



**Yardleys
School**
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE

June 2023

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Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

The end of term and, indeed, the academic year is fast approaching. We have achieved so much this year. I hope you enjoy our summer edition of our newsletter, 'The Yardleian', which details all of the amazing events that have happened this term.

A particular highlight for us was our Ofsted inspection in March. We were delighted that the inspectors saw such outstanding practice and recognised our strong work in our aims of achieving academic excellence and educating the 'whole child', two of our school objectives. The opening line of the report that says that Yardleys School is 'a unique and special place' is testament to the hard work, dedication and support of everyone – teachers, support staff, trustees, students and, of course, you as parents and carers.

I want to pay tribute to our year 11 students as they come to the end of their examinations and also wish them well as they embark on the next stage of their lives in either further education, employment or training. We are sad to see them leave Yardleys, but are also excited for them as they start their new chapter. They have showed immense resilience with their studies, particularly with the disruptions of the pandemic.

We say goodbye to valued colleagues who will be leaving us at the end of the year. We say farewell and thanks to James Dodds, head of music; Nancy Ling, teacher of Drama; Rashid Khan, teacher of science; Tayiba Begum, teacher of English; Jonathan Hares, cover supervisor and assistant head of year. We wish them all the very best for the future and thank them for their contribution to Yardleys School.

There are a number of notices below that I urge you to read. These detail arrangements for the upcoming whole school summer term assessment week, upcoming dates and events this term. I have also included the new term days for the academic year 2023-2024 and a reminder of the new school day from September 2023.

On a final note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, as parents and carers, for your ongoing support and loyalty to our school. We really do value the partnership that we have between home and school; it makes such a difference. I hope you all have a relaxing summer break.

Yours sincerely

NEIL WARNER
Headteacher

YEAR 10 EXAMS & WHOLE SCHOOL ASSESSMENT WEEK

As Year 11 approach the end of their GCSE examinations, we enter a busy assessment period for Year 7-10. Year 10 exams start next week (week beginning Monday 19th June) and these lead into the whole school assessment week for all cohorts (week beginning Monday 3rd July). These exams are important and we expect students in school every day with the correct equipment (including knowledge organisers/revision material) ready for the exams. Attendance is vital. In preparation for these exams, they should be revising from knowledge organisers/resources on the VLE.

Tuesday 20 th June – Tuesday 27 th June	<u>10 Examinations Week.</u> (Examination timetables have already been provided). Please note that Year 10 students involved in exams during these days may be dismissed earlier than the usual end of school times once the afternoon exams have concluded.
Monday 3 rd July – Thursday 6 th July	<u>Whole School Assessment/Examination Weeks (Years 7-10)</u> Year 7-11 Summer Term Assessment Week Monday 3rd July– Thursday 6th July Years 7-10 examinations <u>Please note school will finish at 2:30 pm every day during this week.</u> 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. <u>Thursday 6th July students will be dismissed at 12:10pm</u>
Friday 7 th July	<u>Assessment Marking Day – students are not in school.</u>
Monday 10 th July	<u>Students in Year 7-10 return to school as normal.</u>

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS SUMMER TERM 2023

As we approach the end of the academic year, we have a number of events. We celebrate the end of Year 11 examinations with the leaver's assembly and school prom. We also welcome our incoming Year 6 for an Induction Day and Induction Evening. A summary of the key events for the rest of this half term are highlighted below.

THURSDAY 29th JUNE – TRAINING DAY

As you are aware, the school lost a Training Day on Friday 10th March due to the snow closure. This day has been rearranged to Thursday 29th June. School will be closed to students on this day.

OTHER KEY DATES & REMINDERS FOR JUNE/JULY 2023

Friday 23 rd June	Year 11 GCSE exams conclude and Year 11 school Prom
Tuesday 25 th June	New Year 7 (September 2023) Induction Evening
Thursday 29 th June	Training Day. School closed to students.
Tuesday 4 th July	Pre-Induction Day
Wednesday 5 th July	Induction Day for new Year 7 Year 10 Visit to JCC.
Thursday 13 th July	Year 7-10 Trip to Drayton Manor Park
Friday 14 th July	Year 7-10 Yardleys School Sports Day. School will finish at 12:15pm for students.
Friday 21 st July	Last day of academic year. School will finish at 12:10pm.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Please note that all pupils should enter the building by 8:40am through the playground doors. and will be recorded as late beyond this time.

