



**Yardleys
School**

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE

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Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

It gives me great pleasure to write to you as we approach the end of yet another busy, but successful, term. At the time of writing we are busy, as a school community, thinking of those less fortunate than ourselves by collecting food parcels to support vulnerable families. I am frequently humbled by the generosity of our students and families in supporting charitable causes.

This term has seen a number of exciting opportunities for our young people. As well as external visitors coming into school we have enjoyed seeing our students go out on a range of trips and visits including to the London Science Museum, Carding Mill Valley, The University of Birmingham and Millennium Point. In school, our students are working hard for their assessments at the end of term. This is a real opportunity for them to demonstrate what they have learnt and understood and help teachers to plan to address any gaps in their learning. Thank you for your support in ensuring that our students take these assessments seriously.

You will soon receive a copy of our termly newsletter, 'The Yardleian', which contains a number of articles showcasing the brilliant work that goes on in school and as part of our extra-curricular offer. I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to our hard-working teaching and support staff for the dedication and commitment they show in making our students' time at Yardleys so memorable.

Attendance is an extremely important area for schools. We are lucky to have parents/carers who support us in ensuring students come to school on time and regularly. We have ambitious attendance targets and as well as being important to ensure academic success, good attendance is also extremely important in instilling a strong work ethic which our young people will need when they leave school and enter the world of work. Please see below further information on attendance.

All it remains for me to say is to thank you for the tremendous support you give to the school. I wish you and your families a very restful and peaceful break.

Yours faithfully

NEIL WARNER
Headteacher

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSESSMENT WEEK/MOCK EXAMS AND END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

Year 10-11 mock exams have already started. These exams are important and we expect students in school every day with the correct equipment ready for the exams. Attendance is vital. In preparation for these exams they should be revising from knowledge organisers/resources on the VLE.

Monday 5 th – Thursday 15 th December 2022	Whole School Assessment/Examination Weeks (Years 7-11) Monday 5th – Friday 9th December Mock examinations for Year 10 & 11 Year 7-11 Assessment Week Monday 12th – Thursday 15th December Years 7-11 examinations Please note school will finish at 2:30 pm every day during the final week of term. Due to exams there will be no after school clubs and the library will also be closed. Students are expected to leave or to be collected at 2:30 pm during this week.
Thursday 15 th December 2022	Students will be dismissed at 12:10 pm, last day of term

NON-UNIFORM DAY/CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY/CULTURAL DRESS DAY – THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2022

On Thursday 15th December, for students and staff this will be a non-uniform day, cultural dress day or Christmas jumper day (no caps/pouches are allowed) by donating 50p which will go towards Save the Children. Students have been reminded about expectations around the importance of good behaviour, attendance and equipment for this day.

CHRISTMAS FOOD BANK COLLECTION

Once again this year we are working closely with the Birmingham Christian Mission to provide much needed goods for a large number of families in the surrounding area. Birmingham Christian Mission provide over 200 food parcels each month, something which is particularly appreciated over the winter months. We thank you for your support again this year.

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Please could parents and carers take care when parking outside of school. We have had several complaints from neighbours of cars blocking drive ways and other vehicle access points. This also creates a real danger to pedestrians including our children when they are leaving school or crossing the road. The local community were devastated by the tragic incident outside of school resulting in the death of a young child. The safety of students and the local community is paramount.

BEHAVIOUR IN THE COMMUNITY

Please can parents and carers remind students of the importance of behaving safely on the way to and from school, for example when crossing roads, if in parks and in looking after the community. Pupils should not loiter outside the school gates and they should be mindful of local residents and members of the public at all times.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Please note that all pupils need to be lined up ready for the start of the day at 8:40 am and will be recorded as late beyond this time.

We expect all children to have very good attendance to school. Parents and carers of any child not in school will be telephoned at the beginning of the day. Please note that term time holidays are not permitted. Where we have concerns about attendance levels or patterns of absence we will work with parents to improve or rectify the problem. However we may also take further steps including legal action which could result in various penalties and fines.

UNIFORM

We continue to expect high standards of uniform from pupils and the vast majority of pupils meet our expected standards. However we need to remind pupils that they need to wear black leather/leather look shoes (not boots, trainers or canvas shoes); loose fitting trousers or skirts to an appropriate length (no jeans, leggings or rolled up

trousers); no jewellery other than plain stud earrings and no excessive makeup. Please see the school website for further information.

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Thursday 15 th December 2022	Last day of term – students will be dismissed at 12:10 pm
Friday 16 th December 2022 – Monday 2 nd January 2023	Christmas holidays – school closed to students
Tuesday 3 rd January 2023	Staff training day – school closed to students
Wednesday 4 th January 2023	School open as normal to all students
Thursday 19 th January 2023	Year 11 Parents' Evening – 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Thursday 9 th February 2023	Year 7 Parents' Evening – 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Friday 17 th February 2023	Last day of term
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th February 2023	Half term – school closed to students
Monday 27 th February 2023	School re-opens to students