.fairbrother@hydesville.com)





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



## NURSERY STAR OF THE WEEK



Royal - for trying hard in his learning.

## RECEPTION STAR OF THE WEEK



Ameera - for growing in confidence, working hard and progressing well.

## PERFORMERS OF THE WEEK



Oliver & Shaan (Y6) - for doing an excellent job as lead drummers on the Djembe drums

## PREP PUPILS OF THE WEEK

Y1: Jeevan  
Y2: Humdan  
Y3: Jemima



Y4: Aveer  
Y5: Yuvraj  
Y6: Martin

We regularly post school news and updates on our social media platforms - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Please click on the icons below to find out what's been happening, and read on for this week's social media round up.....

## Social media round up



Last Thursday, Year 6 pupils (and teachers) challenged themselves both mentally and physically at Ninja Warrior UK as part of the Hydesville Challenge.

An inspiring and aspirational activity, pupils climbed, balanced, jumped and swung across different obstacles using and developing their Ninja skills. Many also dangled and dropped but persevered to succeed!

There were further challenges ahead in the form of Mount Sasuke and the famous Warped Wall.

Their visit was completed with a game of tag in the giant inflatable area. In all, an exhilarating and exhausting adventure!



Pupils in Key Stage 2 were visited by published author and poet Daniel Thompson.

Daniel came into school to share his new book 'Being You' which is filled with poems all about positivity and encourages the reader to celebrate themselves. He spoke with the children about showing themselves kindness and having a positive mindset. He also shared his experience on how he became a published poet of over 11 books and did a Q&A session with the pupils. Daniel then led creative writing sessions with Years 3, 4 and 5, all of whom had the opportunity to write a poem all about themselves.

All the pupils enjoyed this wonderful experience, and the opportunity to reflect on themselves in a positive way led to lots of the pupils leaving the sessions with smiles on their faces.



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## Social media round up



For today's #WowWednesday post we are recognising the amazing successes of siblings Kadii, Maven and Cataleya who have been busy chasing their dreams with their STEM passions, almost completing their Children's University passports already!

Read more about their recent achievements here:  
<https://www.hydesville.com/stem-whizz-kids/>

We are blown away with what the three children are doing, it looks like we have some super STEM whizz-kids in our school!

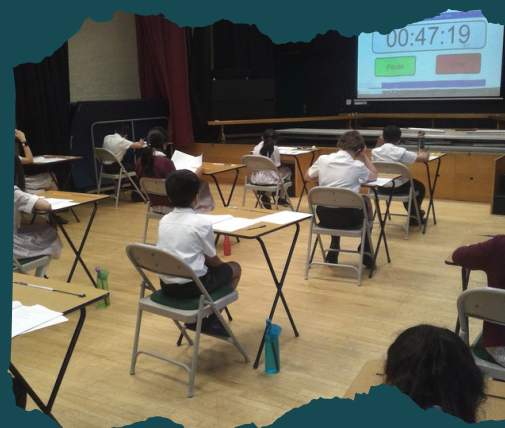


At Hydesville we pride ourselves on being a Centre for Excellence in 11+ Preparation and actively prepare our pupils for 11+ success from Year 2 onwards. Year on year, a significant number of pupils secure places at our local grammar schools.

With only a few months to go until our Year 5 pupils sit their 11+, they had the opportunity to complete a mock 11+ exam under test conditions in the hall earlier this week.

This was a fantastic way to help prepare them for the emotional and academic demands of the real tests in September. Well done children, keep working hard!

You can find out more about 11+ Preparation at Hydesville here:  
<https://www.hydesville.com/prep-school/centre-for-excellence-for-11-preparation/>



We are so impressed with this beautiful painting by Zoya in Year 7 which she has produced for the Cognita Europe artwork competition.

Pupils were asked to create artwork in response to the theme of 'thriving'.

What a fabulous piece, Zoya, well done and good luck in the competition!



## NOTICES AND COMING UP...

### SPORTS DEPARTMENT UPDATE

12th June - Year 8 took part in a cricket festival. They had expert advice on bowling, batting, and fielding and took part in an afternoon tournament with other local schools, organised by the University of Wolverhampton PGCE students and Staffordshire cricket.

13th & 20th June - Year 9 girls have taken part in a Judo taster session in the specialist England Judo Centre of Excellence with England coaching staff.

12th June - Year 6 took part in an ISA cricket event. They progressed through to the group stages.

Fri 16th June – Year 5 and Year 6 went to Mayfield Prep School to play some friendly cricket and rounders matches. This is the first of many fixtures to come....



### SPORTS DAYS COMING UP NEXT WEEK

**Tuesday 27th June:**  
**Year 1 and Year 2, 9.30-11am**  
**Senior School, 1.45-3.15pm**

**At the University of Wolverhampton, Walsall Campus.**

**Parents are welcome to come and cheer pupils along! All events take place at the Walsall campus**



A reminder that tickets are now available for the end of term Prize Giving events:

Children in Pre-Prep and Reception will celebrate their event in school at 9am on Tuesday 4th July. Pupils in Years 1 – 6 will return to Bescot Stadium for their event at 1pm on Wednesday 5th July, and it will be the turn of the Senior School at 1pm on Thursday 6th July. This event will also take place at Bescot Stadium.

Please reserve your tickets via Cognita Connect now!



## NOTICES AND COMING UP...



It was National Thank A Teacher Day on Wednesday 21st June so we wanted to take this opportunity to send a heartfelt thank you to all the incredible teaching and support staff across Hydesville who work tirelessly to make the #Hydesvillefamily a special place for the children in our care.

We are grateful to each and every one of you.



## POLITE PARKING REQUEST

We have been contacted by a local resident regarding the length of parking times. Can we please respectfully ask parents/carers to be mindful of the residential streets and ensure they are not blocking drives for a long period of time.

