



Joy Lane Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 1st December 2023

CHRISTMAS DINNER – BOOK NOW!

Please book your child's Christmas dinner by Monday 4th December as this will help us with catering for the correct numbers. Please also complete this form if your child receives Free School Meals or Universal Free School Meals – completing the form does not require payment.

Click [here](#) to order. Meals cost £2.60 and are payable via Arbor.

ATTENDANCE GUIDE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

We are experiencing an increasing number of children arriving at school late for a number of reasons. Whilst we understand that medical appointments are important, please be aware that it really helps the smooth running of the school if the office knows in advance of these appointments so that they are then able to communicate with class teachers.

What YOU must do:

- Try to telephone the school before 8.30am each day of your child's absence.
- Inform the school in advance by calling the school office or leaving a message, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival.
- Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport: call on a family member, neighbour or friend.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance, then talk to us as a first step so we can help!
- Please be aware that saying 'unwell' or 'under the weather' or 'a rough night' is not specific enough in explaining why your child is not attending school.
- [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

What WE will do:

- Check your child's attendance every day.
- Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR SUCCESS

We earned over £400 commission from last week's Scholastic Book Fair! Thank you for supporting the school fair, and we look forward to spending the money on new titles for our book areas.



ATTENDANCE UPDATE



Attendance data week ending 1st December 2023

JLPS Whole School attendance	94.3%
Number of Persistent Absentees (less than 90% attendance)	107 pupils 17.34%

Klee – 93.3 %	Kahlo – 91%	Kandinsky – 84.6%
Van Gogh – 92.4%	Voysey – 82.5%	Vallotton – 93.5%
Picasso – 92.7%	Postgate – 93.5%	Potter – 87.9%
Riley – 96%	Rousseau – 86.6%	Ringold – 90.7%
Hockney – 95.7%	Heron – 98.1%	Hepworth – 94.3%
Degas – 93.6%	Dali – 88.3%	Da Vinci – 90.0%
Bailey – 95.2%	Banksy – 97%	Boyce – 88.2%
Oysters – 93.4%		

Regular school attendance is an important part of giving your child the best possible start in life. Please note there are two sessions in a day.

Research informs us that good attendance equals better school progress, improved well-being as well as getting the most out of any opportunities available. If you look at your child's attendance over the year, you can see that 85% attendance means you miss nearly a term of the school year!

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent Days	Equivalent Sessions	Equivalent Weeks
96%	7 days	14 sessions	1.4 weeks
95%	9 days	18 sessions	2 weeks
90%	19 days	38 sessions	4 weeks
85%	29 days	58 sessions	6 weeks
80%	38 days	72 sessions	8 weeks
75%	48 days	96 sessions	10 weeks

Every Minute at school Counts!!

If you arrive late to school every day, your learning begins to suffer. This shows how being late to school every day over a school year adds up to lost learning time.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY – FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER

We are taking part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day next Friday – how exciting!

Children are invited to get their silliest, most festive jumper on (paired with their school uniform) - this could be shop bought, pre-loved or homemade with tinsel and decorations - and donate to Save the Children. By pulling on our Christmassy knits and donating, we will be transforming the future for children.



Every pound we raise will give children in the UK and around the world the chance to grow up healthy and happy and change their future for good. You can donate to our Joy Lane Christmas Jumper Day [Just Giving Page](#) or we will be standing at the gate with our orange buckets to collect any contribution you are able to make.

PRE-LOVED CHRISTMAS JUMPER SALE SUCCESS



Thank you to all that supported the pre-loved Christmas jumper sale! Thank you for all the donations and the volunteers who braved the freezing conditions - and a huge well done to the amazing Eco-reps that came out in force to help with sales and drummed up lots of business with their lovely loud sales voices! It was a huge success, not only helping the planet, but also raising just over £160 for the school, covering our annual Christmas Cracker donation.

The FOJL will be selling hot drinks and mince pies before the Christmas Shows so please bring loose change for donations, or we will have a card facility if needed. See you there!

ARE YOU HAVING A CLEAR OUT AT HOME?

If you are clearing out any plastic toys your children have outgrown before Christmas, please donate them to us in school as we are looking for toys to add to our morning and lunchtime playtimes. As we embark on our journey towards becoming an OPAL play school, we want to reuse, repurpose, and recycle items to enhance our play. A drop-off point will be by the Key Stage 1 entrance to leave anything you want to donate. Thank you in advance for your support.



These are examples of what we are looking for; however, you may have better ideas. They will need to withstand wet, windy, and muddy weather!



FIREWORKS SUCCESS

Our fireworks event raised a massive £3770 for our new playtime initiative OPAL Play! Thank you once again for supporting our annual community event.

HOUSE CAPTAIN CATCH-UP

Welcome back to our weekly house captain catchup. This week, on Wednesday, we put up our fabulous Christmas hoops, linked to original Christmas songs, which are hung up in both Key Stage lunch halls for everyone to admire!

This week, Bailey class in Year 6 have beaten the school record on Times Table Rockstars, with an amazing 50,000 question answered in one week!

Bear in mind there are only 2 weeks of collecting house-points until we discover the Term 2 house winners! Can you believe there are only 24 days (about 3 and a half weeks) until Christmas?!

Next Thursday, our choir will be singing at a care home (Harrier Lodge) to display their magnificent voices.

Lastly, on Monday, the boys' team and girls' team are playing a football match against Swalecliffe. Goodluck to them! We know you will all show the 3Rs and make us all proud. That is it from your house captains!

PARENT & CARER CHECKLIST

- Next week will be **Week 1** of the [menu](#).
- Book your child's Christmas dinner [here](#) for Thursday 14th December.
- Next Friday 8th December is **Christmas Jumper Day!**
- If you are having a clear out of children's toys, check out what we are in need of in school in today's newsletter.
- Check our [term dates](#) for the next two weeks as there is lots going on in school in the lead up to Christmas!

