



Joy Lane Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 9th January 2026

TERM 3 EVENT DATES

Term 3 Dates 2025 - 2026



Week 1

Monday 5th January
Term 3 Begins
Wednesday 7th January
New Reception 2026 Open Morning
9:00-11:00am

Week 2

Thursday 15th January
Census Day (Special Menu)
Friends of Joy Lane Winter Discos
1:30 - 2:30pm - Reception
2:30 - 3:30pm - Year 1
3:30 - 4:30pm - Year 2
4:30 - 5:30pm - Year 3

Week 3

W/C 19th January
Extended Learning Clubs Commence
KIC Theatre Drama Workshops
Friday 23rd January
Year R Hearing & Vision

Week 4

Thursday 29th January
Friends of Joy Lane Winter Discos
13:30 - 2:00pm - Oysters
2:00 - 2:30pm - Nursery
2:30 - 3:30pm - Year 4
3:30 - 4:30pm - Year 5
4:30 - 5:30pm - Year 6
Friday 30th January
Children's Hospital Pyjama's Appeal

Week 5

W/C 2nd February
National Storytelling Week
Monday 2nd February 3:00 - 6:30pm
EY/KS1 Virtual Parent Partnership Meeting
Tuesday 3rd February 3:00 - 6:30pm
EY/KS1 Virtual Parent Partnership Meeting
Wednesday 4th February 3:00 - 6:30pm
KS2 Virtual Parent Partnership Meeting
Thursday 5th February 3:00 - 6:30pm
KS2 Virtual Parent Partnership Meeting

Week 6

Tuesday 10th February
Safer Internet Day
Friday 13th February
Last Day of Term 3 - Normal Finish Times

Welcome Back to Term 4

Monday 23rd February

Click [here](#) for a PDF version.

CENSUS DAY – THURSDAY 15TH JANUARY

Thursday 15th January 2026 is School Census Day, which is the day when the government take a count of all the children that we have in our school to calculate our funding for the year ahead.

The number of children choosing a school dinner on that day decides a large element of the funding, and as a result, we would like to encourage as many children as possible to opt-in for a school dinner on this day.

We have an exciting, alternative menu for Census Day, and we hope to see lots of children enjoying this meal.

Your child simply needs to ask for a school meal at registration and payment is taken via Arbor in the usual way. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Please note that Friday's menu will be Meatballs/Vegan Meatballs / Wedges, Mixed Vegetables & Sweetcorn / Oat Crunch biscuit for dessert. Option 3 will be pasta.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL PYJAMA DAY APPEAL



SPREADING LOVE THROUGH COMFORT

We are looking forward to our second Children's Hospital Pyjamas Appeal on Friday 30th January! Last year, the charity – and Joy Lane! – were overwhelmed by your generous donations and support.

The children are invited to wear their pyjamas, or other comfy loungewear, for the day, and with the crisp, cold weather setting in, this is perfect excuse to layer up and wrap up warm! Think oodles, onesies, blankets, dressing gowns, slippers (for the classroom), and you can layer your PJs over leggings and t-shirt, if needed.

There are so many ways you can get involved:

- Donate £1 on the day - look out for the orange buckets!
- Donate via our [Just Giving Page](#)
- Donate a pair of brand-new PJs (ages 0 - 18)
- Buy a pair of PJs from our [Amazon Wishlist](#) and these will be sent directly to the school

Anything you are able to donate will go towards supporting children in QEQM Margate, Kent and Canterbury Hospital and Demelza Hospice. Thank you in advance for your support.

TERM 3 CURRICULUM WEBS

We are excited to share our learning with you for Term 3 through our year group Curriculum Webs. Here, you will find a snapshot of learning across the curriculum and see how we immerse the children in their learning through a range of hooks and books!

Please click [here](#) to be directed to your child's Curriculum Web.

FOJL WINTER DISCOS!

Get ready to sparkle, boogie, and bust some moves — the FOJL Winter Discos are **BACK!**

What better way to start the year than letting the children dance the afternoon away with their friends? We're thrilled to welcome back the amazing Just Bounce, bringing a full professional disco experience — think lights, sound and bubbles!

Two high-energy entertainers will be leading fun games, competitions, and easy dance routines, with age-appropriate music for every year group. Expect props, prizes, and non-stop fun, all run by fully trained staff with enhanced DBS checks.

 Drinks and popcorn are included in the ticket price!

Times and dates for year groups are:

Thursday 15 th January	Thursday 29 th January
Reception 1:30-2:30pm	Oysters 1:30-2:00pm
Year 1 2:30-3:30pm	Nursery 2:00-2:30pm
Year 2 3:30-4:30pm	Year 4 2:30-3:30pm
Year 3 4:30-5:30pm	Year 5 3:30-4:30pm
	Year 6 4:30-5:30pm



Tickets are available [here](#) and will cost £2 per person for Nursery, Reception & Oysters, and £3 for the rest of the year groups.

If you're experiencing financial difficulties and would still like your child to attend, please use our 'Pay It Forward' scheme by selecting the 'Pay It Forward' ticket option.

 We can't wait to see the dance floor full of smiles, moves, and disco magic!  

