

Family
Newsletter

Summer
Term

FRIDAY
22/05/2026



HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL



Making a Splash in Shropshire: Geography Pupils Explore Carding Mill Valley



Miles of Smiles: Year 6 Pupils Go the Distance for Local Families



www.hydesville.com



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A WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy and successful half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our pupils, staff and families for their continued hard work, support and enthusiasm. This edition of the newsletter highlights just some of the many fantastic experiences and achievements that have taken place across the school in recent weeks.

From Year 6 completing their incredible Hydesville Challenge walks in support of The Graiseley Family Hub, to our Geography pupils exploring Carding Mill Valley, pupils have embraced opportunities with enthusiasm, resilience and determination.

We have also celebrated a number of outstanding individual achievements, including success in national competitions, sporting victories, coding awards and creative accomplishments. It has been wonderful to see our pupils demonstrating confidence, kindness, creativity and ambition in so many different areas of school life.

Alongside these achievements, pupils across Nursery, Prep and Senior School have continued to enjoy engaging lessons, themed activities, workshops and wellbeing events which have brought learning to life and created many special memories throughout the term.

As we break up for the half term holiday, I hope all families are able to enjoy a well-earned rest and some quality time together after such a busy half term. We look forward to welcoming pupils back refreshed and ready for another exciting half term filled with many more opportunities and experiences.

There are also a number of wonderful events planned for next half term, and I very much look forward to seeing many of our parents and carers at these occasions as we continue to celebrate and support our pupils together.

Thank you once again for your continued support, and I wish you all a happy, safe and enjoyable half term break.

Mrs Samra



Upcoming Events

Friday 5th June

World Environmental Day

Preschool Wellbeing PEG Workshop

Thursday 11th June

Preschool trip to National Adventure Farm Park

Year 6 Hydesville Challenge trip to Ninja Warrior

Reception trip to National Adventure Park

Saturday 13th June

11+ Open Morning

Monday 15th June

Year 6 Residential to Condover Hall (15th – 17th)

Tuesday 16th June

Senior Sports Day (pm)

Thursday 18th June

Duke of Edinburgh

Friday 19th June

Duke of Edinburgh

Make Music Day

Nursery Beach Party 1:30pm

Year 3 – 6 Children's University Awards Ceremony

NURSERY

YELLOW GROUP ENJOY SUMMER-THEMED LEARNING FUN

Yellow Group Enjoy Summer-Themed Learning Fun

This week, our Yellow Group enjoyed a fantastic range of summer-themed activities, showing great curiosity, creativity, and enthusiasm throughout their learning and play.

At the bumblebee tuff tray, the children delighted in flying bees around the tray, collecting nectar, and creating their own play-dough bees. This imaginative activity encouraged communication, creativity, and fine motor development.

The children also explored the UHT investigation station, where they experimented with different types of milk using utensils and small containers to scoop, pour, and compare. This hands-on experience supported sensory exploration, problem-solving, and early scientific understanding.

At the creative table, the children designed colourful “crazy hair” creations using pasta tubes and pipe cleaners. Carefully threading and arranging the materials helped to strengthen hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills.

It has been a joyful week of learning through play, exploration, and discovery for our Yellow Group.



PREP

MILES OF SMILES: YEAR 6 PUPILS GO THE DISTANCE FOR LOCAL FAMILIES

Braving rain, aching feet and a demanding challenge, Year 6 pupils stepped up in remarkable fashion on Monday 11th May as they completed the third leg of the Hydesville Challenge 2026 in support of The Graiseley Family Hub.

The Sponsored Walk, held at the Arboretum, saw pupils tackle repeated 900m circuits in gloomy weather conditions. However, the drizzle did little to dampen spirits, as determination, teamwork and encouragement carried the group through an extraordinary day of fundraising.

Every pupil successfully completed at least 26 laps – an impressive total of 23.4km, or 14.6 miles – in aid of the outstanding local charity, which provides vital care and support to families across the community.

There were plenty of tired legs and sore feet back in school the following day, but also a huge sense of pride in what had been achieved. Staff praised the resilience and positivity shown throughout the event, with pupils encouraging one another every step of the way.

