



THE YARDLEIAN



SUMMER 2026 ISSUE

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT

Welcome to the summer edition of the Yardleian for this academic year.

Despite the extreme heat this summer, I have been so impressed with how our students have approached their studies and helped to ensure a successful end to another busy year. I am glad that Year 11 escaped the heat during their GCSEs and enjoyed a memorable send-off with their leavers' assembly and prom. We look forward to celebrating their achievements on Results Day, Thursday 20th August, from 9:30am to 11:30am in the Drama Studio.

We wish them well as they embark on the next phase of their lives, whether that be further education, employment, or training. You will also see in this edition that we have welcomed our new cohort of students who will be joining us in September. They attended an action-packed transition day that provided them with a taste of what life at Yardleys is like. We look forward to welcoming them officially in September.

We also say goodbye to several valued colleagues who will be leaving us at the end of the year. We extend our sincere thanks and farewell to the following staff: Ms Bentham (Data and Exams Manager), Mr Pohl (Senior Deputy Headteacher), Ms Roberts-Uddin (Teacher of Maths), Mr Veal (Head of History), and Ms Wertz (Teacher of Music). We wish them all the very best for the future and thank them for their contribution to Yardleys School.

We will also be welcoming the following staff, who join us in September: Ms Akhtar and Ms Akhtar (Teachers of Maths), Ms Briggs (Head of Year 7), Ms Baseer and Ms Coxon (Teachers of Science), and Ms Khan and Ms Sidebotham (Teachers of English).

The success of this school is built on the strong partnership between school and home. My sincere thanks go to our amazing teaching and support staff, as well as our Trustees, who work tirelessly to ensure our students receive the very best academic education and personal development opportunities. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, our parents and carers, for your ongoing support and loyalty to our school.

This has been another fantastic term, with so many highlights and events that have truly showcased our school, staff, and students at their very best. I do hope you enjoy reading about them. This edition also contains key dates for the 2026–27 academic year.

I hope you all have a relaxing summer break and I look forward to welcoming students back in September.

Mr G Basra, Headteacher



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DEMONSTRATING KNOWLEDGE AND PROGRESS

This term saw students across the school take part in Assessment Week, providing an opportunity to showcase their learning, reflect on their progress, and identify areas for further development. Students approached their assessments with maturity and determination, and we were hugely impressed by the effort they demonstrated throughout the week.



For our Year 11 students, this term also signified the end of their GCSE examinations. After months of dedicated preparation and effort, they approached their exams with remarkable resilience and commitment. We are immensely proud of their conduct during the examination period and eagerly await the opportunity to celebrate their accomplishments when the results are announced.

CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS



We were delighted to hold our annual Awards Evening, recognising and celebrating the outstanding achievements of students across the school.

The evening provided an opportunity to acknowledge academic success, commitment to learning, excellent attendance, and the many contributions students make to school life. It was wonderful to see so many students receive well-deserved recognition for their hard work, determination, and resilience throughout the year.

We are incredibly proud of all our award winners and thank families and staff for their continued support. The evening was a fitting celebration of the talent, dedication, and success that make our school community so special.



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A FOND FAREWELL TO YEAR 11

Year 11 came together for their leavers' assembly to celebrate their time at school and reflect on the many memories they have made along the way.

The tradition of signing shirts, gives students the opportunity to leave messages and memories for their friends as they prepare for the next stage of their journey.



A NIGHT TO REMEMBER



Our Year 11 students enjoyed a fantastic evening at the Manor Hotel in Meriden as they came together to celebrate the end of their time at Yardleys School.

The event was a wonderful occasion, with students arriving in style and looking absolutely amazing. It was a pleasure to see everyone enjoying the evening, creating lasting memories with friends and staff as they marked this important milestone.

Throughout the night, students conducted themselves impeccably and were a real credit to both themselves and the school. Their positive attitude, maturity, and excellent behaviour helped make the evening such a success.

We are incredibly proud of this year group and wish them every success as they move on to the next stage of their education, employment, or training. The prom was a fitting celebration of their achievements and a memorable way to conclude their Yardleys journey.



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REWARDING SUCCESS: TRIP DAY

To recognise the hard work, effort, and achievements of our students throughout the year, we were delighted to reward them with a special Awards Trip Day.