KIC THEATRE – MONDAY 19TH - FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY

We are delighted to welcome KIC Theatre back for the children's educational drama workshops. During the workshops, the children bring their classroom learning to life through theatre and their understanding of the topic is enhanced in an interactive and engaging way.

Each class will have their own individual workshop, with all pupils taking part during the week commencing Monday 19th January 2026.

Please pay your contribution of £2 per pupil through Arbor (via 'Trips'); we are only able to offer these opportunities if we can cover our costs. Thank you for your continued support.

IMPORTANT ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Please read the important [letter](#) outlining our expectations around attendance at school.

PYJAMA DAY POSTER COMPETITION TIME!



COMPETITION TIME!

DESIGN A POSTER TO ADVERTISE OUR HOSPITAL PYJAMA APPEAL

Your poster should be:

- Eye-catching, neat, colourful
- Persuasive

Information to include:

- PJ Day: Friday 30th January 2026
- Wear Pyjamas for the day!
- Donate a pair of brand-new pyjamas (newborn to 18 years old) or donate cash or online
- Charity name - Children's Hospital Pyjamas
- Who we are helping

DEADLINE: MONDAY 19TH JANUARY 2026

**WIN A
BOOK
VOUCHER!**

SANTA DASH SPONSORSHIP

If you are still collecting sponsorship money from the Santa Dash in December, you have until the end of January to hand this into the school office. We will be able to reveal the fundraising amount when we have had all monies collected. Thank you for your support.

'GO ALL IN' FOR THE NATIONAL YEAR OF READING 2026!

The National Year of Reading 2026 is all about one simple idea: reading should be fun! Led by the National Literacy Trust, this UK-wide initiative encourages everyone to "Go All In" and rediscover reading for pleasure.

This year, we're showing children (and grown-ups!) that reading isn't just about books or schoolwork. It's about diving deeper into the things we already love—whether that's sports, music, films, gaming, hobbies, or favourite TV shows. From books and magazines to online articles, and comics, reading can fuel curiosity and passion in all kinds of ways.

Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.

**GO
ALL
IN.**

At a time when reading for pleasure is declining across all ages, the National Year of Reading reminds us that reading doesn't have to feel like a chore. Instead, it can be a joyful, meaningful part of everyday life—something we choose because it connects us to what matters most.

This year, we invite our families to Go All In on reading and help us celebrate stories, information, and imagination in all their forms! Next week, look out for information about how you can get involved as a family!

COMMUNITY EVENTS



FREE

STARTING 14TH JANUARY 2026

Canterbury Youth Choir



Wednesdays, 4pm - 5.15pm



Cathedral Community Studio,
The Precincts, CT1 2EH



The Canterbury Youth Choir (CYC) is provided by the Singing Partnerships Programme at Canterbury Cathedral (Charity No. 1206913).

Canterbury
Cathedral



Canterbury Youth Choir (CYC) is a brand new, un-auditioned, community choir for all local children in school Years 3-6 who love to sing and want to take their singing to the next level.

Through energetic and fun sessions, we will explore a range of challenging repertoire - from sacred to pop, folksongs to opera, music theatre (and everything in between!) - building strong choral foundations of good vocal technique, musical awareness and confident performance skills.

Why join?

- Sing every week, and develop your musical skills.
- Participate in special collaboration projects, with professional musicians, in exciting venues.
- Build confidence in your singing, and make new friends.
- Get a special concert t-shirt and folder (and weekly snacks!)

Plus, membership to the choir is FREE!

There are 30 spaces available in the launch choir - enquire now!

Scan the QR code, or email SPL@canterbury-cathedral.org to find out more and reserve a place in the choir.

The FRIENDS of
Canterbury
Cathedral

The Canterbury Youth Choir (CYC) is kindly funded by a grant from The Friends of Canterbury Cathedral (Charity No 1210093).

ATTENDANCE UPDATE



Attendance data week ending 9th January 2026

JLPS Whole School attendance	94.7%
Number of Persistent Absentees (less than 90% attendance)	80 pupils 12.82%

Klee – 97.6%	Kahlo – 95.3%	Kandinsky – 95%
Van Gogh – 90%	Voysey – 97.4%	Vallotton – 95.6%
Picasso – 93%	Postgate – 90.4%	Potter – 93.9%
Riley – 93.1%	Rousseau – 88.9%	Ringold – 93.6%
Hockney – 97.4%	Heron – 96.1%	Hepworth – 95.7%
Degas – 90.4%	Dali – 92.7%	Da Vinci – 97.3%
Bailey – 93.6%	Banksy – 97%	Boyce – 98.6%
Oysters – 89.1%		

PARENT & CARER CHECKLIST

- Next week will be **Week 1** of the [menu](#).
- Please click [here](#) to be directed to your child's Curriculum Web.
- Buy your tickets for the Winter Discos [here](#).
- KIC Theatre workshops commence on Monday 19th January. £2 towards the session can be paid via Arbor.
- It is Pyjama Day on Friday 30th January in support of Children's Hospital Pyjamas. You can donate via our [Just Giving Page](#) or buy a pair of PJs from our [Amazon Wishlist](#).
- Download our Term 3 Dates [here](#).
- Please hand any Santa Dash sponsorship money into the school office by the end of the month.
- Please choose for your child to have a school meal on Thursday 15th January to support the school census (no Google form needs to be completed).