

ΉË **YELLOW SPRINGS** NEWS 2023-2024 BACK TO SCHOOL GUID

YELLOW SPRINGS SCHOOLS

DR. TERRI L. HOLDEN, SUPERINTENDENT



Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! I hope that you and your family had an opportunity to relax, recharge and enjoy the summer break.

This is an exciting time to be a part of Yellow Springs Schools (YSS). As we open a new school year, I believe now more than ever that a culture focused on relationship-building with students, staff and community is the heart of student success. By creating this foundation with intention, we can effectively improve academic achievement; empower students through accountability, innovation, creativity, critical

thinking and collaboration; and provide an inclusive, equitable and safe environment.

Because of our innovative approach, we have the opportunity to build on the momentum we have gained in academics, fine arts and extracurriculars from last school year — significant year-to-year academic growth throughout the district; a theater arts program where our thespians won multiple local and state awards; a highly successful Mills Lawn Extracurricular Program (MLEP); and successful athletic programs including boys soccer state semi-finalists, conference champions in volleyball, co-conference champions in boys tennis, and many conference, state and even national awards for individual athletes.

In our public schools walk the scientists, researchers, educators, doctors, artists and political leaders of the future. What makes Yellow Springs Schools special is that we do not need to look to the future to see leadership. We see advocacy, innovation and student-led change today in our classrooms, in our schools, and across our community.

We are focused district-wide on our vision of thinking boldly, caring deeply and advocating courageously as we welcome our Fearless Thinkers back on Thursday, Aug. 17, for an invigorating year of learning.

YELLOW SPRINGS BOARD OF EDUCATION

The local school board is a five-member, publicly elected body responsible for the policies, finances and personnel of the Yellow Springs Exempted School District.

Board meetings are regularly scheduled on the second Thursday of the month, typically beginning at 6 p.m., in the Media Center at Yellow Springs High School. The board sometimes meets at the same time and location on the fourth Monday of the month for an optional work session; other meetings are scheduled as needed. All meetings are streamed live on the district's YouTube Channel — https://bit.ly/3IKXsao — and archived there as well.

Each serving four-year terms, current board members are Luisa Bieri Rios, Dorothée Bouquet, Judith Hempfling, Amy Magnus, and TJ Turner. TJ Turner is board president, and Dorothée Bouquet is vicepresident

Bieri Rios and Turner's terms end Dec. 31, 2023. The terms of Bouquet, Hempfling and Magnus conclude at the end of 2025.

The district offices are at 888 Dayton St., Suite 106, and the phone number is 937-767-7381. Emails for individual board members follow the form of the first initial followed by last name@ysschools.org; for example, lbieririos@ysschools.org.

and archived there as well. example, lbieririos@ysschools.org. | The color of the

JACK HATERT, PRINCIPAL McKINNEY MIDDLE SCHOOL/YELLOW SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL



Welcome to the 2023–2024 school year! I hope this communication finds you doing well and looking forward to returning to school. We are excited to have students back in our buildings and are looking forward to a great year.

We have several new teachers joining our McKinney Middle School and Yellow Springs High School team this year! Ms. Angela Jackson will be teaching high school life science. Mr. Bill Neal will be teaching high school art. Ms. Melanie Taylor will continue as the middle school social studies teacher. Ms. Laurie Pollock is transitioning to the study hall position where she will support interventions with students in MTSS. Mr. Sam Jacobs will be working as an intervention specialist with students in grades 7–12. Ms. Shawna Welch will be teaching middle school STEM courses. And Mr. Hurwitz will be in YSHS and MMS working as the district librarian and an instructional coach.

This year all back-to-school forms will again be completed using Final Forms. These forms are all available and can be completed online. Please take a few minutes to complete these forms before the school year starts! We will continue using ParentSquare for school announcements. I encourage you to download the app to get the most complete information

from the school. As you plan for the year ahead, please visit our calendar page on our website to see which days school is in session. We encourage all families to schedule appointments, college visits and vacations on days when school is closed. If a student misses even one day a month, they will miss 80 lessons throughout the school year.

On Friday, Aug. 11, we will be hosting three student events. From 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., we invite all seventh grade students to our seventh grade orientation. From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., we invite all students who are new to the district to join us for a new student luncheon. From 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., we invite all ninth graders to a high school orientation. Please plan to attend whichever of these apply to you so that you can get off to a great start!

We will be hosting our annual open house on Monday, Aug. 14, 6–7:30 p.m. Students and families are invited in to walk their schedules, meet their teachers and organize their lockers. Please make sure to pick up your family's copy of the district calendar during open house. This calendar has a comprehensive list of events for the 2023–24 school year, including semester and final exam dates, concert dates, prom and homecoming dates and the dates of other special events.

On the first day of school, Thursday, Aug. 17, we will open the building at 8 a.m. so students can put materials in their lockers and find any classes they may be unsure of before the 8:30 a.m. start.

I want to personally thank each of you for choosing Yellow Springs Schools. We are excited for the new year and are confident we can deliver a great, safe experience. Please do not hesitate to contact me (jhatert@ysschools.org or 767-7224) with any questions, concerns or feedback as we grow together.

Here's to a great 2023–2024 school year! Go Bulldogs!



MEGAN WINSTON, PRINCIPAL MILLS LAWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Welcome to the Mills Lawn Elementary 2023–2024 school year! On behalf of the teachers and staff, we are excited to have students back in the classrooms and look forward to a new school year.

There will be new faces joining Mills Lawn Elementary for the upcoming school year. We welcome Jocelyn Bailey, fourth grade teacher; Kylie Grauer, third grade teacher; Lori Schubel, instructional assistant; Jamie Vest, third grade teacher; Mary Oakley, instructional assis-

tant; and Megan Bachman, STEM; to the Bulldog Family. Our goal is to continue to provide the resources and support necessary for all students to feel valued, accepted and safe.

