

Family
Newsletter

Autumn
Term

FRIDAY
28/11/2025



HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL



Year 6's Historical Adventure

Year 6 pupils embarked on an inspiring adventure to Haden Hill House

Silver Success: Hydesville Shines in the Arts!

We are overjoyed to announce that Hydesville has been awarded the Silver Artsmark Award.



A Welcome from the Headteacher

As we come to the end of another busy and joyful fortnight, the festive season is now truly underway in school.



Road Safety Week

Road Safety Week is an annual national event dedicated to raising awareness about how we can all stay safe on the roads.



SPORT



U16 Football Vs Maple Hayes

Our Year 9 and Year 10 boys enjoyed a fantastic first taste of competitive football.



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WELCOME

Upcoming Events



A WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of another busy and joyful fortnight, the festive season is now truly underway in school. Our Prep School pupils had a wonderful time at the pantomime, and their excitement has certainly added to the Christmas spirit around the building. I would also like to congratulate our Year 11 students, who have now completed their mock examinations. They approached this important milestone with maturity and determination, and we are very proud of them.

Across the school, preparations are in full swing for our Nativity plays and Christmas concerts. The children and staff have been working hard, and the halls are filled with rehearsals, singing, and plenty of festive cheer. I do hope many of you will be able to join us to celebrate these special moments with your children.

We are also looking forward to welcoming families to our Christmas Fair. All details for the event can be found on Cognita Connect.

Wishing you all a warm and relaxing weekend.

Warm regards,

Mrs Samra

Friday 5th December
Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 9th December
Nursery & Reception and
Key Stage 1 Nativity

Wednesday 10th
December
Christmas Fair

Friday 12th December
Hydesville Christmas
Concert Central Hall
Methodist Church, Walsall

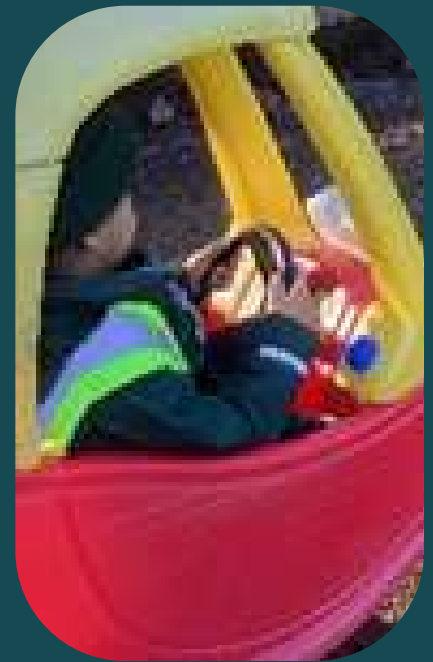
Monday 15th December
Nursery and Key Stage 1
Christmas Party

Prep

LITTLE LEARNERS ON THE MOVE!

Reception's Road-Safety Adventure at the Arboretum
As part of Road Safety Week, our Reception children enjoyed an exciting trip to the Arboretum – clipboards in hand and curiosity switched on! Throughout the visit, pupils explored the essential skills needed to cross the road safely. They practised standing well behind the kerb, looking left and right like true safety superheroes, and discussing why some modern vehicles are so quiet.

While they may not be ready to cross independently just yet, they showed excellent understanding of the importance of holding an adult's hand to stay safe. Well done to all our young road-safety stars!



Prep

RECEPTION ADVENTURES: FROM COMPUTERS TO CREATURES!

This half-term in ICT, our Reception class has been exploring the exciting world of computers! Pupils have begun using the school laptops, learning to name and identify different parts of a computer, and developing their fine-motor skills through engaging maths games – using the trackpad to move icons across the screen with growing confidence.

Our topic, 'Animals', has also taken us on a global adventure. We started by learning about creatures living in the icy North and South Poles, before journeying to the warm African Savannah. Each child selected an animal from these regions to paint, resulting in some truly impressive artwork.

In Mathematics, the children have been focusing on numbers 1 to 5. They have been practising number order, exploring one more and one less, and learning how to compose 3, 4, and 5 through a combination of adult-guided activities and child-initiated play.

It has been a wonderful half-term filled with curiosity, creativity, and joyful learning!



Prep

ROAD SAFETY WEEK: LEARNING TO STAY SAFE ON OUR STREETS!

Road Safety Week is an annual national event dedicated to raising awareness about how we can all stay safe on the roads. This year's focus highlights some of the most important aspects of road safety, including the new hierarchy of the roads, the importance of high visibility for cyclists, and key rules from the Highway Code. The message at the heart of the campaign is simple but powerful: everyone's life matters on the roads.

