



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

ISSUE 21:
07.03.25

yewtreeprimary.co.uk

Healthy Living...

At Yew Tree, our vision is 'Learning Without Limits'. If you take a look at the detail of this, by [CLICKING HERE](#), you will see that this includes a commitment to helping children grow up as healthy individuals.

In order to help us meet our commitment, Yew Tree is a 'healthy school'. This means that we try to ensure our policies, procedures and curriculum all support the children's physical and mental health. Details about advice & policies, such as School Food Policy & Packed Lunch Policy, are available on our website by [CLICKING HERE](#).

However, we need your help. Whilst we educate & support children understand healthy living, we do not replace the role of parents/carers. We know that you are key in the health & development of your child.

Data from the National Children's Measurement Programme (NCMP), which looks at the average weight of YR & Y6 children across a 3-year period, shows that 27% of our children in YR (compared to 25% in Sandwell and 22% nationally), and 51% of our children in Y6 (compared to 46% in Sandwell and 34% nationally), are overweight or obese.

Although this is data from a 3-year period, we haven't seen this decrease overtime either. Therefore, we would ask all parents/carers to look at how they too can support healthy living. This could be reviewing diet, cutting out sugary sweets/drinks or becoming more active (e.g. walking to school, exercising etc).

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

We recognise that there are times when children get poorly and are unable to attend school.

However, there are also times when children can continue to attend.

For information about when to keep children off school, visit NHS guidance [HERE](#).

FARM & ALLOTMENT

We are very lucky to have our very own farm & allotments on site. The children love visiting our animals (which include ducks, chickens, rabbits & guinea pigs) or planting in our allotments.

As you would expect, running this provision costs money so we are very grateful for the recent donation of £5,000 from the PTA so we can update some of the enclosures and provide more sustainable solutions for storage (which prevents water damage to animal food etc).

Ms Elkin-Ranger is currently exploring funding opportunities so we can enhance our farm further by introducing a pond and other wildlife habitat stations. Watch this space for further details!

If you have left over vegetables, we would always welcome donations of fresh produce to feed our animals so do drop this at the office.

SEND COFFEE MORNING

If your child has special educational needs or disabilities (SEND), why not come along to our next SEND Coffee Morning? This is a chance to meet other parents/have a chat.

Get the date in your diary now as Ms Walker-Laver & Ms Beech would love to see you on:

FRIDAY 4th APRIL at 9.00am

EARLY COLLECTION

We are noticing an increasing number of families requesting to collect children early from school.

Please remember, as we have communicated previously, that we cannot authorise absence for parent/carer or sibling appointments. Therefore, please ensure you have somebody else available to collect.

DECCA ASSEMBLIES

On Monday, our Y1 – Y6 children shall have some special assemblies from Sandwell's [DECCA](#) team.

These assemblies support our children's work in PSHE and cover different aspects of drugs and alcohol education awareness. Of course, the content will be adapted to suit the age of the child. If you have any questions, please speak to your child's class teacher.

DOJO POINTS

At Yew Tree, our approach to behaviour isn't simply about enforcing rules and issuing sanctions. We also teach our children the behaviours we expect and we reward them for demonstrating these.

Remember, as detailed on our website [HERE](#), you can monitor your child's behaviour by reviewing their Dojo Points daily (they can earn 5pts per day!)

RED NOSE DAY

Don't forget that children are invited to come dressed in red/something funny on:

FRIDAY 21st MARCH

This is in support of [Comic Relief](#) so please send children in with any change you can spare for our charity day this term.



FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

We are lucky in Sandwell that we have a wide range of family support services available to us. If you haven't seen it before, take a look at the services available on the Family Information Service Hub ([FISH](#)).

We also have the Family Hubs (mobile library) bus visit us once a month too. They park on the playground, straight after school, so do pop along when they are next here on **Thursday 20th March**.

Finally, pop along to our next Chit Chat session, at 9.00am this morning, to meet with Ms Melia about services we offer.

SCHOOL GRID

As you know, all school meals need to be ordered via [School Grid](#). We cannot stress enough how important this is as all food is cooked to order.

This site is currently having some upgrades in order to offer a range of enhanced features which, by the end of April, will include:

- Enhanced allergy management (inc. allergy specific menus)
- Improved nutritional information (to help with dietary requirements)
- Packed lunch options so these can be ordered via the site for School Trips (rather than returning paper slips)

| DATE | EVENT | DATE | EVENT |
|----------|------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| 07.03.25 | Chit Chat session – 9.00am | 04.04.25 | YR 'animal man' workshops |
| 10.03.25 | DECCA assemblies – AM | 04.04.25 | SEND coffee morning – 9.00am |
| 17.03.25 | Girls' football match (home) | 07.04.25 | PTA Easter competition day |
| 20.03.25 | Family Hubs bus on site – 3.30pm | 07.04.25 | FOCUS WEEK: We are performers... |
| 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 |
| 30.03.25 | Mother's Day | 08.04.25 | Boys & Girls' football match (away) |
| 31.03.25 | Girls' football match (home) | 09.04.25 | YR vision screening – AM |
| 31.03.25 | Annual voice surveys - OPEN | 09.04.25 | Dance workshops – Y2, Y3 & Y4 |
| 01.04.25 | Boys' football match (home) | 10.04.25 | Musical performance – Y4, Y5 & Y6 |