



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

01.05.26

yewtreeprimary.co.uk

SEND UPDATES...

You may recall, back in February, the Government posted a blog about proposed changes to the special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) system. In case you missed it, the blog is available [HERE](#). These changes are designed to fix, what many would describe as, a 'broken SEND system' which is struggling due to a huge growth in need against a context of workforce pressures and financial constraints.

In addition to the proposed national changes there is lots of work going on locally, within Sandwell Council, to design, trial and implement changes to the SEND system across our Borough over the next 12 months. This work involves engagement with parents/carers, health, social care, schools and voluntary organisations and it aims to deliver timelier, more joined up and consistent inclusion and SEND support for children in Sandwell.

We will, of course, keep you updated with any local and national changes as they emerge. However, I would also encourage parents/carers to sign up [HERE](#) to receive Sandwell's SEND bulletins which are emailed out monthly. This will keep you updated with any news, updates and changes.

At Yew Tree, following our SEND Inclusion Award in June 2024 and our successful Ofsted in January 2025, we continue to embed and develop our inclusion work to ensure the very best for the children at our school. Therefore, we welcome any changes which support this.

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

Please be aware that, at Yew Tree, we follow the national Penalty Notice Framework which is detailed [HERE](#).

This means you could be referred for a penalty notice if your child hits the unauthorised absence threshold (not simply for holiday in term time).

CHARITY NEWS

We recognise there are lots of worth causes and charities which we could support each year at school. However, recognising the additional pressure this can put on families, we have previously made a decision to only support one charity per term.

We have selected our charities, in consultation with School Council, so that the children raise money for international, national and local causes:

- **AUT** – National – Children in Need
- **SPR** - International – Comic Relief
- **SUM** – Local – Acorns Hospice

We are inviting families to send children in with as many silver coins as possible, during WB: 18.05.26, for our silver coin challenge to raise money for Acorns Hospice. We hope you will support this worthy charity with whatever you can spare.

READING CHALLENGES

As part of the National Year of Reading, which you can read more about [HERE](#), each month Ms Mclean sets a reading challenge.

During the month of May, she is challenging everyone to read books where they also loves the pictures or illustrations. Don't forget, we would love to hear about this on Boom Reader so do log your child's reading.

THEME LUNCH

Our catering company, Dolce, are hosting their next theme lunch day on:

THURSDAY 21st MAY

The theme is 'Summertime Fiesta. The menu has been posted on Dojo or is available on School Grid so do ensure you pre-book ASAP.

RHE CONSULTATION

The consultation about the updated Relationships & Health Education closed on Wednesday. Thank you to those who took the time to share their views and opinions about the new curriculum plans.

The feedback was positive on the whole with no significant concerns raised. Therefore, the curriculum will now be presented to governors with a recommendation it is adopted in September.

Y6 SWIMMING

If you have a child in Y6, you will be aware that we have organised a block of intensive swimming sessions for them after half-term.

Each Y6 class will swim each day, for a week per class, at Sandwell Aquatics Centre (see details [HERE](#)). If you haven't done so already, please return your consent form.

BRASS PERFORMANCE

It has been fantastic seeing our different instrumentalists perform throughout the year.

Our next instrumental performance, which parents/carers are invited to, is for our brass players on:

WEDNESDAY 20th MAY at 2.30pm



SUN SAFETY

It has been lovely having some warmer weather recently. Whilst it is certainly not at temperatures which trigger a warning, we thought it would be useful to remind parents/carers of our Sun Safety guidance which is available [HERE](#).

Do take a look at the policy for full details. However, please note some key points:

- Sunscreen should be applied before school on relevant days
- Do send children with a sunhat
- Do ensure children have access to a drinking bottle at all times

HEALTHY SCHOOLS REMINDERS

Yew Tree is a 'Healthy School' and has achieved the 'silver' award for our work in this area. This includes work around physical health, fitness and mental health & wellbeing.

You can read more about our Healthy Schools work [HERE](#).

Parents/carers are reminded that we only allow plain water to be consumed in class. If children bring a bottle with cordial/squash then this is for playtime/lunchtime only.

In addition, if our junior children bring a snack (instead of using the Tuck Shop), this must be a healthy snack (e.g. no crisps, chocolate etc).

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
04.05.26	Bank Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED	22.05.26	Break up for HALF TERM
11.05.26	Y6 SATs week	01.06.26	Start of SUMMER 2
11.05.26	PTA meeting – 2.30pm	01.06.26	Y4 MTC week
15.05.26	Y6 leavers' hoodies – SHOP CLOSURES	01.06.26	Y5/Y6 Bikeability week
18.05.26	Acorns silver coin collection week	01.06.26	6A swimming week
20.05.26	Brass performance – 2.30pm	01.06.26	Y2 Camping 26/27 – deposits DUE
21.05.26	Theme Lunch: Summertime Fiesta	04.06.26	Y6 safeguarding awareness day
21.05.26	Off-site evacuation drill - PM	08.06.26	Y1 PSC week
22.05.26	Attendance Shop – OPEN	08.06.26	6B swimming week
22.05.26	Non-uniform day - £1	10.06.26	Photo Day – class/group photos
22.05.26	Y6 Drayton Manor – payments due	11.06.26	Theme Lunch: World Cup