Running from the 16th to the 22nd of November, Road Safety Week aims to inspire communities to take action and promote life-saving habits. Here at school, Year 4 and Year 5 brought this mission to life by heading out into the local area to develop their real-world road safety skills.

Armed with curiosity and a sharp eye for detail, the children explored the streets around the school in search of safe places to cross. They identified important road signs, discussed potential hazards, and shared thoughtful ideas about how to stay safe in busy environments. The pupils demonstrated fantastic awareness as they practised responsible road-crossing techniques, putting their classroom learning into action.

Their enthusiasm and sensible decision-making showed just how committed they are to becoming confident, safety-smart members of the community. Well done, Year 4 and 5, for helping make our roads a safer place for everyone!



Prep

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF WARTIME BRITAIN: YEAR 6'S HISTORICAL ADVENTURE

On Tuesday 18th November, Year 6 pupils embarked on an inspiring adventure to Haden Hill House, stepping back in time to experience life on the Home Front during World War II. Throughout the day, they took part in hands-on activities that brought history to life – from understanding what it was like to be evacuated, to learning how families coped with air raids, rationing, and the everyday challenges of wartime Britain.

The trip not only deepened their understanding of their history topic but also encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and creativity as pupils discovered the remarkable resilience of people during the war. It was a memorable and meaningful day for everyone involved!



Senior

SILVER SUCCESS: OUR SCHOOL SHINES IN THE ARTS!

We are thrilled to announce that our school has been awarded the Silver Artsmark Award, a prestigious recognition of our dedication to arts, culture, and creativity! This incredible achievement is the result of two years of passionate work, from our initial Statement of Commitment to the submission of our Statement of Impact in July—and we were thrilled to hear the fantastic news just last week!

Artsmark, accredited by Arts Council England, is the only national award celebrating arts and cultural provision in schools. It supports teachers in embedding creativity across the curriculum through world-class professional development delivered by Goldsmiths, University of London.

This award celebrates the real, positive impact of the arts in our school community.



Our pupils now enjoy an exciting range of creative opportunities, including:

- Collaborating with visiting artists
- Performing in school productions and concerts
- Taking part in community showcases, like trips to Walsall Arboretum

Our commitment to equity, diversity, and student voice has also been recognised, through initiatives like Culture Day, increasing boys' participation in visual arts, and collaborative productions that empower pupils to express themselves creatively.

We are incredibly proud of this achievement and can't wait to continue nurturing creativity, self-expression, and cultural understanding for every child in our school. Here's to many more artistic adventures ahead!



Senior

WHITE RIBBON DAY: SENIOR SCHOOL TAKES A STAND

White Ribbon Day, observed each year on 25 November, is an international campaign that calls on men and boys to speak out against violence towards women and girls.

It marks the beginning of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, a period dedicated to raising awareness, promoting respect, and encouraging positive action. By wearing a white ribbon, individuals make a personal pledge to never use, excuse, or remain silent about violence against women.

Earlier this week, our Senior School pupils united to show their support and take meaningful action. During lunchtime, students filled out powerful postcards, each one sharing how they have spoken up, supported others, and challenged harmful behaviours whenever they encountered them.

Their voices, passion, and commitment created an inspiring atmosphere and made the event truly uplifting. Together, our pupils demonstrated the impact that a compassionate and courageous community can have.



Senior

LIFE SKILLS CLUB SPARKS BIG ADVENTURES AT HYDESVILLE!

The Life Skills after-school club at Hydesville Tower School has been buzzing with energy this term, giving pupils countless opportunities to roll up their sleeves and try out real-world skills that will last a lifetime. From whipping up simple recipes and nurturing plants in the garden to changing plugs, tying clever knots, mastering needlecraft, and even cooking outdoors, every session has offered something new and exciting.

One of the standout highlights took learning into the great outdoors. Pupils gathered around a camp stove—used safely and responsibly—to make steaming hot chocolate and toast gooey marshmallows. “Making hot chocolate and marshmallows on a camp stove outside was the best thing I’ve done!” said a delighted Suksimran.

The enthusiasm didn’t stop there. “The Life Skills lessons just get better and better,” shared Avaani, who loves discovering what each new week will bring. Vihan was especially proud of the knot-tying workshop, where pupils learned practical knots perfect for camping, crafting, and everyday challenges.

With every session building confidence, independence, and curiosity, the Life Skills club continues to be a place where pupils thrive—while having plenty of fun along the way. We can’t wait to see what they’ll conquer next!



Senior

MEET OUR NEW YEAR 9 MATHS AMBASSADORS!

Inspiring curiosity. Championing challenge. Leading the way.

