



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

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yewtreeprimary.co.uk

Attendance Matters...

You will be well-aware, I am sure, of just how much emphasis we place on excellent attendance at Yew Tree. We are relentless in our communication about this as we know what a difference it makes to our children.

This is not simply about boosting the numbers! New [research](#), released by the Department for Education, shows the link between attendance and attainment and it highlights that:

- Children who attend school nearly every day in Y6 are **30% more** likely to reach the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to their peers
- Persistently absent (those with 90% attendance or below) secondary school pupils could earn **£10,000 less** on average at age 28 compared to pupils with near-perfect attendance

As a Unicef Rights Respecting School, we teach our children that article 28 ([UN Convention of the Rights of a Child](#)) gives them a right to an education and how precious time at school is. We are glad that the vast majority of parents/carers also promote the same value on education and support their child in attending regularly. This really makes a difference.

Please do check your child's attendance on Arbor so you are aware of how much time, if any, they have missed from school. We hope you will work with us by ensuring your child is at school, on time, each day.

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance
TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

Our school day starts at **8.50am**. However, we open gates/doors at 8.40am for children.

If gates are closed, and you come via the office, this means your child is **LATE** for school. Please do all you can to ensure your child is here on time so they don't miss vital learning.

ANNUAL VOICE SURVEYS

Each year, we collect the views of parents/carers, children, staff and governors in our annual voice surveys.

This is a chance to celebrate everything we have achieved as a school and highlight the many positive aspects that we see and hear about each day. This year, our surveys are open from:

MONDAY 24th MARCH – FRIDAY 29th MARCH

Keep an eye out on Dojo/emails on Monday for the links you will need to complete these. Please do take 5mins of your time to complete the survey as your voices really do matter.

Once we have collated the results, we use these as part of our planning for school improvement each year. We shall also publish a summary of the results to you in due course.

NATURE PARK FUNDING

We are delighted that our School Business Manager, Ms Elkin-Ranger, has secured just under £10k of funding for our school farm from National Education Nature Park.

We shall be using this funding to add a pond, and other habitat areas, to our school farm. Keep an eye out for pictures from this development.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

In the interests of health & safety, we remind parents/carers that children should **NOT** play on any playground equipment during drop off or pick up each day.

Equipment on our site is only for use under the direction of staff. Please ensure any toddlers/younger siblings stay close to adults during these times.

ADMISSIONS UPDATES

We are pleased that we have now sent out offer letters to everyone who has successfully secured a place for Nursery in September.

Please do return your forms by the deadline in the letter as we do have a small waiting list.

Parents/carers will find out about places for Reception on **WEDNESDAY 16th APRIL**.

WALK TO SCHOOL

We are proud of our involvement in the Mode Shift Stars' Walk to School Scheme.

Recently, we were involved in some filming with ITV News as we came 2nd in the national rankings for this scheme. Keep an eye out on ITV News on **THURSDAY 27th MARCH** to see how we got on!

SEND COFFEE MORNING

Our next SEND Coffee Morning is on:

FRIDAY 4th APRIL at 9.00am

This is an opportunity for parents/carers, of children with SEND, to come together to share experiences and have a coffee with our inclusion team. Do feel free to drop in and say hello.



SCHOOL MEALS

This week, we have published our school meals menu for the summer term. If you missed it, take a look at our website [HERE](#).

This is a final reminder that, from 1st April, school meal prices increase to:
£3 per meal per day.

If your child is eligible, but not registered, for Free School Meals (FSM) then we would encourage you to do this ASAP. The details of how to do this are on our website. However, please get in touch with our office for any help or advice.

WE ARE PERFORMERS

We are excitedly planning our next curriculum focus week which takes place in the last week of this half term (**WB: 07.04.25**).

Our week is called 'We are Performers' and is focused on creative and performance arts.

We have a really exciting programme of workshops and activities for children so please ensure they are in and don't miss out!

Our workshops range from samba and steel pan sessions to musical performances and special assemblies as well as dance workshops, by professional dancers, for every class. It truly will be an exciting week so do keep an eye on [Twitter \(X\)](#) for photos.

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
21.03.25	Deadline for SUM club applications	07.04.25	Samba workshops – YR & Y1
21.03.25	Comic Relief (Red Nose) day	08.04.25	Steel pan workshops – Y2 & Y3
21.03.25	Deadline for SUMMER club apps	08.04.25	Dance workshops – YN, YR & Y1
24.03.25	Annual voice surveys - OPEN	08.04.25	Boys & Girls' football match (away)
30.03.25	Mother's Day	09.04.25	YR vision screening – AM
31.03.25	Girls' football match (home)	09.04.25	Dance workshops – Y2, Y3 & Y4
01.04.25	Boys' football match (home)	09.04.25	Musical performance – Y4, Y5 & Y6
04.04.25	YR 'animal man' workshops	10.04.25	Dance workshops – Y5 & Y6
04.04.25	SEND coffee morning – 9.00am	10.04.25	Attendance Shop - OPEN
07.04.25	PTA Easter competition day	11.04.25	Non-uniform day - £1 per child
07.04.25	FOCUS WEEK: We are performers...	11.04.25	Gold Book assemblies - AM