

We are inclusive, confident, and enterprising learners who are brave, curious, optimistic, and kind. We are ready to embrace the future!



LEARNING
ACADEMIES TRUST

FRIDAY, 17TH JANUARY 2025

CONTACT US ON



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<http://hydepark-inf.plymouth.sch.uk/>

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Updates - Mrs. Jones

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers,

What a fantastic start to the term it has been! Our children have been engaging in a wide range of activities that highlight their creativity, curiosity, and enthusiasm for learning.

Reception children have been diving into the past, exploring the fascinating world of castles while developing their musical talents by accompanying nursery rhymes with the glockenspiel. Year 2 artists have been busy mastering tints, tones, and shades, preparing for their exciting upcoming projects inspired by Emily Howarth-Booth and Pablo Picasso.

Year 3 children have shown incredible determination as they perfected their sewing skills, including the running stitch and overstitch, ready to create their own pouches. Meanwhile, Year 4 had a blast at their science workshop, where they explored the wonders of chemical reactions, with highlights like making slime and the exciting elephant toothpaste experiment!

Year 5 has been thinking globally through their new art project, creating map-inspired collages inspired by the works of Mona Hatoum. And Year 6 have tackled a wide range of topics, from the science of light to the history of World War II, all while honing their English skills by crafting suspenseful cliffhangers and exploring thought-provoking texts like Anne Frank's story and King George VI's VE Day speech.

The weekend of January 24th, families will have the chance to take part in the **RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch**. If you join in, we'd love to see your photos via ClassDojo to celebrate the event and your child's contributions to this wonderful citizen science initiative.

Lastly, our **Love of Reading** initiative is underway, and we can't wait to see your children's creative photos of reading in cosy or unusual places. There are prizes to be won, so be sure to send your entries by **Friday, 7th February!**

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in nurturing a love of learning and discovery in our school.

Exploring the Past and Making Music!

Reception children have been on an exciting journey through history, learning all about castles and discovering fascinating stories from the past. Their curiosity and enthusiasm have been a joy to see!

In music, the children have shown their creative side, singing beloved nursery rhymes while experimenting with the glockenspiel. Their cheerful melodies filled the classroom, making this a truly magical week!



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Year 1 Creative Computing and Storytime Picnics!

In computing, the children explored how following the same set of instructions can result in identical pictures, while creative freedom leads to unique outcomes. Using laptops and the Interactive Whiteboard, they practiced coloring pictures by following step-by-step instructions. This activity sets the stage for future lessons on writing instructions and debugging simple programs!

Meanwhile, storytime has taken a fun twist with a picnic theme! The children have loved sitting on a picnic blanket, selecting stories from a basket, and sharing their thoughts and ideas. This imaginative approach has sparked delightful discussions and a shared love for storytelling.



Year 2: Mastering Tints, Tones, and Shades!

In art, Year 2 children have been exploring the magic of colour! They learned how to create **tints** by adding white, **tones** by adding grey, and **shades** by adding black to a base colour.

These new techniques will soon be put to use as the children create their own masterpieces inspired by the styles of Emily Howarth-Booth and Pablo Picasso. We can't wait to see their artistic flair shine through in their upcoming paintings!



Interesting Fact:

Pablo Picasso was a pioneer of Cubism, a style that used geometric shapes to create unique perspectives in art. Similarly, Emily Howarth-Booth is known for her use of light and shadow to evoke emotion, making their techniques perfect inspirations for exploring tints, tones, and shades!

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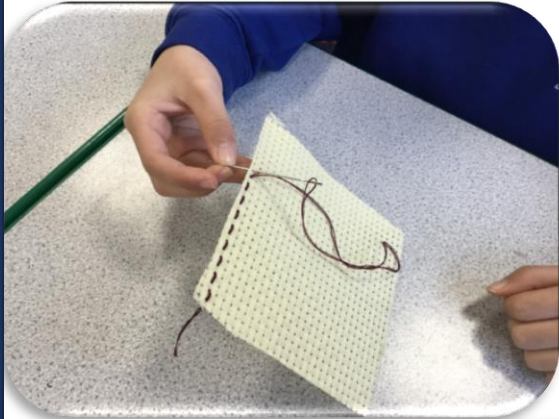


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Year 3 Stitching Up Success!