Year 7 and Year 9 students enjoyed an exciting day at Drayton Manor, while Year 10 students headed to Alton Towers for a well-earned treat. Meanwhile, Year 8 students spent the day at Weston-super-Mare, making the most of the seaside and the hot weather.

The trips were a fantastic opportunity for students to celebrate their success, create lasting memories, and enjoy the rewards of their dedication throughout the year. We are pleased to report that students represented the school brilliantly!



ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY SHOWCASE

Congratulations to our talented Year 11 Art and Photography students, whose outstanding work was selected for exhibition at the Birmingham School of Art.

The exhibition was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the culmination of two years of creativity, dedication, and hard work. It was wonderful to see students sharing their achievements with friends, family, and staff while showcasing the impressive range of artistic talent within the year group.





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DUKE OF EDINBURGH SUCCESS

Congratulations to our students who successfully completed their Duke of Edinburgh expedition this term.

Over the course of the expedition, students demonstrated resilience, teamwork, determination, and a great sense of humour as they navigated the route, carried all their equipment, and overcame a range of challenges along the way. After plenty of walking and one final climb, all students reached the finish line successfully, a fantastic achievement that reflects their hard work and perseverance.



The expedition provided an excellent opportunity for students to develop valuable life skills, build confidence, and create lasting memories. We are incredibly proud of the way they supported one another throughout the journey and represented the school so positively. Well done to everyone involved on completing this impressive challenge.

EXPLORING THE BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS



Our Geography students enjoyed a fantastic visit to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, where they took part in a range of hands-on activities to support their learning beyond the classroom.

During the visit, students explored different environments and identified a variety of pond life, as well as arid and tropical plant species from around the world. They also developed their observation skills through landscape sketching and contour drawings, carefully recording the features and characteristics of the gardens.



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STUDENTS DELIVER INSPIRING UNIVERSITY LECTURE

A group of eight outstanding Year 11 students had the unique opportunity to deliver a one-hour lecture on eco-anxiety and the importance of embedding climate awareness across different subject areas to an audience of around 170 university students.

The students demonstrated remarkable confidence, knowledge, and professionalism as they led the session, keeping their audience engaged through interactive quizzes, discussion activities, and a game show. Their presentation explored important environmental issues while encouraging meaningful conversation about the role education can play in addressing them.

The impact of the session was clear, with university lecturers contacting the school to praise both the content and delivery of the lecture. The university students also responded enthusiastically, highlighting how engaging and thought-provoking the presentation had been.



MATHS CHALLENGE SUCCESS

Congratulations to our Year 7 and Year 8 students who achieved certificates in this year's Maths Challenge.





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A MAGICAL DAY WITH THE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

Students enjoyed a memorable trip to Stratford-upon-Avon, where they watched a performance of *The Tempest*!

The visit provided a wonderful opportunity to bring their English studies to life, combining literature, performance, and the history of Shakespeare's hometown.

A particular highlight of the day was seeing students recite *The Prelude* beside the River Avon, with boats drifting past and the willow trees providing the perfect backdrop.

The students were a credit to the school throughout the visit, and the trip was a fantastic experience for everyone.



INSPIRING INNOVATION AT GIRLS TECH



Students had a fantastic experience visiting Girls Tech, where they explored the exciting world of technology and innovation. Throughout the day, students took part in a range of activities, from building laptops to developing and pitching their own ideas.

It was inspiring to see so much creativity, curiosity, and enthusiasm on display, with students embracing every opportunity to learn new skills and broaden their understanding of careers in technology.



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SPORTS DAY



Form winners by year:

Year 7: 7RES 189 points

Year 8: 8SUT 161 points

Year 9: 9PKZ 164 points

Year 10: 10CNG 182 points

Overall form winner: 7RES!





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INVESTING IN OUR SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

We are pleased to share two significant improvements to our school site that have been completed this year.

Refurbished KS4 Boys' Toilets

The KS4 boys' toilets have undergone a complete refurbishment, including the installation of new cubicles, sinks, and flooring. The improvements have created a brighter, more modern environment for students and are part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining high-quality facilities across the school.



