

Yew Tree Newsletter



DREAMBIG

**Determined – Resilient – Empowered – Adventurous –
Motivated – Beautifully Behaved – Inclusive – Generous**



Hello Yew Tree Families,

We are delighted to share with you all that our Early Years provision has been awarded Elklan Communication Friendly Status. This national recognition celebrates the commitment and hard work of all of our staff in Early Years in creating a language rich environment where all children are able to thrive. The award highlights the dedication of our team in developing strategies that support every child to become a confident communicator, and strengthen their ability to learn and connect with others. We are extremely proud of this achievement and want to congratulate all of our EYFS team, but especially Miss Hanlon in leading and supporting the team in achieving this recognition.

Have a wonderful weekend.
Mrs O'Hanlon

Nationally accredited by Elklan and OCN London
Communication Friendly Early Years



Halloween Bingo

Thank you for everyone who was able to join us for our annual Halloween Bingo this week. Your support has helped to raise

£300

towards our outdoor learning resources.

Congratulations to all our winners!





Everton Women vs Manchester United Women...

Thanks to the amazing team at Everton in the Community, ten lucky families had the chance to cheer on Everton Women at the Hill Dickinson Stadium in their latest Barclay's Women's Super League clash, as they took on Manchester United!

Okay, so the score didn't go our way (4-1), but that didn't stop everyone from having a great time!

We're thrilled to share some of the brilliant photos from the day — a big thank you to those who captured and shared these special moments!




Community Connect

TWICE A WEEK

Monday 12:30 PM - 2:30PM
St Mary's Church
 Leathers Lane, Halewood, L26 0TX

Thursday 10:00 AM - 12.00PM
St Nicholas' Church
 Church Road, Halewood, L26 6LA

Join us for coffee, tea, juices, snacks and a warm welcome.
 Enjoy friendly conversation and meet new people in a relaxed, comfortable space.
 Everything is free—just come as you are!



Yew Tree Primary Academy



Online Safety Newsletter

Oct 2025

Risks of using AI for mental health

AI chatbots and wellness apps are becoming increasingly popular, which may lead to your child accessing them to support their mental health.

What should I be concerned about?

- The information/advice given may not always be accurate.
- Privacy concerns of how data is collected and used.
- Children may use these apps rather than seeking help from an adult.

What can I do?

- Chat to your child regularly about what apps and websites they are using and why.
- Remind them AI is a tool and not a substitute for qualified professionals who provide tailored advice/support.
- Talk to them about how they should fact check information.
- Check age ratings.

Further information

<https://stigmafreementalhealth.com/blog/supporting-youth-mental-health-with-ai-a-guide-for-parents-and-caregivers/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language?

You can use the translate tool on our web version:

<https://www.knowsleylcs.org.uk/october-2025/>

YouTube

YouTube is one of the most popular platforms, available across many different devices - phones, tablets and Smart TVs etc. **YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13**, however, younger children can still access YouTube with consent from a parent/ guardian. There are different options available to access YouTube, depending on your child's age:

1. YouTube Kids – a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age category you select: Preschool (ages 4 and under), Younger (ages 5–8) or Older (ages 9–12).

2. Supervised accounts – a parent-managed version of YouTube that allows you to control the content your child can access. You can select one of the following options:

- **Explore** - Generally for viewers aged 9+.
- **Explore more** - Generally for viewers aged 13+.
- **Most of YouTube** - This setting includes almost everything except for videos marked as 18+.

Find out more: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>

What do I need to be aware of?

Whilst YouTube can be educational and fun, it is important to be aware of the potential risks, such as:

- **Inappropriate content**
- **Excessive Screen time** – particularly due to the autoplay feature.
- **Unwanted contact / cyberbullying** – particularly via comments if your child is sharing videos.
- **Algorithms** – algorithms influence what we see to keep us engaged. This can lead to a user being exposed to large amounts of content about one topic/theme, which may not be helpful if it is negative.
- **Adverts** that may not be aimed at or suitable for your child's age.

What can I do?

- Set up appropriate parental controls.
- Show your child the reporting and blocking tools available.
- Watch YouTube together or supervise use.

Further information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/youtube-app/>

WhatsApp

WhatsApp is incredibly popular with young people and is used for group chats, voice messages and video calls. **Users should be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp.**

We frequently receive reports of children using WhatsApp inappropriately, such as sharing images to embarrass others, sending hurtful messages, spreading rumours, or excluding people from group chats to make them feel left out. Since WhatsApp lacks parental controls, it is important to think about whether it is really the right platform for your child. For example, you should consider if your child has the critical thinking skills to recognise bullying. Furthermore, do they understand how to manage peer pressure and refrain from joining in on hurtful behaviour?

What should I be aware of if my child is using WhatsApp?

- **Group chats:** Everyone within a group, even if they are not one of your child's contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat.
- **Inappropriate content:** users can be exposed to content that is not suitable for their age.
- **Location sharing:** talk to your child about the potential danger of sharing their location.
- **Chat lock/secret code:** users can lock chats as well as apply a secret code setting so a chat does not appear in the main chat.
- **Screen time due to addictive nature**
- **AI:** WhatsApp includes Meta AI.

What can I do?

