



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

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Be in to win...

We have been so impressed with the effort and attitude towards school attendance that we have seen so far this year. Currently, our whole school attendance is 96.4% and less than 1% of our children are arriving late at school. **PLEASE** keep this up as I cannot emphasise enough the difference it makes to children's learning. It means that lessons start promptly and children are not missing chunks of learning which are difficult to catch up on.

This year, we launched our new attendance initiative called "Be in to win..." Our children are really excited by this and hundreds of children each week are achieving their stamp for being in school on time each day.

Please remember, even if children haven't achieved their stamp in one particular week, they can still exchange whatever stamps they have for a range of prizes when our shop opens at the end of each half term. You can see the sorts of prizes available at our shop by looking on the attendance page of our website which is available when you [CLICK HERE](#).

As we approach half term, please keep this effort up. Please do not forget to check dates when booking holidays and resist the temptation of keeping children home because it is dark, wet or they have had a fallout with their friend. Remember, even when children are poorly, they can still attend on certain occasions if they feel well enough. If you are unsure, please contact our office staff for advice or check out this [NHS link](#).

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

If your child is absent from school, for any reason, please remember the importance of contacting us each day.



HOME LEARNING

At Yew Tree, we do not set significant amounts of home learning (homework) as we recognise that children also need time with their families and time to develop socially (i.e. through play).

However, our [Home Learning Policy](#) prioritises reading at home as we know the **HUGE** difference it can make to children's learning if they read often.

Please do double check the 'Home Learning Ladder' within the policy (and also posted to Dojo this week) to see how much time your child should spend reading (or reading with you at certain ages).

We appreciate any comments you can make, about your child's reading on Tapestry (EYFS) or Boom Reader (Y1 - Y6). If you need any help logging on to these sites, please speak to your child's class teacher ASAP. Any links to sites that parents/carers need are available [HERE](#).

PTA AGM

Our PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is coming up on:

TUESDAY 15th OCTOBER at 2.30pm

Please don't be discouraged by the name of the meeting. Simply come along for a coffee, with other parents, to discuss how the PTA can support our school this year.

PARENTS' EVENING

It is great that so many parents/carers have booked slots for [Parents' Evening](#) already. However, if you haven't done so then you still have time to make an appointment.

Simply check your emails and follow the instructions to choose a slot. The appointments are online so Zoom links will be sent to you on 18.10.24.

POLICE INFORMATION

At this time of year, communities are preparing for celebrations and events such as Halloween, Diwali & Bonfire Night. Typically, around this time, emergency services become very busy.

Sandwell Police have asked us to share the [attached letter](#) with our families. Please do read this carefully and talk to your child about their safety during darker nights and around fireworks etc.

NON-UNIFORM DAY

At the end of each half-term, children may wear non-uniform in exchange for a £1 donation towards our School Fund. Our next non-uniform day is:

FRIDAY 25th OCTOBER

We use School Fund to pay for things to support our school farm, gold book prizes etc.

TRIP CONSENTS

This year, we are collecting consents for school trips via our Arbor app.

If your child is due to go on a school trip, please remember that we need your payment (on School Gateway) **AND** your consent (on Arbor).

We cannot take children off site without consent.



MEDICATION

Please remember that we can only administer medication to children at school when it has been prescribed by a doctor.

If your child does need medicine then please sign this in at the office so we can check we have all the information we need.

Our admin team will contact parents/carers at least a month before any prescribed medication is due to expire so please ensure we have any replacements when requested.

Please **DO NOT** send your child in with over the counter medicine inc. throat sweets etc.

NURSERY CONSULTATION

As we communicated on Class Dojo this week, our Nursery currently has a large number of surplus places.

This is a similar picture across the country due to a falling birth rate. Whilst our Nursery is not at risk of complete closure, it is not financially viable for us to continue to operate with such a high number of empty places.

In order to help the Governing Body consider the future of our Nursery provision, we would appreciate parents/carers completing a short [ONLINE SURVEY](#) by **9.00am** on **MONDAY 21st OCTOBER**. We appreciate your support.

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
15.10.24	PTA AGM – 2.30pm	25.10.24	Break up for HALF TERM
16.10.24	Flu immunisation day – YR – Y6	04.11.24	Start of AUTUMN 2
17.10.24	Y4 INSPIRE session – 9.00am	04.11.24	No 'Safer Travel' after <u>clubs</u>
21.10.24	FOCUS WEEK: We are ambitious...	04.11.24	Prime VR sessions for Y4 & Y6
21.10.24	Nursery consultation deadline – 9.00am	04.11.24	RB start Forest School sessions
21.10.24	Dressing up day – jobs for grown ups	04.11.24	PTA meeting – 2.30pm
23.10.24	Y2 Tamworth trip payments DUE	05.11.24	RC start Forest School sessions
23.10.24	Y5 visit to Black Country museum	05.11.24	THEME LUNCH: Bonfire Night
23.10.24	Parents' Evening: 3.30pm- 6.30pm	06.11.24	Nursery start Forest School sessions
25.10.24	Non-uniform day - £1 per child	07.11.24	RA start Forest School sessions
25.10.24	Attendance shop OPEN TODAY	07.11.24	Family hubs bus on site – 3.30pm