Last year, Year 3 children have been hard at work mastering the **running stitch** and **overstitch** during their sewing lessons. Their dedication and enthusiasm have been truly inspiring!

Later this term, they'll put their new skills into practice as they design and create their very own pouches. We can't wait to see their creativity come to life in this hands-on project!



Interesting Facts:

Did you know that the running stitch is one of the oldest sewing techniques, dating back thousands of years? It's a skill that has been used to craft everything from clothing to intricate embroidery!

The overstitch, also known as a whipstitch, is commonly used to strengthen edges and seams. It's a technique often found in handmade leather goods and even in historical garments!

Year 4: Chemistry in Action!

Year 4 had an incredible experience at their recent science workshop, diving into the fascinating world of **chemical reactions**! The children were captivated as they witnessed liquids change colour, fizz, and even heat up during their experiments.

The highlights of the day included creating their own slime—an instant favourite—and watching the jaw-dropping **elephant toothpaste** experiment, where a foamy explosion left everyone in awe. This engaging workshop sparked curiosity and a newfound love for science in all the young chemists!



Interesting Fact:

Elephant toothpaste gets its name because the foamy reaction looks like toothpaste big enough for an elephant to use! It's created by breaking down hydrogen peroxide into water and oxygen using a catalyst.

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Year 5: Mapping the World Through Art!

This week, Year 5 children embarked on an exciting new art project inspired by the works of Palestinian artist Mona Hatoum. Known for her innovative use of maps to document her journeys, Hatoum's art served as a wonderful inspiration for our budding artists.

The children explored maps and created beautiful collages featuring places they've visited or dream of visiting—locally and around the world. It's been a fantastic way to combine creativity with personal experiences and aspirations!



Interesting Fact:

Mona Hatoum's art often explores themes of home, identity, and displacement, using everyday objects and maps to tell powerful stories about her life and travels.

Year 6: Shining a Light on Learning!

Year 6 have been busy exploring a variety of fascinating topics across the curriculum this week!

In **science**, the children investigated how light travels, discovering the amazing ways it illuminates our world.

In **history**, they delved into the causes of World War II and learned about Britain's efforts to defend itself from invasion.

In **English**, the focus has been on crafting suspenseful cliffhangers, using rich vocabulary to keep readers on the edge of their seats. During **reading**, the children have explored Anne Frank's story and King George VI's powerful VE Day speech, sparking thoughtful discussions about resilience and leadership.

In **maths**, the children tackled equivalents for fractions, decimals, and percentages, building a strong foundation for their problem-solving skills.



Interesting Fact:

Did you know that light travels at an incredible speed of about 300,000 kilometres per second? That's fast enough to go around the Earth more than seven times in just one second!

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Foster for Plymouth

Foster carers give children and young people a loving, stable and nurturing home while they can't live with their birth families. They are part of a team of professionals making sure that every child in care has what they need to thrive.

In Plymouth alone there are 530 children currently in care, many of whom are living with foster carers. Sadly, we do not have enough foster carers in the city which means that sometimes children have to stay in residential care or move away from Plymouth, when they would benefit from living in a local, family home environment.

Children in Plymouth desperately need more local foster carers to help them, so if it's something you're interested in please get in touch with the Foster for Plymouth team today to find out more.

<https://fosterforplymouth.co.uk>

Your Voice Matters – Complete the Parent Survey Today!

We value your partnership and are committed to creating the best possible experience for your child at Hyde Park Schools. To continue improving and meeting the needs of our children and families, we need your input!

This is your chance to share your thoughts. The parent survey is quick, easy, and completely confidential. Your feedback will directly shape the programs, services, and resources that support your child's education.

Here's why your response matters:

Your voice counts: Every response helps us understand what's working well and where we can grow.

It's quick and easy: The survey takes less than 3 minutes, and every response makes a big impact.

Shape the future: Your insights guide decisions that will make a real difference in your child's school experience.

Please click the link below to complete the survey by: **January 30th, [PARENT SURVEY](#)**

We truly value your time and perspective. Thank you for helping us build a stronger, more supportive community for every child and family.

Kidslingo

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity for your child to embark on a fun and engaging journey into learning French! Kidslingo French Classes in Plymouth are packed with songs, games, and activities that make language learning exciting and enjoyable for children of all ages.

Where: Kidslingo French Classes – Plymouth

Why: Learning a new language boosts confidence, creativity, and cognitive skills!

