

NEWSLETTER

16th January 2026

Ephesians 3:17 Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love

Message from Mrs Herrero

I am writing this as the sun is streaming through the window of my office. I love it when the days start to get longer again, the first signs of Spring always fill me with hope.

Next week is 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity'. We have connected with a Catholic School called St Marys in Broadway, who have received a candle and picture from us, and they have brought to us a statue of Jesus' mother Mary. The Headteacher of St Mary's came to visit us this morning. As you can see she is quite a big statue and rather old - 175 years old to be exact, and until today she has never been anywhere other than Broadway School.

On the theme of mothers, we also had the excitement of seeing Miss Adams' baby, Alfie, yesterday. Nearly everyone in the staff room had a cuddle. Miraculously he remained asleep for the entire time!



ATTENDANCE

Well done to the following classes who had the highest attendance since the last newsletter;

EYFS and KS1— Alpacas 98.3%

Lower KS2 – Llamas 98.7%

Upper KS2 – Cormorants 96.6%



Important Attendance Information to all Parents

All unauthorised Leave of Absence requests and any other unauthorised absences will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council

Please also note medical evidence is required for us to be able to authorise absences due to illness of more than 4 days.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

This week in Preschool we have been talking about signs of Winter, exploring melting ice and painting ice blocks to see what will happen. Hopefully, we will get some frosty days again soon so that we can visit the Forest School area in search of frozen spider webs!



RECEPTION NEWS

Reception have had a busy start to the term.

We started by thinking about the season of Winter and enjoyed the book Blue Penguin, which inspired our lovely whole class artwork.

We have then looked at contrasting weather through Handa's Surprise. As part of our Heathy and Happy topic children enjoyed tasting the fruits that Handa carried in her basket.



YEAR 1 NEWS

In our science lessons, Year 1 have observed changes in the weather, plants and animals during the season of Winter. We compared the weather in Autumn and Winter. Learning outdoors in the snow was especially enjoyable.

We identified many changes in the plants around us. We also thought about how the behaviour of animals has altered as the weather has become colder. Year 1 are looking forward to observing further changes when Spring arrives.



