

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, 14TH FEBRUARY 2025

CONTACT US ON



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Updates - Mrs. Jones

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers,

As we head into the half-term break, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic achievements of our pupils this term. From exciting workshops and historical explorations to sporting triumphs and creative learning, it has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm and dedication across all year groups. A huge thank you to our staff, pupils, and parents for making this such a successful and enriching half-term.

New School Website Coming Soon!

We are thrilled to announce that we are developing a brand-new website to serve as a single platform for both schools. The site will feature a user-friendly landing page, allowing easy navigation to each school's dedicated section, ensuring clear and accessible communication for all parents, pupils, and the wider community.

Our new website will keep you informed with important news, events, and essential information in one place. We will share further details soon, and we look forward to launching a modern, vibrant platform that reflects the values of our schools.

Half-Term Safeguarding Reminder

As children spend more time online during the break, we encourage parents to be mindful of online safety. Please check your child's privacy settings, screen time, and the platforms they use. Useful resources for parents include:

- [ThinkUKnow](#)
- [Internet Matters](#)
- NSPCC Online Safety

Additionally, we remind families that while we take all concerns of bullying seriously, it is important to distinguish between friendship conflicts and repeated,

targeted behaviour. If you have any concerns, please reach out so we can provide the appropriate support.

Looking Ahead

After half-term, we have some exciting events to look forward to:

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March: Pupils can dress up as their favourite book character.

National Careers Week (3rd – 7th March): A week of inspiration and exploration into future careers.

Curie Class Assembly – Friday 7th March: We look forward to welcoming parents to celebrate their children's work.

International Women's Day – Friday 7th March: Recognising the achievements of women in history and today.

A final reminder to please ensure pupils bring sip-top water bottles after half-term to help prevent spills in the classroom.

Wishing all our families a wonderful and restful half-term. And to those celebrating, Happy Valentine's Day!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



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A Day of Discovery at The Box!

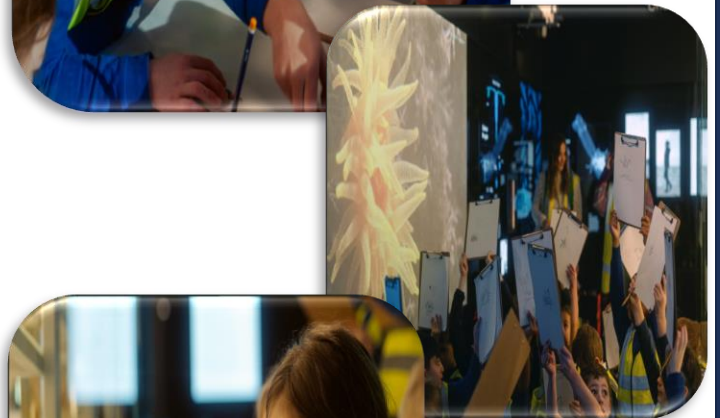
We are thrilled to share the excitement of our Year 3 pupils' recent visit to The Box, made possible through ProBleu funding! This hands-on workshop was a fantastic blend of science, art, and environmental awareness, inspiring young minds through creativity and exploration.

Scientific Discovery: Pupils designed their own exoskeletons, diving into the wonders of nature and engineering.

Artistic Expression: Through observational drawings, they captured the beauty of marine life from Plymouth and Devon.

Marine Science: They explored the fascinating world of zooplankton and phytoplankton, investigating how carbon dioxide affects our oceans.

This immersive experience deepened pupils' understanding of marine ecosystems and the importance of protecting them. A huge thank you to ProBleu for making this learning adventure possible!



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Exploring Numbers and the World in Reception!

Reception pupils have been developing their mathematical understanding by exploring representations of 6, 7, and 8. They have been counting accurately, sorting objects into groups, and investigating number composition using the part-part-whole method.

In addition, pupils have been immersing themselves in different environments through high-quality stories, using maps to identify and explore these locations. These activities are helping to build their understanding of the world while fostering a love of learning.



Fun Facts from Our Learning Adventures!

Number Magic – Did you know that the number 7 is often considered the world's favourite number? It appears in many places, from the seven continents to the seven colours of the rainbow!

Mapping the World – The first known map dates back over 14,000 years! Early humans used maps carved into rocks to navigate their surroundings.

Year 1 Football Fun!

Year 1 pupils have been honing their football skills in outdoor PE lessons! So far, they have mastered dribbling and stopping the ball using different parts of their feet.

