YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

16.10.26

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Oracy…

You may recall a letter that we sent previously that, this year, we are with an organisation called Voice 21 to develop oracy. As part of their work Voice 21 works with over 1,000 schools, across the country, to improve pupils' speaking, listening and communication skills in lessons and across subjects.

We already have many opportunities for oracy already woven into our curriculum and we are excited about growing and developing these across the year. This may include, for example, supporting children with sentence stems in a range of subjects/situations, broadening and deepening their vocabulary/choice of words and also developing active listening skills.

You can find out more about our oracy work, and information about Voice 21, on our website HERE. We will keep you updated on the progress we make with this work as the year goes on.

However, do think about ways you can strengthen your child's oracy skills at home; If you ask them a question, don't accept them 'grunting' as an answer. Instead, insist that they answer you in a full sentence. When you pick them up from school, don't simply ask how their day was (as they may just tell you "it was ok"), expand on this by asking what their favourite thing to do was etc.

If you make this time for conversation each day, it really will become a habit in no time and your conversations with your child will really make a difference to them.

Jamie Barry



Our attendance TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

Please remember that, if your child enters via the school office, they are **LATE** for school.

If they arrive after 9.20am, they don't receive their attendance mark as registers have to close for the day.



E-SAFETY REMINDERS

This week, we have spent a considerable amount of time dealing with online behaviour issues from outside of school.

As a school, we actively discourage parents/carers from purchasing smart phones (e.g. iPhones) for children as they are simply not necessary. However, if you do allow your child to have an internet enabled device, please do ensure you actively and frequently monitor their online behaviour.

We are aware that a significant number of children are accessing age inappropriate apps, which you can find more about HERE, and are behaving in a way that they wouldn't behave in person.

In order for us to be able to teach, without spending time on cyber issues, please check out the e-safety page of our website HERE for guidance & support.

NON-UNIFORM DAY

As next week is the final week of the half term, we have a non-uniform day on:

FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER

On this day, children are invited to come to school in their own clothes in exchange for a £1 donation per child. All money raised supports our School Fund activities.

SECONDARY APPLICATION DEADLINE

If your child is in Y6, you will have spent time recently visiting secondary school open evenings and events.

Following this, please remember that the deadline for applications is:

SATURDAY 31st OCTOBER

27/28 TERM & INSET DATES

Whilst it may seem ages away, we have had enquiries about term and INSET dates for 2027/28 so families can book holidays.

As we are delighted that this is being taken into account, when planning holidays, we have added these dates to the website calendar and have summarised next year's dates on our website HERE.

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

Our charity day this term is for BBC Children in Need which takes place on:

FRIDAY 20th NOVEMBER

Further details will follow but children will be able to wear spotty or Pudsey themed clothes that day as we 'run with Pudsey'.

YEAR GROUP PAGES

Don't forget that our website contains lots of information. This includes information for each year group that may be useful to parents/carers, e.g. your child's current topic, their PE days, staff etc.

You can find out more about the current learning in your child's year group of the relevant pages of our website HERE.

BEST START FAMILY HUB

We are really proud that Yew Tree is a 'spoke' Best Start Family Hub for Sandwell. This means we run a range of sessions and services which support families (not just those with children at Yew Tree).

If you would like to find out more about the Best Start Family Hub, or the sessions on offer currently, click HERE.

As part of this work, we are delighted that an Alex Jones (Inclusion Practitioner) will be working with our Nursery parents & children on Tuesdays this term. Take a look at Dojo for further details of this work,

STAFING NEWS

Today we say goodbye to Ms Onions as she leaves us to start a new role elsewhere. After half-term we welcome our new Receptionist, Ms Eccleshall, to the admin team.

In addition, following interviews this week, we are pleased that Ms Heminsley will be joining our team of teaching assistants soon but, sadly, we say goodbye to Ms Williamson.

Finally, we are proud that Ms Law has secured a new role as a college lecturer from January. We will be sad to say goodbye to her, when the time comes, and are actively recruiting a replacement teacher for 1C now. We shall update you with this ASAP.



DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
16.10.26	SEND coffee morning – 9.00am	03.11.26	Y2 PANTS sessions – AM
16.10.26	Zoom links for Parents' Eve published	03.11.26	YR 'Hands & Teeth' sessions – AM
19.10.26	EYFS Forest School sessions start	03.11.26	Y6 emotional health sessions – PM
21.10.26	Parents' Evening (online) – 3.30pm+	03.11.26	Y5 parents' meeting (puberty) – 2.30pm
23.10.26	Non-uniform day - £1 per child	03.11.26	PTA Firework event – 4.45pm
23.10.26	Y3 Edgmond Hall trip	04.11.26	YR & Y6 height & weight checks
23.10.26	Y5 INSPIRE session – 9.00am	04.11.26	Y3 class assemblies – PM
23.10.26	Break up for **HALF TERM**	05.11.26	Theme Lunch: Bonfire Night
31.10.26	Deadline for secondary applications	05.11.26	Y3 & Y4 healthy eating sessions – AM
02.11.26	Start of **AUTUMN 2**	05.11.26	Y5 puberty sessions – PM
02.11.26	PTA meeting – 2.30pm	06.11.26	Y2 camping balances – DUE today

Learning without Limits

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