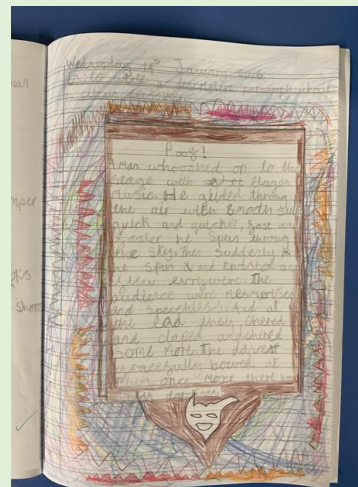
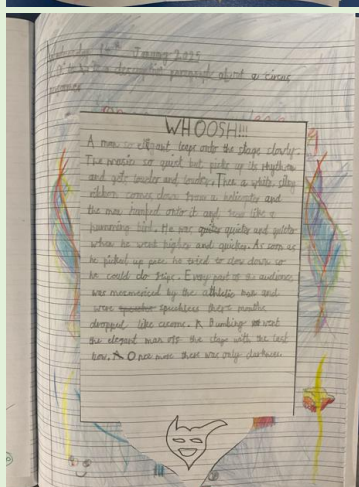
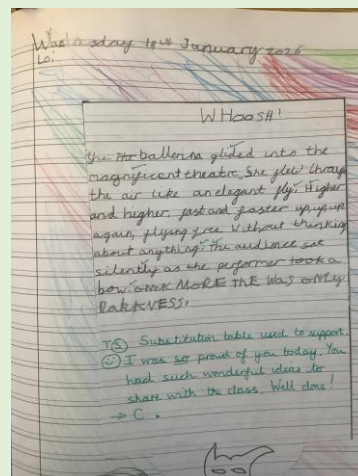
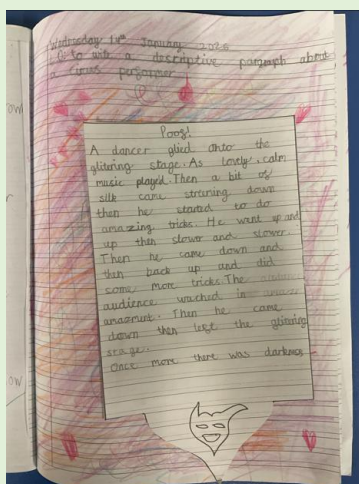
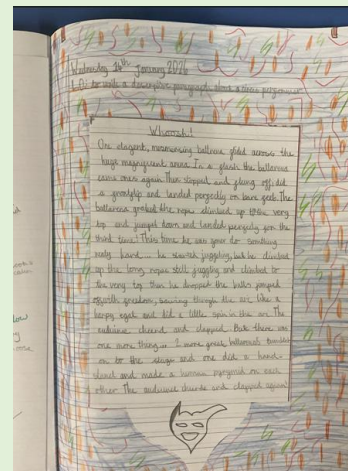
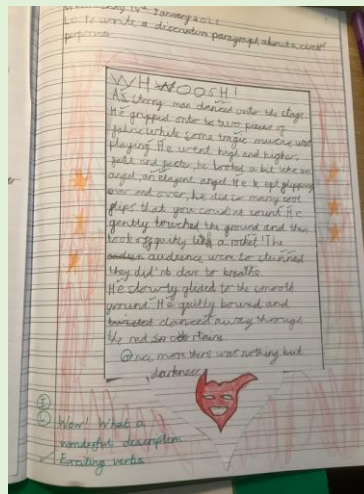
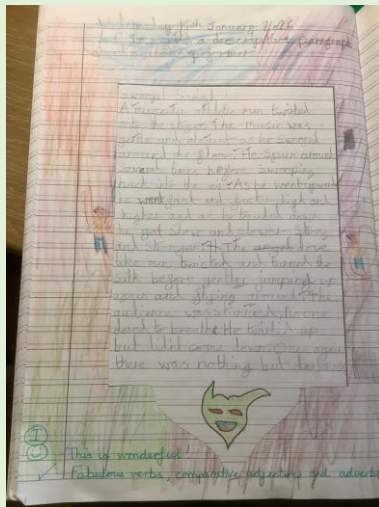
YEAR 2 NEWS

This week Year 2 used their English work as inspiration for their ICT. Look at our wonderful pictures of Antarctica.



YEAR 3 NEWS

In Year 3, we have been loving our new book 'Leon and the Place Between'. The story about a boy visiting a circus inspired us so much, that we wrote our own circus act. Both Mrs Davis and Mr Frerichs are so blown away by the ambitious word choices and beautiful imagery used in the creative writing. An incredible return from the Christmas holidays from the Alligators and the Foxes



YEARS 4 NEWS

Year Four are embarking on an extra-terrestrial journey and have designed their own cuddly aliens. Looking at their own soft toys for inspiration, they are considering colours and shapes to appear to a younger child. They will explore different stitches and be making their toys in the coming weeks with the help of the inestimable Mrs Scott.



YEAR 5 NEWS

In Year 5, we entered a Young Writer's competition, where the children were asked to write a poem about a dream or wish. The competition was called "I Have A Dream - Words To Treasure". We are excited to announce that we have 9 winners! The children will now have the opportunity to have their poems published in a Young Writer's book. Congratulations to Eva, Rishi, Sam, Mia, Darcy, Seb, Will, Sammy and Emily!



YEAR 6 NEWS

To quote English author Alfred Wainwright

"There's no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothing!" proved to be correct yesterday when pupils in Oak house wisely layered up with their thermals and waterproofs to brave the wet, cold weather for an exciting afternoon at Forest School!

For the next few weeks, the year 6 houses will take it in turns to have an afternoon outside with nature, which will give them the fantastic opportunity to prepare for their upcoming residential trip and build resilience, so they can have a fantastic week away.

As you can see from the photos, the children had a great time working together, building fantastic dens - some of them even included guttering for the rainfall! Very impressive!



GENERAL NEWS

Pupil Achievement

Over the last half term Lily Williams from Year 4 Llamas decided it was time for a new hair cut and wished to donate her hair to create wigs for other Children. Over the holiday Lily visited the hairdresser and the big chop happened.

