



# Joy Lane Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023



## EXECUTIVE HEAD TEACHER MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been really lovely to welcome families to our Christmas nativities, shows and Christingle this term; I am sure you are grateful for the memories made, and like me, proud of what our talented teaching staff achieve for the children. The atmosphere has been magical and enjoyed by all. The children have seen the Christmas 'Flash Mob' during the day yesterday and enjoyed a magnificent Christmas lunch served by the staff. Sadly, Mrs Meredith, our Catering Manager was taken ill; however, team Joy Lane managed to pull together and deliver a delicious meal that she would be proud of. We wish Mrs Meredith a speedy recovery.

This morning, we had a fabulous end to our term, orchestrated by the amazing Mrs Rawlings and our Leadership team, with the snow machine in full flow, two Father Christmases on the roof and the wonderful live band - plus new this year - our amazing dance troupe, choreographed by Mrs Dodd! It was incredibly atmospheric with the snow falling and sheer joy exuding from the children – just perfect. Our musical staff and children played and sang to their favourite Christmas songs in our final assembly too - this was a tight squeeze but a fitting way to end 2023, together.

On our return, following the Christmas holiday, Oysters SRP will be finishing school at 3:30pm and their transport will have access to our school site from 3.30pm; please be mindful when walking around our school site and exiting Joy Lane or Vulcan Close, and please use the pathways.

Our school office is closed until we return on Tuesday 2nd January 2024; Staff will not be posting or responding to any message by email, ClassDojo or Facebook/Instagram pages until our return on January 2nd, 2024; of course, you can leave a message and we will get to it on our return.

The Staff, Governors and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year for 2024. Watch our Christmas card [here](#).

We look forward to welcoming you back to school on Tuesday 2nd January 2024.

With all my best wishes,

Ms D J Hines - Executive Headteacher



## TERM 3 DATES

**Term 3 Dates**  
2023-24

**Week 1**  
Thursday 4th January  
Oysters Pantomime Trip to the Marlowe Theatre  
Friday 5th January  
Little Wandle Collins Book Launch  
2:30-3:15pm

**Week 2**  
Tuesday 9th January  
New Reception 2024 Open Morning  
9:00-11:00am

**Week 3**  
Friday 19th January  
FoJL Winter Discos  
1:30-2pm Oysters / 2-2:30pm Nursery / 2:30-3pm Reception /  
3-4pm Year 1 / 4-5pm Year 2 / 5-6pm Year 3

**Week 4**  
Monday 22nd January  
Extended Learning Clubs begin  
W/C Monday 22nd January  
KIC Theatre Drama Workshops  
Friday 26th January  
FoJL Winter Discos  
3-4pm Year 4 / 4-5pm Year 5 / 5-6pm Year 6

**Week 5**  
W/C 29th January  
National Storytelling Week

**Week 6**  
All Week  
Children's Mental Health Week  
Wednesday 7th / Thursday 8th February  
Year 4 Musical Showcase 2:15pm  
Friday 9th February  
Dress to Express Day

## LITTLE WANDLE BOOK LAUNCH – FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

We are very excited to share with you our new home reading books for all children in Reception, Year 1 and those others accessing phonics across the school. If your child is accessing phonics in Years 2 – 6, you will receive an email separately.

These new books follow our Little Wandle scheme of phonics teaching and we are certain they will further enrich our children's learning of phonics and their fluency in reading.

The book launch on Friday 5th January at 2:30pm (Lower School Hall) will give you an opportunity to have a look at our new books and hear about how home reading will change in the New Year.

Please complete the [Google form](#) to sign up. We can't wait to see you there.

The Reading Team



## TERM 3 MENU UPDATES

We will return on Week 3 of the menu. Please note that our first day back, Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January, will be jacket potato day (from Monday's menu). The dessert will be ice cream roll.

