



# Joy Lane Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

## HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

# WELCOME BACK!

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was a real delight to see the children and their families return to school after the wonderful sunny, summer holiday break – a very big warm welcome back to you all! I am always amazed at how much the children have grown during the break and it is always wonderful seeing them return to school looking so very smart and ready to learn. Next Monday, we are looking forward to welcoming our new Reception children and their families at the start of their learning journey with the Joy Lane community. Although we are a large school, we strive to ensure we offer a quality provision with a family feel.

It is the first time in two years that we have not had to comply with a Health and Safety Entry/Exit Plan for our school community, but I feel I should mention that we do continue to see staff members contract COVID-19, which means the school follows NHS guidance, as with any other illness.

Today, I have walked around our school and seen all the children, happy and settled in their classes and routines and enjoying being back in school with their friends; the children were also keen to recall stories of their summer adventures too. What fun they had!

The staff, governors and I are looking forward to the year ahead and working in partnership with you to support your child's educational journey at our wonderful school.

With my warmest regards,

Ms Debra Hines  
Executive Headteacher

## PUPIL COLLECTION ARRANGEMENTS FORM

Today, your child will be coming home with a Pupil Collection Arrangements form for you to update the names of the adults authorised to collect your child/children from school and their telephone numbers. Please complete this as soon as possible and return to the school office.



## IMPORTANT ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we begin the new academic year, I am writing to you to emphasise the importance of pupil attendance at school. I am sure you will have seen on the news or read on social media that the government intends to be working very closely with schools regarding improving school attendance, reducing persistent absenteeism and persistent late arrivals moving forward. Perhaps the most media attention recently has been focused on the increase in Penalty Notices being issued by local authorities for unauthorised holidays taken during term time.

Excellent attendance at school is so important for pupils to thrive, and vice versa, poor attendance may mean that children struggle with their learning, behaviour and ability to make or renew friendships. There is also a growing amount of research that suggests poor attendance can have a detrimental impact on wellbeing and mental health. Please also consider the unspoken message you are giving your child by letting them think it is acceptable to miss school or go on holiday when everyone else is at school.

Our attendance officer, Mrs Allen works hard to monitor Joy Lane's attendance figures, patterns and trends as well as working closely with our wellbeing and safeguarding team to support pupils and their families when needed. In fact, the government and local authority have recognised that 'a consistency of support' may be needed with some families to secure more regular attendance for pupils. Joy Lane is no different, and I would like to reassure you that our staff are very experienced and adept at working with different agencies to support families and children in many different ways. Moving forward, Joy Lane staff will continue to challenge and support our families if unauthorised absence or persistent lates becomes an issue for your child's wellbeing and learning. Please remember that children have a legal right to a full-time education.

All schools have very specific guidelines that they work from with regards to the authorisation of a pupil's absence. In most cases, absence is as a result of a short illness which would be authorised in the majority of cases on the basis of a parent/carer communication.



Please be aware that the only acceptable reasons for absence are:

- The school and Chair of Governors/Executive Headteacher gives permission for leave due to exceptional circumstances
- Sickness or an unavoidable reason related to the child
- Religious observance
- Failure by the Local Authority to provide transport

With regards to unauthorised absence and term time holidays, the latest guidance will raise expectations even further on schools/Joy Lane for the enforcement of rules around unauthorised absence and the requesting of penalty notices. This is the clear message coming through from the local authority attendance team and these recommendations are discussed together locally within our Coastal Alliance Attendance network too.



Recent meetings and recommendations from the DFE and the School Liaison Officer mean that from September 2022, any unauthorised absence that reaches the threshold set out in the [Kent County Council Penalty Notice Code of Conduct](#) will result in a referral to the Inclusion and Attendance service and a Penalty Notice may be issued. This will cover both poor attendance (including term time holidays) and persistent lateness. Where exceptional circumstances for absence are requested, these will be considered; however, the fundamental principles for defining 'exceptional' are rare, significant, unavoidable and short. 'Unavoidable' also implies that an event cannot be reasonably scheduled at another time. For example, where an event such as a close family wedding is part of a longer holiday, it is likely that not all the absence would be authorised. Likewise, where the reason for an absence is given as illness, but it is likely that this is not the case, authorisation will not be given unless further evidence is received. The final decision on whether to authorise absence is with the school.