Students can expect to be challenged as we continue our innovative approach with project-based learning aligned to our state standards, and we are excited to announce the addition of a new science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, experience for all K-6 students. The STEM curriculum will provide an opportunity for students to be engaged in hands-on STEM lessons and to develop coding skills.

Once again this school year, Mills Lawn students will be taking the MAP® Growth™ tests from NWEA® in English language arts, or ELA, and math. MAP Growth scores help teachers check student performance by measuring achievement and growth. Teachers use results to tailor classroom lessons and develop individual goals and interventions for students. NWEA® MAP tests will be administered within the Aug. 28-Sept. 8 testing

Enjoy the last days of summer break, and we will see you soon!

MILLS LAWN PTO

The Mills Lawn Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that strives to support students, families and teachers, and to ensure that all Mills Lawn students have access to full participation in school, class and grade-wide activities.

The PTO sponsors fundraisers, including Street Fair parking and the Bulldog Jog 5K Run/ Walk, in order to support the purchase of supplies, fund field trips and supplement PBL projects not covered by

the school budget. The PTO welcomes and encourages any parent/ guardian to become involved. Attend regular meetings to hear about upcoming events and what is happening in and around the school or volunteer time or services for

The PTO strives to keep the community informed about events. Visit facebook. com/MillsLawnPTO or millslawnpto.com to stay up-to-date on PTO meetings and events.

"PLAY is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning.



But for children, play is serious learning; play is really the work of childhood." -FRED RODGERS

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SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

MILLS LAWN SCHOOL

SUPPLIES FOR ALL GRADES K-6:

Water bottle

- 1 pair of headphones K-2
- 1 pair headphones or earbuds 3–6
- 1 computer mouse (kindergarten prefers wired mouse)
- 1 Backpack (no wheels)
- 1 Box of tissues

Gym shoes to wear on P.E. day

KINDERGARTEN

- 2 boxes thick markers Crayola Classic Color
- 2 small glue sticks (Elmer's only)
- 3 boxes 24 ct. crayons (Crayola only)
- 2 plain plastic folders with 3-prongs
- 1 box quart size zip bags

GRADE 1

- 2 single-subject spiral notebooks, wide-ruled
- 3 boxes 24 ct. crayons (Crayola only)
- 1 box #2 Ticonderoga pencils
- 3 small glue sticks (Elmers only)
- 1 pencil box or bag, labeled with name
- 1 plain plastic folder with two pockets

Donations welcome: Antibacterial wipes, gallon or quart Ziplock bags

GRADE 2

- 1 pack Crayola Twistable colored pencils
- 2 boxes 24 ct. Crayola Crayons
- 1 box #2 Ticonderoga pencils
- 1 large pink eraser
- 1 pair blunt tip scissors
- 1 black and white composition notebook

Donations welcome: Antibacterial wipes, gallon Ziplock bags, tissues

GRADE 3

- 2 wide-ruled, 1 subject spiral notebooks
- 2 glue sticks
- 1 box #2 Ticonderoga pencils
- 2 solid color plastic pocket folders w/clasps
- 1 pack thick washable markers
- 1 small pack black fine tip dry erase markers
- 1 pack color pencils
- 1 pair blunt end scissors (left handed if needed)



GRADE 4

- 1 pencil pouch
- 1 box #2 Ticonderoga pencils
- 1 pack Crayola color pencils
- 2 wide-ruled spiral notebooks, any color
- 2 sturdy plastic folders with pockets, any color

Expo dry erase markers thick chisel tip, black

Donations welcome: Crayola Classic Color Markers, tissues, wipes, hand sanitizer, index cards

GRADE 5

24 pencils

2 sturdy folders with pockets Black dry erase markers

Pencil pouch

Sticky notes

1 pack of color pencils

2 single-subject notebooks

Donations welcome: Tissues, disinfecting wipes

GRADE 6

Band: "Tradition of Excellence" Book 1 (red cover) by Bruce Pearson and Ryan Nowlin (specific to student's instrument)

Orchestra: "Essential Elements 2000 for Strings" Book 1 (brown band across top) by Hal Leonard (specific to student's instrument)

- 1 pencil pouch
- 24 or more pre-sharpened pencils
- 1 spiral notebook
- 2 composition notebooks

Donations welcomed: Expo markers

McKINNEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Pencils (at least one being wooden)
Pens (blue or black)

12 pack color pencils

Highlighter

Dry erase markers

2 composition notebooks

One 1½ to 2-inch, 3-ring binder with at least 8 divider tabs

3-holed pencil-pouch to put in binder Notebook filler paper (lined and 3 hole punched)

Plug in headphones with microphone for Chromebooks (Note: For choir, band and orchestra students these headphones must plug in and cannot be Bluetooth for syncing with music tracks. We will be using the headphone microphone instead of the Google Chromebook mic for more precise recording.)

Math 7 and Math 8 students: Texas Instruments TI-30X IIS calculator (please get this exact model, approx. \$15)

Algebra 1 students: Texas Instruments
TI-84 series calculator with graphing
capabilities (can be used for the
remainder of YSHS math career,
approx \$115)

Performance (7th Grade only): Journal for writing and drawing

Spanish Intro (8th grade): Composition notebook (in addition to those required for general supplies)

General Supplies

Turned in to 1st period for supply closet Pack of pencils

Pack of 3" x 3" Post-it Notes

Two boxes of tissues

1 white poster board

*NOTE: Don't forget a combination lock for your locker!