The Maths Department is thrilled to announce our new Year 9 Maths Ambassadors—two outstanding pupils who rose to the top from an impressive group of candidates. Their enthusiasm, reliability, and genuine love for mathematics, along with how well they have adapted to life at Hydesville, made them stand-out choices for the role.

As ambassadors, they'll be the friendly faces supporting the department at Open Mornings, bringing fresh challenges to our maths corridor puzzle board, and helping to run enrichment activities throughout the year. Most importantly, they'll act as role models—sparking curiosity, encouraging problem-solving, and helping to build a vibrant mathematical community across the school.

Both pupils were thrilled to be selected. Here's what they had to say:

Sam G:

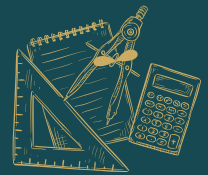
"I'm very pleased to be Mr Walker's Maths Ambassador and to help him out on open day by showing new students how maths is done at Hydesville and the kind of experience they will have at the school. I joined Hydesville in Year 7 from a large state school, where classrooms were busy and full of distractions. When I arrived at Hydesville, I realised how much calmer and more focused the classrooms were, and how much more support teachers could give. It suited me so much better and has helped me to work towards my GCSEs next year."

Muhammad A:

"I am very pleased to be selected as one of the Maths Ambassadors for 2025–2026. I'm ecstatic to support and assist Mr Walker on open day with my fellow ambassador, Samuel Gough. Coming from a homeschool environment, adapting to Hydesville was a challenge as I had to follow a timetable, school rules, and routines. But the teachers and my classmates helped me settle in, and now I really enjoy the school environment. I joined halfway through Year 8, and although I was behind at first, my teachers helped me catch up. I'm now in a strong position for a great Year 9. I've always had a passion for maths, so being a Maths Ambassador means a lot to me. Thank you, Mr Walker, for this opportunity—you won't regret it!"

We are incredibly proud of our new ambassadors!

We cannot wait to see the creativity, energy, and leadership Sam and Muhammad will bring to the Maths Department this year. Here's to a fantastic year ahead, filled with challenges, discoveries, and mathematical fun!



MATH



Senior

YEAR 9: A FANTASTIC AUTUMN TERM!

As we approach the end of the autumn term, I am thrilled to share some of the highlights from Year 9! Our pupils have made an outstanding start to the school year, embracing new routines, challenges, and responsibilities as they continue their journey toward Key Stage 4. It has been inspiring to see them display maturity, leadership, and enthusiasm across so many areas of school life.

A particular highlight this term was the thoughtful assembly on bullying presented by our Year 9 boys. Their message encouraged everyone to reflect on kindness, respect, and the importance of using their Power For Good. A huge well done to all involved!

Year 9 pupil Zara, one of our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, also ran an engaging anti-bullying quiz for the senior school, supported by Head Prefect Annaya. Their creativity, leadership, and energy turned an important message into a fun and interactive experience for everyone.

We were delighted to welcome Taran to Year 9 this term. The group's warmth and support helped Taran settle in seamlessly, demonstrating the caring and inclusive spirit of our year group.

A big thank you to all parents and carers who joined us for Parents' Evening. It was wonderful to celebrate the progress and aspirations of our students as they move closer to their GCSE years.

This term, we have also focused on maintaining high standards of uniform. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring students arrive smart and ready to learn. A gentle reminder: shirts should always be tucked in, and skirts worn at an appropriate length, helping promote pride and consistency across our school community.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. I look forward to seeing what the rest of the year holds for our fantastic Year 9 students!

Warm regards,
Mrs Khan
Head of Year 9



Senior

DIGITAL DIETS: HELPING TEENS THRIVE ONLINE AND OFFLINE

Screens are everywhere—learning, chatting, gaming, streaming—but too much time online can affect sleep, focus, and wellbeing. This month, we’re exploring how small, simple routines at home can help children aged 11–16 build a healthy digital diet.

Why it matters?

Just like food, digital content can nourish, neutralize, or drain. Teens often don’t notice when apps or screen time start to impact mood, sleep, or stress. Parents can guide balance through conversation and shared routines.

Quick tips for a healthier digital routine:

Set screen-time goals together

Instead of strict rules, agree on family guidelines:

- Daily screen limits on school nights
- Extra flexibility at weekends
- Clear boundaries for homework vs. leisure



LOADING



Senior

DIGITAL DIETS: HELPING TEENS THRIVE ONLINE AND OFFLINE

Create tech-free zones

Switch off in key spaces:

- Dining table for family meals
- Bedrooms after bedtime
- Quiet reading or homework corners
-
- Protect sleep
- Set a “digital sunset” to put devices away
- Charge phones outside bedrooms
- Encourage calming offline activities before bed

Talk about their apps

Ask curious, non-judgmental questions:

- “What do you like about this game/app?”
- “Who do you chat with here?”
- “How does it make you feel?”

