



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

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yewtreeprimary.co.uk

Admissions 25/26...

Although it may seem a long time away, if your child is due to start school (either Nursery or Reception) in September 2025 then it is important you think about this choice now.

The deadline to apply for reception places, via the local authority, is **15th JANUARY 2025**. The deadline to apply for nursery places, via our school office, is **28th FEBRUARY 2025**. Please remember that you must apply for reception places even if your child currently attends our nursery. Children don't automatically transfer to reception from nursery.

Following consultation, with parents/carers and the LA, our Governing Body has agreed some changes which affect our nursery from September. As there are falling birth rates nationally, which has resulted in our school having around 20 surplus places in nursery this year, we are reducing provision from September 2025.

This means that, from September, our nursery will only be offering 26 part time (15hrs) places in the mornings. We hope this change is temporary and that we can increase to offering 52 places (inc. afternoons) when there is sufficient demand. In the meantime, we shall be using existing staff and children to support our school-based intervention work for children with SEND (further details to follow). Therefore, if your child requires a nursery place for September, please **DO NOT** miss the deadline.

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance
TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

Have you checked your child's attendance on the Arbor app recently?

Remember, you can check out your child's attendance at any time.

To find out what the percentage means, in terms of days or minutes lost, check the charts on our website [HERE](#).

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

After an incredible start to the year with attendance, we have had a disappointing couple of weeks and we need your help to turn this around.

Whilst we recognise there are some winter illnesses circulating currently, there are a number of occasions when children could/should be in school.

This includes occasions where absence has been reported because of:

- Poor weather (e.g. rain or cold)
- Parent or sibling appointments
- Unauthorised absence (e.g. holidays)

Even when children are poorly there are occasions they can continue to attend school if they feel well enough. Local Authority guidance for parents/carers has been updated and is available [HERE](#).

Remember, if children are not at school then staff cannot help them learn and achieve their potential.

PARKING

We urge all parents/carers to observe road markings around our school when dropping off or picking up their child.

Furthermore, please ensure that you **DO NOT** pull on the school driveway when picking children up from after school clubs. This is dangerous as it results in cars reversing on to the road or preventing safe crossing.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Don't forget that our Christmas lunch is planned in school for:

TUESDAY 17th DECEMBER

The menu has been posted to Class Dojo. All orders must be received, via [School Grid](#), by **FRIDAY 6th DECEMBER**. This is important due to the large numbers expected.

SEND COFFEE MORNING

Every half term, our inclusion team hosts a coffee morning especially for parents/carers of children with special educational needs or disabilities.

Don't forget that our next meeting is **this morning** at **9.00am**. If your child has SEND, or you would like more information about SEND provision, why not pop along? Our new Assistant SENDCo, Ms Beech, will also be there this morning.

FOOTBALL NEWS

A couple of weeks ago, our girls' football team took part in a tournament organised by West Brom Albion Foundation.

As you may have seen on Twitter (X), they didn't lose a single game and were the **OVERALL WINNERS!** Well done to all girls involved and their coaches Mr Latham & Ms Neville.

SUPERMARKET VOUCHERS - CHRISTMAS

If your child is eligible and registered for Free School Meals (FSM) then you will have been sent a £60 supermarket voucher this week.

Please download this by **FRIDAY 29th NOVEMBER** at the latest. You do not have to spend it immediately, but we need to ensure they are claimed so they can be used at Christmas.



CHRISTMAS UPDATES

Our children really enjoyed the panto which was organised last week. There are lots more Christmas activities planned so, if you didn't manage to purchase a Christmas ticket for your child, please do so [HERE](#) to ensure they can access all other activities.

As we approach the end of term, we wanted to remind parents/carers that we **DO NOT** allow children to exchange cards due to the environmental impact of this.

Also, we know there are financial demands on families so please **DO NOT** purchase staff gifts – a few kind words are enough!

CODE OF CONDUCT

We are very fortunate at Yew Tree to have an overwhelmingly supportive community. Whilst there are times we disagree, we always behave respectfully towards one another.

However, there are occasions where some individuals behave in a way that is not acceptable. This falls short of the expectations outlined in our Code of Conduct which is available [HERE](#).

Please do take a moment to familiarise yourself with this as it has been updated recently following new guidance from Sandwell LA. If you have any questions then please do get in touch via our office.

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
29.11.24	SEND coffee morning – 9.00am	09.12.24	Spring term clubs payment deadline
29.11.24	Deadline to claim FSM vouchers	09.12.24	Violin performance – 2.30pm
02.12.24	Plas Gwynant – final payments DUE	10.12.24	Y3 recorder performance – 9.30am
02.12.24	PTA non-uniform day – filled mugs	10.12.24	Guitar performance – 2.30pm
02.12.24	YN (Jan intake) Stay & Play – 1.30pm	11.12.24	EYFS nativity – 9.30am or 2.00pm
04.12.24	Boys' football tournament – AM	13.12.24	Non-uniform day: Christmas jumpers
04.12.24	Y2 INSPIRE session – 9.00am	13.12.24	Gold Book assemblies – AM
04.12.24	YN (Jan intake) home visits – PM	16.12.24	Virtual visit from Father Christmas
06.12.24	Deadline for ordering Christmas lunch	16.12.24	PTA Christmas Fayre (in school time)
06.12.24	Y2 visit to Tamworth Castle	16.12.24	PTA Christmas Market – 3.30pm
09.12.24	PTA non-uniform day – sweets, biscuits	17.12.24	Christmas lunch day