YSHS 9TH GRADE

Required General Supplies

One 2.5- or 3-inch 3-ring binder 8 plastic binder folders, three-hole

punched, with pockets Loose leaf notebook paper

1 one-subject notebook (World History)

- 1 package graph paper (Geometry students only)
- 2 highlighters of different colors Pens, blue or black

Pencils and erasers

1 pack of index cards

Calculator (Texas Instruments TI-84 series graphing calculator)

Protractor (Geometry)

Bow Compass (Geometry)

Metric ruler

Plug-in headphones with microphone for Chromebooks (Note: These will be used in language classes, both Sign Language and Spanish. For choir, band and orchestra students, these headphones must plug in and cannot be Bluetooth to enable syncing with music tracks, as students will use the headphone microphone instead of the Google Chromebook mic for more precise recording.)

YS SCHOOLS CALENDAR

AUG	11–16	Professional development days
AUG	17	FIRST QUARTER: First day of school
	17–18	Kindergarten staggered start
SEP	4	NO SCHOOL Labor Day
	22	NO STUDENTS Professional development day
ОСТ	13	NO STUDENTS Professional development day
	17, 18	State testing, Mills Lawn
	19	SECOND QUARTER BEGINS
	27	NO STUDENTS Parent-teacher conferences, K–12
NOV	6	NO STUDENTS Professional development day
	20–24	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving break
DEC	15, 18, 19	YSHS semester exams
	20–24	NO SCHOOL Winter Break
JAN	1	NO SCHOOL New Year holiday celebrated
	2	NO SCHOOL Conference exchange day
	3	First day back from winter break
	11	THIRD QUARTER BEGINS
	15	NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Day
FEB	2	NO STUDENTS Professional development day
	19	NO SCHOOL Presidents Day
MAR	21	REGULAR SCHOOL DAY Parent-teacher evening conferences, K–12
	22	NO STUDENTS Parent-teacher conferences, K–12
	24	FOURTH QUARTER BEGINS
	25–29	NO SCHOOL Spring break
APR	1	NO SCHOOL Conference exchange day
	9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25	State testing, Mills Lawn
	9,10, 5–18	State testing, YSHS & McKinney
	19	NO STUDENTS Professional development day
MAY	20	Last day for seniors
	21–23	YSHS semester exams
	23	 END OF FOURTH QUARTER Last day of school Two-hour early release Graduation parade, 6:15 p.m. Graduation
	24	Last day for teachers
		Last day for teachers

K-6 grade: 1,042 hours; 7-12 grade: 1,129 hours

Unfinished Creations

Mills Lawn School Supplies 20% discount until Sept. 1

M-F 10-5:30 Sat 10-5

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Foundation

Community

WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS THE BEST YEAR YET!

- ▶ Youth Action Board, grades 7–12
- Charlotte Drake Student Grants
- ► YS Endowment for Education Grants
- ► YSHS Senior Scholarship Program
- YS Schools fundraising support



TOGETHER WE CAN DO MORE! JOIN US!

To make a donation & for grant applications: **www.YSCF.org**

FOOD SECURITY

Families are asked to complete and submit a current school year Free/Reduced Meal Application. Meal applications may be picked up in any of the school offices. These applications need to be completed in their entirety and returned to the school. Meal applications may also be completed online at payschoolscentral.com; determinations for eligibility are calculated immediately after filling out the online application.

For more information, contact Jeff Eyrich at jeyrich@ysschools.org or 937-767-7224 ext. 3018.

USDA INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL LUNCHES Effective July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024

Households with total incomes less than or equal to the values below are eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FREE	REDUCED
No. of	Annual	Annual
Members	Income	Income
2	25,636	36,482
3	32,318	45,991
4	39,000	55,500
5	45,682	65,009
6	52,634	74,518
7	59,046	84,027
8	65,728	93,536
Each add'l Member, add:	+6,682	+9,509

2023-24 Mills Lawn meal prices

Breakfast: \$1.35; \$0.30 for students eligible for reduced-price breakfast **Lunch:** \$3; \$0.40 for students eligible for reduced-price lunch

Single or additional milk: \$0.50

2022–23 McKinney Middle and YS High schools meal prices

Breakfast: \$1.35; \$0.30 for students eligible for reduced-price breakfast **Lunch:** \$3.25; \$0.40 for students eligible for reduced-price lunch

Single or additional milk: \$0.50

The district's food service program is provided by The Nutrition Group. For more information, contact Food Service Director

Jessica Stursa at 937-767-7224 ext. 3007 or jstursa@ysschools.org.

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Yellow Springs Community Food Pantry

HOURS: Second and fourth Thursdays of each month, 2–4 p.m., at Central Chapel AME Church, 411 S. High St. Contact: yscfpis@gmail.com.

Little Free Pantry

Outdoor, free-standing pantry behind Presbyterian Church, across from Mills Lawn on Walnut Street.

Dayton Street Pantry

Outdoor, free-standing pantry on Dayton Street in Bill Duncan Park.

Mobile Farmers Market

Sponsored by the Foodbank of Dayton, this mobile food bank stops in the parking lot of First Baptist Church on the third Thursday of each month, 1–2 p.m. No proof of residency is required. Remaining 2023 dates are: Aug. 17, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 and Dec. 21. Visit thefoodbankdayton.org/needfood/greene-countymobile for more info.

YS Police Department Outreach Coordinator Florence Randolph

Florence Randolph helps direct people to food relief resources in the village. Contact: 937-767-3716, FRandolph@vil.yellow-springs.oh.us.

TO DONATE FOOD

Donations may be made in person at any time to the free-standing pantries on Walnut and Dayton streets.

To donate to the Community Food Pantry, email yscfpis@gmail.com for more information. Alternatively, a local non-profit effort, PORCH Yellow Springs, plans monthly pickups of donated food items to fill the shelves of the Community Food Pantry. For more information on how to get involved with PORCH Yellow Springs, call 937-510-6030, email yellowsprings@porchcommunities.org or go to facebook.com/PorchYellowSprings.