- Check privacy settings, for example check who can add them to groups.
- Ensure your child understands that they can leave a chat at any time. Find out more here: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/424124173736394>
- Show your child how to block and report other users. Find out how here: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/>
- Use parental controls such as screentime controls or do not disturb to reduce alerts.
- Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about the messages they send and how they might be received by others. Talk about positivity and not saying anything hurtful. Ask them to think about whether they would say what they are messaging, face to face.
- Chat to your child about the groups that they belong to.

Further information

Find out more here:

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zc8xg8>
- https://faq.whatsapp.com/773166357950949?helpref=faq_content

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Italian Brainrot

Have you heard of Italian Brainrot? It is a viral trend consisting of AI generated characters featuring in memes and videos. It originally started on TikTok but can now be seen on other platforms such as YouTube and Instagram. There are also lots of spinoff content including a game on Roblox.

Whilst the content is generally nonsensical and children will find some of it funny, some content can include inappropriate/offensive language and content that might not be suitable for your child's age.

iOS 26

Apple have released their new operating system – iOS 26. Protect Young Eyes have published an article detailing the changes relating to your child's safety, including content filtering in Safari. Find out more here:

<https://www.protectyouneyes.com/blog/articles/a-parents-guide-to-ios-26>

Managing Digital Spending

Parent Zone have created a guide to help teach your child how to manage their online spending. You can read it here:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/managing-digital-spending-guide-parents>

ADHD, Screen Time, and Healthy Boundaries

Bark have created this guide for parents of children with ADHD to support you in helping your child create a healthy relationship with technology. You can access it here:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/adhd-kid-and-tech/>

REMINDER: Under current statutory duties, school will not authorise any holidays taken during term time and any taken will incur an automatic penalty. The level of penalty will depend on the factors explained below and, under law introduced last academic year and could be a fine of £2500 per parent.

WHAT DO THE NEW ATTENDANCE RULES MEAN FOR ME?

I'M A SINGLE PARENT OF ONE CHILD AND WE WANT TO GO ON HOLIDAY FOR A WEEK
 Your holiday will not be authorised and you need to inform school before you book anything. As your child will miss 5 school days, you will be fined £160, which will drop to £80 if paid within 21 days.

FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN
 4 children and 1 parent = £640
 Reduced to £320 if paid within 21 days

FOR EVERY PARENT A PENALTY IS GIVEN
 2 parents & 1 child = £320
 2 parents & 2 children = £640
 2 parents & 3 children = £960
 2 parents & 4 children = £1280

IRREGULAR ABSENCE 10 IN 10
 If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in a 10 week period and their absence is unauthorised, then the school will consider prosecution.
 2 SESSIONS = 1 DAY

IF DURING A 3 YEAR PERIOD YOUR CHILD HAS A 2ND OR 3RD UNAUTHORISED HOLIDAY OR IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE...

2ND TIME
 There will be no discounted penalty for paying early

3RD TIME
 Your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child

£160 FINE
+£160
+£160
+£160
£1280 FINE

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE NATIONAL CHANGES, GOOGLE 'WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE'



Attendance Winners

Every Friday, we look back at the previous week's attendance, from Friday to Thursday and our top three classes are celebrated in assembly. This week's top 3 are:

Mainstream Classes

- 1st – Fir
- 2nd – Oak & Alder
- 3rd – Beech

DSP Classes

- 1st – Ash & Birch
- 2nd – Cedar

This week's attendance is...

93.5%

Attendance for this year so far is...

93.2%

Weekly Attendance

Here is our weekly attendance % for each class...

Class	Attendance %
Oak Miss Hanlon	93.1
Fir Miss Langshaw	97.8
Maple Mrs Sargison	87.9
Elm Miss Dickinson	95.0
Alder Mr Holt	95.4
Beech Mrs Hiscock and Mr Taylor	92.8
Willow Mrs Mahar/ Miss Roberts	90.0
Ash Mrs Brady Duck	98.9
Birch Ms Riley	100
Cedar Mr Graves	90.9

Congratulations to.....
Fir, Ash & Birch –
fantastic attendance again this week!

Weekend Wellbeing... Optimistic October

Take a small step
towards a positive
change you want to
see in society



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Set hopeful but
realistic goals for
the days ahead



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Identify one of your
positive qualities
that will be helpful
in the future



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Dates for your diaries...

1 st October	LA Online Safety for families
6 th October	Immunisation – Flu
9 th October	School Open Day
14 th October – 17 th October	Y3 Swimming
TBC	Halloween Bingo
20 th October – 31 st October	Half Term
31 st October	Deadline for Y6/Y7 applications
6 th November	School Open Day
14 th November – 28 th November	Bikeability Training
18 th November – 19 th November	Parents Evening
11 th December	Christmas Panto
15 th December	KS1 Christmas Performance
16 th December	DSP and EYFS Christmas Performances
19 th December	Finish for Christmas

Happy October Birthday to...

Samarvir
Evelyn
Phillip
Albara
Grayson
Paige
Dixie
Senan
Scarlett
Patrick
Callum
Joseph
Arnav
Lily
Skyler

DREAMBIG

Sports Star of the
Week...

Edward – Y1



Modern Foreign
Language Star of the
Week...

Jenson – Y4



Music Star of the
Week...

Louie – Y5



Coding Club Star of
the Week...

Joseff – Y4