Renewable Energy with Solar Panels

As part of our commitment to sustainability, solar panels have been installed on the roofs of both the Main Hall and Sports Hall. These panels will help the school generate its own electricity, reducing energy costs while supporting our efforts to become more environmentally sustainable through the use of renewable energy.

These developments are positive investments in both our facilities and our future, benefiting students for years to come.





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MOBILE PHONE POLICY – KEY POINTS

Pupils must not bring mobile phones onto the school site. This includes all areas such as the driveway and car park.

If a phone is seen or heard

- It will be confiscated by staff and stored securely.
- Refusal to hand it over will be treated as defiance and sanctioned.
- Inappropriate use (e.g., filming others) will result in additional sanctions.

Required hand-ins

- In isolation and exam venues, all phones must be handed in to meet regulations.
- These phones are returned to pupils later the same day.

Trips

- Phones may be allowed on some trips (e.g., DofE) if needed for safety. Parents will be informed in advance.

Medical exemptions

- Pupils needing a phone for medical reasons (e.g., Type 1 diabetes monitoring) may carry it.
- They will be issued a medical exemption card and must show this to staff if asked.

PARENT/CARER EXPECTATIONS

- **Encourage your child to leave their phone at home.**
- **If a phone is needed for travel, parents must understand it can still be confiscated.**
- **Do not contact pupils directly during the day—please phone school reception.**

If a phone is confiscated

- The priority 1 contact will receive a text.
- Phones can be collected from reception:
 - Mon–Thu: 8:30am–4:00pm
 - Fri: 8:30am–3:30pm
- The phone must leave the site with the adult collecting it.
- School cannot accept responsibility for lost or stolen phones.





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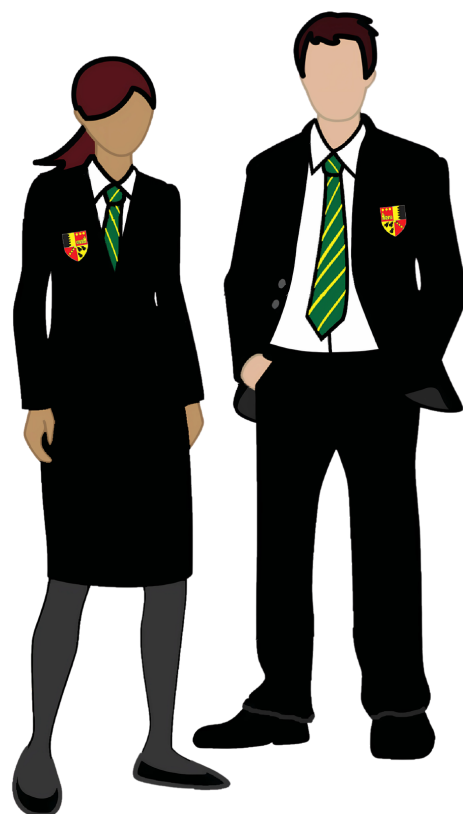


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SCHOOL UNIFORM

At Yardleys School we pride ourselves on high standards and are always mindful that we are representing our local community at all times. As such, we would like to remind students and parents/guardians of our expectations regarding school uniform. In order to help you ensure that you are purchasing the correct uniform for your son/daughter, we have also produced a detailed illustration of what is and what is not acceptable uniform at Yardleys School.

1. Black school blazer with Yardleys School badge. Blazer sleeves should not be rolled up or folded over.
2. Plain black skirt or trousers (not black jeans, skin-tight trousers, hipsters etc.). Please note that skirts should be of an appropriate length (not significantly above the knee or below the ankle) and should not be skin tight. If a skirt is worn, trousers/leggings should not be worn underneath. Belts should be plain black with no logo on the buckle.
3. Plain white blouse or shirt. T-Shirts of any description are not acceptable.
4. Clip on Yardleys School tie. NB The clip must be attached; ties with clips removed must be replaced.
5. Plain knit black v-neck pullover with Yardleys School badge, this is optional. Cardigans or alternative pullovers are not permitted.
6. Plain black leather shoes - not boots, high heels, canvas shoes or trainers (plain black trainers are not allowed).
7. Headscarves should be the official Yardleys School headscarf.
8. School bags should be the official Yardleys School school bag.
9. Jewellery should be minimal and plain. The only piercings permitted are studs/sleepers.
10. Fashion belts/brightly coloured belts are not permitted.
11. Socks should be plain black, grey or white.
12. Hairstyles must not be extreme.
13. Minimal makeup is allowed, students who are found to be wearing excessive makeup and false eyelashes will be asked to remove them.
14. Coats/jackets, baseball caps and hooded tops/training tops should not be worn inside the building.