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LET'S GIVE A CHEER FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

HEALTH & WELLNESS

IMMUNIZATIONS

Your child may need their immunizations updated before entering the new school year. Please refer to the 2023–24 Ohio Immunization Summary for School Attendance, which can be found at bit.ly/3CnyALL.

WHEN TO STAY HOME

Do not send your child to school if their temperature is at/above 100°F, they have vomited, have diarrhea or any communicable illness/disease. Please keep your child at home for 24 hours without medication and fever-free before returning to school.

If your child has special healthcare needs, please contact the school nurse to develop a health plan for your child while they are at school. Families should contact the school nurse or main office if a child or family member in the child's family has tested positive for COVID

MEDICATION REQUIRED AT SCHOOL

If your child needs to take medication during the school day, Mills Lawn must follow the procedures outlined in our School Board Policies.

- Please consult your physician about your child's medication schedule to see if it is necessary to administer medication at school.
- A Medication Authorization Form, completed and signed by the family doctor (for prescribed medications) and the parent/guardian, must be on file in the office before we can give, or your child can take any medications at school; Medication Authorization Forms are available upon request in the office and online at yellowsprings-oh.finalforms.com. For overthe-counter medications, such as Tylenol or Advil, a medication authorization form is still required, however, only a parent signature is required. All medications will be administered in the clinic under the supervision of the school nurse
- You will need to bring your child's medication to school. It is recommended that you keep a four-week supply of your child's medication in the nurse's office.
- Do not send medication to school with your child.
- For each prescribed medication, the container will need to have a pharmacist's label with the following information: Child's name, doctor's name, date, pharmacy name and phone number, name of the medication, prescribed dosage and frequency, any special handling and/or storage instructions.

EXCUSED ABSENCES AND TARDIES

State law requires attendance at school for children between the ages of 6 and 18. According to Ohio Administrative Code of the State Department of Education (3301-51-13) and/or the Yellow Springs Board of Education, the following are considered valid reasons for being absent from school:

- Illness of the child. The approving authority may require the written statement of a physician/mental health professional if it is deemed appropriate;
- Illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child. The approving authority may require the written statement of a physician and an explanation as to why the child's absence was necessary, if it is deemed appropriate:
- Quarantine of the home. The absence of a child from school under this condition is limited to the length of quarantine as determined by the proper health officials;
- Death of a relative. The absence arising from this condition is limited to a period of 18 school hours unless a reasonable causes may be shown by the applicant child for a longer absence;
- Medical or dental appointment. The approving authority may require the written statement of a physician or dentist if it's deemed appropriate;
- Observance of religious holidays. Any child shall be excused if his/her absence was for the purpose of observing a religious holiday consistent with his/her truly held religious heliefs:
- College visitation (high school only). The approving authority may require verification of the date and time of the visitation by the college, university, or technical college;
- Absences due to a student's placement in foster care or change in foster care placement or any court proceedings related to their foster care status;
- Absences due to a student being homeless or
- Emergency or other set of circumstances in which the judgment of the superintendent of schools constitutes a good and sufficient cause for absence from school.
- Other circumstances not listed above may be approved by the principal or his/ her designee.

When your child is going to be absent from school, please call the office before school start time to report the reason your child is going to be absent. If we do not hear from you by that time, you will receive an automated call informing you of your child's absence.

YS SCHOOLS INFORMATION

COMMUNICATION

ParentSquare is the Yellow Springs Schools' communication platform. ParentSquare is a safe and secure platform for all school-to-home communication that allows the district to send robocalls, text messages, emails and written "posts," which might include newsletters or written reminders for parents. To sign up for ParentSquare, and for more back-toschool information, go to ysschools.org/ parentsquare.

The school district also keeps in touch with district parents and the wider community via social media; follow Yellow Springs Schools at the following sites:

Facebook facebook.com/ YellowSpringsSchools/

Twitter twitter.com/ YellowSSchools

Instagram instagram.com/ vellowspringsschools/

YouTube youtube.com/channel/ UCJrzRabkaBlqt9V2bvxtQqA/featured

YELLOW SPRINGS BOARD OF **EDUCATION OFFICE**

888 Dayton St., Suite 108, 937-767-7381 Fax 937-767-6604; www.ysschools.org Terri Holden, superintendent Sarah Hollis, assistant to the superintendent and human resources specialist Jacob McGrath, treasurer Donna First, student services director Sharon Horne, clerical assistant/ transportation coordinator Jody Chick, special education supervisor Rachel Watson, EMIS coordinator

District-wide staff:

bryant

Craig Carter, head of maintenance Jeff Eyrich, director of business operations and athletics

Melinda Lusk, school bus driver Tim Sandlin, school bus driver Timothy Whetsel, school bus driver Eric Brabston, technology coordinator

Navien



MILLS LAWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

200 South Walnut St., 937-767-7217, Fax 937-767-6002; www.ysschools.org Megan Winston, principal Nancy Bussey, administrative assistant Roberta Semler. secretary school hours: 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (Children should not arrive at school before 7:50 a.m.) FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, GRADES 1-6: Thursday, Aug. 17

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR KINDERGARTEN:

Thursday, Aug. 17 and Friday, Aug. 18

MIIIs Lawn School staff: Linnea Denman, kindergarten

Jeananne Turner-Smith, kindergarten Jennifer Scavone, 1st grade Mikasa Simms, 1st grade Heidi Hoover, 2nd grade Debra Mabra, 2nd grade Kylie Grauer, 3rd grade Breanna Titus, 3rd grade Jamie Vest, 3rd grade Jocelyn Bailey, 4th grade Candice Teague, 4th grade Dionne Barclay, 5th grade Ashley Folkerth, 5th grade Julia Holden, 6th grade Kineta Sanford, 6th grade Terry Harrington, intervention specialist Kathleen Miller, intervention specialist Amy Tritschler, intervention specialist