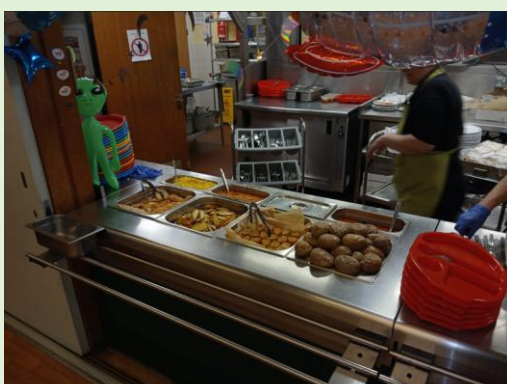
You can see Lily in before and after photos of the big moment.

The Little Princess Trust were very grateful to receive the donation and we are all very proud of Lily.



Census Day Menu

On Thursday, it was our Census day. To make the day extra special, our kitchen team provided a fun, space-themed menu, celebrating the planets of the universe. Lunchtime was an exciting and enjoyable experience for the children, with a menu designed to spark curiosity and fun.



Reverse Advent Calendar

The Stratford upon Avon Foodbank have asked us to send out the following message:

We would like to say a huge, heartfelt thank you from all of us here at Stratford-upon-Avon Foodbank for your fantastic reverse advent calendar collection. It weighed a brilliant 264.86kg!



This is absolutely fantastic and will make a real difference to the lives of the families we support. Thanks to schools like yours who share our vision for a hunger free future, we are able to respond to people in crisis with compassion and care. Your support is vital in ensuring we are there for people who need us. Thank you so much.



RSPB Birdwatch survey

January 23-25th is the RSPB's birdwatch survey, the largest garden wildlife survey. If anyone would like to take part, there is more information on the RSPB website rspb.org.uk.

If anyone is going to join in, please let us know, we would love to know more about the birds in your garden.

It only involves studying the birds in your garden, in one patch for one hour. Only this morning, 2 blue tits were loving the mirror in our reflection garden. But we think they were mistaking it for another bird!

GENERAL NEWS

Church Carol Service

Holy Trinity held their annual Lesson and Carols on December 23rd. It was, as ever, a very moving and uplifting occasion, with several of our Holy Trinity pupils singing in the choir. The music was stunning. Mrs Herrero read about the moment where Mary finds out that she is going to have baby, which is known as the Annunciation.

The highlight of the beautiful service was when Oliver in Year 6 sang the first verse of Once in Royal David's City. It was sublime. He obviously comes from good stock because his father also sang a solo, later on in the service.

Other readers at the service included the Mayor of Stratford, Councillor Dani Hunter, Local MP, Manuela Perteghella, as well as others who worked hard for the Stratford upon Avon Community in places like the foodbank and in business in general. The church was packed to the rafters. It is such a special evening in the Stratford upon Avon Christmas calendar.



Poppy Appeal

Thank you for your generous support of this year's Poppy Appeal. We are incredibly grateful for your contributions and for helping our school raise funds for the Royal British Legion. The total raised was an amazing £323.94.

Your kindness and willingness to support this important cause helps provide vital assistance to veterans and their families, and it also gives our pupils a valuable opportunity to learn about remembrance, service, and community spirit.



Thank you for your support

Your support has made a real difference to those in the Armed Forces community.

To find out more about how your donation helps, please visit rbl.org.uk/about-us



To Holy Trinity Primary School

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion

Together we raised £55,250

Your Total £323.94



Brilliant Result!

FUNDRAISING NEWS

New Year Disco

The Willows Friends have arranged a disco on Friday 23rd January, Reception parents should see a letter sent by Studybugs with further details.



THE WILLOWS FRIENDS PRESENT A

NEW YEAR DISCO

*Friday 23rd January £5 to include
a drink, snack and glitter tattoo!*



WE WILL BE HOLDING 3 TIME SLOTS PLEASE BOOK AT
WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/WILLOWSFRIENDS

Please see separate letter for more details.

Willows Friends Panto

As our Willows Friends Panto approaches, we are calling out to anyone who would like to advertise in the programme. A great opportunity to get your business or event publicised to the whole school community. Only £20 for a full-page and £10 for a half page (full colour). For more information or to submit an ad for inclusion, please email thewillowsfriends@gmail.com.