Spots are filling up quickly, so if you haven't signed up yet, now is the time. Give your child the gift of language today!

School of Sanctuary

We would like to inform you that if you require any newsletters, communications, or school documents in a language other than English, you may request a translated version by contacting the school office. We are committed to ensuring that all families have access to important information, and we will do our best to accommodate your language preferences.

Please feel free to reach out to the school office at your earliest convenience if you would like to make such a request.

Gate Opening Time Update

To further enhance our safeguarding procedures, we will be adjusting the opening times for the school gates. The gates will be opened 5 minutes before both arrival and dismissal times. This change is to ensure a safer and smoother process for all students. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a secure environment.

Cosy Reading in Unusual Places

This term, we're encouraging all children to embrace a love of reading!

Share a photo of your child reading their favourite book in a cosy or unusual place—whether it's curled up in a blanket, outdoors, or reading to a friend.

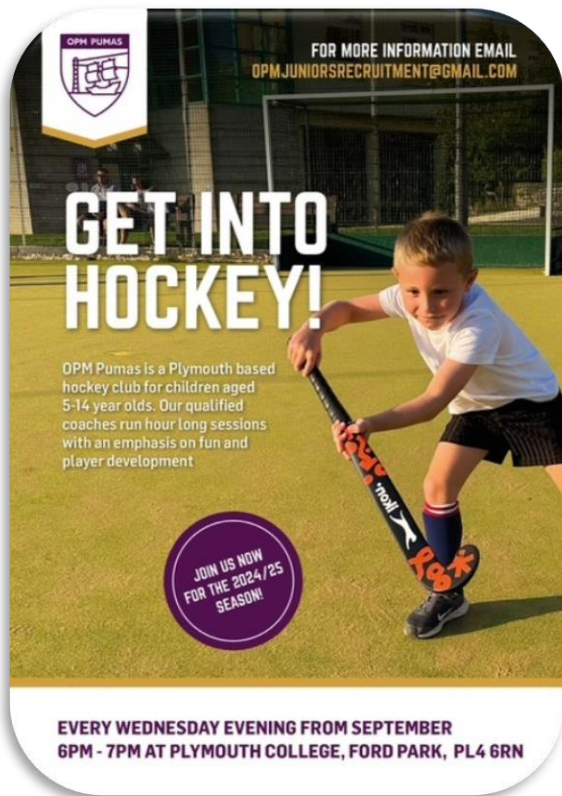
Prizes will be awarded for the most creative entries in Early Years, Years 1 & 2, Years 3 & 4, and Years 5 & 6. Photos will be featured in school displays, assemblies, and the newsletter.

Send your photos to your child's class teacher by **Friday, 7th February**. Photos already submitted will be entered automatically. Thank you for supporting your child's love of reading!

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OPM PUMAS
FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL
OPM.JUNIORSRECRUITMENT@GMAIL.COM

GET INTO HOCKEY!

OPM Pumas is a Plymouth based hockey club for children aged 5-14 year olds. Our qualified coaches run hour long sessions with an emphasis on fun and player development

JOIN US NOW FOR THE 2024/25 SEASON!

EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING FROM SEPTEMBER
6PM - 7PM AT PLYMOUTH COLLEGE, FORD PARK, PL4 6RN

Festive Fun Ahead with the PTFA!

We're proud to present Hyde Park's Got Talent! With the support of Miss Martin, we'll be showcasing the amazing talents of our pupils in a special show.

If you can spare some time to volunteer for any of these events, either in the lead-up or on the day, please email us at ptfa@hydeparkprimary.co.uk. Let's make this festive season one to remember!



Safeguarding: Our Top Priority

At Hyde Park Schools, safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to ensuring the safety, well-being, and protection of all our pupils, creating a secure environment where every child can thrive. Our dedicated staff are trained to recognise and respond to any concerns, and we follow strict procedures to maintain a safe school community.

Parents play a vital role in supporting this effort. Here are some ways you can help:

Open communication: Encourage your child to talk about their day, and listen for any concerns they may share.

Online safety: Monitor your child's online activity and talk to them about how to stay safe when using the internet.

Know the signs: Be aware of changes in your child's behaviour, mood, or friendships that may indicate they need support.

