



Yealmpton Primary School

www.yealmpton-primary.devon.sch.uk

A partner school in the Westcountry Schools Trust (WeST)



Dear Yealmpton family,

Welcome - Welcome to the new year and the start of the Autumn term. We hope this letter finds you well and that you all had a good summer. The children have returned to school very happily and confidently. We want to extend a particular welcome to our new children in Foundation and those children who have started with us in other classes.

I also wanted to thank everyone for my warm welcome at Yealmpton Primary School. As many of you know, I will be working as Acting Headteacher alongside Mrs Tomkins during the next term. It is a lovely school, and I look forward to the next few months.

Mrs Tomkins and I, along with the staff team, are committed to ensuring that the children make a strong start to the new academic year. Next Tuesday is a day for you to meet the class teachers, and we hope that many of you will be able to join us. We also intend to hold parent-teacher meetings on the 6th and 7th of November, which will provide an opportunity to discuss in more detail how they have settled in after the first half term.

RE: Local and National Civil Unrest

We want to take a moment to address some other important matters concerning the safety and wellbeing of our pupils and the broader school community in relation to events of local and national civil unrest over the summer.

Safety and Attendance First and foremost, we want to reassure you that our school remains a safe place for all children. Regular attendance is crucial not just for your child's education but also for their overall wellbeing. We are committed to ensuring that every child feels safe, supported, and valued while they are here.

Our Shared Values Our school community is built on the values of Respect, Kindness, and Acceptance. These principles guide everything we do and are more important than ever in these challenging times. We encourage everyone—staff, pupils, and parents alike—to embrace these values in our daily interactions. By fostering an environment where differences are celebrated, we can help our children grow into respectful, compassionate and responsible individuals.

Support and Reporting Concerns We understand that events in the news over the summer break may have caused concern or anxiety for some pupils and families. We want to remind you that we have clear and accessible avenues for support within the school. Whether your child needs someone to talk to or you have concerns you'd like to raise, please know that we take all reports seriously. We frequently remind the children that they can talk to any trusted adult within school if they have things that they would like to share or they can use their class worry box to alert us that they would like to talk to someone. It is essential that

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our children know they can speak up about anything that is troubling them, and that they will be heard and supported.

Inclusivity and Community Engagement We are also particularly mindful of the needs of pupils and families from ethnic minority backgrounds and cultures. Ensuring that everyone feels included and supported is a priority for us. We are in close communication with local authorities, including the police, to ensure we are up-to-date with any relevant information and that we can respond appropriately to any concerns that may arise.

Next Steps We will continue to keep you informed as we receive further guidance and updates. In the meantime we would like to thank you for your continued trust and partnership as we work together to provide the best possible environment for our children.

Communication Your involvement is crucial to us. We are always here to help and welcome the chance to work together with parents to ensure the best outcomes for our children. If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We will be regularly populating the website and class Dojo pages with learning snapshots and key updates. In addition, we will continue to use Dojo as an online communication tool to use between school and home. May we remind you that, should you have any messages to relay around attendance, pick-ups, medicine or appointments, these need to be emailed to the office, rather than to teachers on Dojo.

We look forward to a really positive term ahead. Next week, we will communicate the dates for parent forum meetings, and we will endeavour to provide a range of times across the year so that these are accessible for you all.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Kind regards,

Mark Mitchell and Julie Tomkins

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