



Joy Lane Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 24th March 2023

EXECUTIVE HEAD TEACHER MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children continue to be very hardworking and busy in their learning and doing their best to make the most of the wonderful opportunities offered to them. It is with pride that I visit the classes in the school and share the children's work - they are always so proud to show me, and other colleagues, how they are getting on!

This term, we say farewell to a few members of staff. Mr Duffy (Oysters) is returning to his previous vocation and Mrs H Campbell (Heron) is joining an Infant school team in Thanet – we wish them well in their future endeavours and thank them for their support of children's education and colleagues, during their time at Joy Lane.

Ms Curtis, our ICT technician - and very flexible member of the team, and font of all knowledge in all things Joy Lane - is retiring. She has worked on the Joy Lane site since June 1998 and has contributed to the education of thousands of children who have attended the Joy Lane Schools. It is only fair that she now has time for herself after being such a committed member of our team; she will be sorely missed by all and we wish her the very best of everything she has dreamed of in her retirement. Thank you so much for your service, Ms Curtis, you have been truly valued and appreciated.

I hope you make the most of the opportunity to say your farewells to these wonderful people before the end of term.

Online Safety

This week, I have been dealing with online safety concerns, which have mostly occurred outside of school time, but these impact on the school day. As a reminder, I am sharing '10 tips to stay safe online' to support you to feel confident in talking to your child about how to stay safe online. They give you practical advice on what to tell your child to do and not do, and what to watch out for.

I am also attaching a WhatsApp Code of Conduct for the School Community as I am aware that there are several WhatsApp groups for individual classes. I have read the Terms of Service for WhatsApp and looked at the guidance from our Education online safety team, who recommend school provides a code of conduct to ensure safety for all.

Our very own Mrs Moorfield, Online Safety co-ordinator, is available every Monday morning between 8.40am and 9.15am to answer any of your queries or provide guidance or clarifications.

We wish you a good weekend even though you will be losing an hour's sleep...

With my best very regards,

Ms D J Hines



END-OF-TERM ARRANGEMENTS – EARLY FINISH

Please see below our end-of-term arrangements:

Friday 31 st March 2023	
Oysters SRP	1.30pm
Main School	2.00pm
Oyster Bay Nursery	3.30pm
After School Club	4.00pm

SWIMMING PAYMENTS

Dear Parents and Carers

This week, the school office has sent out an email as a gentle reminder to the whole school community that payment may be due for your child's swimming lessons. I apologise if you have already made a contribution; however, we just wanted to remind everyone in case you had forgotten or were having difficulty navigating payment on ARBOR.

The cost for swimming lessons for the term is £15 (approximately £2 per lesson). This equates to £45 for three terms of swimming. Now, more than ever, there are increasing budget constraints placed upon schools to make savings and cut costs. It is imperative that all parents help contribute towards their child's lessons, especially as energy costs have risen so steeply. Your financial contributions will ensure the swimming pool remains open for our wonderful JLPS children.

Please see the link [here](#) where Mrs Moorfield talks you through how to make swimming payments. To see how much you have already paid when in the swimming curriculum tab, before clicking on 'register' tap your child's memberships and scroll down to see your club membership invoice.

I hope this helps everyone.

Regards

M Ashley Jones

Head of School



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE UPDATE

This week, at our Full Governing Body meeting, we shared our updated Attendance and Punctuality policy with colleagues. I attach a copy for your attention at the links below:

[Attendance Policy.pdf \(joylane.kent.sch.uk\)](#)

[Attendance 2022-23\Attendance Matters leaflet updated 2022-23.pub](#)

I thought it would be worth highlighting the aims of our Attendance Policy, which is not unique to Joy Lane, but a statutory requirement of all schools locally and nationally.



At Joy Lane Primary School, we are committed to meeting our obligation with regards to school attendance through our whole-school culture and ethos that values good attendance, including:

- Promoting good attendance
- Reducing absence, including persistent and severe absence by asking you to attend meetings with school or the local authority
- Ensuring every pupil has access to the full-time education to which they are entitled
- Acting early to address patterns of absence
- Building strong relationships with families to ensure pupils have the support in place to attend school
- Promoting and supporting punctuality in attending lessons.

We will also support parents and carers to perform their legal duty to ensure their children of compulsory school age attend regularly, and will promote and support punctuality in attending lessons.

