



Issue 017

26th May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

YHS Newsletter

As the half term draws to a close, we'd like to share some of the positive feedback we've had from parents new and established. We always welcome your communications, whether you're asking for help with an issue or sending us compliments. Here are a couple of lovely things parents have said to us recently:

"She seems to be able to self-regulate more and is a "transformed child". She can now verbalise her anxieties and has started to trust the relationships she has built at school to support her".

"Mum feels that XX is getting on amazingly, she has seen such a big change. His self esteem has increased and he is becoming more passionate about things. He is also a lot happier at home too; it is as if a dark cloud has been lifted. Mum asked XX how he feels about Yarrow Heights and he feels that it is epic!"

Parents' Evening Thursday 9th June 1630 – 1830

Parents' Evenings will normally be held towards the end of the autumn and summer terms. However, because we were unable to invite you all on site in December, we have brought forward our summer Parents' Evening, in response to parental requests. We love welcoming parents into school, and we hope you'll enjoy the opportunity to meet your child's Form Tutor, subject teachers, therapists and senior education staff. So that we can make the necessary arrangements, please will you share via email an hour's timeframe which works best for you between 1630 and 1830 (for example, 1700 - 1800 or 1645 – 1745). We will then endeavour to book in 5-minute appointments during this hour so that you can meet your child's teachers, form tutor and our senior team.

During the appointment with teachers, you can expect to see examples of your child's work and receive an update about their progress from each member of staff. Light refreshments will be provided in The Hub. Parking is available on site. We will also have members of the therapy and pastoral teams available to talk to you.

Parents' Evening Response

Should you wish to attend the parents evening on Thursday 9th June, please email reception@yarrowheights.com; indicating:

1. Your desired time slot: we will do our best to accommodate you.
2. Any staff names or subject areas you are particularly interested in having a conversation with or hearing about.
3. We will then send you an individual appointment schedule via email.
4. If you are unable to attend, please let us know if you would like a 20-minute virtual meeting via Teams with your child's Form Tutor. These arrangements can be made directly with the Tutor at your mutual convenience. The Form Tutor will gather information from your child's subject teachers and be your single point of contact during the Teams meeting.
5. Please do bring your child if they would like to come. Parking is available on site and light refreshments will be provided.

**Yarrow Heights School, Cobden Avenue, Bitterne, Southampton, Hampshire,
SO18 1FS**

Tel: 02382 124590 Email: reception@yarrowheights.com

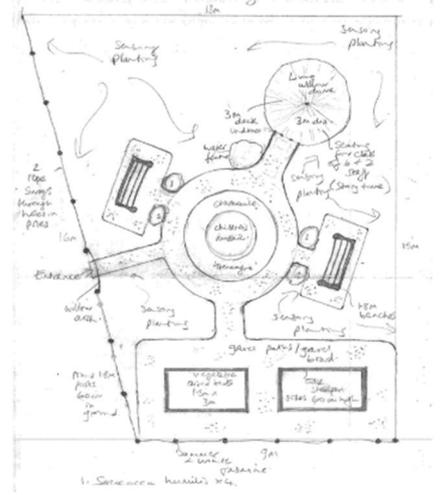




Green fingers at Yarrow Heights



Staff and pupils alike are looking ahead with anticipation to the creation of a beautiful sensory garden on our back lawn. The garden will take up one far corner and will comprise a willow seating area, benches, sensory planting, raised beds and, in the centre, a mosaic designed by the children. Pupils are working on turning a rough sketch into proper design drawings and 3D models of the garden. We'll begin with the raised beds and then develop the garden over time, with pupils actively involved at all stages from design to construction and planting. The garden will become a safe and pleasant space in which to relax and enjoy the flowers or take part in an outdoor group reading session.



News about our expanding Therapy Team

The Therapy Team at Yarrow Heights continues to expand. After half term we will welcome Chris who joins us as a full-time Speech and Language Therapist (SaLT) alongside Liz. Chris will really enhance our SaLT provision; he specialises in working with children with SEMH and is coming direct from Hampshire's Speech and Language Therapy Team. Secondly, we are really looking forward to George coming on board in a couple of months. George is a Registered Mental Health Nurse and until now has been working in an adolescent inpatient eating disorder unit. George will provide clinical oversight and targeted therapeutic intervention programmes for children.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

In 2022, Her Majesty the Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service.



Yarrow Heights School will celebrate this momentous event on **Monday 6th June 2022**.

Our pupils and staff will enjoy our very own outdoor street party-style celebration. Traditional afternoon tea is on the menu with sandwiches, homemade scones and more delicious delights. Some of the pupils have even requested cups of (decaffeinated) tea for the occasion.

For this day, we will extend our lunch period over lesson 5. Outdoor games will be put out to play in different locations and we hope this will encourage pupil social interactions with each other and staff.

As well as all of this, our pupils will take part in assemblies, lessons and tutor time talks in the days coming up to the Queen's Jubilee to reflect on her reign and the impact she has had on the UK and the world, since 1952.





Summer 2 Enrichment Activities

Description of Activity	Laser Tag (Maximum of 8. Two Teams of 4 Teams picked by staff)	Cold cooking club x 1 day Baking Club x 1 day	Relaxation x 3 days Sensory/Messy Play x 2 days	Running Club (Year 8 + ONLY)	Circus circuits (Maximum of four people per session)	Horticulture	Media	YH PLAYERS PRODUCTION & Music	Dance	Textiles club	Art	Hair and Beauty	Modern Languages/ Games club	Sports
-------------------------	--	--	--	------------------------------	--	--------------	-------	-------------------------------	-------	---------------	-----	-----------------	------------------------------	--------

The ‘icing on the cake’ at the end of each Yarrow Heights school day is an opportunity for all pupils to take part in a fun activity which extends our curriculum in the areas of languages, health and fitness, creative arts, STEM or team building and social skills. The banner above is taken from our Summer 2 enrichment timetable. Pupils are invited to make first and second choices; we encourage them to choose a diverse range, to include at least one of each type of activity.

This photo shows pupils taking part in a YH Players rehearsal for our summer show towards the end of July (details to follow). Taking place on **Thursday 21st July**, (hold the date!) the summer show will be a collection of musical numbers and pupil performances to showcase what YH Players have been working hard on in their enrichment sessions this term. From Annie to The Greatest Showman, the group have developed their acting, singing and dancing abilities for what we hope is the first of many performances.



The Heights of Health and Fitness through Sport



In the second week of Summer 2 we will be having our first inter-schools football match. The pupils have been working hard in their football enrichment since the start of the school year and have shown determination and improvement in their skills. Photos will follow after the event.



Yarrow Heights School is preparing for its first ever Sports Day on **Tuesday 19th of July** at Southampton Sports Centre. Our Summer term 2 PE topic focus is athletics (throwing and running events) to prepare the pupils for the activities. There will be more information about Sports Day soon and parents will be invited.

Internal Building Works over ½ Term

Finally, all pupils have been advised that during the ½ term break, there will be some building works taking place in the Hub, which includes the creation of a separate visitors’ entrance/reception. (No more standing at the huge gate, ringing the bell!). Some of our pupils struggle with such alterations. Therefore, it may be helpful to remind them before they come back to school that that they will see changes in the Hub. We hope you like it!

We hope that you have a wonderful half term break, and we look forward to seeing all our pupils on **Monday 6th June for a 7-week term. The school will then close for the summer holidays on Thursday 21st July 2022 at 1230.**

**Yarrow Heights School, Cobden Avenue, Bitterne, Southampton, Hampshire,
SO18 1FS**

Tel: 02382 124590 Email: reception@yarrowheights.com

