



YENTON NEWSLETTER



Yenton Primary School

Issue No. 1

25th September 2018

Chester Road, Erdington, B24 0ED 0121 464 6588

Head's New Term Welcome - Paul Smith

Dear Families,

Welcome back to another new year (academically speaking) at our school. We hope that you have all had a fantastic break and enjoyed some sunshine (for a change!) I have been so impressed walking around school to see how well all of our children have settled back into school life and to see how keen and eager they are to learn. I have been especially impressed with how our youngest children have adapted to their new school—walking around our Reception classes after a few days, you would have thought that the children had been in school for weeks! This is, in part, a testament to the hard work that our Reception staff put in to ensure this important transition goes as smoothly as possible. It is also down to you, as parents. You have played a vitally important role in preparing your child for their first steps along their educational journey at our school. Thank you for your support.

Reading remains a large focus at our school this year, and you can help support your child's development in this crucial area by making time to hear your child read as much as possible. Talking to your child about their reading, their likes and dislikes and exploring their understanding of the texts they have read is also a key skill. A simple question such as "Did you like that story and why/why not?" will help your child express and justify opinions about their reading. Research has shown that if a child is not reading fluently by the end of primary school, they can struggle accessing the secondary curriculum, so all support you can offer your child in this area is so important.

We have all made a fantastic start and are all looking forward to the adventures and experiences that await us this year!

Warm Welcomes

We would like to welcome our new members of staff to our Yenton family: Miss Fielding (Y2); Miss Harris (Y3); Miss Baker (Y5) and Mrs Venables (PPA cover). Mr Aslam and Mrs McBrien (both in Y1) have also fully joined us. Mrs Davies has returned in Reception after her maternity leave and we have another Mr Smith! Mr M. Smith from Kickstart has taken over from Aspire in delivering our PE and after school sports provision. Welcome everyone!

Parent Pay

You will now be able to pay for trips on Parentpay online and via paypoint. There is a tab for you to add additional information that we require: emergency contact, medical conditions, and if a packed lunch is required, as well as ticking to saying you give consent. You will still need to sign a consent form for this trip as well. If you would like help setting up your parentpay, please come and speak to the office staff who are more than happy to help. We appreciate that the transition to ParentPay has been a little more challenging than we would like, and would like to thank you all for your patience during this time. Please can I also remind you that you are only able to change your meal choice every half term by completing meal choice request form. The forms are available from the office. Thank you.

If you have any unwanted children's books, comics or magazines, please hand them into reception



email: enquiry@yenton.bham.sch.uk



web: www.yenton.bham.sch.uk



twitter: [www.twitter.com/Yenton Primary](https://www.twitter.com/Yenton_Primary)

School Attendance

All recent educational research has shown that the biggest factor in pupil attainment is good attendance at school. We have a very talented and dedicated teaching staff, but we cannot teach your child if they are not in school. Please make sure that your child attends school as much as possible. Thank you for your support.

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Parking around school

Please make sure that you are parking legally and considerately when dropping off or picking up your children. Cars that are parked illegally are putting all of our children and parents in danger. We are working with our local police to help protect our children from the small minority of parents who persist in parking in an illegal and inconsiderate manner. PLEASE SHOW YOU CARE AND PARK ELSEWHERE!



Safeguarding at our school



We take the safeguarding of all of our pupils very seriously at our school.

All of our staff receive regular safeguarding training and Mrs Berriman is our Designated Safeguarding Lead. Mrs Carns, Mrs Murray, Mrs Bailey and Mr Smith are Assistant Designated safeguarding leads supporting Mrs Berriman in this vital role. Should you have any concerns about safeguarding please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Berriman, or any of the assistant safeguarding leaders.

Sometimes, a child will say or do something in school that means we have to seek advice from our colleagues in Social Care and Health. This is a statutory duty for all schools – we have to report what the child has said and pass this along to more experienced colleagues in social care. Our safeguarding policy is available on the school website under Parents' Information and Policies.