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REMINDER FROM WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

The summer holiday is fast approaching, it is important our students are reminded what we, as a school community, expect of them in terms of behaviour while they are enjoying socialising with friends and family during the break. We also want to ensure they feel confident to keep themselves safe and away from crime and anti-social behaviour.



Parents/carers and students should already be aware that as part of our safeguarding arrangements, the school has a two-way information sharing agreement in place with West Midlands Police, and we are active members of the local Police & Schools Panel. This joint approach helps us to intervene early to prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour involving our students and provide support and up-to-date safety messages.

In partnership with the police, we would like to provide some reminders about the following:

Personal Safety:

- Be aware of your surroundings, take care of friends and family members and keep valuables (such as smartphones/watches/headphones) out of public view whenever possible.
- For apple devices parents/carers can active 'Find My' which includes Activation Lock – A feature that is designed to prevent anyone else from using your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch, if it's ever lost or stolen. Activation Lock turns on automatically when you turn on 'Find My' on your device – more details on this feature are available here: [Activation Lock for iPhone and iPad - Apple Support](#)
- Don't drink alcohol, take illegal drugs or unknown substances (including in vapes); as they can have a big impact on your health and safety, behaviour, and your ability to do well at school and enjoy other interests and activities. They can also be addictive and have unpredictable side effects and could even have fatal consequences - Information is available at www.talktofrank.com



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Swimming in rivers/reservoirs: Reservoirs may look inviting, especially on a hot day, but they are extremely dangerous places to swim. If you jump in, you may not be able to get out as the sides are very steep; the water never gets above 11 degrees, and this will affect your ability to breathe and to move. Rivers and reservoirs may be deeper than you think. Safety information is available here: [Water safety - West Midlands Fire Service](#)

- Social Media: Don't allow your use of social media to put you at risk of grooming, exploitation, or regret in future. Use social media positively and avoid being negative about anyone online as comments/actions may be traced back to you and you will be held accountable.
- Weapons in public places: Carrying a knife or other weapon will get you a criminal record which can have life-long effects on travel and job prospects. Those who carry knives are also much more likely to be injured by them. Don't take BB Guns, Gel Blasters/Guns, or any other real looking toy guns into public spaces as these can cause alarm to the public - which could receive a Police Firearms response.
- Anti-social behaviour: Think about your actions towards others; a little thought & respect goes a long way.
- Off-road bikes: These can only be ridden on private land with the landowner's permission. Don't risk your life and future prospects by illegally riding these on the road.
- E-Scooters: In the UK, you must be at least 18 years old and hold a provisional or full driving licence to ride a hire e-scooter. A privately owned e-scooter can only be used in a private place with the landowner's permission; they are illegal to use on a road or in a public place.
- Remember the company you keep: If your friend breaks the law, your association with that person may have legal consequences for you, which could be very serious – even if you weren't the one directly responsible.

If a student is in a position where they need help, they should talk to an adult they trust. Crimes can be reported directly to the police via 101; alternatively, you can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org. If a crime is taking place or a life is in danger, call 999 immediately.

We wish everyone a happy and safe summer.

Tom Joyce
Chief Superintendent
Birmingham Local Policing Area
West Midlands Police



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YARDLEYS UNIFORM SHOP

Our pre-loved Uniform Shop will be open again during the summer holiday period on Wednesday 22nd to Friday 24th July from 10.00am until 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.



Mathematics
School



**FREE TO
ATTEND**

Year 10 Girls STEM Summer School

You'll work across Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Computer Science, taught by specialist teachers. Sessions are hands-on: investigating real problems, running experiments and writing your first lines of code. Sixteen sessions across four days to **stretch, inspire and challenge**.