The challenge forms part of the wider Hydesville Challenge 2026, with Year 6 continuing to demonstrate not only determination and stamina, but also a strong commitment to helping others.

Donations in support of both the pupils and The Graiseley Family Hub remain open, with all funds raised set to be presented to the charity in the near future.



PREP

YO HO HO AND A BURST OF CREATIVITY: YEAR ONE PUPILS SET SAIL ON PIRATE ADVENTURE

There was a swashbuckling buzz around Year One last week as pupils embarked on a creative pirate-themed adventure filled with imagination, colour and plenty of seaside spirit.



The classroom was transformed into a treasure trove of artwork as pupils proudly worked on an array of fantastic pirate themed creations, with vibrant paintings and pirate hats. The work reflected the enthusiasm and creativity that Year One brought to the project from start to finish.

Mrs Rees was delighted to see pupils fully embracing the theme, with young pirates bringing their imaginative ideas to life, through art and design. The project not only encouraged creativity, but also gave pupils the opportunity to express themselves with confidence and flair.

Well done to Year One for producing such imaginative work and proving that creativity can truly shine when adventure is on the horizon.



PREP

A STEP BACK IN TIME: PUPILS EXPERIENCE THE HARSH REALITIES OF VICTORIAN BRITAIN

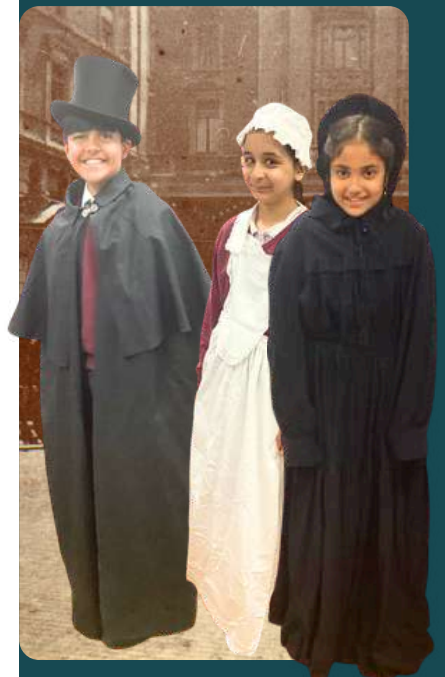
Last week, pupils travelled back to the streets of Victorian Britain for a fascinating workshop packed with discovery, drama and plenty of shocking surprises.

From deadly diseases and bizarre superstitions to strict classroom rules and harsh punishments, pupils explored what daily life was truly like during one of Britain's most famous historical eras. The immersive workshop offered a vivid glimpse into the realities faced by children and families living in Victorian times.



There were moments of disbelief as pupils learned about overcrowded living conditions, poor hygiene and the impact these had on health and life expectancy. Alongside the more gruesome aspects of history, pupils also had the chance to enjoy traditional Victorian games, discovering how children entertained themselves long before modern technology.

The hands-on experience sparked curiosity and excitement throughout the day, with pupils fully engaging in activities that brought the past vividly to life. Staff praised the enthusiasm shown during the workshop, as pupils eagerly asked questions and embraced the opportunity to experience history beyond the classroom. The unforgettable session proved that learning about the past can be both educational and entertaining – even when the realities of Victorian life were far from comfortable.



PREP

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION! PUPILS ENJOY A FANTASTIC MOVIE NIGHT

There was a real sense of excitement across the school as pupils eagerly awaited the much-anticipated Movie Night, organised by the dedicated Pupil Voice Committee. As one of the most popular events of the school year, the evening certainly lived up to expectations.

Following weeks of planning, discussions and pupil voting, children finally had the opportunity to relax and enjoy their chosen films alongside friends. Classrooms were transformed into cosy cinema spaces, complete with blankets and pillows, creating the perfect atmosphere for an evening of entertainment and fun.



To make the occasion even more memorable, pupils enjoyed a selection of tasty snacks and refreshing ice lollies while watching the big screen. Laughter and smiles filled the rooms throughout the evening, with excitement evident from start to finish.

The school would like to extend a huge thank you to the Pupil Voice Committee for organising such a successful event. Their hard work, enthusiasm and teamwork helped create a wonderful evening that pupils are sure to remember for a long time to come.