Lead by example

Kids notice adult habits. Put your phone down during meals, show balanced tech use, and conversations will naturally follow.

Add offline micro-moments

Small screen breaks make a difference:

- Short walks
- Cooking or board games
- Reading side-by-side

Helpful resources

- Parentkind Online Safety Toolkit
<https://www.parentkind.org.uk/online-safety-toolkit>
- Internet Matters internetmatters.org
- National Online Safety nationalonlinesafety.com

The takeaway

A healthy digital diet isn't about banning screens—it's about balance, conversation, and confidence. With supportive routines at home, children can thrive online and offline.



SPORT

U16 Football Vs Maple Hayes

Our Year 9 and Year 10 boys enjoyed a fantastic first taste of competitive football this week. The fast-paced 6-a-side indoor format suited the Hydesville team perfectly, and they quickly established their dominance against a strong and athletic Maple Hayes side.

Rathan was outstanding in goal during the first half, pulling off several impressive saves and deflections. Karam and Jusreiss showed excellent touch and control throughout, with Jusreiss netting two goals — the perfect way to celebrate his birthday! Meanwhile, Jasraj and Chayden worked brilliantly together, driving forward and standing firm against determined opposition.

A brilliant team performance all round!



RESULT: WON

SCORE: 3-1

SCORERS:

Jusreiss (2),

Jasraj (1)

PLAYERS OF THE MATCH:

Rathan for great goal-keeping and Jusreiss for super skills



SPORT

Year 7 Shine in Thrilling Football Clash Against Maple Hayes!

Year 7 enjoyed an action-packed afternoon of football as they faced Maple Hayes School in a brilliantly spirited match. Led with confidence by captain Mahaan, the team demonstrated determination, teamwork, and some truly dazzling skills on the pitch.

Both sides were evenly matched, offering spectators fast-paced play and impressive footwork from start to finish. The goalkeepers were exceptional — Aman and Saran delivered superb performances, making save after save and keeping the match thrillingly close.

Despite strong defence from both teams, Mahaan broke through to secure a well-deserved hat-trick, a standout moment in a game full of excitement. A fantastic effort from everyone involved.

Well done, Year 7!



RESULT: : DRAW

SCORE: 4 - 4

SCORERS:

Vian, Mahann (3)

PLAYERS OF THE MATCH:

Aman and Saran



SPORT

Year 8 Rise to the Challenge in Action-Packed Football and Netball Fixtures!

Our fantastic Year 8 students rose to the challenge this week as they took on Highclare School in an exciting afternoon of football and netball, showing determination, teamwork, and true Hydesville spirit!

On the football pitch, the boys battled through four intense, high-energy games, demonstrating grit and focus from the first whistle to the last. With Eesa and Azan leading the charge, the team stood strong against tough opposition and showed excellent resilience. Their effort never faded, and their sportsmanship was evident throughout every match.

A brilliant display from all involved – well done, Year 8!

Player of the Match: Azan – outstanding leadership and effort!

NETBALL

The girls faced a very experienced Highclare netball side and this put them under immense pressure defensively. Year 8 girls need to focus on their communication skills as a future target.

A big well done to all Year 8 pupils for their positive attitude, determination, and willingness to rise to the occasion. Hydesville pride was on full display!



AWARDS

STAR OF THE WEEK



Amber for showing fantastic effort in all areas of learning. Her enthusiasm for learning is wonderful to see – keep up the excellent work!



Kaysan for trying hard and making amazing progress and demonstrating developing skills.



Congratulations!



AWARDS

STAR OF THE WEEK



Victory is this week's Star of the Week for growing in self confidence and for her excellent effort in lessons! Well done, Victory!



Hoorain is this week's Star of the Week for working hard and for her super progress in reading.



Congratulations!



AWARDS



HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATION



AWARDS



HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATION



CONGRATULATIONS

EXTERNAL CERTIFICATES



Congratulations!



SENIOR AWARDS



SCHOOL VALUES



SENIOR AWARDS



This is in recognition of the extremely high level of skill Sienna has shown using acrylic paint.



Zara for being made a Music Ambassador.



Mahaan, for his tremendous hattrick in the Year 7 football match against Maple Hayes.





Christmas

F A I R

School Christmas Fair
4:15 PM to 6:00 PM
10th December
2025

Santa's Grotto, Stalls, Winter
Disco, Bingo

SPECIAL THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO
IS MAKING DONATIONS FOR OUR
RAFFLE :

Specsavers



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CRAFTER, OR FOODIE, WE WOULD
LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. GET IN
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