You are able to book tickets for the panto at www.ticketsource.co.uk/willowsfriends



A vibrant, stylized illustration of a fairytale scene. In the background, a large, multi-towered castle with pinkish-orange walls and blue conical roofs sits atop a hill. A bright, sparkling comet or magic wand trail streaks across the sky above the castle. To the right, a fairy with large, translucent wings and a blue dress flies through the air, leaving a trail of golden sparkles. In the foreground, a pumpkin carriage with large wooden wheels and a glass body is parked on a grassy field. The sky is a mix of deep blue, purple, and pink, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall style is whimsical and magical.

Cinderella

2026
Friday 13th - Sunday 15th
February

Tickets **£6.00 each**
Programme **50 pence**



Tickets available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/willowsfriends

FUNDRAISING NEWS

Gift Amnesty

Parents, staff and friends!

Can you help us raise funds for the school this year?

If you received any gifts at Christmas or on a birthday that aren't quite to your taste (or you got two the same) we'd love any donations that can be used as prizes or at future events.

Where to drop them off

Please bring your donations to the box outside the office

Thank you!



HOLY TRINITY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Raise funds by collecting reusable clothes

RAGS 2 RICHES
Schools Clubs Groups

WE ACCEPT CLEAN, GOOD QUALITY, DRY, REUSABLE CLOTHING

- ☒ Adults, Childrens & Babies Clothing
- ☒ Jewellery and Accessories
- ☒ Paired Shoes and Footwear
- ☒ Belts and Handbags

A full list of reusable items is listed on our website www.rags2riches4schools.co.uk

WE DO NOT ACCEPT

POOR QUALITY ITEMS SUCH AS DIRTY, WET, RIPPED OR SOILED CLOTHES. PILLOWS, DUVETS, CURTAINS, BOOKS CDs OR ANY UNIFORM

If you are unsure what to put in the bags **STOP AND THINK WOULD YOU WEAR IT?**

Please use the clothing bag provided.
You can also use any additional bag if required.

Collection Date: **Thursday 12th March 2026**

Please remember - **NO UNIFORM**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

2026

23 January	Disco
26 January	SEND coffee & chat @ 9.15am
9-3 February	Year 6 residential
13-15 February	Willows Friends Panto
25 February	Year 6 Parents evening 1.30 – 5pm
26 February	Year 6 Parents evening 4 – 6.30pm
16-20 February	Half Term
23 February	Return to school
2 March	Year 1 Phonics workshop - Turtles 9.30 – 10.30am
2 March	Year 1 Phonics workshop – Alpacas 2.15 – 3.15pm
6 March	Year 1 Phonics workshop Alpacas 9.30 – 10.30am
6 March	Year 1 Phonics workshop Turtles 2.15 – 3.15pm
16 March	Year 5 trip
30 Mar—10 Apr	Half term
13 April	Return to school
4 May	Bank Holiday—School closed
25-29 May	Half Term
1 June	Training Day—School closed
2 June	Return to school
17 July	Last day of school year
20 July	Teacher training day—school closed

COMMUNITY NEWS

Family Cinema Screenings at The Bear Pit:

The Sound of Music - 1 February

The Lion King (1994) - 22 February

All tickets £6 - <https://www.thebearpit.org.uk/whats-on/>

Theatre fans might be interested to know that Mr SK is directing a show at the local Bear Pit Theatre in March. Some adult themes make this comedy double-bill unsuitable for the children but parents looking for a fun night out, can buy a tickets here: <https://www.thebearpit.org.uk/whats-on/white-liars-black-comedy/>



COMMUNITY NEWS

THE MAYOR OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON INVITES YOU TO A

SILENT DISCO

AT STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
TOWN HALL
SHEEP STREET, CV37 6EF



MOVE TO YOUR OWN RHYTHM

**SATURDAY
7TH FEBRUARY
7.30PM**



AND SUPPORT THE MAYOR'S GOOD CAUSES

**BAR AND RAFFLE
CASH PREFERRED**

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW FROM £17.50

Logos: Stratford Family Club, Birmingham Children's Hospital Charity, Welcombe Hills School

THE MAYOR OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON INVITES YOU TO A

FAMILY! SILENT DISCO



**STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
TOWN HALL
SHEEP STREET, CV37 6EF**

MOVE TO YOUR OWN RHYTHM

**SATURDAY
7TH FEBRUARY
2 - 4 PM**



AND SUPPORT THE MAYOR'S GOOD CAUSES

**SNACKS & GLOW STICKS
CASH PREFERRED**

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM £10 PER FAMILY MEMBER

Logos: Stratford Family Club, Birmingham Children's Hospital Charity, Welcombe Hills School

Fitt4kids

HOLIDAY CAMPS

£20 PER DAY
Sibling & Full 4 day discounts available



Multisports camp!