PREP

TAKING ACTION FOR WELLBEING: PREP SCHOOL MARKS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

Last week, the Prep School came together to support Mental Health Awareness Week, which this year focused on the theme of “Action”.

Throughout the week, pupils explored the positive actions we can take to support our own mental health and wellbeing, while also helping and encouraging those around us. A variety of thoughtful activities took place across the Prep School, all centred around kindness, resilience and positive wellbeing.



One particularly heartwarming activity saw Year 4 pupils create colourful and motivational posters for the Year 6 pupils taking part in their challenging 15-mile charity walk in support of The Graiseley Family Hub. Filled with encouraging words and uplifting messages, the posters helped to inspire the walkers as they completed their incredible achievement.

The week provided a valuable opportunity for pupils to reflect on the importance of supporting one another and showed how even small acts of kindness can make a big difference.



PREP

YEAR 6 CONQUER FOREST CHALLENGE IN HYDESVILLE ADVENTURE

Year 6 pupils laced up their walking boots once again as they travelled to Birch Valley in Cannock to complete the next exciting stage of the Hydesville Challenge 2026.

The adventurous group tackled a fantastic 10km trail walk through the forest, taking in the beautiful scenery and enjoying everything the local natural environment had to offer. With spirits high throughout the day, pupils showed outstanding resilience, teamwork and determination as they completed the demanding challenge together.



To celebrate reaching the finish line, pupils enjoyed a well-earned paddle in a nearby stream, cooling off their tired feet after the long walk – an experience that quickly became a highlight of the day.

Thankfully, the weather stayed on their side, meaning raincoats remained firmly packed away as sunshine and smiles accompanied the challenge from start to finish.

The visit marked another memorable and successful chapter in the Hydesville Challenge, with Year 6 continuing to impress through their enthusiasm, perseverance and team spirit.



AWARDS

STAR OF THE WEEK



Star of the Week – Amaiya ★ As her confidence has blossomed, and it's been wonderful to see her participate with enthusiasm and believe in herself more each day. What a super star Amaiya - keep it up!



Star of the Week – Eze ★ Well done to Eze for always working hard in every lesson and showing excellent perseverance. Keep up the fantastic effort!



Star of the Week – Hoorain ★ Well done to Hoorain for her super progress in reading and writing, and for her excellent behaviour in class. Keep up the fantastic work!



AWARDS

HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATION



KHUSHI



JIYA



RUMBIDZAI



ARJUN



KAMZI



RUDHRA

AWARDS

HEADTEACHER'S COMMENDATION



HOUSE POINTS



100	Yusuf Lerah	
150	Nishaan Khushie Lorenzo	Ocean Jiya
200	Bethany Seerat Subhan Kushi	
250	Jeevan	
300	Zikora Idrees Abdul	Jared Briana
350	Kartar Sophia Nadal	Arjun Alisha
400	Sneha Charlotte Dhian Jacob	Sophia Guneet Avi
450	Muizz Avaani Aliyan	



EXTERNAL CERTIFICATES



Congratulations

EXTERNAL CERTIFICATES



Congratulations

EXTERNAL CERTIFICATES

CELEBRATING OUR LAMDA STARS!

We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of our talented pupils who have recently been awarded their LAMDA examination certificates. LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art) examinations help pupils develop confidence, communication skills, creativity and performance techniques through drama and public speaking.

A huge congratulations to all of the children who worked so hard in preparation for their exams and represented the school so positively.



Year 4

Veer, Rutendo, Isla, Jaachi, Aydin, Chrys and Dylan

Year 5

Lilianne, Zaydan and Nirvair

Year 6

Alisha, Jayden, Karamveer, Dhian B, Amrit, Nyran, Sophia, Dylan, Arjun, Praveen, Dhian B and Avi.

These pupils demonstrated excellent dedication, enthusiasm and speaking skills throughout the process. We are incredibly proud of their success and look forward to seeing their confidence and talents continue to grow. Well done to everyone involved and a big thank you to Miss Fahey!