We expect all children to have excellent 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 shoes (not boots, trainers or canvas shoes); loose fitted 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 and ensure that students when they return in September meet the school uniform requirements.

UNIFORM SHOP

To help all students meet our high uniform standards we are introducing a uniform recycling scheme. We are setting up a small 'shop' in school which will sell donated uniform at very low cost. We hope that this will help parents and carers during the very difficult financial times that we are currently all experiencing.

We need your help for this scheme to be a success. We would be very grateful if you could donate uniform items that your child has outgrown, or no longer needs because they have come to the end of their school career. Donated items can be left at main reception and will be collected on a weekly basis, washed and sorted for sale. Please note that we will be unable to re-use any torn, stained or damaged items. Any funds raised will be donated to School Fund and used to support children's education.

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 safety of students and the local community is paramount. The police have also been issuing fines for illegal parking.

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.

NEW SCHOOL DAY REMINDER - SEPTEMBER 2023

	Monday & Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday & Friday
Form/Assembly	8:45am - 9:10am	-	-
Lesson 1	9:10am - 10:05am	8:45am - 9:40am	8:45am - 9:40am
Lesson 2	10:05am - 11:00am	9:40am - 10:35am	9:40am - 10:35am
Break	11:00 am - 11:15am	10:35am - 10:50am	10:35am - 10:50am
Lesson 3	11:15am - 12:10pm	10:50am - 11:45am	10:50am - 11:45am
Lesson 4	12:10pm - 1:05pm	11:45am - 12:40pm	11:45am - 12:40pm
Lunch / Form Time	1:05pm - 2:15pm	12:40pm - 1:50pm	12:40pm - 1:50pm
Lesson 5	2:15pm - 3:10pm	1:50pm - 2:45pm	1:50pm - 2:45pm
Lesson 6	-	2:45pm - 3:40pm Enrichment/Lesson 6	-

We will be introducing a staggered lunch system following student, staff and parental feedback. This will ensure students will have a more streamlined access to the canteen and higher quality social time.

NEW ACADEMIC YEAR SEPTEMBER 2023-JULY 2023 – KEY DATES/EVENTS

Below are some important and useful dates for the new academic year. Please note that although term dates and holidays will remain as highlighted, other events can change. We will keep you informed of any changes.

Monday 4 th September 2023	Training Day – school closed to students
Tuesday 5th September 2023	School open to new Year 7
Wednesday 6th September 2023	School open to all students
Thursday 21 st September 2023	Open Evening for Year 6
Tuesday 3 rd October 2023	Year 11 Information and Careers Evening
Thursday 5 th October 2023	Year 10 Core Information Evening
Thursday 26 th October 2023	Attitude for Learning /Progress Review Day
Friday 27th October – Friday 3rd November 2023	Half Term Holidays
Monday 6th November 2023	School Open to all students
Thursday 30 th November 2023	Year 7 Parents Evening
Monday 1 st December 2023	Training Day – school closed to students
Monday 4 th December – Friday 15 th December 2023	Year 11 Mock Exams
Monday 18 th December – Thursday 21 st December 2023	Whole School Assessment Week – Exams for all year groups
Friday 22nd December – Friday 5th January 2023	Christmas Holidays
Monday 8 th January 2024	Training Day – school closed to students
Tuesday 9th January 2024	School open to all students
Thursday 25 th January 2024	Year 11 Parents Evening
Thursday 8 th February 2024	Year 10 Parents Evening
Monday 12th – Friday 16th February 2024	Half Term Holidays
Monday 19th February 2024	School open to all students
Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd February 2024	Year 11 Core Mock Exams Week
Thursday 29 th February 2024	Year 9 Parents Evening
Monday 4 th March-Friday 8 th March 2024	Year 10 Work Experience Week
Friday 8 th March 2024	Training Day – school closed to students
Monday 25th March – Monday 8th April 2024	Easter Holidays
Tuesday 9th April 2024	School open to all students
Friday 3 rd May 2024	Training Day – school closed to students
Monday 6th May 2024	May-Day Bank Holiday
Monday 13 th May 2024	Year 11 GCSE exams start
Monday 27th -Friday 31st May 2024	Half Term Holidays
Monday 3rd June 2024	School open to all students
Monday 24 th June- Friday 28 th June 2024	Year 10 exams start
Monday 1 st -Thursday 4 th July 2024	Assessment Week – exams for Year 7-10
Friday 19th July 2024	Last for academic year
Monday 22nd July 2024	Summer Holidays begin