Football camp!

Ofsted Registered

NHS Free day

AGE 4-11 YEARS



Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026

www.fitt4kids.org.uk/holiday-clubs/

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH + WELLBEING EVENT

Find out more about mental health help and support available in the Stratford-upon-Avon area



Friday 16th January

9.30 - 11.30

Stratford
Methodist Church

nct
Parents
in mind



mind

Recovery & Wellbeing
ACADEMY

new hope



NHS
Coventry,
Warwickshire
and Solihull
Talking Therapies

Proudly supporting
one of the good causes
of the Mayor of
Stratford-upon-Avon



SAMARITANS

Pop along for
a cuppa, cake,
a chat, a play
and enter our
fabulous raffle!

COMMUNITY NEWS



Arts Insight has been working with children and young people since 2010 providing a safe, nurturing and creative environment for all. We aim to provide opportunities for all young people to learn invaluable life skills, discover and share their voices, meet like-minded people and have multiple performance opportunities each year. Regardless of age, ability, culture or experience, we welcome and maintain a safe, motivating and inclusive environment for everyone.

- ✓ Three public performances every year
- ✓ Performance and backstage masterclasses with industry professionals
- ✓ Social events for members and their families
- ✓ Half term holiday workshops
- ✓ A wide range of term themes that include: set building, musical theatre, puppetry, lighting design and script writing

To register your interest in our FREE taster sessions and weekly classes email: admin@arts-insight.com or call: 07540 874642

CLASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY 6-7PM
MIXED AGE GROUP FOR 7-14 YEAR OLDS
SATURDAY 1-2PM
JUNIOR AGE GROUP FOR 7-10 YEAR OLDS
SATURDAY 2:10-3:10PM
SENIOR AGE GROUP FOR 11-14 YEAR OLDS

This Saturday the 17th January 2026 at Rother Street Arts House (formerly the Stratford Playhouse) Arts Insight Theatre Company will be running two FREE taster theatre workshops from 1 - 2pm and 2:10 - 3:10pm at the theatre (14 Rother Street, CV37 6LU) for children aged 7 - 14 years.

There is no obligation to join, just turn up and let us share with you and your children what we will be offering as a brand new Youth Theatre in Stratford, which starts the first week of February every Monday evening and Saturday afternoon. You can drop off your children and leave them with us for the hour. Please just turn up at the theatre 10 minutes before the sessions start time, or text Laura on 07540 874642 to register your child's interest.

www.arts-insight.com

Musical Theatre & Dance Classes

Holy Trinity Parish Centre Stratford-Upon-Avon

TAKE THE STAGE

Sign up here for a FREE trial class!



Professional Dance and Musical Theatre training for all ages!

- Build confidence & performance skills
- Learn from industry professionals
- Take part in performance opportunities
- Make friends & have fun in a supportive environment

Enrol Today!

takethestageschool@outlook.com
 @takethestageschool
 @TakeTheStage
 07902 092796



YOUTH THEATRE FOR PERFORMERS AGED 7 - 14

CALLING ALL THEATRE ENTHUSIASTS

BRAND NEW YOUTH THEATRE STRATFORD-UPON-AVON



admin@arts-insight.com
 [ArtsInsightTheatreCompany](https://www.facebook.com/ArtsInsightTheatreCompany)
 @AIYTWarwick
 www.arts-insight.com

