

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, 19TH DECEMBER 2025

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Update from Mrs. Jones

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Carers,

As the final bells of the Autumn term ring and the festive lights begin to twinkle across our community, we find ourselves at a natural point of reflection. This time of year is always special, but this particular term has felt uniquely significant for us at Hyde Park. It is with a sense of immense gratitude and deep-seated pride that we send our warmest wishes to every child, parent, and member of our staff.

The progress we have witnessed within these walls since September has been nothing short of extraordinary. While we often talk about grades and milestones, the true story of this term is found in the children's resilience and persistence.

We have been particularly moved by the explosion of creativity in our writing sessions. To walk through the corridors and see children hunched over their desks, focused and determined, and then to witness the sheer pride on their faces as they share a finished piece of work, is why we do what we do. From mastering complex fractional reasoning to finding their unique voices through prose and poetry, our pupils have proven that there are no limits to what they can achieve when they believe in themselves. You are the heartbeat of this school, and your hard work is the greatest gift of all.

To our dedicated staff: your efforts go far beyond the classroom. You are the architects of the nurturing environment that allows our children to take risks and grow. We see the late nights, the meticulous planning, and the unwavering emotional support you provide to every child. Your passion for high-quality education ensures that Hyde Park remains a sanctuary of learning. This term has asked much of you, and you have delivered with grace, professionalism, and a constant smile.

A school is only as strong as the community that surrounds it, and at Hyde Park, we are blessed with the very best.

Our PTFA has been a powerhouse of energy this term. From the electric atmosphere of our first school disco to the

soul-stirring warmth of our recent community carolling, your presence has turned school events into cherished memories. You don't just raise funds; you raise spirits. Similarly, we owe a debt of thanks to our Governors, whose behind-the-scenes strategic guidance and commitment to excellence ensure that our school continues to thrive and evolve. Your partnership is the foundation upon which our success is built.

Throughout this term, one phrase has echoed from parents, visitors, and assessors alike: **"Hyde Park feels like an extended family."** This isn't something that happens by accident; it is a culture we build together every day. As we enter the holiday period, we encourage everyone to carry this spirit of the "extended family" home with them. In the hustle and bustle of the season, let us prioritise being kind. A simple gesture of patience or a moment of shared laughter can make a world of difference. We are a community that looks out for one another, and that is our greatest strength.

As we prepare to close the doors for the year, we want to thank you for your continued partnership. Whether you have supported with homework, volunteered at an event, or simply shared a kind word at the gate or through an email, you have contributed to the tapestry of Hyde Park.

We wish all our families a restorative, joyful, and peaceful break. May your homes be filled with laughter and your hearts with hope. We look forward to welcoming you back in the new year, ready to embark on another chapter of discovery and achievement in 2026.

With our very best wishes for a joyful festive season and a Happy New Year.

KIND HANDS, KIND FEET, KIND WORDS, KIND ACTIONS



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Voices of Hyde Park: A Heartwarming Community Celebration

Thank you to everyone who joined our **Community Christmas Carolling**, a wonderful collaboration between the school and our dedicated PTFA. Seeing so many families, children, and staff singing together in the crisp winter air was a beautiful reminder that Hyde Park is truly an extended family.

Special thanks to our PTFA for their hard work and festive refreshments, which made the afternoon so memorable. You helped prove that when we work together, we create something truly special for our children.

A Note for Home: Keep the music going! Singing together is a fantastic way to boost children's confidence and vocabulary. Ask your child to teach you their favourite carol from the event.

Festive Melodies: Our School Choir

Our School Choir has been incredibly busy spreading festive cheer across the city! The children performed brilliantly at the Mutley Baptist Church Lights Switch On, the Ford Park Carol Service, the Plymouth Christmas Market, and the Plymouth Youth Music Service Carol Concert.

We had a fantastic time and are so proud of how well the children represented our school. A special thanks goes to **Mrs Horne** for leading on these events and for her dedication in practising with the choir to make these performances so successful. We look forward to much more singing next term!

Tips for Home Support:

- **Perform at Home:** Encourage your child to perform their favourite carol for family members. This is a wonderful way to build their performing confidence and oral language skills.



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Reception: Talking Games and Domino Fun!

Our Reception children have been busy developing their communication and language skills through interactive games like 'Same Same' and 'Odd One Out'. It has been wonderful to hear them articulating their thoughts and finding connections together.

