



YEW TREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Yew Tree Times

Latest News

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yewtreeprimary.co.uk

Attendance Matters...

You will know, by our frequent communication, that we really prioritise 'attendance matters' at Yew Tree. As well as being a national priority for schools, we know [research](#) shows the difference it makes to children's learning and life outcomes if they attend school regularly.

On the whole, we are seeing some good success with in this area with our whole school attendance just over 95% (national = 94.5%). In addition, we know that the vast majority of parents/carers also value attendance by ensuring their children attend school on time each day.

However, unfortunately, we face a challenge with a small minority of families regarding attendance. Whilst we understand there are occasions where children are unable to attend school, there are too many instances recently where children are staying home unnecessarily or for unauthorised reasons.

I understand that part of our job is to promote attendance. However, these are your children so I am urging families, where children have attendance below 90% (which means they are persistently absent), to get on board with attendance. I am sure every parent/carer would want their child to do well!

Do check your child's attendance on the [Arbor app](#) and make a big effort, where necessary, to ensure they are here on time each day. Our staff are amazing but they simply cannot help your child to learn, and achieve their potential, unless they are here at school!

Mr Jamie Barry



Our attendance TARGET is 96%.

"Be in to win...!"

Our children had a wonderful time at our Attendance Shop yesterday exchanging their stamps for a range of items:



READING AT HOME

As you will be aware, our Home Learning (homework) Policy prioritises reading at home. We don't typically set any other homework as we know how important family and social time are too.

Please do check the Home Learning ladder, on the last page of our policy to see how long your child should be reading at home for. The policy can be accessed by clicking [HERE](#) but the time reading is summarised for you below:

- EYFS (YN & YR) – 5 x 5mins per week
- KS1 (Y1 & Y2) – 5 x 10mins per week
- KS2 (Y3 – Y6) – 5 x 20mins per week

We can't emphasise enough what a difference it will make to your child if you read with them/ensure they read at home. Don't forget to log your child's reading on [Boom Reader](#) (YR – Y6). Do speak to your child's teacher if you have any login difficulties.

WE ARE PERFORMERS

We have really enjoyed our curriculum focus week 'We are Performers'. If you haven't seen already, do take a look at our [Twitter \(X\)](#) feed to see some pictures and videos from this exciting week.

Children in Y2 – Y6 have also planned a little surprise at pick up time today so don't be late!

GOLD BOOK

Congratulations to all our children who are being recognised in our termly Gold Book assembly today.

These assemblies are a fantastic opportunity to recognise and celebrate the **exceptional** behaviour, attitudes and work of our wonderful children.

TERM DATES

As you know, we break up today for Easter. Children return to school, at the usual time, on

MONDAY 28th APRIL

We have a very short half term when we return so every moment really will count. Don't forget that school will be closed for bank holiday on:

MONDAY 5th MAY

CHIT CHAT

We hope lots of you are able to come along to our next Chit Chat session on:

FRIDAY 9th MAY at 9.00am

This is an informal opportunity to chat to Ms Melia about school related matters. At the next meeting, we shall be discussing our parent surveys.

YR CLASS ASSEMBLY

We are looking forward to our final class assemblies of the year with Reception on **WEDNESDAY 14th MAY** at the following times:

RA – 1.30pm

RB – 2.00pm

RC – 2.30pm



Y6 SATS

We hope that everyone has a good rest over Easter. However, this is particularly important for our Y6 children who shall be taking their SATs tests shortly after we return. These take place from:

MONDAY 12th MAY – THURSDAY 15th MAY

It is so important that the children are energised ready to learn when we return. It is also vital that children, attend, on time every day up to and including the testing week. If parents/carers have any further questions about SATs then do get in touch.

GOVERNOR VACANCY

At the end of this academic year, one of our long-standing governors, John Dearden, will stand down from our Governing Board after many years of dedicated service.

We shall say a full goodbye closer to the time but, needless to say, he will leave a massive gap and has very big shoes to fill.

Mr Dearden is a Local Authority Governor so we are actively looking, with them, to find a replacement to start with us in September.

Further details are available [HERE](#).

If you are interested, or know somebody who is, please do get in touch with us.

| DATE | EVENT | DATE | EVENT |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|--|
| 11.04.25 | Non-uniform day - £1 per child | 12.05.25 | Start of Y6 SATs (until Thursday) |
| 11.04.25 | Gold Book assemblies - AM | 12.05.25 | PTA meeting – 2.30pm |
| 11.04.25 | Break up for EASTER | 14.05.25 | YR class assemblies – PM |
| 28.04.25 | Start of SUMMER 1 | 16.05.25 | Deadline for Y2 camp (25/26) deposit |
| 30.04.25 | School Council trip | 16.05.25 | Start of PTA ice-cream Fridays |
| 01.05.25 | Y2 camping experience | 19.05.25 | Y4 visit to Staffordshire Wildlife Trust |
| 02.05.25 | Plas Gwynant payments DUE | 19.05.25 | SEND coffee morning – 9.00am |
| 05.05.25 | BANK HOLIDAY – school closed | 20.05.25 | Evacuation drill – PM |
| 06.05.25 | Y1 trip to Black Country Museum | 23.05.25 | Non-uniform day - £1 per child |
| 09.05.25 | Y1 Black Country Museum outreach | 23.05.25 | Peer Mediator training day |
| 09.05.25 | Chit Chat session – 9.00am | 23.05.25 | Rags to Riches collection day |