



Yardley Primary School Newsletter April 2024



30th April 2024

Hello - A quick update on things.

Polling Day - Thursday 2nd May

As previously announced, the school canteen is being used as a polling station this Thursday but the school will be open as usual. Please be aware that there will be no breakfast club or wraparound care after school club on that day. Multi-sports and sketch club will be on as normal after school. The pedestrian gate at the top end of Hawkwood Crescent will not be open at any time that day. Whilst the main gates will be closed as usual when the pupils are coming into school in the morning, and leaving in the afternoon, there may be more vehicle traffic than normal during the day so please be careful if you are coming onto the site.

Volunteers wanted!

There is plenty of research that shows that the single most important thing a child can do to improve their learning in all areas is to read regularly. In key stage 1, we aim to have the children read to an adult every day if possible. This becomes more achievable through the help of volunteer readers. Whilst we will always be happy for parents to volunteer their time, many will be busy with their own work commitments. However, we would love to welcome any retired grandparents, friends or neighbours in to help listen to children read. Aside from the impact on their reading, there is also the positive aspect of children interacting with those from a different generation and vice versa. If you know of anyone who might be interested then please pass on this message and speak to the class teachers. We will arrange for any volunteers to have a DBS check.

After school

As usual, with the weather getting better, we are getting lots of families staying after school and using the field and play area. Some polite reminders.

- Supervision of the children after school is the parents or carer's responsibility and not the school's.
- Children should not be using scooters or bikes in the playgrounds.
- Please make sure children are not playing near any sports clubs that may be taking place.
- Leather footballs to only be used on the field and not on the playground and if possible, size 4 or 5 balls. We've relaxed the rules on leather footballs in the last year or so but if there is an incident of a pupil or parent getting hurt by one, or any damage to school property, then we will reintroduce the ban on them.
- Finally, if we could ask parents to leave the school grounds by 5pm please. This is so that the after-school club can use the outside space.

Sharon Hilton

Myself and the staff who have been here for a long time were saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Sharon Hilton last week. Sharon worked in several roles in the school for over 25 years, mainly as a special needs assistant, before retiring in 2018. She was a lovely person and really cared about the individual pupils that she worked with. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.

The Sunday Times Top 500 Primary school list

The Sunday Times published their first post-Covid list of the top 500 primary schools in the UK last week and Yardley was in at number 54 (we were actually joint 49th but 54th due to alphabetical order). Our partner school in Walthamstow, Roger Ascham Primary, was 105th. This is out of over 22000 schools. Well done again to the pupils and staff who worked so hard to achieve those outcomes at both schools.

Regards

Mr Evans/Headteacher