Uniforms

It is fantastic to see all of the children in their school uniforms and their pride in wearing them around the school. I would like to remind you that the school shoes should be sensible black shoes, not trainers. School uniform can be ordered through the PTFA, from local school suppliers or local supermarkets. Can you please make sure all PE kit, uniforms etc are labelled with your child's name and class. It is much easier to reunite lost items with lost children if all items are clearly labelled. Many thanks for your co-operation in this.



Forest School is back!!



This year I am very excited as Reception through to Year 3 will all be taking part in Forest School and Outdoor Education.

Autumn is one of my favourite seasons to be outdoors and experience the changing scenery as we move to new and exciting activities to match the time of the year. Over the coming weeks we will be discussing why leaves fall off the trees and why some animals hibernate. I am looking forward to making some spooky Halloween forest potions, identifying the various trees of our forest by making leaf kebabs and making hedgehog homes and pine

cone bird feeders to help our local inhabitants as the temperature starts to cool. There are also some fantastic forest links to our T4W scheme. For example Year 3 will be making Stone Age jewellery to link with their topic 'Tribal Tales' and Year 2 will be making mud castles to link with their topic 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets'! If you would like any information about Forest School please feel free to ask me. Mrs Carn (Forest School teacher)

What We're Up To.....

Across the whole school we are looking at British Values and Respecting One Another

Reception

In Reception our topic is 'Do you want to be friends?'. We have been spending time getting to know all of the children and helping them to make new friends. We have enjoyed finding out about the activities the children like doing and the skills they have brought with them to school. This will help us to plan activities to further aid their learning. We look forward to seeing you at our Reading Meeting on Wednesday 3rd October at 9:15am, where we will be giving you information on how you can support your child's learning at home. See you there!

Year 1

Year 1 have settled really well and have begun to complete challenges in Maths and English. Our T4W topic is Traditional Tales and children have been learning the story 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. In maths we have been learning to consolidate counting to 10 and understanding the value of numbers 0-10. Our Cornerstones topic this half term is 'Memory Box'. We will be learning about how things from the past are different to now and also be creating a memory box at the end of the topic. Some dates to remember ... PE days are Thursday and Friday. In PE we are learning to dance to the following books: "We are going on a Bear Hunt" and "Commotion in the Ocean." Your child will have two reading books which they can share with someone at home. Please ensure you write a comment in your child's reading record each week. Reading books and records are to be returned to school Monday and will be handed back to children on Wednesday with their new books. Spellings are handed out and tested every Friday. Many thanks!

Year 2

During the autumn term year 2 will be exploring the traditional tale - Rapunzel in T4W. Children will be working on improving their basic punctuation and spelling. Children will also use 'A letter from a troll' to explore the features of a letter, before writing their own letters. Our Cornerstones topics this term will be 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets' in this topic children will get to visit Warwick Castle and participate in a STEM challenge. In Maths the children will be exploring place value up to 100 using concrete resources to help them solve mathematical problems. We will also be counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and learning our 3 times tables.

Year 3

This term we will begin exploring numbers up to 1000. We will investigate different ways of representing these numbers to secure their understanding of place value. We will then move onto learning the formal columnar methods of addition and subtraction and how to mentally add and subtract numbers from three digit numbers. Our unit focus in English will be adverbs of time, exploring the classic "Stig of the Dump" while drafting and writing sentences correctly using full stops and capital letters. We will then move onto a non-fiction text, "Letters from Ida Moore" using a wider range of conjunctions and punctuation. In Cornerstones we are heading back to prehistoric times, exploring prehistoric Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age, investigating human and physical geography using maps and aerial images. In science our investigations focus on plants and light.

Year 4

This half term, Year 4's topic is The Romans! In English, we will be looking at historical fiction and non-chronological reports. In Maths, we will be improving our understanding of place value for 4 digit numbers and learning written methods for addition. As well as this, we will be improving our recall of our times tables and division facts. In Cornerstones, we will be learning about the Roman invasion, making shields and coins, and taking part in a Roman day! Throughout the term, we are going to be learning how to play the Tenor Horn and Flute. For our class read, we will be continuing to read Nothing To See Here Hotel by Steven Butler.

