



# THE YARDLEIAN



ISSUED MONTHLY - DECEMBER 2024 EDITION

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEADTEACHER

Welcome to our end of term edition of the Yardleian. Parents and carers are a huge part of our community and we appreciate the support you give to ensuring that students are really successful. We conclude this busy term with our traditional whole school assessment week. Staff and students have worked hard and we look forward to sharing the progress and achievements of your children in the New Year via the spring term academic reports and upcoming parent evenings in the new year. (Please refer to the key dates section). May I take this opportunity to wish the whole Yardleys community a Merry Christmas!



CLICK BELOW FOR  
[IMPORTANT LINKS AND LETTERS](#)



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## OUTSTANDING ATTENDANCE AWARD

We are delighted to share some fantastic news – our school has been awarded the FFT National Attendance Award for the 2023/24 academic year!

This recognition highlights the commitment and hard work of our staff, pupils, parents, and carers in achieving excellent attendance throughout the year.

The FFT Attendance Awards are based on national attendance data from over 10,000 schools, and we are proud to be among the top 10% or top 25% of schools nationally. This achievement is also a testament to the strong partnership between school and home, ensuring our pupils get the most out of their education.

Thank you for your continued support in making school attendance a priority. Together, we can continue to build on this success.

Let's keep up the great work!



**FFT National  
Attendance Award  
2023/24**

## ASSESSMENT WEEK

A huge well done to all our pupils for their hard work and focus during assessment week. Every year group approached the week with determination and resilience, making it a great success for the whole school.

Assessment week is a key moment in our school calendar, allowing pupils to demonstrate their learning and progress. We are incredibly proud of the effort shown by everyone and grateful to parents and carers for their continued support.

Here's to building on this success as we move forward together!







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## YARDLEYS UNIFORM SHOP



We're pleased to announce that our pre-loved Uniform Shop will be open for the third time on Monday, 6th January 2025.

The shop will be open from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, offering a range of uniform items. Payments can be made easily through your ParentPay account.

If you have any uniform items you no longer need, we would greatly appreciate your donations. Thank you for supporting this initiative, which helps our school community.

## FAREWELL & BEST WISHES

As the term comes to a close, we say goodbye to some valued members of our team. Among them is Ms O'Loughlin, who, after an incredible 35 years at Yardleys, is retiring.

Her dedication, passion, and countless contributions to the school have left a lasting legacy, and she will be deeply missed.

We also say goodbye to Mr Evans and Ms Bernard who served as Head of DT and Teacher of MFL. We thank all our departing staff for their hard work and commitment, and we wish them the very best for the future.



## SUPPORTING ACORNS CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

This year's end-of-year staff breakfast was a heartwarming success, and we're thrilled to share that we raised an incredible £225 for Acorns Children's Hospice. The generosity and support mean so much, helping to make a difference for children and families who need it most.





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## YARDLEYS GOT TALENT

A huge round of applause to all the incredible students who shared their amazing talents at this year's Yardleys Got Talent! From soulful singing to mind-blowing card tricks, dazzling gymnastics, and sensational saxophone playing, our students shone brightly on stage!

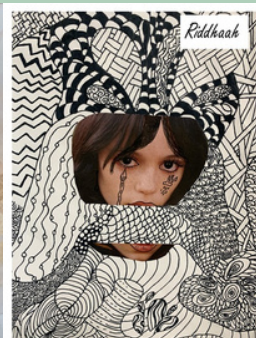


Sarrah (Singing)  
Muhammed (Card Tricks)  
Zakariyya & Nailah (Singing)  
Evie-Mai (Singing)  
Dua & Bdor (Gymnastics)  
Eimaan (Singing)  
Maccawiye (Saxophone)  
Zaynab & Riddhaah (Singing)  
Umama (Singing)  
Umaiza (Singing)

A special congratulations to our winners, as voted by each year group:  
Eimaan, Maccawiye, Dua & Bdor

A heartfelt thank you to Mr. Dunne, Ms. Wertz, and everyone who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the event such a success.

As part of the talent show, our talented students also showcased their incredible artwork. The creativity on display was truly impressive. Some of the great work can be seen below.







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## YEAR 8 CYBER EXPERIENCE

Our Year 8 computing students had an unforgettable day at the CyberFirst Mini MEGA event at Steamhouse in Birmingham. This incredible opportunity not only challenged their problem-solving skills but also inspired them to explore STEM subjects and dream big about future careers in tech and cyber roles.



Every student impressed with their creativity and determination, and a special congratulations goes to Tasmia, who received a special prize for her outstanding performance!

We couldn't be prouder of how these talented students represented our school and embraced the exciting possibilities of a future in cybersecurity and beyond.

## HOSPITALITY CONNECT



Yardleys School is participating in the Hospitality Connect project organised by the Birmingham Hospitality Association to highlight career opportunities in the hospitality sector. Partnering with Malmaison Hotel, the project includes six activities throughout the academic year.

The first event, a Master Class led by Head Chef Peter Brown, took place on November 28th, where Year 10 and 11 students baked chocolate soufflés and received valuable feedback. The students showcased commendable skills, linking their GCSE learning to real-world applications. In the New Year, they will visit Malmaison to explore various job roles in the industry, and the school looks forward to further collaboration with the hotel.



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## SPORTS

### OUR GIRLS TRIUMPH!

Our KS4 girls' football team competed in a thrilling tournament in December at Christchurch Academy. Facing four other teams in the collegiate, the girls showcased incredible teamwork and determination, doing Yardleys School proud.

With three wins and a draw, the team secured the trophy, marking an amazing achievement. Special congratulations to our star player, Zara, for her outstanding performance.

Well done to all the players for their hard work and a fantastic evening of football!



### BOCCIA FESTIVAL

Selected KS3 pupils were given the opportunity to enjoy a Boccia festival yesterday at Chandos School.

A great time was had by our pupils.



### WARWICKSHIRE CRICKET LESSONS

Our girls' PE lessons were taken over by Warwickshire Cricket Foundation, who delivered exciting street cricket sessions.

The event was a fantastic opportunity to play and learn about the game.





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## KEY DATES AND EVENTS

Monday 6th January 2025 - Staff Training Day. School closed to students.

Tuesday 7th January 2025 – School reopens to all students as normal.

Thursday 23rd January 2025 – Year 11 Parent's Evening (remote) 4:30pm-7:30pm

Thursday 30th January 2025 – Year 10 Parent's Evening (remote) 4:30pm-7:30pm

Monday 3rd – Friday 7th February 2025 – Year 10 Work Experience Week

Friday 7th February 2025 – Staff Training Day. School closed to students.

Monday 10th F– Monday 14th February 2025 – Celebration Assembly Week

Friday 14th February 2025 - Last day of half term

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February 20-25 – Half Term Holidays.

Monday 24th February 2025 - School reopens to all students as normal.

Monday 24th – Friday 28th February 2025 – Year 11 Core Mock Examination Week

Thursday 27th February 2025 - Year 9 Parent's Evening (remote) 4:30pm-7:30pm

## WINTRY WEATHER AND SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

The season of wintry weather is fast approaching. As you know, maintaining the safety of our students and staff is a top priority and the school will remain open if it is safe to do so. If there is heavy snow or conditions on the school site are compromised, we may have to close the school or adjust the school day, with an earlier finish time. We will make such decisions as early as possible and inform parents/carers by text message and via our website homepage – [www.yardleys-vle.com](http://www.yardleys-vle.com).

If there is heavy snow or inclement weather in the morning, please check our website BEFORE leaving home. We will aim to update our website by 7:30 am to inform you of any changes to our normal school arrangements.