



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

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yewtreeprimary.co.uk

SEND...

You may be aware, from reading the news, that the Government has described special educational needs & disabilities (SEND) as a national crisis. The current system just isn't working and we understand the upset or frustrations that parents/carers face if their child has SEND.

Like many mainstream schools around the country, we have worked incredibly hard to develop our practice and provision to meet a wider range of needs than ever before. In fact, last year, you may recall we were awarded the SEND Inclusion Award for the exemplary quality of our work in this area. However, parents/carers should recognise that our approach to inclusion does not remove waiting lists for access to services nor does it increase funding to support children with SEND etc.

Even when a child has an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP), additional funding rarely covers 1:1 support and, often, will only cover support which is already being given in school. Our staff are trained to support a variety of needs within class as we recognise that approaches for children with SEND will usually also benefit the whole class. For further information about our approach to SEND at Yew Tree, [CLICK HERE](#).

If you have any questions then please do get in touch with our Inclusion Leader, Ms Walker-Laver or our Assistant SENDCo, Ms Beech. You can get in touch via Class Dojo or by joining the SEND coffee morning on 29.11.24.

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

As we communicated this week, please remember that we cannot authorise absence for children due to appointments for siblings or parents/carers.

Please do consider using [Wrap Around services](#) if any appointments make it difficult for you to collect at 3.20pm.

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

Our festive countdown starts at Yew Tree today with a professional panto visiting school. All children will enjoy Jack & the Beanstalk so please ensure they are not late for school.

In order to cover the cost of the panto, and the other Christmas activities planned, please don't forget to purchase your child's Christmas ticket [HERE](#). This covers much more than just the panto so please do remember to purchase their ticket.

For the next three consecutive Mondays, our PTA have organised non-uniform days in return for Christmas Faryre donations. This Monday (25th) is for donations of bottles (any alcohol must be taken directly to the office by adults).

Next week, following creative arts day on Wednesday, we shall be decorating our school ready for December to begin!

CLUB OFFERS – SPRING TERM

If you put in an application for your child to attend after school clubs in the spring term, keep an eye out offers coming home by **MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER**.

The offers will be sent by email and will contain details of any payments due to secure your child's place at the club. Please get in touch if you have any questions.

SCHOOL NURSE SESSIONS

Our children are looking forward to a range of sessions being delivered by Sandwell's School Nursing team next week (see diary dates for details).

This is a final reminder that Y5 parents/carers are invited to a meeting at **2.45pm** on **26.11.24** to find out about the puberty work being covered with their children..

HAF

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals then look out for Holiday Activity & Food (HAF) vouchers which are being emailed out on **MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER**.

These vouchers will provide access to FREE holiday activities (which include food) during the Christmas break. Further details have been posted to Class Dojo or are available [HERE](#).

STAFFING NEWS

We are sad to confirm that, at the end of this term, we say goodbye to Ms Belsten as she prepares to leave the local area. We shall miss her, from each of the roles she has held at Yew Tree, and wish her luck for the future.

Ms Barnes has been appointed to our lunchtime team and shall join us in January.

SUPERMARKET VOUCHERS - CHRISTMAS

In addition to the HAF vouchers, Sandwell Council have recently announced that they are funding supermarket vouchers, to the value of £60 per child, to eligible families ahead of Christmas.

We shall be ordering these early in December so please **register for FSM** urgently if you are eligible but not yet registered with the Council.



COLLECTION OF CHILDREN

In line with our safeguarding procedures, which are available [HERE](#), please remember that children Y4 or below (or those without Safer Travel in Y5 & Y6) must be picked up by an adult.

This means that siblings or relatives, who are not yet 18, cannot collect children. You **MUST** also let the office know in advance if the person collecting is not listed with us.

Finally, please note there may be late collection fees if children are not collected on time at the end of the day/following an after-school club.

SCHOOL MEALS

Our catering company, Dolce, has recently released their menu for the spring term. This has been shared on Class Dojo this week but is also available on our website [HERE](#).

Please remember the importance of ordering your child's meal in advance via [School Grid](#). If an order is not made then your child will not get their choice of meal or, in the worst case, we will not have food to serve them as meals are cooked to order.

Our Christmas lunch menu has also been published this week. Please remember that all Christmas meals **MUST** be booked by **FRIDAY 6th DECEMBER**.

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
22.11.24	Panto – Jack & the Beanstalk - AM	28.11.24	Y1 visit to Birmingham Thinktank
25.11.24	PTA non-uniform day – bottles	28.11.24	Y5 puberty sessions
25.11.24	Spring term clubs offers made	28.11.24	Y4 emotional health sessions
25.11.24	YR & Y6 height & weight checks	29.11.24	SEND coffee morning – 9.00am
25.11.24	YR hands & teeth sessions	02.12.24	Plas Gwynant – final payments DUE
25.11.24	YN (Jan intake) meeting – 2.15pm	02.12.24	PTA non-uniform day – filled mugs
26.11.24	Y3 & Y4 healthy eating sessions	02.12.24	YN (Jan intake) Stay & Play – 1.30pm
26.11.24	Peer Mediator training – PM	04.12.24	Boys' football tournament – AM
26.11.24	Y5 parents' meeting - 2.45pm	04.12.24	Y2 INSPIRE session – 9.00am
27.11.24	Creative Arts Day – Christmas	04.12.24	YN (Jan intake) home visits – PM
27.11.24	Y2 PANTS sessions	06.12.24	Deadline for ordering Christmas lunch