Sarah Amin, PBL Foundations/teacher support specialist Charlyn Cantrell, school nurse John Gudgel, counselor Emily Berlo, physical education Eli Hurwitz, media/technology specialist Megan Bachman, STEM teacher Brian Mayer, band/orchestra (5–12) Nan Meekin, reading paraprofessional tutor Amy Minehart, art Jo Frannye Reichert, music, performing arts and choir teacher Chandra Jones-Graham, instructional assistant

Mary Oakley, instructional assistant Lori Schubel, instructional assistant Karla Horvath, special education aide Jane Jako, special education aide Tami Parker, special education aide Joshua Himsey, custodian Eric Lawhorn, custodian Kenneth Van Beber, custodian

McKINNEY MIDDLE and YELLOW SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

420 East Enon Rd.; 937-767-7224, fax 937-767-6154; www.ysschools.org Jack Hatert, principal Joy Feola, assistant principal Julie Cosler, administrative assistant Cheri Graham, secretary **SCHOOL HOURS:** 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: Thursday, Aug. 17

McKinney staff:

Jaime Adoff, language arts

Morgan Singer, science Rich Gillett, health and physical education Alicia Horvath, math Eli Hurwitz, media/technology specialist Melanie Taylor, social studies Stevie Fickert. art Brian Mayer, band/orchestra (5–12) Shawna Welch, career explorations Chris Sidner, Spanish Lorrie Sparrow-Knapp, performing arts, choir

Shawna Welch, STEM Hilary Riepenhoff, intervention specialist Shannon Morano, quidance counselor Genevieve Ramsington, school nurse Demitria Hoad, special education aide Kelley Oberg, special education aide Sam Jacobs, instructional assistant

YSHS Staff

Eli Ramsey, 9th and 11th grade English John Day, social studies Angela Jackson, *life science* Rich Gillett, health and physical education Dee Ann Holly, math Naomi Hyatt, intervention specialist David Johnston, intervention specialist Rachel Madison, intervention specialist Brandon Lowry, chemistry, physics Elizabeth Lutz-Hackett, 10th and 12th grade English Bill Neal, art Brian Mayer, band/orchestra (5–12) Tamara Morrison, math Emily Sears, arts integration Chris Sidner, Spanish Dave Smith, French

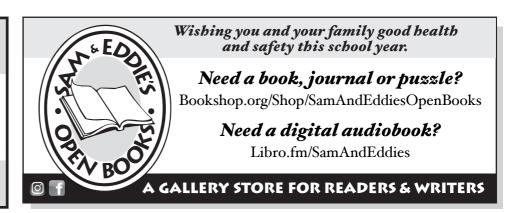
choir Eli Hurwitz, library/media coordinator Julie Gunn, guidance counselor Shannon Morano, quidance counselor Maya Luney-Ballew, student advocate Genevieve Ramsington, school nurse Laurie Pollock, study hall monitor Demitria Hoad, special education aide Kelley Oberg, special education aide Laura Pollock, special education aide Sam Jacobs, intervention specialist Mike Hittle, custodian Justin Hall, custodian James Waulk, custodian

Lorrie Sparrow-Knapp, performing arts,



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THE ANTIOCH SCHOOL



1160 Corry St.; 937-767-7642 **CONTACT:** Nathan Summers, school manager, nathan@antiochschool.org; antiochschool.org

The oldest democratic school in the United States, The Antioch School was founded in 1921 by Arthur Morgan, then president of Antioch College. In 1951, the school moved to its current setting, neighboring the Glen Helen nature preserve.

The Antioch School is a place where child-hood is revered and children are encouraged to pursue their innate curiosity wherever their abilities take them. An Antioch School education is based upon the ideals of mutual respect, trust, challenge and choice. The school groups children into the Nursery (3.5–5), Kindergarten (5–6), Younger Group (6–9) and Older Group (9–12).

The Antioch School provides an art and science program, music instruction, artists-in-residence, field trips and aftercare. The development of reading, writing and mathematical abilities is emphasized. Social and self-discipline skills and the interaction of

children as a means for self-definition and growth are deeply valued. Individualized instruction works two ways at the school: teacher-to-child and child-to-child.

The children's academic and creative growth and learning are ungraded. Standardized testing is restricted to the Older Group children. Unless the children request homework, it is not a part of the daily life of the school. An emphasis is placed on physical activity with children playing together on the school's expansive grounds, swimming and skating field trips.

Operations are led by a board of directors, which includes parents, faculty members and a community member. The daily life of the school is facilitated by the school manager, Nathan Summers. Family involvement is vital to the school's learning environment.

Because The Antioch School is small, group size and enrollment numbers are limited. Applications are accepted throughout the year and financial aid is available for qualifying families. Visitors are always welcome.