This week, they worked in pairs to practise passing, adding a fun twist to their drills. If a pupil successfully kicked the ball through their partner's legs, they got to shout 'Ghostbusters!' – a fantastic way to build teamwork and accuracy while having lots of fun!



Fun Facts About Plymouth Argyle FC!

Historic Beginnings – Plymouth Argyle was founded in 1886 and turned professional in 1903, making it one of the oldest football clubs in England.

The Pilgrims' Name – The club's nickname, "**The Pilgrims**", comes from the Mayflower Pilgrims who set sail from Plymouth to America in **1620**.

Unique Green Army – Plymouth Argyle is one of the few English clubs that wears **green**, a colour more commonly associated with teams in Scotland and Ireland.

Record-Breaking Run – Argyle holds the record for the **most Football League Third Division South titles (4)**, an achievement unmatched by any other club.

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Year 3 Explores Ancient Egypt with Clive Pig!

Recently, our Year 3 pupils took a thrilling journey back in time with the talented Clive Pig, bringing the world of Ancient Egypt to life! Through interactive drama activities, they deepened their understanding of mummification and ancient farming practices.

Did you know that the Ancient Egyptians preferred onions over apples? Our young historians were fascinated by the unique aspects of daily life in ancient times while stepping into the roles of pharaohs, farmers, and embalmers. A truly unforgettable experience that made history come alive!



Fun Facts About Ancient Egypt!

Toothpaste with a Twist! – Ancient Egyptians made their own toothpaste using powdered eggshells, ashes, and even crushed ox hooves to keep their teeth clean!

The World's First Police Dogs! – Egyptians used trained baboons and dogs to help guard temples and catch thieves, making them some of the earliest law enforcers in history!

Year 5 Investigates Plant Life Cycles!

In science, Year 5 have been exploring life cycles, with a focus on plant reproduction. This week, pupils dissected daffodils to examine their male and female reproductive parts.

Through careful observation and identification, they discovered how plants reproduce and the important role each part plays. A hands-on and fascinating way to bring science to life!



Year 6 Explores WWII History in Plymouth

This week, Year 6 ventured into the local area to uncover evidence of WWII. Their journey began at the memorial statue in the grounds of Plymouth University, before heading to their final destination, Charles Church—a powerful reminder of the city's wartime history. Pupils asked thought-provoking questions and applied their prior knowledge to deepen their understanding of how WWII shaped Plymouth. A fantastic opportunity to connect history with the world around them!



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Netball Tournament Success!

We are thrilled to celebrate the fantastic success of our recent netball tournament! Last month, our talented pupils travelled to the Life Centre, where they showcased their skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship, making us incredibly proud.

The team demonstrated precise passing and strong defence, securing two victories, one draw, and one loss. Their hard work earned them an impressive 5th place out of 15 competing schools—a brilliant achievement!

A huge well done to our netball squad for their dedication and progress this term!



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>

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 children. We kindly ask all adults dropping children off to walk with them to their designated area. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a secure environment.

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Safeguarding: Our Top Priority

At Hyde Park Schools, the **safety and well-being of our pupils** is our highest priority. As we approach **half-term**, we want to share some important reminders and resources to help support children both **online and offline** during the break.

Understanding Bullying vs. Friendship Issues

Recently, we have noticed that the term "**bullying**" is being used more frequently, sometimes in situations that do not meet the definition of bullying. It's important to remember that **bullying is repeated, intentional behaviour meant to hurt someone emotionally or physically**, whereas **friendship issues and disagreements** can be a normal part of growing up.

If your child experiences a conflict with a peer, we encourage open discussions at home about **resolving disagreements positively**. However, if there are persistent concerns about **bullying**, please do not hesitate to reach out so we can **address the situation appropriately**.

For further guidance, visit:

Anti-Bullying Alliance – <https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk>

NSPCC - What is Bullying? – <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-bullying>

Online Safety During Half-Term

With more free time over the break, children may be spending increased time online. While the internet is a **fantastic resource for learning and entertainment**, it also comes with risks. We strongly encourage parents to **monitor online activity**, set **appropriate boundaries**, and **use parental controls** to ensure a safe digital environment.

