







FRIDAY, 31st JANUARY 2025

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#### **Updates - Mrs. Jones**

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers,

The past two weeks have been packed with exciting learning experiences, special events, and important discussions across our school. It has been wonderful to see our pupils embracing these opportunities with enthusiasm and curiosity.

#### **Highlights from the Last Two Weeks**

**Holocaust Memorial Day** – Pupils reflected on the importance of remembrance, respect, and learning from history. Thoughtful discussions helped them deepen their understanding of this significant day.

**Year 6 & Year 5 Swimming** – Our pupils have been making great progress in their swimming lessons, developing confidence and essential water safety skills.

**Parent Consultations** – A huge thank you to all parents who attended. These meetings provided a great opportunity to discuss pupil progress, interventions, and next steps. Please complete the **parent survey for Parent Consultation**— your feedback is invaluable in helping us continue to strive for excellence.

**RNLI SOS Day** – Pupils explored the incredible work of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, learning how to stay safe near water and how rescue teams help save lives.

**Hawking Class Assembly**— A fantastic showcase of learning, creativity, and confidence—well done to all involved!

#### Upcoming Events 3rd - 7th February

**Children's Mental Health Week** – A dedicated focus on wellbeing, helping pupils understand the importance of looking after their mental health and supporting others.

**Internal After-School Clubs Commence** – A wonderful opportunity for pupils to explore new interests, develop skills, and enjoy enrichment activities beyond the classroom.

**Year 6 & Year 5 Swimming Continues** – Pupils will continue building their confidence and swimming skills in their weekly lessons.

**Time to Talk Day** – Encouraging open conversations about mental health, helping pupils understand the importance of speaking up and supporting one another.

NSPCC Number Day – Dress Up for Digits (£1 Donation) – Pupils are invited to get creative and dress up in a way that represents a special number to them—this could be on a hat, t-shirt, or even a badge! All donations will go towards the NSPCC's important work in safeguarding children.

**Attenborough Class Assembly** – We look forward to celebrating Attenborough Class's achievements as they share their learning in this special assembly.

#### **New School Website Coming Soon!**

We are thrilled to announce that we are developing a **new website** to serve as a single platform for both schools. This new site will feature a landing page for easy navigation to each school's dedicated section, ensuring clear and accessible communication for all parents, pupils, and the wider community. The website will keep you updated with important news, events, and essential information. We will share more details soon, and we look forward to launching a platform that reflects the vibrancy and values of our schools.

#### **Parent Survey – Last Chance to Complete!**

A **final reminder** that today is the **deadline to complete the parent survey**. Your feedback is invaluable in shaping the future of our school, so please take a moment to share your thoughts with us.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.









## Creative Explorations in Reception!

Our Reception pupils are growing in confidence as they explore both our indoor and outdoor learning areas. Outdoors, they have been busily building towers, houses, and imaginative representations such as aeroplanes and shops. Through hands-on play and creative construction, they are developing key skills in problem-solving, teamwork, and spatial awareness—all while having fun!

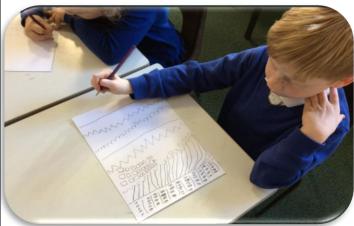


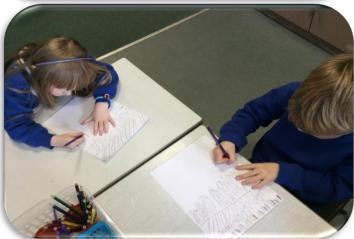


"Play is the highest form of research." – Albert Einstein

## Exploring Patterns in Art – Inspired by Charles McGee

Year 1 pupils have been busy exploring patterns in the style of artist Charles McGee! They experimented with tone and contrast using different materials before creating their own patterned strips. These were then transformed into stunning 3D paper sculptures, where pupils carefully considered space and composition. This hands-on project not only encouraged creativity but also helped develop their understanding of artistic techniques and design.





#### **Fun Facts**

- Charles McGee was a self-taught artist whose work was inspired by his childhood observations of nature and patterns in the world around him.
- **Paper sculptures can be powerful!** Some artists create entire cities, animals, and landscapes just from paper—proving that simple materials can lead to extraordinary creations.
- **and** 3D art has been around for centuries! Ancient civilisations, like the Egyptians and Greeks, used sculpture to tell stories long before books existed.









### **Exploring Careers in PSHRE**!

Year 5 pupils have been thinking about the world of work in PSHRE! They brainstormed as many jobs as they could, considering the different reasons people choose their careers—whether to help others, earn a living, travel, or make a difference in their community. Using the National Careers Service, they researched various professions, discovering new and exciting roles some had never even heard of before! This activity helped them understand the wide range of opportunities available and what it takes to achieve their dream job.



