

Family
Newsletter

Summer
Term

FRIDAY
08/05/2026



HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL



Deaf Awareness Week 2026
Building an Inclusive Community




SPORT

Strong Performances Across PE Fixtures
and GCSE Moderation



 www.hydesville.com

 [01922 624374](tel:01922624374)

A WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move further into the summer term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many exciting opportunities and experiences our pupils have enjoyed over the past two weeks. It has been another busy and productive period across the school, with pupils demonstrating enthusiasm, resilience and excellent engagement in a wide range of activities.

Our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the Escape Room challenge, where they worked collaboratively to solve problems and complete a variety of tasks. Likewise, pupils in Years 7–10 also participated in an Escape Room experience, which encouraged teamwork, communication and critical thinking skills in a fun and engaging environment.

Year 4 pupils immersed themselves in history during their Egyptian Day, where they explored Ancient Egyptian life through a range of creative and interactive activities. It was wonderful to see the pupils so engaged and enthusiastic in their learning.

This week, we have also marked Deaf Awareness Week across the school. Pupils have had valuable opportunities to develop their understanding of deaf awareness, communication and inclusion, helping to further strengthen our culture of respect and empathy for others.

We have additionally commemorated VE Day through assemblies and classroom activities, allowing pupils to reflect on the importance of remembrance, sacrifice and the values of unity and peace.

Our Year 6 pupils recently took part in the Hydesville Challenge at Woodlands Adventure in Aldridge. The experience provided pupils with opportunities to build confidence, resilience and teamwork skills whilst enjoying a range of outdoor activities. They represented the school exceptionally well throughout the visit.

Year 10 pupils attended an important Prevent Workshop, which focused on safeguarding, critical thinking and staying safe in today's society. The session was both informative and thought-provoking, and pupils engaged maturely with the discussions.

Meanwhile, Year 7 pupils enjoyed a theatre trip to watch *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Experiences such as these play an important role in bringing literature to life and enriching pupils' cultural understanding.

Finally, I would like to commend our Year 11 pupils, who have now begun their GCSE examinations. They have approached this important period with maturity and determination, and we wish them every success over the coming weeks.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership with the school.

Mrs Samra



Upcoming Events

Monday 11th May

Mental Health Awareness Week

Y6 Hydesville Challenge Arboretum Sponsored walk

GCSE Exams Begin

Year 8 & Year 10 Trip to Carding Mill Valley

Thursday 14th May

Year 5 Victorian Workshop

Friday 15th May

Nursery Teddy Bear's Picnic

Monday 18th May

Walk to School Week

Y6 Hydesville Challenge Trip to Cannock Chase

WEDNESDAY 20 MAY

Year 10 End of Year Exams

Y8 Parents' Evening

Thursday 21 May

Year 10 End of Year Exams

Friday 22 May

Year 10 End of Year Exams

NURSERY

FOREST FRIDAY FUN!

Forest Friday has once again brought excitement and hands-on learning to Red Group, with children making the most of the outdoor environment.

The mud kitchen proved a firm favourite, as children mixed, stirred and created imaginative mud pies, soups and stews using natural materials. Through their play, they developed creativity, teamwork and communication skills.



Children also built confidence and coordination by balancing on beams and challenging themselves on the climbing wall, while enjoying opportunities to explore and invent games outdoors.

Meanwhile, Red Group's young gardeners have been carefully observing their growing sunflowers, comparing which plants are "taller, shorter and bigger" as they develop their understanding of measurement.

The children also explored Deaf Awareness through group discussions and sign language activities. They learned about inclusive communication before designing thoughtful Deaf Awareness bookmarks promoting kindness, respect and inclusion.



PREP

READING TOGETHER, GROWING TOGETHER

We are incredibly grateful to our wonderful Reading Club for the time, care and enthusiasm they have shown in supporting our younger pupils on their reading journey. It has been a joy to see these moments of connection, as our older pupils take on the role of reading mentors with such maturity and kindness.

Making the most of the recent afternoon sunshine, the Reading Club has been spending lunchtimes outdoors, sharing a range of exciting and engaging texts with our Nursery children. These relaxed, informal sessions have created a warm and welcoming space where confidence can flourish and a love of reading can grow.