Moving forward, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Allen or myself if you have any questions around attendance or the statutory requirements of the school.

Yours Sincerely  
Mr M Ashley Jones - Head of School

## FRIENDS OF JOY LANE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Following on from the information shared in the Newsletter at the end of term, there are a group of parents working closely with the school to re-establish the Friends of Joy Lane. (If you are not sure what the Friends of Joy Lane is, take a look [here](#)).

To get the group up and running again, there must be an Annual General Meeting (AGM) which is to be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm in the Upper School Hall. The AGM is an opportunity to elect the FJL Committee, who will represent the FJL throughout the forthcoming year. As this is a newly formed FJL Committee, all roles are available. Nominations should be sent in advance of the AGM for anyone wishing to stand as an Officer or Ordinary Committee Member.

On the full letter (click [here](#)) you will find a summary of each of the roles to help you to identify whether you would like to nominate yourself to be an officer or an ordinary committee member. As the FJL is a registered charity, all committee members automatically become Trustees of the Charity. Before submitting your nomination form, please read the Charity Commission publication 'The Essential Trustee – What you need to know (CC3)'. A copy of the booklet can be found on the Charity Commission website.

Please return the slip by Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September FAO: The FJL via the school office or email [friends@joylane.kent.sch.uk](mailto:friends@joylane.kent.sch.uk). We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

## YEARS 5 & 6 – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

For Parents and Carers with children in Years 5 and 6, please can you complete the [online form](#) to indicate your child's end-of-day arrangements.

If your child will be bringing a mobile phone on the school site, please print off and complete this [form](#). (If you require a paper copy, please ask the school office or your child's class teacher.)



## MUSIC – SPACES AVAILABLE FOR LESSONS

Our music room is tuned up and polished ready for Monday when all private instrumental lessons begin again for this year.

We are pleased to say that we do have some spaces still available for this term across most instruments. Usually, this begins in Year 3, but in some cases (depending on the size of the instrument and the child) we sometimes start them in Year 2.



We offer all brass, woodwind, percussion, guitars of all styles, bass, piano and keyboard. We are pleased to be able to offer the free hire of instruments or guide you through schemes that aid purchasing or sourcing second-hand instruments.

If anyone does have an unwanted instrument at home and wishes to donate it to a grateful new home, then please don't hesitate to contact us.

If you are on our waiting list to begin learning with us, then please do email the school office as soon as possible (which will be forwarded to the Music team) to confirm your expected start date, or message Mrs Rawlings directly via Dojo. Although we would hope it never happens, this ensures no one is forgotten.

Thank you and Happy New (School) Year everyone.  
Mrs Rawlings, Miss Salter and Mr Edwards

## COMMUNITY SUPPORT



This Harvest we would appreciate:

- instant mash
- canned potatoes
- cup soup
- long life juice
- long life whole milk
- canned ham
- rice pudding
- instant coffee
- large nappies (sizes 5, 5+, 6, 6+)
- cleaning sprays
- washing up liquid
- toiletries (all)
- tinned fish
- tinned or powdered potato
- beans
- soup

Donations can be left in our supermarket collection bins. See our website for a full list of locations.

