



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

ISSUE 17:
31.01.25

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Promoting the Positive...

It never ceases to amaze me how quickly time passes. It is only a couple of weeks now until February half-term which, as you will be aware, is the half-way point in the academic year! At this time of year, staff are busy completing mid-year assessments and preparing mid-year reports which means we have all spent time reflecting on how far the children have come.

It is incredible to see the progress that many children have made already this year. Even if the progress has not yet enabled children to improve a test score or 'move up a level' we can see such an incredible difference, within books and observations, so we cannot wait to share this with you at Parents' Evening in a couple of weeks.

Beyond sharing academic progress, we try to share the positive things our children do as often as possible. We celebrate the things they do outside of school in our 'Chance to Shine' book, the core values they show in school in our weekly 'Congratulations' (Star of the Week) assembly or any extra special achievements in our termly Gold Book assemblies. You may have even had a message home from me some weeks as teachers nominate one child per class in our 'Praise Log' each week that we want to celebrate.

Finally, so many of our children behave impeccably day in and day out so we hope you see this in your child's daily Dojo points and the half-termly behaviour badges so many of them proudly wear.

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance
TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

Thank you for the effort we have seen recently with attendance.

This effort is not simply noticeable within data but also within our lessons.

Ensuring children attend school, on time, each day genuinely makes such a difference to learning.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

At Yew Tree, we work collaboratively with Sandwell Children's Trust and West Midlands Police through an initiative called Operation Encompass.

This programme has been established to help schools provide in-school support to children who have been present at, or exposed to, any incident of domestic violence.

As part of Operation Encompass, schools receive a confidential email whenever the police have been called to a property where there are children. Please be assured that the information shared is not discussed with the child but is simply made available so that we can support as necessary.

Full information about this scheme is available [HERE](#). If you have any questions, or ever need support, please contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs).

COMIC RELIEF

At Yew Tree, we support one charity event each term. Our chosen charity for the Spring Term is Comic Relief.

Red Nose Day takes place on **FRIDAY 21st MARCH**. On that day, children will be invited to wear something red/dress in a funny costume in return for a donation of your choice.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Once again, this year, we are celebrating World Book on **THURSDAY 6th MARCH**.

Ms Mclean will be sending further details closer to the time. However, in order for you to plan ahead, we shall be allowing to dress as their favourite book character on that day. There is no pressure & this is optional for all.

GOVERNOR NEWS

We are pleased to announce that, following a vacancy which has recently arisen on our Governing Body, that we have been able to appoint Mr Steve Lawley as a co-opted governor.

Mr Lawley joins our Board with a large range of skills which will be very beneficial to our team. Information about our Governing Board is available on our website by [CLICKING HERE](#).

PARENTS' EVENING

Don't forget to book your appointment for Parents' Evening if you haven't already!

Please remember that, on **WEDNESDAY 12th FEBRUARY**, school closes at 1.00pm. Please ensure that children are collected promptly (speak to the office if there are any issues) at that time so appointments can start on time.

YOUNG VOICES

Our staff and children are looking forward to the Young Voices concert which takes place, just after half term, on **THURSDAY 27th FEBRUARY**.

If you ordered tickets, these have been transferred to you via the AXS app. If you haven't yet claimed these, please do so ASAP as the venue will not allow you entry without a valid ticket.



THE TREE HOUSE

This week, we have had a company called Wow Education in to help redesign one of our teaching spaces into a new space called 'The Tree House'.

This new space is very exciting for the children (and staff) as it is decorated to replicate a tree house and even contains a worry tree and a talking tree.

The Tree House will accommodate some of our pastoral groups including drama therapy and play therapy. Do take a look at [Twitter](#) to see some pictures of the space later today.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

At Yew Tree, we teach our children about e-safety (or online safety) frequently as we recognise that the children live in a world where technology is used so frequently.

On **WEDNESDAY 5th FEBRUARY**, our staff shall be leading some additional sessions as part of our annual support for Safer Internet Day. The theme this year is 'Too Good to be True' so the children will be thinking about online scams and fraud.

We know that, as a school, we can only do so much and that e-safety heavily relies on parental support. Therefore, please do check out the [e-safety page](#) of our website too.

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
03.02.25	Y2 Marvellous Monarchs workshop	14.02.25	School CLOSED – INSET DAY
03.02.25	Y4 Sparks session with Fire Brigade	24.02.25	Start of SPRING 2
05.02.25	Safer Internet Day	25.02.25	Nursery dinosaur experience day
05.02.25	Y2 class assemblies - PM	27.02.25	Young Voices concert – PM
06.02.25	YN INSPIRE session – AM & PM	28.02.25	Deadline for YN 25/26 applications
07.02.25	SEND coffee morning – 9.00am	03.03.24	Y4 air pollution workshops
11.02.25	Y4 trip to Dudley Zoo	05.03.25	Y1 class assemblies - PM
12.02.25	School CLOSES @ 1.00pm	06.03.25	World Book Day
12.02.25	Parents' Evening – 1.30pm – 6.30pm	06.03.25	Theme Lunch Day – World Book Day
13.02.25	Non-uniform day - £1 per child	06.03.25	Boys football match – 3.00pm
13.02.25	Break up for HALF TERM	07.03.25	Chit Chat session – 9.00am