We are especially looking forward to the coming weeks, when the Reading Club will continue to build on this initiative by offering younger pupils a cosy spot on a picnic blanket—an inviting place to read together, talk about stories and discover new favourites.

This is a wonderful example of our school community at its best: pupils supporting one another, fostering a shared love of reading and inspiring each other every day.



PREP

ANCIENT EGYPT COMES ALIVE FOR YEAR 4

Year 4 pupils were transported back in time during a captivating visit from Damian of Tommy's Treasures, who brought the wonders of Ancient Egypt straight into the classroom.

Through an engaging and interactive session, children explored the lives of mighty pharaohs, uncovered the stories behind a rich array of gods and goddesses, and gained insight into the daily routines of ancient Egyptian society.

A highlight of the workshop was the detailed look at the mummification process, which sparked curiosity and lively discussion among pupils. Along the way, Damian also challenged popular misconceptions, helping pupils develop a clearer and more accurate understanding of this extraordinary civilisation.



PREP

YEAR 6 RISE TO THE CHALLENGE AT WOODLANDS ADVENTURE

Year 6 pupils kicked off the Hydesville Challenge 2026 in style with an action-packed visit to Woodlands Adventure, embracing a day filled with excitement, teamwork and new experiences.

The trip offered a valuable opportunity to step beyond the classroom as pupils tackled a wide range of activities. From navigating obstacle courses and mud trails to trying their hand at kayaking and archery, the day was packed with challenges that tested both skill and determination. Alongside the physical activities, pupils also took part in first aid training, gaining practical knowledge and important life skills.

Throughout the visit, Year 6 represented the school with pride. Their enthusiasm, resilience and strong sense of teamwork were evident as they supported one another and approached each challenge with positivity and perseverance.

With clear blue skies providing the perfect backdrop, the day proved to be as memorable as it was rewarding—a fantastic start to the Hydesville Challenge 2026.



PREP



HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL HOSTED SUCCESSFUL 11+ PREPARATION EVENT

Hydesville Tower School welcomed Year 5 pupils and their parents on Wednesday 6 May for a successful 11+ preparation event designed to support families through the examination process.



During the session, parents received valuable guidance on the 11+ application process, revision strategies, time management and helping children manage exam stress. Pupils also had the opportunity to complete a timed exam paper and work through examples of challenging questions similar to those found in 11+ assessments.



The event highlighted the school's commitment to preparing pupils with confidence and ambition for the next stage of their education.



PREP

PREP PUPILS CELEBRATE DEAF AWARENESS WEEK

Deaf Awareness Week 2026 gave Prep pupils the opportunity to explore the importance of communication, inclusion and understanding through a range of engaging activities across the week.

Linked to this year's theme, "Right to Understand – Together, We Break Barriers", pupils learned more about how deafness can affect both children and adults and discussed ways to make everyday interactions more inclusive. They also explored how signing can support communication and help people express feelings, needs and ideas.

Throughout the week, pupils were introduced to simple signs in both British Sign Language and Makaton, enthusiastically practising greetings, classroom language and everyday phrases.



The activities encouraged pupils to think carefully about how small actions – such as facing someone when speaking, listening patiently and learning a few signs – can help create a more welcoming and supportive community for everyone.



PREP

STREET STYLE INSPIRATION: YEAR 4 DISCOVER THE WORLD OF GRAFFITI ART

Year 4 pupils have been exploring the exciting world of graffiti and street art during their Art lessons over the past few weeks, taking inspiration from some of the most influential artists associated with the style.

As part of their learning, the pupils studied the work of several prominent graffiti and street artists, discovering how bold lettering, vibrant colours and expressive designs are used to create impactful artwork. They also explored the ways in which street art has become an important and respected form of contemporary artistic expression.

Inspired by these artists, each pupil designed their own graffiti-style name tag, experimenting creatively with shape, colour and lettering techniques to develop unique and eye-catching designs. The class also created cartoon-style artwork influenced by the distinctive figures and energetic compositions of artist Keith Haring.

The project provided an excellent opportunity for pupils to develop their creativity and artistic confidence, while gaining a deeper appreciation of modern art styles. Their finished pieces have resulted in a colourful and imaginative collection of work that reflects both their enthusiasm and growing artistic skills.