If you need support, please call 01227 936450  
or email [info@canterburyfoodbank.org](mailto:info@canterburyfoodbank.org)

[canterburyfoodbank.org](http://canterburyfoodbank.org)



Canterbury Food Bank is a registered charity (1153791)



Serving Canterbury, Whitstable,  
Horne Bay and villages



## SWIMMING TIMETABLE

Day	Year / Class	Time
Monday	KSI Oysters Group (Group 1 and 2 to alternate swimming each term)	1-2 pm
Monday	Year 4 – Hockney	2-3pm
Tuesday	Nursery	9:30-11:30am
Tuesday	Year 6 – Banksy	1-2pm
Tuesday	Year 6 – Barnard	2-3pm
Wednesday	Year 4 – Heron	1-2pm
Wednesday	Year 4 - Hepworth	2-3 pm
Thursday	Year 5 - Degas	1-2pm
Thursday	Year 5 – DaVinci	2-3pm
Friday	Year 5 - Dali	1-2pm
Friday	Year 6 – Bailey	2-3pm

## NEW MENU!

### Oyster Bay Catering Menu at Joy Lane Primary School Autumn & Winter 2022 - 2023

	MEAT-FREE MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Week 1</b>	Homemade Cheese & Tomato Pizza Baked Potato Wedges Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Fruit & Cream	Mild Jerk Chicken Mushroom & Potato Curry Pineapple Rice Peas Frozen Mousse	Roasted Gammon & Gravy Baked Veggie Sausage Roast Potatoes Carrots & Cabbage Fresh Fruit	Beef Quesadilla Pie Welsh Rarebit Muffin Mexican Rice Broccoli, Mixed Bean Salad Jam Sponge with Custard	Fish Fingers Cheese & Cherry Tomato Quiche Chips Peas & Baked Beans Oaty Biscuit
<b>Week 2</b>	MEAT FREE MONDAY Soya Mince Pasta Bolognese Baked Cauliflower Cheese Mixed Vegetables & Cucumber Salad Fresh Melon	TUESDAY Mild Chicken Curry Coconut & Squash Dhansak Steamed Rice Sweetcorn Pancake with Chocolate Sauce	WEDNESDAY Minced Beef & Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy Quorn Toad in the Hole Roast Potatoes Baby Carrots & Peas Fruit & Ice Cream	THURSDAY Sausage Meat Pie Noodle & Vegetable Spring Roll Mashed Potato Green Beans & Cauliflower Butterscotch Crunch	FRIDAY Oven Baked Battered Fish Mediterranean Lentil Burger Chips, Baked Beans & Mushy Peas Fruity Jelly
<b>Week 3</b>	MEAT FREE MONDAY Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings Vegetable Sticks & Mixed Salad Fruit Smoothie	TUESDAY Chicken Meatball Stroganoff Root Vegetable Boulangere Steamed Rice Peas & Cauliflower Shortbread Biscuit	WEDNESDAY Roast Pork & Apple Sauce & Gravy Vegan Sausages Roast Potatoes Green Beans & Carrots Fresh Fruit Salad	THURSDAY Cottage Pie (Beef) Soya Mince & Lentil Hotpot Broccoli & Sweetcorn Carrot Cake	FRIDAY Fish Fingers Salmon & Broccoli Pie Sweet Potato Pattie Chips, Baked Beans & Peas Pineapple & Cream
<b>Week 4</b>	MEAT FREE MONDAY Mac N Cheese Tomato Topped Pasta Spanish Omelette Tomato & Basil Salad Peas Low Sugar Vanilla Ice Cream	TUESDAY Mild Beef Chilli Con Carne Baked Vegan Korma Steamed Rice Mixed Vegetables Chocolate Chip Sponge with Chocolate Custard	WEDNESDAY Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy Soya Mince in Onion Gravy Roast Potatoes Carrots & Broccoli Apple & Cherry Crumble Slice	THURSDAY Oven Baked Sausages Veggie Sausages Mashed Potatoes Cauliflower & Baked Beans Fruit & Jelly	FRIDAY Oven Baked Battered Fish Filet Crumpet Pizza Chips Baked Beans & Peas Flapjack



Available Daily: Freshly Baked Bread, Jacket Potatoes (Limited Availability), Fresh Fruit & Yoghurts

[AutumnWinter\\_2023\\_Menu.pdf \(joylane.kent.sch.uk\)](https://www.joylane.kent.sch.uk/AutumnWinter_2023_Menu.pdf)