Joy Lane Primary School is committed to the continuous raising of achievement of all our pupils and recognises that regular attendance is critical if our pupils are to be successful and benefit from the opportunities presented to them.

Joy Lane Primary School is part of the Coastal Alliance Co-Operative Trust and we work collaboratively together in an Attendance Group to address the barrier of poor school attendance.

I am sure you will agree that all our children have the fundamental right to thrive socially and academically, and that the opportunity to come to school regularly for all children is vitally important. At Joy Lane, we value the strong partnerships that are forged with families and understand that working together to remove barriers and understand challenges families face is the best way moving forward.

Finally, please do make an appointment with either the class teacher or a member of SEND or the leadership team to discuss any difficulties you may have in ensuring good attendance for your child.

Mr Ashley Jones - Head of School



TEAMTHEME EASTER HAF PROGRAMME

Joy Lane Primary School is very excited to announce that once again this Easter the HAF programme facilitated by TEAMTHEME will be run at the JLPS site between the 3rd and the 6th April.

How it works:

- **FREE** for those in receipt of free school meals
- Eligible families will be issued **Evouchers** by their child's school in order to book
- You must book through the **Evouchers** website
- Bookings for full 4-day camp **ONLY**
- Children aged 4-14
- Camps run **EVERY** Easter, Summer & Xmas school holiday from 9am-4pm

For further information regarding how it works and how to book please click on the **TEAMTHEME** link: [HAF | Teamtheme Kent](#)

f t youtu.be

TEAMTHEME KENT 07938 575 124

FREE Holiday, Activities & Food programme

Evouchers **BOOK NOW**
Using your online Evouchers platform

Come join in the fun!
Camps run 9am-4pm each Summer, Easter & Christmas school holiday for 4-14 year olds.

Fun-filled & action-packed Activities

From dodge-duck-&-dive **Dodgeballing**, to zany **Zorbing**, to creative **Arts & Crafting**, to brilliant **Forest School** to fabulous **Family Fun Day Outings** - camp really does have something for everyone!

Delicious & nutritious Food

From pears to plums to peaches, our **daily fruit snack** puts a pep in the children's step, while the **lunch menu** with its **starters, snacks, 2 hot mains options & delicious deserts** keeps everyone fully fuelled and fit for fun.

MACKNADE FINE FOODS

Find us at: CANTERBURY · WHITSTABLE · MAIDSTONE

Ofsted
Registration No. 2416218



INCLUSION PARENT WORKSHOP – MONDAY 27TH MARCH

There is still space for Monday's Resource Making workshop! Sign up [here](#).

This will be a practical opportunity for you to come and browse some of our resources and talk about how we use these in school to support individuals. As part of this workshop, you will have the opportunity to create your own resources to use at home. These may include visual schedules, checklists, emotion scales, planners, social stories etc. We hope that this workshop will provide a great opportunity for you to network with other families/parents and, of course, share your own resources and strategies. All materials to make these will be provided but we do ask for a small donation to cover the cost of these.

ATTENDANCE UPDATE



Attendance data week ending 24 th March 2023	
JLPS Whole School attendance	92%
Number of Persistent Absentees (less than 90% attendance)	154 pupils 25%

Klee – 86.3%	Kline – 92.2%	Kandinsky - 87.8%
Van Gogh – 94.4%	Voysey – 93.2%	Vallotton – 93.4%
Picasso – 91.3%	Postgate – 92.8%	Potter – 89.3%
Riley – 93.9%	Rousseau – 93.7%	Renoir – 93.4%
Hockney – 94.4%	Heron – 87.9%	Hepworth – 92.3%
Degas – 92.1%	Dali – 94.7%	Da Vinci – 92.8%
Bailey – 90.4%	Banksy – 93.9%	Barnard – 94.6%
Oysters – 89.1%	School Average - 92.6%	School Target - 94.1%

PARENT / CARER CHECKLIST

- Next week will be **Week 2** of the [menu](#).
- Please find next year's term dates [here](#).
- Sign up for Mrs Godden's Inclusion workshops [here](#).
- Book on to the HAF Programme. Find out more [here](#).
- **Book amnesty!** Please look out for any school books that may be collecting at home – reading books with the Joy Lane stamp or banded books – and return them to the school office. Thank you.
- Check your swimming payments on Arbor.