Here are some key **online safety tips** for half-term:

- ✅ **Monitor screen time** – Set limits and encourage breaks from devices.
- ✅ **Enable parental controls** – Use filters to block inappropriate content on devices and apps.
- ✅ **Check privacy settings** – Ensure your child's accounts are set to **private** and they only connect with **trusted people**.
- ✅ **Talk about online behaviour** – Remind children that **being kind online** is just as important as in person.
- ✅ **Encourage safe gaming and social media use** – Be aware of who they are interacting with and what they are sharing.

Useful Online Safety Resources for Parents

ThinkUKnow (Online Safety Advice & Games) – <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

Internet Matters (Parental Controls & Advice) – <https://www.internetmatters.org>

NSPCC Online Safety Hub –

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

CEOP (Report Online Abuse or Concerns) –

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

We appreciate your **continued support** in safeguarding our pupils. If you have any concerns or need further guidance, please do not hesitate to contact the school. **Together, we can ensure a safe and happy half-term for all our children.**



Suitable Water Bottles for School

We kindly ask that pupils bring **water bottles with a sip-top lid** rather than those with large openings. Bottles with wide openings often lead to unnecessary **spills in the classroom**, causing distractions and mess.

To help keep our learning environment **clean and safe**, we encourage you to choose **spill-proof, sip-top bottles** for your child. Thank you for your support in this matter!

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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.

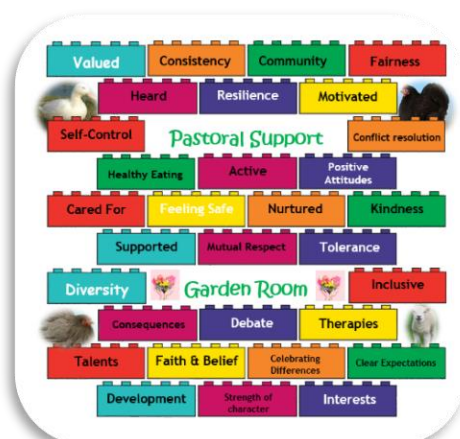


Family Support Advisor

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!

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 [Internet Matters](https://www.internetmatters.org/) 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.

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February 3rd -7th , 2025

Cedar	Andrea
Ash	Chigozirim
Beech	Albie
Poplar	James
Willow	Wisdom
Holly	Eli C
Elm	Eva
Sycamore	Erin
Keller	Arlo
Seacole	Whole class
Barnardo	Anastasia
Attenborough	Isabella
Curie	Faizah
Hawking	Ailsa
Gandhi	Harper
King	Jennifer
Mandela	Jamal
Pankhurst	Jack
Douglass	Noah M
Dickens	Isla A

Nominations for being an Optimistic Learner

Cedar	Nova
Ash	Rithil
Beech	Blossom
Poplar	Kitty
Willow	Iris
Holly	Maya
Elm	Amelie
Sycamore	Arthur
Keller	Luke
Seacole	Phoenix
Barnardo	Phoebe
Attenborough	Shayoni
Curie	Aliya-Grace
Hawking	Wilf
Gandhi	Lucy and Matthew
King	Evie
Mandela	Violet
Pankhurst	Reuben G
Douglass	Liam
Dickens	Laurel P

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February 10th -14th , 2025

Cedar	Nina
Ash	Cleo
Beech	Teddy R D
Poplar	Arlo
Willow	Charlie
Holly	Lucy
Elm	Jemima
Sycamore	Trixie
Keller	Whole Class
Seacole	Leo
Barnardo	Alice
Attenborough	India
Curie	Coco
Hawking	Bailey
Gandhi	Ellie-May
King	Leo
Mandela	Isah
Pankhurst	Reuben Rhead
Douglass	Jessica
Dickens	Tryphena

Nominations for being an Inclusive Learner

Cedar	Theo
Ash	Rosie
Beech	Jana
Poplar	Abdul
Willow	Ola
Holly	Joshua
Elm	Edie
Sycamore	Finlay
Keller	Joanna
Seacole	Noah
Barnardo	Mer
Attenborough	Isaac A
Curie	Lola
Hawking	Tom
Gandhi	John
King	Isaac
Mandela	Mirkhan
Pankhurst	Archie
Douglass	Llewyn
Dickens	Samara

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Feb./March 2025

Half Term 17th- 21st February

24th- 28th February

Monday 24th Children return to school

3rd- 7th March

National Careers Week

Thursday 6th March World Book Day- Dress up as your favourite character

Careers Dress up day

Friday 7th March Curie Class Assembly

International Women's Day

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