



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Yew Tree Times

Latest News

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25.10.24

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## Reflections...

This has been a very long half-term so it seems ages ago that we started back at school for this academic year. However, as we approach the break, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on all that we have achieved so far.

As usual, school has been extremely hectic and we have had a very busy diary. We have had lots of events with many different visitors. However, it has been particularly lovely seeing parents/carers join us for INSPIRE sessions, Chit Chat mornings and so on. The key dates for families are summarised [HERE](#) so do double check these so that you have any key dates for you/your child in your diaries. This includes class assemblies which also start next half term. We shall also be sending out information about our Christmas schedule when we return after the holiday to give lots of notice.

This half term our LA advisor has also visited for a usual monitoring visit. These visits are rigorous and involve lots of our leaders and staff so I am always delighted when we receive such positive feedback. This time our advisor complimented our leaders, across the school, for their depth of knowledge and skill in the areas they lead. Well done to everyone involved.

As we break up today for half-term, I hope that everyone has a well deserved rest. Staff will not be able to reply to messages on Dojo until we return so, if you need any support, take a look at the signposting page of our website [HERE](#). I look forward to seeing all everyone back at school on **MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER** at the normal time.

*Mr Jamie Barry*



Our attendance  
**TARGET is 96%.**

*"Be in to win...!"*

We have had a great start to the year with our attendance so thank you to our families for their commitment to this area.

**THANK YOU!**

We look forward to opening our attendance shop for the first time today!

## SCHOOL NURSE SESSIONS

After half term, Sandwell's School Nurse team will be supporting our children's learning across the school. This includes sessions such as:

- YR – germs & oral hygiene
- Y2 – NSPCC PANTS
- Y3 & Y4 – healthy eating
- Y5 – puberty
- Y6 – emotional health

Y2 & Y5 parents have had information posted to Class Dojo previously with some specific details related to the sessions your children will cover.

If you have a child in Y5, you are invited to come and meet with the school nurse on:

**TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER at 2.45pm**

This will allow you to ask questions and see the materials which shall be used during the sessions.

## SWIMMING

If you are looking for a way to entertain the children this half term, why not take them swimming?

As well as being a fun few hours, helping your child to swim is such a valuable life skill. Children can swim for FREE in Sandwell so take a look [HERE](#) for further details.

## PTA NEWS

It was lovely seeing some of you join our PTA at their recent AGM. If you couldn't make it, the minutes and treasurer's report are available for you to view [HERE](#).

Please do pop along on **04.11.24 at 2.30pm** for the next committee meeting to discuss plans for the Christmas Fayre & Market.

### SAFER TRAVEL

As the nights have become darker, please remember that children with Safer Travel consent will NOT be allowed to walk home if they are staying for clubs next half term. **ALL** children will need to be picked up by an adult following any clubs.

If your child does have Safer Travel, please ensure they know to walk straight home when school ends at 3.20pm due to darker nights setting in.

### CHARITY DAYS

At Yew Tree we support one charity per term in order to limit when we ask for donations.

On **FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**, we shall be supporting Children in Need. Children will be able to come in something spotty in exchange for a donation of your choice. We shall send reminder details closer to the time.

### WEBSITE CALENDAR

We know it can be difficult remembering all the dates that we send home. This is why we endeavour to ensure our website calendar is updated at all times.

Don't forget, you can subscribe to the calendar so you don't miss anything. Details of how to do this are on our website page [HERE](#).



### ADMISSIONS REMINDERS

If you have a child currently in Y6, you will be aware that the deadline to apply for secondary schools is:

#### THURSDAY 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER

This falls during half-term so please do not forget to submit your applications. If you do not send this in time, you may not get your school of choice.

Also, we are currently finalising our intake arrangements for children joining our Nursery in January 2025. Therefore, please get in touch ASAP if you require a space.

### STAFFING NEWS

Today, we say goodbye to Ms Bowyer (LTS) & Ms Farley (HLTA). We shall miss them at Yew Tree but, of course, wish them lots of luck for the future in their new roles.

After half term, we welcome Ms Naz as a new lunchtime member of staff. We are confident she will be a fantastic addition to the team.

We have also recently appointed Ms Elkin-Ranger as our new School Business Manager and Ms Beech as our new HLTA. We are finalising all checks etc so look forward to them joining the Yew Tree family over the course of the next half term.

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
25.10.24	Non-uniform day - £1 per child	06.11.24	Nursery start Forest School sessions
25.10.24	Attendance shop OPEN TODAY	07.11.24	RA start Forest School sessions
25.10.24	Break up for <b>HALF TERM</b>	07.11.24	Family hubs bus on site – 3.30pm
31.10.24	Deadline for secondary applications	11.11.24	Remembrance Silence – 11.00am
04.11.24	Start of <b>AUTUMN 2</b>	11.11.24	Anti-Bullying Day
04.11.24	No 'Safer Travel' after <u>clubs</u>	13.11.24	Y4 class assemblies - PM
04.11.24	Prime VR sessions for Y4 & Y6	13.11.24	Girls' football tournament – WBA
04.11.24	RB start Forest School sessions	14.11.24	Y3 INSPIRE session – 9.00am
04.11.24	PTA meeting – 2.30pm	15.11.24	Charity Day: Children in Need
05.11.24	RC start Forest School sessions	15.11.24	Y5 Ancient Egyptian workshops - AM
05.11.24	THEME LUNCH: Bonfire Night	15.11.24	Chit Chat session – 9.00am