AUG	26	Opening of School Work Bee 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
	28	Nursery and Kindergarten Room Meetings
	29	Younger Group Room Meeting 6 p.m.
	20	Older Group Room Meeting 7 p.m.
	30	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
	31	School Welcome Picnic, 6–8 p.m.
SEP	4	NO SCHOOL Labor Day
	12	Faculty Panel/Orientation (mandatory for new families)
	25–29	Annual Fund Pledge Week
	29	Grandfriend's Day (dependent on volunteer help)
	30	Anything on Wheels (raindate Oct. 1)
ОСТ	6	NO SCHOOL Conference day
	13	NO SCHOOL Conference day
NOV	3	Harvest Soup Supper (dependent on volunteer help)
	17	Thanksgiving Feast (early dismissal)
	20	NO SCHOOL Faculty planning retreat
	21–24	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving break
DEC	15	Children's Cookie Exchange
	3, 2023– 1, 2024	NO SCHOOL Winter Break
JAN	2	SCHOOL RESUMES
	15	NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Day
	15 19	NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Day NO SCHOOL Conference day
		<u> </u>
FEB	19	NO SCHOOL Conference day
FEB	19 26	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day
FEB	19 26 19–20	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break
FEB	19 26 19–20 23	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due
	19 26 19–20 23 25	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday SCHOOL RESUMES
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29 1	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday SCHOOL RESUMES NO SCHOOL Conference day
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29 1 5	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday SCHOOL RESUMES NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29 1 5 12 3–4	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday SCHOOL RESUMES NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day Older Group and Thirds Spring Musical
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29 1 5 12 3–4 6	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday SCHOOL RESUMES NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day Older Group and Thirds Spring Musical NO SCHOOL Faculty planning retreat
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29 1 5 12 3–4 6 7	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday SCHOOL RESUMES NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day Older Group and Thirds Spring Musical NO SCHOOL Faculty planning retreat 2024–25 Contracts Due
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29 1 5 12 3–4 6 7 13	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday SCHOOL RESUMES NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day Older Group and Thirds Spring Musical NO SCHOOL Faculty planning retreat 2024–25 Contracts Due 2024–25 Final Enrollment Deposit Due
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29 1 5 12 3–4 6 7 13	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday SCHOOL RESUMES NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day Older Group and Thirds Spring Musical NO SCHOOL Faculty planning retreat 2024–25 Contracts Due 2024–25 Final Enrollment Deposit Due Annual Picnic and Graduation, 6–8 p.m.
MAR	19 26 19–20 23 25 25–29 1 5 12 3–4 6 7 13 22 27	NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Presidents Day and Mid-Winter Break 2024–25 Intention Form and First Enrollment Deposit Due Open House NO SCHOOL Spring Holiday SCHOOL RESUMES NO SCHOOL Conference day NO SCHOOL Conference day Older Group and Thirds Spring Musical NO SCHOOL Faculty planning retreat 2024–25 Contracts Due 2024–25 Final Enrollment Deposit Due Annual Picnic and Graduation, 6–8 p.m. NO SCHOOL Memorial Day

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OPEN AIR VILLAGE



800 Livermore St.; 937-230-8684 CONTACT: Nicole Gay, nicole@openairvillage.com; openairvillage.com

Open Air Village is a privately owned, ODJFS-licensed child care facility for children ages 3–11.

Located on Antioch College's historic campus, children learn naturally through play in an "open air," outdoor classroom.

OAV was founded in September of 2020 by villagers Nicole and Bryan Gay in response to the community's need as working parents were struggling to find childcare.

The mission of Open Air Village is to provide a respectful and nurturing environment for the developing child. The center's programs are designed to encourage each child's growth by being in tune with their social, emotional, physical and educational interests. With a Reggio Emilia-inspired vision, Open Air Village aims to treat its environment as a child's "third teacher," putting careful thought into the space in which learning evolves and takes place.

Open Air Village's core values are:

- respecting children,
- embracing diversity,
- community involvement, and
- nature education.

PROGRAMS

Nature-based preschool, ages 3-4: Open Air Village's youngest students learn naturally through play in an "open air," outdoor classroom. Children enjoy a daily rhythm filled with music, literature, big body play and sensory art. Qualified Early Childhood teachers facilitate a unique child-led environment where students are able to pursue their interests while meeting developmentally appropriate standards. In nature preschool, we believe "there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad gear." Students learn to dress appropriately for walking adventures in all seasons to discover the lessons nature provides.

Wonder Garden, age 5: Children who are eligible for kindergarten may supple-

ment a homeschool curriculum or enjoy another year of childhood before entering formal schooling in "Wonder Garden." Children will learn and grow as they form friendships in a play based setting.

In Wonder Garden, the educational curriculum is child-led, with an emphasis on nature-based studies, connections to literature and a Montessori-inspired approach to mathematics. A large part of the focus at Open Air Village is meaningful community involvement for the young villagers. Wonder Gardeners take frequent walking field trips to Glen Helen, Antioch farm, and the YS Library.

Village Kids, ages 5–10: Village Kids is an after-school opportunity for young villagers to meet safely and enjoy authentic relationships within our community. The program features walking field trips around the village of Yellow Springs as well as outdoor recreation in our play yard. OAV also offers an indoor, sensory-friendly atmosphere for completing school work, with caring educators on hand to provide encouragement.

Natural Movement at Open Air Studio: Open Air Studio, a satellite location at 213 Xenia Ave., has partnered with Yellow Springs's own RIE Associate and Waldorf Teacher, Simone Demarzi, to bring progressive parenting practices to the village with Natural Movement, for infants ages 0–1. The class aims to teach caregivers respectful child care practices by having them observe their infant's natural movement. Groups meet based on developmental stage: nonmobile (newborn through approximately 6 months) and mobile (approximately 7–18 months). A parent/caregiver and one additional support person are invited to attend with their baby to embrace relationships with not only their child, but other adults in the same stage of parenting.

Classes are held on Saturdays, and spots are limited to a maximum of 6 babies per

Open Air Studio aims to add Expressive Movement and dance classes for children ages 2 and up to its offerings soon.

Community Children's Center

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FRIENDS CARE **PRESCHOOL**

150 E. Herman St.; 937-767-1303, ext. 113 CONTACT: Traci Womack, director of preschool programs; twomack@greeneesc.org

Friends Preschool program is a public school program operated by the Greene County Educational Service Center. Located at Friends Care Community, the program provides fun, rich and developmentally appropriate educational experiences to children with delays in development, as well as typically developing students from the community. Speech, occupational and physical therapy services are also available as needed for children who qualify.

