

Yorkswood Primary School Newsletter

October 25 Issue 1



**Every Child who
walks through
our doors carries
infinite potential...**



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Headteacher's Welcome



The very first thing struck me when I arrived was just how wonderful our children are. They are kind, caring, curious, friendly, polite, and above all, eager to learn. Their enthusiasm lights up the school every single day.

Over the past few weeks, I have had the chance to speak with many parents. You have shared with me the multiple strengths of the school, and it is also clear that many of you have thoughtful opinions on areas we can improve. The feedback from the recent questionnaire has been very insightful, providing a great snapshot of what you would like the school to become.



Headteacher's Welcome

I passionately believe that 'Every Child who walks through our doors carries infinite potential...' and you have my promise that we will do everything within our power, every single day, to convert that potential into a successful reality.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break!

Mr Lawrence

Headteacher



Curriculum

Hello everyone! I'm Miss O'Sullivan, Assistant Headteacher—or Miss O to the children—and I'm pleased to introduce myself as the school's new Curriculum Lead.



My job is all about making sure that every child at our school receives the best education they possibly can.

The heart of my role is to oversee the teaching and learning that happens across all year groups. This involves ensuring our curriculum is exciting, challenging, and covers everything the children need to know and learn. I work closely with all the teachers to develop lessons, choose the best resources, and help them refine their teaching methods.

Curriculum

Ultimately, my goal is to champion every child's success by making sure their time in the classroom is spent learning in the most effective and engaging ways possible. I'm passionately committed to ensuring our curriculum helps all our pupils reach their full potential.



Environment



Power



Innovation



Community

Exciting News: Our New School Library!

I am delighted to share that my first major project is to establish a fantastic new library space for all our children to use!

Thanks to the incredible fundraising efforts of our parents, we have been able to invest those generous contributions well. We've purchased comfortable, functional furniture and, most excitingly, we've sourced a wide variety of high-quality texts. This new space will be a haven for reading—a place where children can discover new authors, delve into different worlds, and develop a lifelong love of books. We can't wait to see the children choosing books to take home and share with you!



Attendance

Every Day Counts at Yorkswood!

We are so proud of our pupils and families for working hard to make a great start to the school year! Good attendance and punctuality are the foundations for your child's success, and we want to share how we're doing.

Our Attendance Progress:

This Year vs. Last Year

We have been tracking attendance for the first half-term (1st Sep to 21st Oct) and the good news is, **we are improving** but we still have a long way to go to reach our goal of 97%.

Statistic (Sep 1st - Oct 21st)	Last Year (2024)	This Year (2025)	Difference
Total Attendance	91.5%	92.3%	+0.8%
Unauthorised Absence	4.4%	3.9%	-0.5%

This is good progress and we are moving in the right direction. A big thank you to our parents for reducing unauthorised absences and ensuring your children are in school and ready to learn.



Attendance

Why Punctuality is the Secret Ingredient

Being on time isn't just about avoiding a late mark; it's vital for a child's confidence and learning journey:

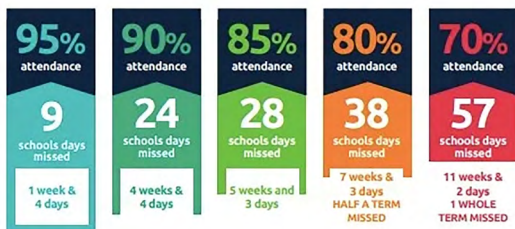
- **A Calm Start:** Arriving on time (ready for the 8:55 AM bell!) helps your child settle in, catch up with friends, and feel prepared for the day ahead.
- **The Morning Magic:** Missing the first few minutes means missing crucial teaching moments, like essential instructions or early morning activities that warm up the brain for learning.
- **Missed Learning Adds Up:** Arriving **5 minutes late** every day adds up to **over 3 full days** of school lost across the year!

Remember: The school day starts at **8:55 AM**! Lateness after 9:30 AM is recorded as an **Unauthorised Absence ('U' code)**, which can lead to formal action if persistent.