We have also loved seeing the children use school resources so creatively to invent their own play. A particular highlight has been watching them set up complex domino runs—balancing them carefully and waiting with excitement to see if they will all be knocked down!

Tips for Home Support:

Odd One Out: Play a simple game at home by placing three similar items (e.g., three socks) and one different item (e.g., a hat) together. Ask your child which one is the "odd one out" and, most importantly, ask them to explain *why* to build their talking skills.

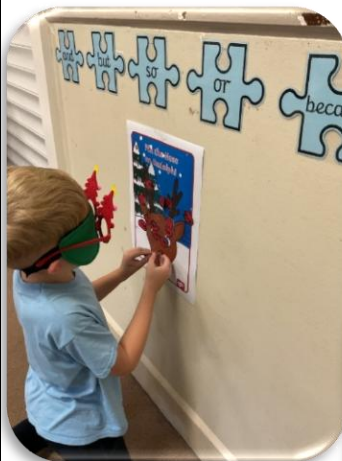
Creative Inventors: Encourage your child to "invent" a game using household objects like cushions or plastic cups. Ask them to explain the rules to you, which helps them practice sequencing and descriptive language.



Year 2: Festive Fun and Games!

Year 2 has been getting into the holiday spirit with some classic Christmas-themed games! The children had a wonderful time playing Christmas Bingo and giggled their way through a very competitive round of Pin the Nose on the Reindeer.

Beyond the laughter, these activities were a fantastic way to practice turn-taking and teamwork. It has been a joyful week full of smiles as we celebrate the season together!



Tips for Home Support:

Board Game Bonding: Rainy days are perfect for simple board games or card games. These are excellent for reinforcing the turn-taking and "fair play" skills the children practiced this week.

Holiday Teamwork: Involve your child in a small festive task, like sorting decorations or helping with a simple recipe. Working together toward a shared goal is a great way to build their cooperation skills.

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Soups, Civilisations, and Splashing!

Year 4 has had a busy and exciting term packed with hands-on learning. In Design and Technology, the children researched, prepared, and made their own soups. They thought carefully about flavours, ingredients, and healthy choices before evaluating their finished dishes.

In History, they have been captivated by the Mayan civilisation, exploring where they lived, what their daily life was like, and why they were such a successful society. Additionally, the children have worked extremely hard during their swimming lessons, showing resilience and determination as they develop their water confidence. It has been a wonderful term of learning. Merry Christmas from all of Year 4!



Tips for Home Support:

Junior Chefs: Encourage your child to help with meal preparation by discussing "healthy choices" and balanced ingredients, just as they did with their soup projects.

History Hunters: Ask your child to tell you one "success" of the Mayan society. You could even look up images of Mayan ruins together to spark further curiosity about ancient civilisations.

Resilience at the Pool: If you visit a swimming pool over the break, celebrate the "small wins" and resilience they've shown this term to keep building that vital water confidence.

Tree Dressing and Festive Melodies

Year 5 have been getting into the holiday spirit, taking part in our traditional Tree Dressing and Carolling. It was a joy to see the children working so well together and sharing their voices with such enthusiasm. These events are a wonderful way for our older pupils to lead



by example and spread festive cheer throughout the school.

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Celebrating Our Pupil Achievements!

We would love to celebrate all the amazing activities our pupils get up to outside of school, not just sports! If your child is involved in any kind of hobby or activity, from football and gymnastics to playing a musical instrument, dancing, or even building with LEGO, please send a short description and a picture of them in action to the admin team.

This is a fantastic way to celebrate the children's hard work, passion, and dedication.

Please remember: We cannot publish any photos that include other children. If you send in a photo, please make sure only your child is visible.

Thank you for your help in celebrating all of our stars!

Help Us Create an Outdoor Reading Oasis!

We are currently working on developing an exciting new Outdoor Reading Area for all our children to access and enjoy during lunchtimes, and we are seeking your generous support!

To make this space a comfortable, engaging, and relaxing "reading oasis," we are looking for donations of the following items:

- **Reading Books:** Suitable for both infants and juniors, including both fiction and non-fiction titles.
- **Seating:** Waterproof-backed picnic blankets and outdoor / waterproof cushions and beanbags.

If you are able to support this wonderful project, please send any donations into the school for the attention of **Mrs. Foster**.

Thanking you all in advance for helping us bring this fantastic resource to life!

SCAN ME! 

