



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times



09.01.26

yewtreeprimary.co.uk

Happy New Year...

Welcome back and, of course, 'Happy New Year' to everyone in the Yew Tree family. As we start the spring term, I would like to extend a special welcome to Ms Lucas (teacher), Ms Hawthorne (TA) and Ms Kordie (cleaner) who joined us this week.

After what I hope has been a lovely break for families, it has been a cold and stressful first week back as we have battled with snow and ice. Thank you all for your understanding and patience when I have had to make decisions about opening or closing the school. As I explained on Dojo, I have a professional obligation to keep school open and operational so I do appreciate your support with the decisions I have taken.

Although the weather has been a challenge this week, I am proud of staff and children for continuing with such dedication to learning at school. Despite being inside for play and lunch most days this week, the focus in lessons has been incredible. Well done everyone.

As we settle into the spring, and look beyond this week, there continues to be a huge amount of activity at school. We hope you will get involved where you can so do keep an eye on our key dates at the end of each newsletter or by subscribing to our website calendar [HERE](#).

Here is to a successful and happy 2026!

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

We are delighted with the importance that the vast majority of our families place on attendance. This really makes a difference to each child's learning.

Remember, you can check your child's attendance at anytime on Arbor (click below):



ALLERGENS & DIETARY INFORMATION

It is really important that parents/carers take care when making school meal choices on School Grid. Recently, we have had occasions where meal choices are not matched to a child's dietary or allergen information.

If your child has an allergen, it is important you indicate this on the options on School Grid. In this section, please also indicate whether the child cannot eat products that 'may contain' the allergen as this will then automatically prohibit you from ordering those food items.

Similarly, whilst we can add dietary requirements to School Grid (e.g. vegetarian or only eats halal meat), it is important parents/carers consider the meal choices they are making. To be clear, we do NOT serve halal meat so please do not select a meat option if your child only eats halal.

BRENDA DEARDEN COMMUNITY CHEST

Upon the sad passing of a beloved governor last year, we received some money in her memory for us to support the community.

Therefore, we have set up the Brenda Dearden Community Chest. This means we can use these resources to help families in need/crisis with food vouchers (while funds permit) that we are aware of needing support.

ADMISSIONS DEADLINES

This is a final reminder that the deadline to apply for places in Reception, to start in September 2026, is:

THURSDAY 15th JANUARY

The deadline to apply for Nursery places, via the school office, is Friday 27th February. Please see our office with any questions.

CHIT CHAT

We hope as many parents/carers as possible will pop along to the next Chit Chat group on:

FRIDAY 16th JANUARY at 9.00am

As well as having a coffee and a catch up with other parents/carers and Ms Melia, Ms Kaur is also going to pop in to have a chat and share some tips about keeping children safe online when using technology.

STAFFING NEWS

We would like to wish our HLTA, Ms Beech, lots of love and luck as she leaves us early next week to move on to new adventures.

While we are in the process of recruiting for a replacement, we are delighted that Ms Byron shall be returning temporarily to support teaching and learning across the school.

PLAS GWYNANT

We know that lots of our Y6 children are looking forward to Plas Gwynant residential which takes place next week.

Thank you to Ms Mclean, Ms Clarke, Mrs Neville & Ms Neville for giving up their family time to make this experience possible. Do keep an eye on Twitter (X) for photos throughout the week.



TRIP PAYMENTS & CONSENTS

As you will be aware, from this [letter](#) which we sent home previously, there are a number of school trips coming up this term.

Currently, the payments collected for the forthcoming trips are low which means they are at risk of being cancelled (as we can only run trips with payments from families).

Therefore, if you haven't already, please do make the payment for your child's trip ASAP and no later than the deadline we have given. We have posted further information on Class Dojo.

PARENTS' EVENING

As we communicated, in the [letter](#) sent home earlier this week, our Spring Term Parents' Evening takes place on:

WEDNESDAY 11th FEBRUARY
between **1.30pm – 6.30pm**

Please do keep an eye out for the booking link which will be emailed from our website, to the primary contact for each child, at 9.00am on Monday 12th January. Appointment slots are available on a first come first served basis so don't delay in booking.

In order to maximise time with teachers, **school CLOSES at 1.00pm on 11.02.26.**

DATE	EVENT	DATE	EVENT
12.01.26	Y6 Plas Gwynant residential week	21.01.26	Y3 class assemblies - PM
12.01.26	Deadline for Y4 trip payments	22.01.26	Deadline for Y5 trip payments
12.01.26	Parents' Evening booking links – OPEN	23.01.26	Y1 INSPIRE session – 9.00am
14.01.26	Y1 PSC meeting – 2.30pm	23.01.26	Family Hub Stay & Play sessions start
15.01.26	Deadline to apply for YR (26/27) places	27.01.26	Y4 trip to Dudley Zoo
15.01.26	Y1 Great Fire of London workshops	27.01.26	YN story parent session – 9.00am
16.01.26	Y2 INSPIRE session – 9.00am	27.01.26	RA writing parent session – 2.20pm
16.01.26	Chat Chat session – 9.00am	28.01.26	RB writing parent session – 2.20pm
19.01.26	PTA meeting – 2.30pm	29.01.26	RC writing parent session – 2.20pm
20.01.26	Y4 SPARKS sessions – PM	30.01.26	SEND coffee morning – 9.00am
21.01.26	Girls' football team – finals – PM	04.02.26	Girls' football team – finals - AM