Attendance

We are aiming for a school attendance rate of 97% or higher!

Every day in school counts...



and every minute counts...



Good attendance is critical to better attainment in primary school and beyond. Let's keep working together to give every child at Yorkswood Primary the best opportunity to thrive.

Send Provision



Hello! I'm Miss Boland,
the SENDCo at
Yorkswood.

I work alongside our wonderful
teaching and support staff to make
sure that every child, whatever their
needs, feels included, supported,
and able to achieve their full
potential.

I believe that every child matters
and that, with the right support,
every pupil can achieve and thrive
within an inclusive and nurturing
environment.

Our half-termly SEN Newsletter will
keep you up to date with the latest
advice and guidance, SEN related
events going on in school, and
information on how you can find
further support.

We hope you find it helpful!

Send Provision

If you have any questions, queries or concerns about your child related to SEN, please speak to their class teacher as a first port of call.

If you require further advice, please contact myself through the school office or email senco@yorkswoodprimary.co.uk

Upcoming events in the Local Authority

Up and coming events in October half-term for families with children with SEN - [SEN Zone](#)

SISS – Autism Team, Parent workshops -
SISS Autism Team - Parent Workshops

Ordinary Magic Events and Workshops for families. - Ordinary Magic

Upcoming events at Yorkswood

Parent Coffee Morning – Tuesday 2nd December – SOLAR – Children’s Mental Health, how to support your child through the holidays.

Send Provision



SEND Coffee Morning

**For Parents/Carers with SEN Pupils
Tuesday 4th November
9am to 10am**

Entry via the school office



ASD FOCUS
Our Specialised Teacher
from the SISS ASD Team
will be joining.



SCAN ME

Send Provision

Useful Information

Solihull Local Offer, watch the online video on YouTube below



- A new, round-the-clock mental health text service is now live. text 'Space' to 85258
- Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) - [CAMHS](#)
- Solihull SENDIAS - Free impartial, information, advice and support - [SENDIAS](#)
- A digital hub for emotional health focused pathways. - [Togetherness](#)
- Autism Education Trust - [AET](#)

Upcoming Dates

November 2025

4th Nov

ASD Parent Coffee Morning 9am-10am

4th - 7th Nov

Mobile Dental Service (All students)

4th - 7th Nov

Poppy Appeal - Poppy badges, slap bands, paper poppies for sale at the school office

6th Nov

Height and Weight Checks (Reception and Year 6 only)

6th & 7th Nov

Visit from Big Brum Theatre "The Little Red Cap Production" (Years 2 & 3)

7th Nov

Non-Uniform Day. Bring a bottle / Raffle prize (Donation for the Christmas Fair)

10th Nov

West Midlands Fire Service. Fire Safety SPARK Education Programme (Year 4)

11th Nov

Parent Workshop - Times Tables (Year 4)

11th - 13th Nov

Bikeability - Learn to ride (Year 4)

13th Nov

**Nasal Flu Immunisation Team In School
(Reception through to Year 6)**

14th Nov

Children In Need - Whole School

21st Nov

**Non-Uniform Day Whole School - Bring
a chocolate / Raffle prize (Donation for
the Christmas Fair)**

**Any additional new events will be
shared on Class Dojo
Not on Class Dojo?**

Sign up using the link button below



Upcoming Dates

December 2025

2nd Dec

**Parent Coffee Morning SOLAR - MHST
9am-10am**

9th Dec

Christmas Fair 3.30pm School Hall

11th Dec

**Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas
Dinner Day - Whole School**

15th Dec

Reception Children Nativity 2-3pm

17th Dec

**Rock Steady Music Concert 2.15pm -
3.30pm**

19th Dec

PGL final balance to be paid (Year 6)

19th Dec

Last day of school



Upcoming Dates

January 2025

5th Jan
INSET DAY

6th Jan
Pupils return to school

13th Jan
Parent SEND Coffee Morning 9am-10am

15th Jan
Solihull school admissions portal closing date for reception 2026 applications.



**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**