Stay informed: Engage with school updates and attend any safeguarding information sessions we offer to stay up to date on how we protect your children.

Together, we can ensure that our school remains a safe and nurturing environment for all pupils. If you ever have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



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The Graduated Approach and SEND Inclusion

At Hyde Park Schools, we are dedicated to ensuring that every child receives the support they need to thrive, regardless of their individual needs. Through our **graduated approach** to SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) and inclusion, we provide tailored support that is aligned with each child's unique requirements.

This approach follows a clear process of **assess, plan, do, and review**, ensuring that we consistently monitor and adjust the support provided to achieve the best possible outcomes for every pupil. We work closely with parents, carers, and external specialists to create personalised learning plans that enable children to reach their full potential.

Our policies and procedures are designed with inclusivity in mind, making sure that all pupils—whether they need additional learning support or specific interventions—feel valued and included in every aspect of school life.

Parents play a key role in this process, and we encourage open communication to ensure that your child's needs are met. If you have any concerns or feel your child may need extra support, please don't hesitate to contact **Mrs. Cecilia Harris our SENDCO**. Together, we can provide the right support for every child to succeed.

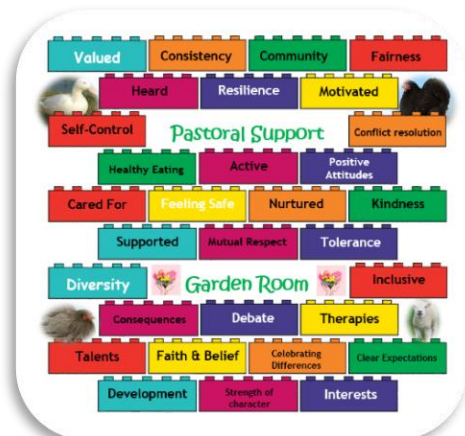


Family Support Advisor

At Hyde Park Schools, we are fortunate to have a dedicated **Family Support Advisor** who is here to offer guidance and support to families. Our Family Support Advisor works closely with parents and carers, helping to address any challenges that may impact a child's well-being, learning, or development. Whether you need advice on parenting, assistance with routines at home, or help accessing external services, we are here to listen and offer practical solutions.

The goal is to build strong partnerships between school and home, ensuring that every child feels supported both in and outside of the classroom. If you ever have any concerns or need someone to talk to, our Family Support Worker **Mrs. Leisa Warne** is available to offer confidential support and advice tailored to your family's needs.

We encourage all families to reach out if they need assistance—together, we can work towards ensuring the best outcomes for your child.



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Hyde Park Schools Join Turing Project!

We are thrilled to announce that LAT has successfully secured funding for the **Turing Project**, and Hyde Park Schools are excited to be a part of this wonderful initiative. This academic year, we will have the opportunity to take 10 pupils to Spain for an enriching cultural and educational experience.

As part of the funding, there will be exciting projects for the children to participate in, with strict guidelines in place for pupil selection to ensure a fair and rewarding process. Further details about the trip and the selection process will be shared in the weeks ahead. We look forward to this incredible opportunity for our pupils!

A Reminder of Our School Values and Responsible Use of Social Media

At Hyde Park Schools, we prioritise fostering a positive and respectful environment that reflects our core values of **kindness, respect, and community**. As part of this, we want to remind parents about the impact of social media, including WhatsApp groups.

While these platforms can be helpful for staying connected, we kindly ask that any concerns or queries related to school matters be directed to your child's **class teacher** or the **Senior Leadership Team**, rather than discussed in group chats. This ensures that issues are addressed appropriately and in a timely manner, in line with our school's commitment to effective communication and the well-being of all pupils.

Healthy Snacks and Lunches at Hyde Park Schools

At Hyde Park Schools, we encourage healthy eating to support our pupils' well-being and concentration throughout the day. Nutritious snacks and balanced lunches provide the energy children need to stay focused and ready to learn.

Here are a few suggestions for healthy snacks and packed lunches:

Snacks: Fresh fruit, vegetable sticks (like carrots, cucumbers, or peppers), rice cakes, or wholegrain crackers.

Lunches: Wholegrain sandwiches or wraps with lean protein (such as chicken, turkey, or hummus), salads, yoghurts, and water or milk to drink.

We kindly ask parents to avoid sending sugary snacks or fizzy drinks, and instead opt for healthier choices that contribute to the children's overall health and energy levels.