Year 5

Year 5 have settled in well and are busy creating a 'Friendship Assembly'. They will be learning all about writing horror stories and persuasive adverts in English. In Maths they're learning all about the place value of six digit numbers and arithmetic using all of the 4 number operations. They're starting the exciting 'Scream Machine' topic where they'll be exploring local theme parks, investigating forces and learning even more about French, music and art all whilst developing their basket ball skills and being peaceful in RE.

Year 6

This term, we will be studying WW2. We will be going on a trip to Cannock Chase Museum where we will experience life during WW2 through drama and role play. We will also get to see a range of artefacts and learn how and why they were used during the war. In English, we will be looking at the texts Carrie's War and Anne Frank and will be writing a story with an unfamiliar setting and a diary entry. We are really developing a love for reading in year 6 and will also be enjoying the book Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo in our guided reading lessons. In Maths, we are being challenged with lots of problem solving and reasoning based around place value. We will be understanding numbers to and beyond 10 million, comparing and ordering numbers, rounding these numbers and using and calculating with negative numbers.

Contact numbers

Thank you for checking and updating the data checking sheets for your child. It is vitally important that we have up to date contact numbers for your children. Recent guidance now states that it is best practice for each child to have a least two contact numbers. If you are in any doubt, please check with the school office.



**Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.
William Butler Yeats**

Welcome message from our Governing Board

Dear children and families, on behalf of all the governors I would like to welcome everyone back. We would like to extend a special welcome to all our new children who have started this year. I visited school on 11th September and was impressed at how quickly the children have settled back into school life. It was great to see that your children have made a brilliant start to the new school year, especially our Reception children, who were amazing, considering it was only their second full day in school. Well done Reception - what a bunch of superstars you are.

I wanted to take the opportunity to update you on the latest position with the academisation process and the new nursery/ wraparound facility. As mentioned in the Governors' Newsletter in July, the Governing Board agreed to enter into the due diligence process to convert to Academy status and join Robin Hood Multi Academy Trust. The Department of Education subsequently agreed to issue an Academy Order to Yenton, to allow the school to proceed with the due diligence. This process has now commenced and will continue over the next few months. If Yenton goes forward with the formal agreement to become an Academy, we envisage this could take place in early 2019. Planning permission has now been approved for the provision of single storey nursery building at the rear of the Foundation Block. Copies of the plans will be placed on display in the school hall on Friday 28th Sept and then in the foyer by the school office. Works to relocate the vehicle access to the front of the Caretaker's House will commence in the next few weeks and this will allow for construction work to start on the new nursery building, hopefully in November.

If you have any questions regarding academisation or the new nursery building and future nursery/wraparound care, please speak to Mr Smith who is usually available on the school gate or alternatively email Governors at gov@yenton.bham.sch.uk

Vicki Popplewell Chair of Governing Board.

Dates For Your Diary

Day	Date	Diary Item
Thurs	27th Sept	School photographer - individual school photographs
Fri	28th Sept	Plans for the new nursery build on display in hall after school
Tues	2nd Oct	Year 2 trip to Warwick Castle
Wed	3rd Oct	Reception parents stay and read workshop
Thurs	18th Oct	PTFA school disco
Thurs	25th Oct	Flu vaccinations—Reception to Y5: More details to follow
Fri	26th Oct	School closes for half term at the normal time
Mon	5th Nov	School reopens for all pupils
Wed	7th Nov	PARENTS' EVENING 3:45pm—6:45pm
Thurs	29th Nov	PTFA Winter Fayre
Friday	7th Dec	Book fair begins at our school
Thurs	13th Dec	KS1 behaviour reward—cinema trip
Thurs	13th Dec	PTFA Christmas disco
Fri	14th Dec	Book fair ends
Wed	19th Dec	KS2 behaviour reward—cinema trip
Fri	21st Dec	School closes for the Christmas holidays at the normal time
Mon	7th Jan	TRAINING DAY—School closed to all pupils
Tues	8th Jan	School reopens to all pupils at the normal time



email: enquiry@yenton.bham.sch.uk



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