



# Yealmpton Primary School

[www.yealmpton-primary.devon.sch.uk](http://www.yealmpton-primary.devon.sch.uk)

A partner school in the Westcountry Schools Trust (WeST)



Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018 Number 2

## Why is it important to attend school regularly?

- To give your child the best possible start in life
- They will be able to keep up with their work
- They will achieve better results
- They will develop friendships and social skills.

School attendance is central to raising standards in education and ensuring all pupils can fulfil their potential. Research has proven that there is a high correlation between school attendance and academic performance and success. Absence from school is often the greatest single cause of poor performance and achievement. Help ensure that your child has the best opportunity for success by making sure he/she is in school every day.

## Some key attendance facts:

- Attending 90% of the time or less will have a serious effect on learning.
- One day's absence every two weeks will give 90% attendance.
- Up to the age of 16, 90% attendance will mean losing over a year of school.

## Arrival at School

The school gates will open at 8:45 am for 'soft start'. Your child should be in school by 8:55 am for the start of the school day, the school door and gates will close at 8:55 am. The teachers take the register promptly at 8:55 am and then lessons commence. Messages can be passed to the teachers via the welcoming team on the school door. If you require a longer discussion please phone the school office to find a mutually convenient time to liaise with your child's class teacher. Persistent lateness can cause embarrassment to the child, make it harder for the child to settle, and cause disruption to the rest of the class.

If older children arrive after 8:55 am they must enter via the school office. If your child comes into school after 8:55 am onward, your child will be escorted to class by the admin team. Lateness is monitored by the school in conjunction with the Education Welfare Officer. Remember that persistent lateness can be legally counted as unauthorised absence.

## Exceptional Circumstances

Head teachers are no longer able to grant leave of absence during term time **unless there are exceptional circumstances**. An application for leave of absence must be made in advance on the appropriate form (available from the school office). A leave of absence is granted entirely at the head teacher's discretion. This should be done at the earliest possible opportunity and with at least 2 weeks notice. As stated in the most recent DFE guidance on attendance, if an application for leave of absence is not made prior to the time of the required absence then the absence will be recorded as unauthorised regardless of circumstances. **Please note that absence will not be authorised under any circumstances during any period of public examinations or internal assessments.**

## Planned absences:

Where possible, organise authorised absences well in advance. Please try to arrange medical appointments during holiday times or out of school hours. If you cannot make doctor or dentist appointments out of school hours, wherever possible, the child should come to school before the appointment and return to school afterwards. Please provide an appointment letter or a written explanation beforehand.

## Family Holidays

Family holidays must not be taken during the school term. The attendance guidelines state that under no circumstances should schools authorise absence for holidays or other circumstances on the grounds of cost. If you take your child on holiday without authorisation, the Local Education Authority has the power to issue a Fixed Penalty Notice of £60 per parent per child, rising to £120 if not paid within 28 days. Failure to pay can result in a criminal record and a fine of up to £1000.

 <b>Autumn Term 2018</b>	
11.10.18	National Poetry Day
11.10.18	FYVS School Disco 03:15 – 4pm
12.10.18	Reading Parent Open Morning 11:00 am
17.10.18	Parent Forum 9:00am
17.10.18	NSPCC Assembly
17.10.18	Parents Evening
18.10.18	Parents Evening
18.10.18	Individual Pupil Photographs
18.10.18	Last day term 1
19.10.18	Half term
29.10.18	Start of term 2
31.10.18	Polar Explorer Assembly
01.11.18	Year 6 Class Assembly 9:00 am
06.11.18	World Science Day
09.11.18	Year 5 Class Assembly 9:00 am
19.11.18	Walk to School Week
23.11.18	Year 4 Class Assembly
30.11.18	Parent Forum 9:00 am
03.12.18	Play Proud Assembly
06.12.18	FYVS Christmas Grotto & Disco
13.12.18	EYFS and KS1 Nativity 2:00pm and 5:00 pm
18.12.18	KS2 Carol Concert 10:45 and 5:30 pm
19.12.18	Christmas Lunch
20.12.18	Christmas Parties
20.12.18	Last day of term
07.01.19	First day of term 3
(Correct at the time of printing)	



## Garden Gang

Prize-winning fruit and vegetables grown by budding gardeners were entered in the Annual Yealmpton Garden Show along with many exhibits by the Yealmpton community. We won several prizes for our enormous pumpkins and marrows and the tallest sunflower in Yealmpton. Many children also created vegetable animals and decorated eggs and plates to enter in the show, winning prizes ranging from highly commended to first, second and third.

The potatoes grown by each class in our potato-growing competition were also on show with prizes being awarded for the most potatoes grown, the heaviest individual potato, the heaviest crop and the best crop overall. These will now be cooked in the school kitchen as part of our school dinners.

Mary, from St Bartholomews Church, has sent heartfelt thanks to all the children, parents and staff for a wonderful Harvest Festival held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September. The Ivybridge Food Bank will much appreciate the food donations and £58.00 collected. Many thanks!

## FYVS

Friends of Yealmpton Village School

Parent Teaching Association

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofyealmpton](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofyealmpton)