



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

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Christmas...

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school this week after half term. I hope everyone managed to get some well-deserved rest during our week off. As the clocks changed last week, the darker nights have definitely set in and everyone is starting to prepare for Christmas.

This week, we have published information about our festive arrangements at Yew Tree. In case you missed it, the letter is available to view [HERE](#). Please do check this carefully and note down any key dates for your child. In particular, please do note down dates & times of any performances along with noting information about any restrictions to the number of adults who attend. **We are afraid that we will have to strictly manage numbers due to the capacity of our hall.** However, we have organised three performance of our carol concerts (instead of the usual two) so everybody should be able to see their child perform.

The letter also contains information about the financial contribution we are asking parents/carers to make. We know that times are hard for everyone but your £5 donation helps cover the cost of the professional panto, Christmas Fayre, games/prizes and a visit from Father Christmas etc. We simply could not organise this without your donations. Payments need to be made via Lets Localise which is available [HERE](#).

We shall send reminders of all these events over the coming weeks.

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

We know that, as we approach the colder months, children may pick up illnesses such as coughs and colds.

Please remember that there are many occasions children can still attend school if they feel well enough. If you need advice then speak to our office or check the [NHS site](#).

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

Unfortunately, we have had a few occasions where families have taken term time holidays and not been entirely honest about it.

Whilst we cannot authorise holidays during term time, it saddens us when families choose not to tell us the truth about their child's absence in order to avoid a fine. Please remember that children often tell us about holidays or may come back with a tan so we nearly always find out the truth.

We are very transparent about our expectations and the rules which are set by the Government.

Whilst we cannot agree term time holidays, an honest approach avoids any unnecessary home visits or subsequent safeguarding referrals.

We have published [term dates for 25/26](#) recently too so you can plan ahead for next year's holidays. Thank you for your support.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

We are excited to have our first set of class assemblies taking place this half term. Parents/carers will have had a reminder on Dojo but we have Y4 (**13.11.24**) and Y5 (**20.11.24**) assemblies at the following times:

A class – 1.30pm
B class – 2.00pm
C class – 2.30pm

CHILDREN IN NEED

We shall be supporting [BBC Children in Need](#) on:

FRIDAY 15th NOVEMBER

This is entirely optional but, if children wish to take part, they can wear something spotty/a Pudsey t-shirt on that day in exchange for a donation of your choice.

SPRING TERM CLUBS

This week, we sent out information about our Spring Term clubs schedule. In case you missed the letter, you can access this [HERE](#).

Application forms **MUST** be returned by **9.00am on 15.11.24**. Following this, Ms Cooper & our admin team will try to allocate places for all children at the clubs requested. Parents/carers will be notified of offers by 25.11.24 and payments can be made then.

REMEMBRANCE SILENCE

We are proud that Aalyiah (Y6) has been selected to represent Yew Tree at this weekend's Sandwell Remembrance Service.

On Monday, our school shall fall silent at 11.00am (as it is 11th November) for 2mins. This will give children and staff a short time to reflect and pay respects to those who have fallen in conflict.

ANTI-BULLYING DAY

National anti-bullying week starts on Monday and, as usual, we shall be using this as an opportunity to reaffirm our [anti-bullying promise](#).

We teach our children that bullying has no place in society. They understand the **STOP** message and the importance of showing respect to everyone at all times (e.g. inc. online behaviour).



TRIPS

We know that asking for money for school trips can place a burden on families. When we published [information about trips](#) (in June) we explained payments could be made in instalments of £1 or more up until the deadline day.

We have been close to having to cancel some recent trips due to non-payments. Therefore, if your child's trip hasn't yet taken place, please do make payments.

Please also remember that we **MUST** have consents (via Arbor) for each child.

OUR COMMUNITY

Yew Tree values being a neighbour within our community. It is important to us that everyone, who is part of our school behaves, respectfully at all times.

We were saddened to have a report recently about some children (in school uniform) who were demonstrating anti-social behaviour and causing a nuisance in Birchfield Gardens.

We cannot identify who these children are from the descriptions given. However, we would ask that parents/carers talk to their children about behaviour outside of school as well as monitor their whereabouts and activities.

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
11.11.24	Remembrance Silence – 11.00am	20.11.24	Y2 trip to Tamworth Castle
11.11.24	Anti-Bullying Day	20.11.24	Y5 class assemblies – PM
13.11.24	Y4 class assemblies - PM	22.11.24	Panto – Jack & the Beanstalk - AM
13.11.24	Girls' football tournament – WBA	25.11.24	PTA non-uniform day – Christmas
14.11.24	Y3 INSPIRE session – 9.00am	25.11.24	Spring term clubs offers made
15.11.24	Charity Day: Children in Need	25.11.24	YR & Y6 height & weight checks
15.11.24	Y5 Ancient Egyptian workshops - AM	25.11.24	YR hands & teeth sessions
15.11.24	Chit Chat session – 9.00am	26.11.24	Y3 & Y4 healthy eating sessions
15.11.24	Deadline for spring club forms – 9.00am	26.11.24	Peer Mediator training – PM
18.11.24	Y4 Pen Pals sessions with Dudley Zoo	26.11.24	Y5 parents' meeting - 2.45pm
19.11.24	Y3 trip to Edmond Hall	27.11.24	Creative Arts Day - Christmas