PLYMOUTH FAMILY HUBS

Join Our Multicultural Play Group

A play group for families from culturally diverse backgrounds, where English may be an additional language. A space to build community whilst gaining fun ideas to support your child's learning. A Health Visitor is available for advice and to weigh your baby

When and Where? Greenbank Community Centre, Greenbank Road 930-11am

Additional info... FREE to attend! No need to book
Age 0-5 years

Plymouth Family Hubs working in partnership with...



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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



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. Jennifer Hussey our SENDCO**. Together, we can provide the right support for every child to succeed.



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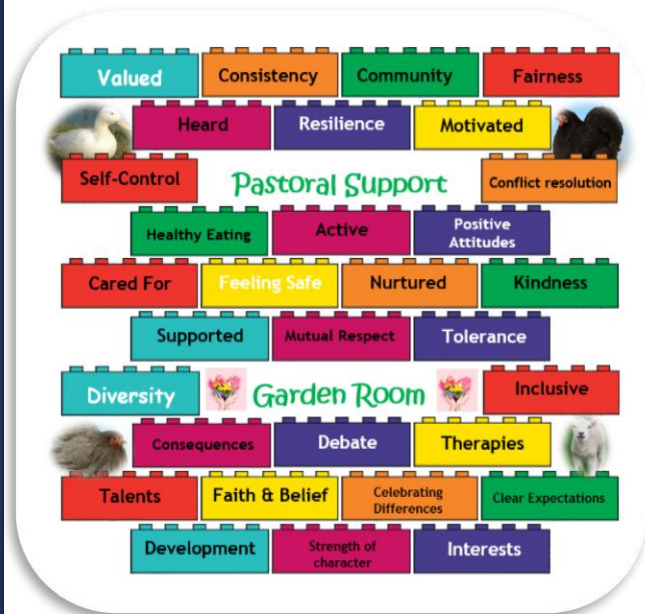
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Family Support Advisor

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.



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!

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KS2 Safeguarding Reminder

We are delighted with how quickly the Year 3 children have settled into their new routines. To continue ensuring the safety and security of our pupils, we kindly ask that Year 3 children enter the school through the **Junior gate on Hermitage Road** or around the side of the building from the infant playground. This helps us secure the site effectively in the mornings.

Now that the children are familiar with where to go, we ask parents to say goodbye at the **Hermitage Road gate or Infant Playground**. There will be staff at the gate to support any children who may need a little assistance walking into school.

Thank you to everyone for working with us at the end of the day in implementing the one way system. For parents with buggies, you can walk from the Infant playground to the side of KS2 and leave the buggy neatly at the side of the walkway and enter from there.

For any queries or concerns, please contact teachers via **Class Dojo** or the **school office**. Please remember that adults without an entrance pass in the building contravene our safeguarding procedures, which are in place to protect your children. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Thank you for your continued support in upholding our school values both online and within our school community.

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 pupils.

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.

Military Children Support Assistant



My name is Holly Smallridge, and I'm excited to introduce myself as the new Military Children Support Assistant here at the Learning Academy Trust. I'm really looking forward to getting to know the children and families connected to the military across our school communities.

Supporting service children is something I feel passionate about. I understand that military life can bring unique challenges, and I'm here to offer a friendly, consistent presence to help children feel supported, understood, and confident throughout their school journey.

I look forward to getting to meet and work with more of the children in the coming weeks!

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December 15th - 19th 2025

Keller	Mia
Nightingale	Olivia
Potter	Naomi
Rosen	Maha
Astor	Arnav
Coleman	Delon
Pankhurst	TD
Scott	Evelyn
Attenborough	Roman
Curie	Teddy
Turing	Zarah
Hawking	Freya
Gandhi	Aubrey
Anning	Tom
Mandela	Angela
Tubman	Charlotte
Douglass	Jessica
King	William
Seacole	Aliyyah

Nominations for being an Enterprising Learner

Keller	Harry
Nightingale	Charlie
Potter	Isahaak
Rosen	Tommy
Astor	Diyin
Coleman	Zahra
Pankhurst	Nova
Scott	Grayson
Attenborough	Whole Class
Curie	Tonye
Turing	Astrid
Hawking	Matilda
Gandhi	Jasper
Anning	Ferdousi
Mandela	Coco
Tubman	Juliette B
Douglass	Kaitlyn
King	Archer
Seacole	Arthur

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