Congratulations

SENIOR

MAKING A SPLASH IN SHROPSHIRE: GEOGRAPHY PUPILS EXPLORE CARDING MILL VALLEY

On Monday 11th May, Year 8 and Year 10 Geography pupils travelled to Carding Mill Valley in Shropshire for an exciting day of fieldwork and outdoor learning.

Despite a rainy start to the journey, the weather soon brightened, giving pupils the chance to explore the beautiful river landscape in glorious sunshine. Year 10 geographers carried out important GCSE Physical Geography investigations, measuring river velocity and analysing the riverbed, while Year 8 pupils took part in practical river activities and created detailed field sketches around the valley.



The visit provided a fantastic opportunity for pupils to bring their classroom learning to life, develop their geographical skills and gain a greater appreciation of the natural environment. A fun, educational and memorable day for all involved.



SENIOR

PERSONAL TOUR OF PARLIAMENT & A LETTER FROM KENSINGTON PALACE

Priya in Year 11 was named Walsall's top young musician after impressing judges and audiences at the prestigious Walsall Young Music Star competition, earlier this year.

Her performances attracted attention from local MPs, and led to Priya receiving a personal tour of Parliament and a letter from Kensington Palace.

Priya says:

"Everyone who took part in the competition was amazing, so I'm extremely proud to have won."



"I've always loved music and enjoyed listening and dancing to it from a young age. In the future I would love to play at weddings, funerals and community events so more people can enjoy live music, even if professional musicians may not normally be within reach."

As part of her prize, Priya received a voucher and will have the opportunity to perform at events across Walsall over the coming year, including the Bandstand Bonanza at Walsall Arboretum on Sunday 5th July.



SENIOR

THREE TALENTED WRITERS REACH FINALS OF OUTCOMES FIRST GROUP COMPETITION

There was great excitement across school as three talented pupils were announced as finalists in Outcomes First Group's The 100 writing competition.

A huge congratulations goes to Jasmine in Year 7, Hawa in Year 8 and Lily in Year 10, whose outstanding entries impressed judges and secured them places among the competition's finalists.

The challenge required pupils to produce a piece of creative writing using exactly 100 words – no more and no less – making their achievement even more impressive. Through imagination, precision and originality, all three pupils demonstrated exceptional creativity and literary talent.

Staff and pupils alike have been celebrating the fantastic news, with the finalists receiving widespread praise for their hard work and storytelling flair. Reaching the final stages of such a respected competition is an incredible accomplishment and one that the whole school community is immensely proud of.

Congratulations once again to Jasmine, Hawa and Lily on this outstanding achievement – we look forward to hearing more from our talented young writers in the future.

Click here to see what our finalists had to say when they received their certificates: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/OFG100](https://bit.ly/ofg100)



SENIOR

PUPILS SHINE IN NATIONAL CODING CHALLENGE

We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of our Year 9 and Year 10 pupils who recently took part in the prestigious UK Bebras Coding Challenge, organised by the Raspberry Pi Foundation in partnership with the University of Oxford. The national competition encourages pupils to develop their computational thinking, coding, and problem-solving skills.

Our pupils represented the school superbly, earning a range of Distinction, Merit, and Participation certificates for their impressive performances. Their enthusiasm, resilience, and determination were evident throughout the challenge.



A special congratulations goes to Ryan, who achieved the highest score in the school and received the prestigious Best in School certificate. Ryan also earned a Gold Award, placing him in the top 10 per cent nationally in his category – a fantastic achievement.

We are incredibly proud of all the pupils who took part and look forward to celebrating more success in future competitions.



Ryan, achieved a Gold Award placing him in the top 10% nationally in his category

SENIOR

NATIONAL SUCCESS FOR JASMINE AS YEAR 7 PUPIL EARNS OUTSTANDING ISA AWARD

There was cause for celebration across school this week as Jasmine in Year 7 achieved an incredible 2nd Place nationally in the ISA Handwriting Competition 2026.

Competing in the highly competitive Year 7–9 category against pupils from independent schools across the UK, Jasmine’s success is made even more remarkable by the fact that she was one of the youngest pupils to receive an award.

Jasmine’s beautifully presented entry impressed judges and secured her an outstanding national result, recognising not only her exceptional handwriting skills, but also the dedication and care she put into her work.

