



20th December 2023

Hello

We are nearly at the end of the longest term most of us can remember. I hope you are all looking forward to the Christmas holidays. The Key Stage 1 pupils put on two excellent nativities and this evening we have the Key Stage 2 carol concert. On Monday we hosted a Christmas dinner for a selection of pensioners from our local community. The Year 6 pupils did a fantastic job of serving and entertaining them. A huge thank you to Mrs Loftin, Mrs Khanom and Mrs Sutherland who worked so hard to organise the event.



A reminder that Thursday is the last day of term and is an early finish. Nursery pupils should be collected by 2.20pm, Reception and KS1 one will finish at 2.25pm and KS2 will finish at 2.30pm. Pupils return to school on **TUESDAY 9th JANUARY 2024**.

Next year's term dates (2024-2025)

Pupils in Years 1 to 6 will return to school on Thursday 5th September. Arrangements for the new Reception classes will be sent out at a later date but it is likely that we will admit any new pupils with a sibling in the school on the Thursday 5th and Fri 6th September with the rest of the pupils starting on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th. All

Autumn term

Thursday 5th September to Thursday 19th December
Inset Day (school closed to pupils) – Friday 18th October
Half term – Monday 21st October to Friday 25th October

Spring term

Monday 6th January to Friday 4th April
Half term – Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February.

Summer Term

Tuesday 22nd April to Tuesday 22nd July
May bank holiday – Monday 5th May
May half term – Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May



There is due to be a London mayoral election on Thursday 2nd of May 2024 and the school canteen will be used as a polling station. As in other years, the school will remain open to pupils on that day and alternative arrangements will be made for school meals.

School performance tables

Last week all the performance data for all schools in the country was released publicly. This was the first time since 2019 and before Covid that this data has been shared. Whilst we already knew that our KS2 data was exceptionally strong last year, we were still delighted to see that out of 22100 primary schools, Yardley was joint 84th for pupils achieving expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined. We were 26th for the average points score for Maths, 156th for the average points score for Reading and 56th for pupils achieving the higher level for all three subjects. To add some context to how good these results are, 33 of the top 50 schools have less than 20 pupils in year 6...some as few as 6! Only 12 schools above us in the list had a similar sized cohort of Year 6 pupils. Congratulations to all the staff and last year's Year 6 pupils for their hard work.

Fundraising next year

One of the parents in our Nursery has made us aware of the case of a young boy from Chingford called Ralph who has cancer and is in urgent need of a transplant. The best chance for him to achieve this is by going to America as this will increase the size of the donor pool available. As always at Yardley, we like to support causes that are local to our community and we hope to be able to contribute to this by raising some money in the New Year. In the meantime, parents can find out more and donate directly through the following link <https://gofund.me/7231eaa3> It would also be helpful if parents could share the link in their own organisations to help raise awareness.

All that is left is for me to wish you all a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year and we look forward to seeing you all back in 2024.

Mr Evans

Headteacher