The program is dedicated to helping seniors and children learn together through the development of intergenerational programs. The program includes a strong educational component with structured teaching to help children prepare for kindergarten, as well as providing guidance in health, nutrition, motor skills and social-emotional development. Class sizes are small, with a ratio of 12 students to two or three staff.

Teaching staff have bachelor's or master's degrees in education and are fully certified intervention specialists. The program follows a comprehensive curriculum that aligns with Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards. Bus transportation is available.

The program is free to children with disabilities; there is a nominal tuition charge for private-pay students.

Friends Preschool serves children ages 3–5 from both Yellow Springs and Cedar Cliff school districts.

If you know a child who needs an evaluation referral or are interested in your child being placed on a waiting list for Friends Preschool, contact Traci Womack, director of preschool programs, at twomack@ greeneesc.org.

NOTE: The 2023–24 school year will have a delayed start, beginning after Labor Day, due to staffing issues. In order to make up those days, preschool will be in session on some Fridays, noted below. School will not be in session on any Friday not indicated on the calendar.

AUG	14–15	Staff opening day
	16 & 18	New student screenings and meetings
	31	OPEN HOUSE
SEP	4	NO SCHOOL Labor Day
	5	FIRST DAY OF PRESCHOOL
	29	FRIDAY — preschool in session
ОСТ	13	NO SCHOOL professional development day
NOV	10	FRIDAY — preschool in session
	22–24	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving break
DEC '23 JAN '24	21–2	NO SCHOOL Winter break
JAN	15	NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Day
	19	FRIDAY — preschool in session
FEB	16	NO SCHOOL Preschool staff work day
	19	NO SCHOOL Presidents Day
	23	FRIDAY — preschool in session
MAR-	25–1	NO SCHOOL Spring break
APR		
MAY	23	LAST DAY OF PRESCHOOL
	24	Last day for teachers

NO PRESCHOOL on Fridays unless noted in calendar

COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CENT



320 Corry St.; 937-767-7236 **CONTACT:** yschildrenscenterdirector@ gmail.com; ysccc.org

The Yellow Springs Community Children's Center, or YSCCC, has a long history of educating children in Yellow Springs. Opening as The Community Nursery School in 1926, it was one of the first two nursery schools in Ohio and eighteenth in the country. YSCCC incorporated in 1946 and has continued the tradition of serving families of our diverse community and neighboring counties.

Education at the Community Children's Center is aimed at supporting the integrated growth of the whole child. This growth is nurtured and facilitated by the teacher through a rich and stimulating environment. The teacher provides a wide variety of open-ended materials and experiences, and focuses on building interpersonal relationships that bring confidence and security.

Enrollment

The Yellow Springs Community Children's Center is open to all children from the ages of six weeks through 12 years old, regardless of ability, race, religion or ethnic background.

Generally, admission is on a first-come first served basis. The Center is committed to serving low-income families. A percentage of the total enrollment capacity is reserved for Title XX recipients as well as other families eligible for tuition scholarbased on the date on which notification may stop at the front desk for inquiries.

was received. Families are notified as soon as space is available in the appropriate program or group. At times consideration is given to the balancing of gender, age, temperament and ethnicity within a classroom.

To enroll a child, parents/guardians tour the Center, visit the appropriate program and fill out an enrollment packet at least two days prior to the official start date.

Medical forms for children who have not reached the age of kindergarten attendance must be updated annually. The Health and Enrollment Form, routine walking slips, child information form, assessment permission, behavioral policy and photo/video release must be updated annually for all children.

Visitations

Parents/guardians have unlimited access to the Center. Visits are encouraged. The teacher and adult family members decide, according to the child's needs, the most favorable way for involvement. If a parent/guardian comes into the building not intending to spend time with his/her child, a strong attempt will be made to shelter the child from viewing the loved one, unless the child is comfortable with a brief encounter.

The Center encourages friends, family members, volunteers, students and anyone interested to visit. All prospective personnel and most prospective parents/ guardians tour the building and grounds and spend time observing in classrooms. ship. The Center maintains a waiting list Appointments can be made or visitors

ENRICHMENT **OPTIONS**

YS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The YS Community Library is open for students to check out books, and inperson events are scheduled each month. Book groups, play groups and other activities for youth are listed weekly in the "At the Library" column in the News and online at greenelibrary.info. Toys, games and computer access are also available to village students.

Beginning in September, "Level Up!," a free tutoring program for students, will be available Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. No registration is required, and students may drop in any time during the scheduled hours.

Students with a library card also have access to the Spark Place makerspace, located at the Xenia Community Library, where they'll find tools and technology for community members to share as they invent, build and create. Spark Place includes equipment like 3D scanners and printers, a button maker, sewing and embroidery machines, audio recording and editing software and hardware, laser cutters and engravers and more. Note that Xenia Community Library is currently being renovated, with completion set for early 2025. During much of the renovation, library services, including Spark Place, will still be accessible to patrons. For more information about Spark Place, visit greenelibrary.info/sparkplace or call 937736-7092; updates on renovation and changes to services will be available online at greenelibrary.info/xerenovation.