Thank you for helping us promote a healthy and positive learning environment! My

Uniform Expectations at Hyde Park Schools

We would like to remind parents and pupils of the importance of adhering to our **uniform expectations** at all times. Maintaining a smart appearance is part of our school ethos and helps promote a sense of pride and unity among children.

Uniform: Pupils should wear the full school uniform as outlined in our guidelines.

Hair accessories: Hair accessories should be kept simple and in **school colours**.

Braids: Any braids should be **natural to hair colour**.

Earrings: For safety reasons, only **small stud earrings** are permitted.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in ensuring that our uniform standards are upheld throughout the school year.

Important Reminder: Spare Clothes for School

Please remember to send a set of **spare clothes** with your child to school. This is especially helpful in case of unexpected spills, or accidents during the day.

Kindly ensure the spare clothes are labeled with your child's name and placed in their bag. Thank you for your support in keeping our children comfortable and ready for learning!

The Big Garden Bird Watch

On the weekend of Friday, January 24th marks the **RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch!** This is a fantastic opportunity for children to become **citizen scientists** by spending one hour observing and recording all the birds they see in one spot.

It's a wonderful way for children to connect with nature, learn about local bird species, and contribute to an important national conservation project.

You can register to take part and get started [here](#). Let's work together to make a difference for our feathered friends!

We'd love to hear about your experience! Please feel free to send any photos of your birdwatching adventures to your child's class teacher via **ClassDojo**.

Mrs. Degg – Science Lead

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Nominations for being an Enterprising Learner

Cedar	Abigail
Ash	Otis
Beech	Jana
Poplar	Aidan
Willow	Wisdom
Holly	Eva
Elm	Sienna
Sycamore	Trixie
Keller	Theo
Seacole	Freddie
Barnardo	Alice
Attenborough	Sebby
Curie	Agnes
Hawking	Aeron
Gandhi	Dithira
King	Juvana
Mandela	Adam
Pankhurst	Anderson
Douglass	Delight
Dickens	Isabella W

STAR OF THE WEEK

December 9th -13th, 2024

Cedar	Daniel
Ash	Sonny
Beech	Isobel
Poplar	Luca
Willow	Zayn
Holly	Maya
Elm	Lily
Sycamore	Bernardo
Keller	Stefan
Seacole	Matilda
Barnardo	Charlie
Attenborough	Akachi
Curie	Joshua P
Hawking	Melina
Gandhi	Una
King	Logan
Mandela	Ava
Pankhurst	Archie
Douglass	Tom G
Dickens	Ademide

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December 16th -20th 2024

Cedar	Rory
Ash	Rithil
Beech	Cheryl
Poplar	Aaron
Willow	Benny
Holly	Teddy
Elm	April
Sycamore	Obiadullah
Keller	Luke
Seacole	Neve
Barnardo	Whole Class
Attenborough	Isaac H
Curie	Thara
Hawking	Zoe
Gandhi	Maia
King	Evie
Mandela	Theo
Pankhurst	Jaxon
Douglass	Mahwa
Dickens	Reuben

Nominations for being a Kind Learner

Cedar	Luca
Ash	Letty
Beech	Frank
Poplar	Daisy
Willow	Lily
Holly	Grayson
Elm	Michelle
Sycamore	Max
Keller	Joanna
Seacole	Alice
Barnardo	Astrid
Attenborough	Theo
Curie	Emmie
Hawking	Sakiru
Gandhi	Katherine
King	Alexander
Mandela	Harrison
Pankhurst	Lois
Douglass	Chase
Dickens	Bea

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January 2025

27 th - 31 st January	
Monday 27th	Holocaust Memorial Day
Tuesday 28th	Year 6 Swimming
	Parent Consultations @3:45pm
Wednesday 29th	RNLI SOS Day
	Parent Consultations @3:45pm
Thursday 30th	Year 5 Swimming
	Parent Consultations @3:45pm
Friday 31st	Hawking Class Assembly @9:10am
3 rd - 7 th February	
Children's Mental Health Week	
Internal after school clubs commence	
Tuesday 4th	Year 6 Swimming
Thursday 6th	Year 5 Swimming
	Time to talk Day
Friday 7th	NSPCC Number Day- Dress up for digits (£1 donation)
	Attenborough Class Assembly

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