

Yew Tree Newsletter



DREAMBIG

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

Thinking of becoming a volunteer?

We need you!

Volunteering can make a real difference in your own life and the lives of those around you. We are looking for volunteers to support the work of our school and your children.

So how do you go about finding the right volunteering role for you?

Reading- a vital skill for any child - come and read 1 to 1 with children or why not come along to our amazing library at lunchtime and read stories to small groups of children. Helping to develop an absolute love of reading.

Play- another vital skill for any child - come and play games with small groups and develop social and teamwork skills at playtime or lunchtimes, or even help support sport's clubs after school.

Making Toast- children love toast to start their day. So, we always need a helping hand at the start of the school day to make sure we have enough to feed every child.

Join our Local Governing Body - become a Parent Governor. Our Parent Governors play a vital role on the Governing Body, holding a unique position of having a parental view of the school and its community.

These are just a few of the ways you can volunteer in school, but we are sure you will have many other skills that our children can learn from you, so please let us know about these through your application.

Here are three steps to follow:

1. Think about what interests or excites you.
This could be something you enjoyed doing before, or something completely new.
2. Think about what skills you have and can share.
3. Think about the time you have to give.

What you need to do next...

- Contact school to collect an application form
01514778950
or
yewtree@knowsley.co.uk
- Complete the application form and return to the main school office.
- Receive an invitation to school for an informal chat.
- Complete the necessary safeguarding training, DBS checks and other paperwork.
- Enjoy your vital volunteering role within our wonderful school community.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs O'Hanlon
Principal

Important dates for this term...

Date	Event
Monday 15th January	Deadline for Reception Applications for September 2024
Thursday 18th January	School Nurse Drop In (open to all families)
Monday 29th January	Y5 and 6 Bikeability sessions to start
Friday 2 nd February	Number Day
Friday 9th February	School closes for half term at 3.15
Monday 19th February	INSET Day (no children in school today)
Tuesday 20th February	School re-opens at usual time Y2 swimming lessons begin
Tuesday 27th February	Y3 swimming lessons begin
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day
Monday 11th March	Science Week – children to participate in activities across the week
Friday 15 th March	Own Clothes Day – chocolate donation
Monday 25 th March	Easter Community Bingo
Tuesday 26 th March	Community Easter Film Night
Wednesday 27th March	Easter Bonnet Parade EYFS and KS1 Easter Egg-stravaganza Family Competition KS2 School closes for Easter at 1.30pm



Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have one Parent Governor vacancy. Being a Governor is an important role in the life of the school as Governors work with the Principal in setting the overall direction of travel of the school. They are involved in important decisions about student applications to the school, staff appointments, the budget of the school, and expenditure on the premises of the school. They discuss student achievement and support and take an interest in the ways the school is continuing to maintain high standards. They support the Principal and School Leadership Team as they lead the school.

If you feel that this is something that you would enjoy being part of, then please look out for a letter which will be sent home next week, containing further details.

Car Parking

We fully appreciate that the school car park can be busy at times.

Wherever possible, we urge families to walk to school as this promotes wellbeing.

If this is not possible, we ask that drivers are mindful of our neighbours and all of the children and their families.

Please park carefully and considerately, within allocated bays away from the school gates and in a manner that does not pose a risk to our pupils.



Knowsley Family and Community Education

are holding courses in the New Year, in January, February and March across Huyton, Prescot and Halewood (many at New Hutte).

All courses are FREE if you earn below £31,600 per year. (Earnings are based on your earnings alone, not household income).

Booklet containing the list of available courses can be found on FACE website or by clicking here...

<https://knowsleyface.co.uk/>

If you have any enquiries in relation to the courses contact Vicky Powell on 07825 117 487 or email victoria.powell@knowsley.gov.uk

Bikeability – Y5/6 – W/b Monday 29th Jan

Bikeability is the government's national cycle training programme. It helps children learn practical skills, as well as essential life skills, and understand how to cycle on today's roads.

Bikeability gives everyone the confidence to cycle and enjoy this skill for life.



Beyond mastering the art of cycling, it cultivates independence, social skills and a sense of wellbeing.

Following Level 1 skill development, children will venture out onto the surrounding roads with the trainers, to demonstrate their cycling proficiency, showcasing the practical application of the skills they acquired.

This training enhances children's ability to respond to risk, fostering increased confidence. This not only contributes to improved physical health but also enhances mental wellbeing, allowing children to enter the classroom with heightened attention spans and engagement.

More information will follow for Willow and Beech classes next week.

Please check your bikes, tyres etc and root out those helmets this weekend.

Knowsley at 50!

'Moments of Light' brings international street theatre performers [Spark!](#) to Halewood this Sunday for an interactive live music and movement spectacular, with dynamic choreography and lighting design. Each performance will end with an eye-catching finale by outdoor arts performance specialists [Walk the Plank](#).

Free family-friendly performances will take place at:

4pm–4.30pm
5pm– 5.30pm
6pm–6.30pm



Attendance Winners

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

- 1st – Birch
- 2nd – Willow
- 3rd – Ash & Cedar

Sickness Absences:

If your Child is going to be absent from School due to sickness you must inform school, **no later than 9am.**

0151 477 8950 option 1

Please leave a message: Childs Full Name -Year Group and reason for Absence.

Term Time Holiday Requests

We would like to remind all of our families that school must act in line with The Education Pupil Registration England Amendment Regulations 2013.

This Act makes clear that we may not grant leave of absence during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Furthermore, we are required to inform the School Attendance Service of any periods of unauthorised absence from school. The School Attendance Service will then consider if any legal action or the issue of a Penalty Notice is appropriate.

Weekly Attendance

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

15/01/24-19/01/24

Class	Attendance %
Oak Miss Hanlon	90.8
Fir Mrs Heeley	90.2
Maple Miss Langshaw	87.4
Elm Miss McConnon	86.3
Alder Mrs Sargison	90.4
Beech Mrs Mahar/ Miss Roberts	86.2
Willow Mr McNamara	92.3
Ash Mrs Brady Duck	92
Birch Mrs Gray	93.3
Cedar Mrs Jones	91.1

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

TIPS FOR PARENTS BY PARENTS

Don't give in!
Follow through.

Be organised! Get everything ready from the night before. Have their coats and bags at the door, their lunch made and their clothes on the banisters.

Treat it like a military operation in the morning!

Don't give them a choice to stay at home.

Give yourself 15 minutes before the kids get up.

No TV, iPad or phones allowed in the morning.

Keep talking about the importance of school.

Early to bed the night before school, especially after holidays.

Come back to school after doctor/ dentist appointments.

Know how many days your child has missed in school.

This week's
attendance is...

89.4%

Attendance for this
year so far is...

93.1%



Attendance
Matters





Reception	NB
Year 1	JB
Year 2	RB
Year 3	L-MP
Year 4	JS
Year 5	RV
Year 6	PP
Ash	VK
Birch	CW
Cedar	JE



Mr Rushton's Sports Star of the Week...

Paige Y3

for being an inspiration to others by trying (and succeeding) at a new skill in our football lessons. She also was one of the first to volunteer to help with demonstrations whilst being a great team player.

Ms Walton's Musician of the Week...

Alfie A Y5

for participating in lessons with increasing enthusiasm and always beautifully behaved.

Ms Grant's Spanish Star of the Week...

Freya Y6

for participating with great enthusiasm, listening well and loving learning Spanish.