Speaking about her achievement, Jasmine said: “I was ecstatic when I found out I was second place in the ISA writing competition. Knowing that my entry was submitted for the Year 7–9 category, I felt really pleased with myself because I was one of the youngest people to be awarded in the competition.”

Staff and pupils alike have been delighted by Jasmine’s success, with the whole school community celebrating her hard work, perseverance and talent.

Congratulations, Jasmine, on an exceptional achievement – you have made the entire school incredibly proud.



WELL DONE!



SENIOR SPORT



FIVE-STAR PERFORMANCE SEALS THRILLING VICTORY FOR YEAR 9 BOYS

The Year 9 boys produced an outstanding display of football in an exciting friendly fixture against Highclare, securing a superb 5-3 victory after an action-packed match full of skill, determination and attacking flair.

Playing away from home, the Year 9 A team rotated players throughout the game, but that did little to disrupt the flow of some excellent football. From the very first whistle, pupils showed energy and confidence, creating chances and battling hard in every area of the pitch.

There were impressive performances across the team, with Aleksander producing several outstanding saves in goal to keep Highclare at bay. In defence, Jay delivered a commanding performance, combining superb defensive work with clinical finishing at the other end of the pitch.

Karam brought creativity and flair to the attack, exciting spectators with skilful play and intelligent movement, while Armaan and Jay both found the net in a thrilling attacking display. Jay led the scoring with an impressive hat-trick, alongside goals from Armaan and Karam.

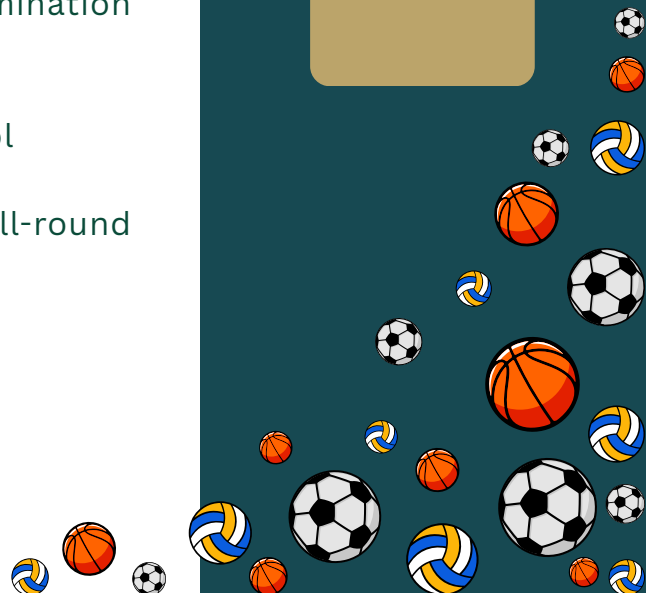
The result capped off a fantastic team performance and highlighted the talent, teamwork and determination shown throughout the squad.

Final Score: Highclare 3-5 Hydesville Tower School

Scorers: Armaan, Jay (3), Karam

Player of the Match: Armaan, for an excellent all-round performance.

WELL DONE!



SENIOR AWARDS



SENIOR AWARDS



ART AWARD

Congratulations to Aleksander in Year 9, our Artist of the Week! This well-deserved recognition celebrates the outstanding tonal drawing he produced for his recent assessment, showcasing incredible skill, creativity and attention to detail. A fantastic achievement – well done, Aleksander!



MUSIC AWARD

Congratulations to our Musician of the Week – Rumaysah. Well done to Rumaysah for her excellent effort in music lessons this week. Keep up the great work!



SPORT AWARD

Congratulations to Armaan, our Sports Person of the Week, following an outstanding all-round performance in Year 9's thrilling 5–3 victory against Highclare. Armaan's energy, determination and skill truly shone throughout the match.



HYDESVILLE
TOWER SCHOOL

HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL



SUMMER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

26TH - 29TH MAY 2026

Open to all :
Nursery, Preschool,
Reception, Year 1
and Year 2 children

9:00AM -
4:00PM

HEALTHY PACKED
LUNCH

£30 PER
DAY

NO NUTS

Let your child enjoy a holiday club packed
with games, crafts, music, and friends!

Book in Advance Limited places:
Via Blenheim Connect and Parentpay