PREP

PREP SCHOOL COMMEMORATES 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY

On Friday 8 May, pupils and staff across the Prep School came together to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day with a special assembly led by Year 1.

Marking eight decades since the end of the Second World War in Europe, the assembly offered pupils an opportunity to reflect on this significant moment in history and to honour those who lived through the war years.

Through a thoughtful combination of songs and storytelling, the Year 1 pupils shared their understanding of VE Day, bringing history vividly to life for the entire school community. Their performance captured both the spirit of celebration that marked the end of the war in 1945 and the importance of remembering the sacrifices made by so many.



Year 1 set a wonderful example throughout the assembly, performing with remarkable confidence, enthusiasm and maturity. Their efforts were warmly received by pupils and staff alike, and the school is immensely proud of the way they represented their year group.

The celebration continued into lunchtime and the restaurant was decorated with Union Jack flags to mark this historic occasion.



VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

PREP



ROBLOX

vestigo®

ROBLOX Child Safety Settings

To set up parental controls on Roblox and ensure your child has a safe and age-appropriate experience, follow these steps:

Step 1: Link Your Parent Account

1. Log into your child's Roblox account (Has to be a child's D.O.B).
2. Navigate to **Settings** (gear icon).
3. Select **Parental Controls**.
4. Click **Add Parent Account**.
5. Follow the prompts to create or link your parent account.

Step 2: Set Up Parental Controls

Once your parent account is linked, you can manage various settings:

1. Communication Settings

- Go to **Parental Controls > Communication**.
- Adjust who can chat with your child in experiences and via direct messages. Options include:
 - o **Everyone**
 - o **Friends**
 - o **No one**
- For users under 13, default settings are more restrictive.

2. Content Restrictions

- Navigate to **Parental Controls > Content Restrictions**.
- Set the **Content Maturity** level appropriate for your child:
 - o **Minimal**
 - o **Mild**
 - o **Moderate**
 - o **Restricted**
- You can also block specific experiences by adding them to the **Blocked Experiences** list.

PREP



ROBLOX

vestigo®

3. Friends Management

- In **Parental Controls**, scroll to **Friends** and select **Manage**.
- View your child's friends list, and block or report users as necessary.

4. Spending Controls

- Under **Parental Controls**, go to **Spending Restrictions**.
- Set a monthly spending limit for Robux and subscriptions.
- Choose to receive notifications for every transaction or only for high spending thresholds.

5. Screen Time Management

- Access **Parental Controls** > **Screen Time**.
- Set daily time limits for your child's Roblox usage.
- View the top 20 experiences your child has played in the past week.

AWARDS

STAR OF THE WEEK



Jordan, has settled in wonderfully. He is always eager to try new activities and experiences. He is a pleasure to have in class, and it is lovely to see his bubbly personality shine through. Well done, Jordan!



Kushi, has been an outstanding role model in class. Her positive approach to learning is truly inspirational to everyone.



Subhan, has been named our Star of the Week for his exceptional effort during lessons and his excellent progress in mathematics.



AWARDS



HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATION



ARJUN



KAVI



SAHIB



LORENZO



NAVAN

HOUSE POINTS



100

Jonah
Rutendo
Chrys

150

Victory
Amitoj
Hoorain
Adam-Elahi
Hargun

200

Eze
Jayan
Hassan
Zaydan

250

Avraaj
Saranya

300

Jaden
Dylan



EXTERNAL CERTIFICATES



Congratulations

SENIOR

DREAMING IN FRENCH: KS3 PUPILS EXPLORE THEIR “RÊVES” THIS TERM

This term, our French lessons are filled with imagination as pupils across Key Stage 3 explore their rêves – their dreams!

Year 7 pupils are learning to tell the time and talk about school subjects, using their new skills to plan their dream school timetable – complete with favourite lessons and plenty of time for breaks, of course!

Year 8 are taking us on a tour of their dream homes, learning vocabulary for rooms and furniture before designing their perfect house and describing each room in French.



Meanwhile, Year 9 are thinking ahead to the future. After studying jobs and careers, they are exploring their dream professions, from fashion designers and footballers to doctors and game developers – all en français!