When Monday 24 to Thursday 27 August 2026
10:00–15:15 daily · arrive 09:50, meet in the canteen

Where Aston University Maths School
2 Lister Street, Birmingham

Who for Year 10 students identifying as female
On target for grade 7+ in GCSE Maths

Included Free lunch every day and a £15 travel bursary
Bursary paid after the programme

Session 1	Break	Session 2	Lunch	Session 3	Break	Session 4
10:00–11:05	-	11:15–12:20	12:20–13:05	13:05–14:05	-	14:15–15:15



Scan to register

Apply by 9am, Friday 3 July 2026 · offers sent by Friday 10 July



Places are limited · Students who receive free school meals are prioritised · A free programme funded by U-Maths



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YOUTH PROJECT
ACOCKS GREEN

Bring it on Brum

YOUTH SUMMER SESSIONS

YOUR BEST SUMMER YET
FOOD.SPORTS.FUN

11-16 YEARS | FREE **MON-THURS | OPEN 3-7PM**

**FOOTBALL - PHOTOGRAPHY - COOKING - DANCE -
DODGEBALL - PAINT PARTY - TABLE TENNIS -
CAMPFIRES - BADMINTON - RUNNING CLUB -
PODCASTING - BASKETBALL - HIKING -
& SO MUCH MORE**

FOX HOLLIES FORUM, GREENWOOD AVE, B27 7RA
YOUTH@FOXHOLLIESFORUM.COM
0121 706 0652 **REGISTER HERE**



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PARENT PARKING – A SAFEGUARDING AND SAFETY REMINDER

We are urgently asking all parents and carers to support us in ensuring the safety of our students and the wider school community during the start and end of the school day.

Please be reminded:

- Parking on zigzag lines outside the school gates is strictly prohibited.
- Double and triple parking causes serious safety risks and obstructs emergency access.
- Blocking driveways or the road creates congestion and endangers children.
- Offending vehicles may be photographed and uploaded to Operation Snap, and you may be contacted by the police!

We have seen repeated instances of unsafe and illegal parking, which seriously compromises student safety.



PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOLS

Pick-up and drop-off times are busy outside schools. This can cause an increased safety risk to both children and parents.

Parking restrictions outside schools are there to keep you and your children safe. Parking inconsiderately can put people in danger and you also risk being fined. It's important that motorists follow the [Highway Code](#).

Most school entrances and exits in the UK have yellow zigzag road markings with the writing 'School Keep Clear'. They indicate the part of the road where motorists should not wait, stop, or park a vehicle. **Both yellow and white zigzags also show areas that must be kept clear so that children and other road users can see clearly when crossing the road.**

When picking up or dropping off children at schools, you should do the following:

- Allow yourself plenty of time as the area is likely to be busy.
- Do not park on yellow zigzag lines and avoid parking opposite them.
- If you decide to park further away, please be considerate of local residents and avoid blocking driveways or accessways.

Local councils can issue motorists with penalty charge notices (PCN) for waiting, stopping, or parking on yellow zigzags if restrictions are in place.



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SPRING 2026 ISSUE

KEY DATES/EVENTS



Autumn Term

Tuesday 1st September 2026 - Training Day **(school closed to students)**

Wednesday 2nd September 2026 - Training Day **(school closed to students)**

Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th September 2026 - School open to new Year 7

Monday 7th September 2026 - School open to all students

Thursday 17th September 2026 - Open Evening for Year 6
(School closes to students at 2:15pm)

Tuesday 29th September 2026 - Year 11 Information and Careers Event

Thursday 1st October 2026 - Year 10 Core Information Event

Thursday 22nd October 2026 - Attitude for Learning /Progress Review Day

Friday 23rd October – Friday 30th (October 2026 Half Term Holidays)

FULL ACADEMIC YEAR INFORMATION & TERM DATES

IMPORTANT LINKS AND LETTERS HOME LEARNING SUPPORT & INDEPENDANT LEARNING



STUDENT SURVEY

How are we doing?

We would love to hear
your thoughts!

Take 5 to fill in our online
survey, where you can tell
us what you think about
our catering service.



We look forward to collating your responses, making improvements
and giving you the food and service you really want.