Encouraging children to research and explore careers from a young age helps to broaden their aspirations and increase awareness of the vast opportunities available to them. Here's why it matters:

Encourages Curiosity – Exploring different careers nurtures a sense of curiosity and excitement about learning, helping children discover new interests and passions.

∏ Informs Future Choices – Early exposure to career possibilities helps children understand the skills and qualifications needed, making their future learning feel more purposeful.

Expands Perspectives – Many children are only aware of jobs they see daily. Researching careers introduces them to lesser-known professions, sparking new ambitions.

Builds Confidence – Understanding that there are many pathways to success helps children feel more in control of their future, boosting motivation and self-belief.

### An Immersive Experience at Market Hall:

Year 5 had an incredible visit to the immersive dome at Market Hall, where they watched a fascinating film all about the life cycles of bugs! The stunning visuals and immersive cinematography brought the tiny world of insects to life, capturing the curiosity and imagination of every pupil. It was a wonderful experience that

deepened their understanding of nature while making learning truly unforgettable!















#### **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 31**st, **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:** <u>Kidslingo French Classes – Plymouth</u> **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 children. We kindly ask all adults dropping children off to walk with then to their designated area. 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.

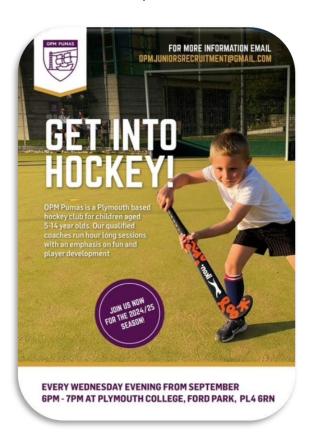
Send your photos to your child's class teacher by **Friday, 7th February**. Photos already submitted will be entered automatically. Thank you for supporting your child's love of reading!











#### 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.











## 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.













## 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 My learning environment!

## 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!

### Keep Children Safe Online: Information, Advice & Support

In today's digital world, keeping children safe online is more important than ever. **Internet Matters** provides expert advice, practical tips, and resources to help parents navigate online safety with confidence. From managing screen time to understanding social media risks, their guidance supports families in creating a safe and positive online experience for children.

Visit <u>Internet Matters</u> for essential information on parental controls, cyberbullying prevention, privacy settings, and much more. Let's work together to ensure our children explore the online world safely and responsibly.











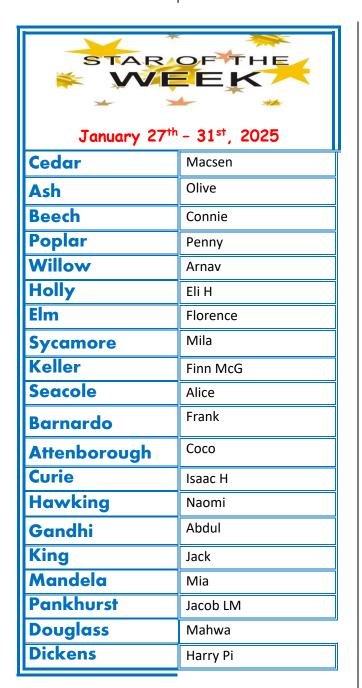
Nominations for being a Curios		
Learner		
Cedar	Mary	
Ash	Jonas	
Beech	Jimmy	
Poplar	Olive	
Willow	Belwin	
Holly	Star	
Elm	Isaac H	
Sycamore	Thomas B	
Keller	Jad	
Seacole	Affaan	
Barnardo	William	
Attenborough	Rhoda	
Curie	Agnes	
Hawking	Jessie	
Gandhi	Josh	
King	Olivia B	
Mandela	Lauren	
Pankhurst	Niamh	
Douglass	Gethin	
Dickens	Alesha	











Nominations for being a Confident		
Learner		
Cedar	Eleanor	
Ash	Joseph	
Beech	lvy	
Poplar	Piran	
Willow	Susan	
Holly	Jayden	
Elm	Ed	
Sycamore	Dakota	
Keller	Clara	
Seacole	Harriet	
Barnardo	Charlie	
Attenborough	Ester	
Curie	Yasmin	
Hawking	Whole class	
Gandhi	Torera	
King	Emma	
Mandela	Daniella	
Pankhurst	Jack D	
Douglass	Evelyn	
Dickens	Maya	











### January 2025

3 <sup>rd-</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> 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 @9:10am	
10 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> February		
Random Acts of Kindness Week		
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Swimming @9:10am	
	Safer Internet Day	
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Swimming @9:10am	
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Non- Pupil Day	
Half Term 17 <sup>th-</sup> 21 <sup>st</sup> February		
24 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> February		
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school	