JOIN US FOR A
FREE
TASTER WORKSHOP

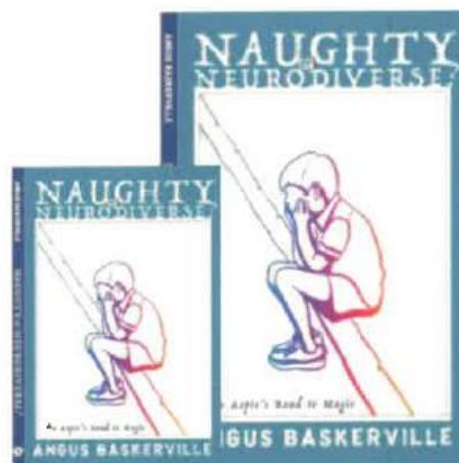
TASTER WORKSHOP DATES:
SATURDAY 17TH JANUARY 2026
MONDAY 19TH JANUARY 2026
ROTHER STREET ARTS HOUSE,
SUITE 14, 14 ROTHER STREET,
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, CV37 6LU

Book Signing, Q&A & Magic Show



Author

**Angus
Baskerville**



Friday 30th January
7pm - 8.30pm

£5 per ticket or
£12 with signed book
JT Bookshop, Alcester



For tickets, please visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/angus-baskerville-tickets-1980175188293>

MF MATT FIDDES
MARTIAL ARTS

**NEW YEAR
NEW HOBBY**

**UNLEASH YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL
WITH A FREE
MARTIAL ARTS CLASS!**

SCAN ME

SCAN ABOVE TO REDEEM YOUR
FREE CLASS!

WWW.MATTFIDDES.COM



Mentor Job Ad

Are you committed to improving the mental health and well-being of young people in Warwickshire and Coventry? YMM is looking for Mentors paid and voluntary, who have a genuine connection with young people and a strong desire to create positive change. As a Mentor, you'll play a crucial role in supporting and guiding young people towards improved mental health and overall well-being. Join our team and help us cultivate a nurturing community focused on support and personal growth for young individuals.

What do our Mentors do?

Mentors at YMM engage in weekly 1:1 [sessions](#) with young individuals who require support, providing them with a compassionate ear, empathetic listening, and encouragement to navigate challenges by developing effective coping strategies. Serving as positive role models, Mentors empower young people to build resilience and thrive, creating a safe and nurturing environment where young people can explore their strengths, overcome obstacles, and realise their full potential.

Could you be a YMM Mentor? If you live in the West Midlands, want to help young people and are:

- Self-aware
- An excellent listener
- [Non-judgemental](#)
- Ideally over 25 years old
- Reliable
- Able to use standard office software and have access to a computer
- Able to commit up to 6 hours a day during term time (in one day or possibly split over two days) in a local school

then you have the ability to become an excellent mentor.

What we provide and what you gain:

- A bespoke induction training programme which will give you the knowledge and practical skills you need to work safely with students
- Ongoing skills development through work shadowing and online courses
- Peer support from our cohort of more experienced mentors
- Opportunities to get involved in other YMM initiatives
- Skills development with ongoing training that can boost your career
- Monthly 1:1 supervision [sessions](#) with a fully qualified British Association for Counselling & Psychotherapy (BACP) accredited counsellor, to help you develop your skills and address any emerging needs of the young people you support.



(Registered Charity Number 1187987)

% STT Community Hub, Venture House, Avenue Farm, Birmingham Road,
Stratford upon Avon, CV37 0HR



- Reimbursement for travel expenses
- The opportunity to work in a rewarding role

Words from a current volunteer mentor:

The work I do with YMM is, in many ways, the most rewarding that I have ever undertaken. YMM has provided me with the framework within which I am able to put my life experiences and skills to work in service of children and young adults who, for whatever reason, find themselves struggling to cope with the [demands](#) life has placed on them.

For me, the key attribute of an effective mentor is the ability to listen - [really](#) listen - to what a child is saying. Often, by choking back my desire to jump in with a solution, I find I have given that mentee space to come up with their own way forward which is better than I could ever have suggested.

The stories of so many successful adults can be put down to the support or encouragement they got from a single individual who may not even know that their words and the time they invested in that person had any effect. I view my role as a mentor in that way: I may never know whether any of what I do has any effect, but I do it anyway, because this next generation deserves it! - Peter (Mentor)

To apply, download the application form from [Careers | YMM](#) and send it, along with a short covering letter, to Claire at info@ymm.org.uk.



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