

THE YARDLEIAN

The Look Ahead Newsletter



**WORKING TOGETHER FOR A
BETTER FUTURE**

This issue is filled with important updates about the new half-term ahead, including changes to school hours. It also previews exciting upcoming events designed to engage everyone. Finally, this issue will shine a spotlight on the school values of curiosity and reflection, which foster exploration and thoughtful consideration -key skills to practise in the run up to exam season!



SCHOOL CHANGES DURING RAMADAN

During Ramadan the school has taken the decision to reduce lunchtime to 30 minutes.

This means the school day for students will finish at the following times:

Monday 23rd February - Thursday 19th March

Monday and Tuesday – 3:00pm

Wednesday – 3:30pm

Thursday and Friday – 2:35pm

Detentions and the library will continue to operate. The normal school day will resume after the Training Day on Friday 20th March.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Monday 23rd February**
Year 11 Core Mock Exams Week
- **Friday 20th March**
Training Day
- **Tuesday 24th March**
Year 11 Final Push Information Event
- **Thursday 26th March**
Year 9 Parents Evening (4pm-7pm).
School closes to students at 2:15pm
- **Monday 30th March**
EASTER BREAK (2 WEEKS)

Half Term Focus

Why Are Curiosity and Reflection Important?

Curiosity and reflection are key for students, shaping their academic journey and lifelong learning habits.

As we reach the midway point of this academic year, it's important to take time to reflect on our progress identifying areas of success and areas for continued development so we can make positive changes, altering habits to build success.

Approaching school life with curiosity can help students go beyond rote learning, seeking deeper understanding. And, outside of the classroom, taking an interest in enrichment opportunities helps the curious mind to discover new interests. Just take a look at some of the exciting opportunities you could get involved in, below.

Together, curiosity and reflection empower students to control their learning, fostering a proactive mindset beneficial in school and life.

Upcoming Events



The Carnegies

If you enjoy reading, why not join Ms Gould and Ms Austin's book club.

Students will meet on a Tuesday lunchtime in 203 to read, debate and discuss the brilliant books shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal for Writing Book Award.

Shadowing is completely free, copies of the books as well as digital copies of all the texts will be provided, just bring your enthusiasm and opinions to share!

First Meeting: 03.03.26



Y10 visit to Keble College

Some of our highest achievers in Y10 have been invited to tour the prestigious Keble College at Oxford University.



Cadent Minecraft Workshop

An exciting opportunity for students in Y7 to learn more about safety, sustainability and engineering.



Birmingham City Mission Thanks Our School Community

We were pleased to receive the following note of thanks from BCM after our recent food bank collection:

Dear Yardleys School

A big thank you to everyone who donated items to your recent collection for BCM's food bank.

Donations like these help us to keep providing our service to people who are referred to us for support.

Every month we give out over 200 food parcels, each with a value of around £40 – it's a lot of groceries!

Happy New Year to you all.

*Mrs Coghlan
BCM Office Manager*

Curious About How Else You Can Get Involved?

Interested in joining a club? Check out the full list of clubs on our website or speak to Ms. Perry.

Educating The Whole Child



Yardleys Way Day

Our students stepped off timetable to focus on something that truly matters. Equality and the ongoing fight against misogyny. We explored what it means to respect and value the women in our lives: our mums, sisters, friends, teachers, and every woman in our community.

We were honoured to welcome Minister for Safeguarding Jess Phillips MP who delivered an inspiring talk to our girls. At the same time, Mr Basra, Mr Sohal, Mr Webb, Mr Mjanja and Mr Ziebeck spoke with our boys about responsibility, respect, and rejecting toxic masculinity.

At Yardleys, we stand firm: misogyny has no place here. Our young men and women are determined to help build a community where women feel safe, valued, and empowered.



Donation to Acorns Hospice

A cheque for £300 was presented today to Acorns Children's Hospice by Mr Basra and Mr Thornton. Acorns is an extremely important charity that offers dedicated palliative nursing care and support for local children and their families, and is very close to the hearts of the Yardleys School staff and community.



Year 9 Discover Engineering Pathways

Our Year 9 students visited Warwick Manufacturing Group for an inspiring careers experience.

They took part in workshops delivered by leading companies including JLR and Capgemini, gaining valuable insight into future pathways in engineering, technology and innovation.

Students also enjoyed a guided tour of the impressive university campus.



Author Visit

We loved welcoming award-winning children's author Serena Patel to Yardleys! She inspired our students with stories about her writing journey, creative process, and the joy of reading.

Our students asked fantastic questions in a lively Q&A, and left feeling excited about storytelling and their own creative ideas.