## ATTENDANCE UPDATE



| Attendance data week ending 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 |                  |                      |
|--|------------------|----------------------|
| JLPS Whole School attendance                               |                  | 94.2%                |
| Number of Persistent Absentees (less than 90% attendance)  |                  | 107 pupils<br>17.34% |
| Klee – 95.1%   | Kahlo – 89%      | Kandinsky – 95.5%    |
| Van Gogh – 93.8%   | Voysey – 94.3%   | Vallotton – 94%      |
| Picasso – 90.7%  | Postgate – 92.1% | Potter – 95.9%       |
| Riley – 95.5%  | Rousseau – 87.7% | Ringold – 98.7%      |
| Hockney – 95%  | Heron – 90.5%    | Hepworth – 85.2%     |
| Degas – 88.8%  | Dali – 99.1%     | Da Vinci – 89.6%     |
| Bailey – 85.9%   | Banksy – 92.6%   | Boyce – 97.1%        |
| Oysters – 96.6%  |                  |                      |

## AFTER SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS

We still have availability for after school swimming lessons, which will commence from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024. If you are interested or would like to re-enrol your child, please contact us by email only at [swimschool@joylane.kent.sch.uk](mailto:swimschool@joylane.kent.sch.uk). Please note that the full, non-refundable payment, will need to be taken when booking your child's slot.

## HOUSE CAPTAIN CATCH-UP

Welcome to the last weekly house captain catch up of the term – and the year. Today, we are going to talk about what has happened throughout this week. First off, let's talk about Endeavour, who won the most amount of house points for Term 2. Mayflower and Endeavour were in a close battle but in the end, Endeavour took the win with 3 points more than Mayflower.

On Thursday, all the year groups had their Christmas parties to get into the Christmas spirit. They could dress up in anything they desired. This was after a wonderful Christmas lunch for all the children in the hall.

The children were greeted with snow this morning coming from the skies, which everyone seemed to love. Today is the last music assembly of the term, and it was a whole school assembly; there were lots of entertaining instruments to please our ears! How exciting! It is incredible how fast the time flies as we are already 4 months into school. Woohoo - only 10 days (about 1 and a half weeks) until Christmas is here! Merry Christmas and have a very, very happy New Year.



## HOUSE CAPTAIN CATCH-UP

Please find below the final Term 2 House Points totals with Endeavour coming out on top by 3 points from the previous term's winners Mayflower. Congratulations to all children who worked hard to gain Dojos for their houses. I wonder which house will come out on top in term 3?

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Term 1 winners- <b>Mayflower</b> 🏆<br>Term 2 winners- <b>Endeavour</b> 🏆<br>Term 3 winners-<br>Term 4 winners-<br>Term 5 winners-<br>Term 6 winners- | <b>HOUSEPOINTS</b><br>Term 2/2023-24 |
| <b>Endeavour- 357</b> 🏆<br><b>Mayflower- 354</b><br><b>Victory- 309</b><br><b>Discovery- 301</b>   |                                      |

## FOOD BANK SUPPORT

We all struggle financially at times



...but food has been donated by your local community, so that you can still eat when things get tough

🗨️ If you live in **Canterbury, Whitstable, Herne Bay or the surrounding area**, call or email us. Our friendly team will make sure that you don't go hungry and signpost you to further help. If you know of someone who might need support please pass on this leaflet

+ We always try to cater for **dietary and religious needs**, or if you have **limited cooking facilities**. We may also be able to help with pet food, baby items and toiletry/cleaning products to help reduce the cost of the weekly shop

i **Find out more** on our website, including information on how you could donate to your community when you're back on your feet

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)



## PARENT & CARER CHECKLIST

- Watch our Christmas card [here](#).
- Term 3 starts on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024.
- The first week back will be Week 3 of the [menu](#).
- If you are having a clear out of children's toys, we are in need of hardy, plastic toys, such as trucks, dinosaurs, Duplo, Lego, etc. Thank you.
- Download our Term 3 dates [here](#).
- Parents and Carers of children in Year R and I (and any other children accessing phonics) please join us for the Little Wandle Book Launch and sign up [here](#).