Year 10 pupils are also exploring the topic of school, learning about school life in a range of francophone countries and comparing it with their own experiences. Alongside this, they are preparing carefully for their end of year examinations and continuing to develop their speaking, reading, writing and listening skills.

Finally, we send our very best wishes to Year 11 as they prepare for their forthcoming French examinations. Bonne chance à tous!



SENIOR

YEAR 10 ENGAGE IN PREVENT WORKSHOP ON RADICALISATION AND COHESION

Last week, we were pleased to welcome Niall Markham, Prevent Coordinator, and Dr Irena Hergottova, Head of Community Building and Cohesion, from Walsall Council into school.



They delivered an informative and reflective session to our Year 10 pupils, focusing on the importance of safeguarding, community cohesion, and keeping young people safe from all forms of extremism. Through discussion and case study materials, pupils were encouraged to think critically about the importance of respect, understanding, and positive contributions within our wider community.

The session provided a valuable opportunity for pupils to develop greater awareness, resilience, and confidence in navigating the challenges young people may face in modern society.



Prevent Workshop

SENIOR

YEAR 7 BRING SHAKESPEARE TO LIFE AT THE REP

On Thursday, 7 May 2026, Year 7 pupils visited The Rep in Birmingham to experience a vibrant performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

While remaining faithful to Shakespeare's original text, the production was given a strikingly modern twist, with a contemporary setting and dialogue inspired by inner-city Birmingham. This fresh interpretation helped bring the story vividly to life for a new generation of theatre-goers. Pupils were captivated by the elaborate costumes, local creative talent, and inventive staging.



The performance sparked thoughtful reflection on how classic drama can be reimagined to reflect today's society, and pupils left with a deeper appreciation of both Shakespeare and live theatre



A Mid Summer Night's Dream

SENIOR

PUPILS CHAMPION INCLUSION DURING DEAF AWARENESS WEEK

Deaf Awareness Week 2026 provided a valuable opportunity for our school community to celebrate the experiences, culture and contributions of Deaf people across the UK. This year's theme, "Right to Understand – Together, We Break Barriers", encouraged pupils to reflect on the importance of communication, accessibility and inclusion.

A highlight of the week saw Avaani in Year 8 lead a British Sign Language session for her peers, demonstrating impressive leadership, confidence and a strong commitment to inclusion.



The activities reminded pupils that small actions – such as facing someone when speaking, learning basic signs, or showing patience in conversation – can make a meaningful difference in helping everyone feel seen, heard and valued.



SENIOR SPORT



STRONG PERFORMANCES ACROSS PE FIXTURES AND GCSE MODERATION

Our Year 11 GCSE PE pupils travelled to Bromsgrove School for their practical moderation, where they confidently demonstrated their sporting ability across a range of disciplines. The group had an excellent day, successfully confirming their practical scores and representing the school with pride. Pupils were also treated to a much-enjoyed disco bus journey, adding to a memorable experience.

In their assessments, pupils are required to compete in three different sports, each contributing up to 10% of their final GCSE grade. All pupils performed strongly, showcasing commitment, skill and determination.



Elsewhere, Year 8 teams took on Highclare School in a series of competitive fixtures. The boys' football team played three matches, securing two wins and one loss. Tegh was named Player of the Match for outstanding goalkeeping, while Azan impressed with his attacking flair.

The girls' netball team competed across four hard-fought quarters, narrowly losing in a closely contested game. Sienna earned Player of the Match for her excellent performance.

Individual honours went to Nirvair, named Primary Sports Person of the Week for excellent cricket, and Priya, recognised as Senior Sports Person of the Week for an exceptional GCSE PE moderation performance.

Sporting Success Across Year Groups



SENIOR AWARDS



SENIOR AWARDS



ART AWARD

Congratulations to our Year 7 Artists of the Week! Simran won the Easter Egg Design Art Competition with her creative design. Jasmine created a stunning coloured pencil drawing, demonstrating fantastic skill and detail. A huge well done to both pupils on their well-deserved recognition!



MUSIC AWARD

Congratulations to Radha for being recognised for her excellent achievement in her Piano Initial Exam! A wonderful accomplishment – well done, Radha!



SPORT AWARD

Congratulations to Tegh! Tegh was named Player of the Match for his outstanding goalkeeping performances and excellent contribution to the team. A huge well done on this well-deserved recognition!