The Greene County Library system also offers a variety of online educational resources for students from kindergarten through 12th grade via its website at greenelibrary.info. These include research databases, virtual libraries and arts and crafts resources. Resources include:

- ArtistWorks Learn to play an instrument, sing, or draw with self-paced video lessons from professional musicians and artists. For all ages, and beginner to intermediate skill levels.
- Beanstack Log reading and complete activities to earn online badges and other prizes.
- Biography Reference Bank Find profiles, images, obituaries, and full-text articles about notable individuals.
- BookFlix: Video Storybooks Classic video storybooks paired with related nonfiction books, games and activities.
- Driver Education Program Practice online for the written portion of the Ohio BMV driver's license permit test. The program includes practice tests and

handbooks for car, motorcycle and commercial drivers, and provides answers to more than 100 frequently asked questions about getting a driver's license in

- Gale Courses Take a class with a professional instructor to strengthen your skills for work, school, or your favorite hobby. Courses are six weeks long, and a new session begins every month.
- Hoopla 2.0 Check out streaming movies, television shows, music and audiobooks and e-books and comics.
- Oxford Research Encyclopedias Read long-form overview articles written by leading scholars in dozens of subject
- Science Reference Center Read encyclopedias, reference books, periodicals, and other sources covering a wide range of scientific fields.
- Very Short Introductions Discover a new topic or subject with intelligent and serious introductions written by authors who are experts in their field.
- World Book Encyclopedias for students and families, including: Early World of Learning, World Book for Kids, Online World Book for Students, Online World Book Advanced and World Book

And more — visit greenelibrary.info/ online-resources for a complete list.

Most online resources require a library card for access; library cards may be obtained in person from any Greene County Public Library location. For more information on the application process for a library card, visit greenelibrary.info/ get-a-card.

JOHN BRYAN STORYBOOK TRAIL

The John Bryan Storybook Trail was established in the summer of 2020 in John Bryan State Park through the combined efforts of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and the Ohio Imagination Library. The trail leads hikers of all ages through the woods on a half-mile loop trail. As hikers walk, they encounter an unfolding story on large panels along the path.

The Storybook Trail at John Bryan is located adjacent to the park's playground, as well as a parking lot and restrooms. The entrance to the trail features a Little Free Library, where park-goers can borrow and donate books.

To contact John Bryan State Park, call

Continued on page 12 ▶

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ENRICHMENT OPTIONS

◆ Continued frpm page 11

937-767-1274. The park is open from dawn until dusk.

THE RIDING CENTRE

The Riding Centre is a nonprofit organization that provides horse riding lessons for students ages eight and older, as well as horse boarding services, clinics and the Therapeutic Riding Program. The Riding Centre was founded by Louise Soelberg in 1959, and has been directed by Carolyn Bailey since Soelberg's retirement in

The Riding Centre carries a mission to provide affordable instruction and offers scholarships to students with financial need. Students come to the Riding Centre from diverse backgrounds, with varying levels of ability; all are welcome.

The Riding Centre is located at 1117 East Hyde Road, and its grounds occupy 60 acres of land in Glen Helen Nature Preserve. Facilities include two barns, rolling pastures, a large outdoor ring, a lighted indoor ring, a cross-country hunt course, several wooded trails, indoor stables and outdoor shelters for the horses.

Visit theridingcentre.org for more information.

VILLAGE IMPACT PROJECT

The Village Impact Project, or VIP, is a mentorship program that pairs community adults with local young people.

Launched in January 2019 by Donna Haller, an intervention specialist at Yellow Springs High School, and first organized in affiliation with Big Brothers Big Sisters Miami Valley, the nonprofit organization changed hands in 2022, and is now managed by the National Conference for Community & Justice, or NCCJ, of Greater Dayton.

Second- through ninth-grade students of Yellow Springs Schools who want to be part of the program are paired with mentors who share their interests. Following its motto, "Changing our community two people at a time," the program "seeks



to become an integral part of village life through activities, fundraisers and community service projects," according to its mission statement.

Student-mentor pairs can take part in one-on-one pursuits, such as bike riding, and monthly VIP group activities, which have included attending local sporting events, visiting Young's Jersey Dairy and programming at Community Solutions' Agraria property.

For more information, go to nccjgreaterdayton.org/vip.

YOUNG PEOPLE OF COLOR

The Young People of Color group was developed by The 365 Project to provide local children of color with mentorship and learning opportunities to help them to connect with and learn about Black culture from adults and leaders within their communities. Mentors provide educational experiences and events for youth group members.

The 365 Project and Young People of Color also sponsor the annual "Blacks in Yellow Springs" walking tours, which are led by area middle and high school students, who are trained to lead the

tours through historically significant sites YSYOA, works to serve the village comaround the village. The tours give the students an opportunity to learn about local Black history and develop public speaking skills.

Interested youth and parents can email The 365 Project for more information at the365projectys@gmail.com. For more information, visit the 365 projectys.org/ vpoc.

YOUTH CENTER AT JOHN BRYAN CENTER

Located on the first floor of the John Bryan Center, the Youth Center is a welcoming space for Yellow Springs residents ages 11–19 years old. The center is open 3–9 p.m., Monday–Friday, and noon–4 p.m. on Saturday. The center features a game room, homework help and other amenities. Open hours at the adjacent gym are also available.

For more information, youth and parents may call 937-767-7209 or email monitors@yso.com.

YS YOUTH ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

The YS Youth Orchestra Program, or

munity in music education and other music-related endeavors.

Founded by cellist Shirley Mullins and the late violinist Mary Schumacher in 1965, the organization's original focus was on supporting music education for children in YS schools. In recent years, the YSYOA has expanded its reach, and in addition to continuing its support of local school music programs, also supports and organizes the annual YS Summer Music Camp and the Yellow Springs Strings, a chamber orchestra for adults. YSYOA also organizes and presents recitals and concerts

The YSYOA sponsors a scholarship fund to help provide private music instruction for musicians of any age. Those who haven't received private music lessons on a preferred instrument may apply to the scholarship fund to receive funding to pay for a limited number of lessons, with the possibility of further support after those lessons have been completed.

For more information, or to download a scholarship application, visit ysyoa.org.





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