



Yardley Wood Community Primary School
"Learning Through Life"

Re: Gifts for school staff

November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Throughout the course of this year, we are working to 'poverty proof' Yardley Wood Community Primary School. This means that we are aiming to improve the educational experience for our children and families who are struggling financially. Across Birmingham, 46% of children are recorded as living in poverty (*data from End Child Poverty Coalition*) despite the very best efforts of their parents/carers, who very often, are working but remain affected by the rising cost of living. We know that this affects many of our families in school and we do not want anyone to feel additional financial pressures when their children come to YWCPS, and particularly through the difficult winter months.

With this in mind, this year we have decided to stop gifts for school staff throughout the year: this includes gifts often brought in for teachers and teaching assistants at the end of the academic year and particularly at Christmas. We have taken this decision to support parents and carers who sometimes feel under pressure from children and others to participate in this tradition. We want you to be able to enjoy the time your children have in school and not feel as if you have to reward those working directly with your children. Having the privilege of watching your children progress and learn is thanks enough for all adults in school.

We know that some of you may still wish to thank those working with your children and by way of thanks, you can send a card (homemade or shop bought) or write a note for those you wish to thank. It is these sentimental messages that mean the most to our school staff.

Head Teacher: Mr. B.Turner
School Road, Yardley Wood, Birmingham B14 4ER
Tel: 0121 675 2456 Fax: 0121 675 5001 www.ydlywood.bham.sch.uk



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If you wish to discuss this please speak with either Miss Blackwood or Mr Turner and please remember, that if you are experiencing financial hardship and feel this impacting on your experience at Yardley Wood Community Primary School, come and talk to a member of the pastoral team (Miss Blackwood, Miss Ford or Miss Jakeways) who can look for ways to support you.

Many thanks for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop followed by a horizontal line.

Miss Blackwood

Assistant Headteacher (DSL)