



Joy Lane Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 6th September 2024

WELCOME BACK!

WELCOME FROM THE EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

Welcome back to Term 1 to our whole school community, and an extra special welcome to all of our new children who have started in their Reception class, and those who have joined other year groups this September.

It is absolutely wonderful having all our children return to school; they have settled well into their classes and have been enjoying their learning activities and routines, and I have heard their excited buzz when learning and their energies being channelled around our School - just as it should be!

The children look very smart in their uniform, and it is expected that you support the school in ensuring your child is wearing the correct summer/winter uniform; your child's class teacher or member of our senior leadership team may contact you if we notice your child has missing items of uniform. As a reminder, we do have some pre-loved uniform available so please contact Mrs Allen, our Family Liaison Officer who may be able to source pre-loved uniform for you.

We strive to have positive relationships with our whole school community, and we have many ways that we communicate with you:

- Members of our Senior Leadership Team are outside to meet and greet you on your arrival in the morning and to say farewell in the afternoon - please feel free to speak with them at any time.
- Staff are available at their classroom doors from 8.40am-8.50am and then 3.20pm-3.30pm each day.
- You can send a message to your child's class teacher via ClassDojo; they are not able to respond to you during the school teaching times but will look at messages prior to school and after school until 4.30pm. School staff are not expected to respond to messages after 5pm or weekends.
- Please inform the school office if your child is absent, any Breakfast/After School Club query or if you would like a member of staff to contact you (do not use ClassDojo for these queries).
- A newsletter is sent to you, via Arbor email each Friday. It is important that you read this as it often has crucial information about events or school changes - this is our main point of communication with you.
- We also use our School Facebook page and Instagram to promote and celebrate events in School

As ever, if you would like to share a worry or have a concern, please speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance.



Please also note we operate a pre-booking/paid system only via Arbor for lunches, breakfast/after school club, swimming lessons and extra-curricular clubs; if you need help or more information about accessing Arbor, please contact our super-efficient and friendly office team and watch the handy [videos](#) to help you navigate the Arbor app.

The Governors, Staff and I look forward to working with you in the coming year to support and encourage the children's learning; I look forward to seeing you at our 'Meet the Teachers' sessions, which start on Monday 9th September for our parents/carers of Year 1 and 2 children.

There is a plethora of information contained in this newsletter, and I hope you find it useful. Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

N. Mattin

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to be introducing myself to you as the new Chair of Governors for Joy Lane Foundation Primary school, as from September 2024. I feel privileged to have been given the opportunity to serve a school with such an excellent reputation in the community.

I have enjoyed over thirty years in education and began my career in the East End of London as a Primary school Year 5 teacher. I have been privileged to work with and in a wide variety of schools. Some may remember me from my time as Principal of Spires Academy.

I was born in Canterbury and attended local primary and secondary schools including St Stephens, Herne Primary and Herne Bay High. Having recently delved into my family history I am proud of my roots that go back several hundreds of years in this area.

So, to have the opportunity to support a local school with such a committed staff team, a strong sense of inclusivity and a desire to give our young people the best possible start in life and such a well-rounded education is an honour.

I was invited to join the governing board in 2020 as we were slowly coming out of the covid pandemic. I have been impressed with the wide range of skills and expertise the governors bring from their professional lives. All governors are volunteers and give their time generously. It is very much a strategic role providing the support to the Executive headteacher and senior leaders helping them consider issues such as the school vision, mitigating financial risk and scrutinising educational outcomes.

Without doubt the highlight of the role has been getting to know some of your children, they are so passionate about their school and speak with an openness and honesty that is refreshing and inspiring.

I am keen to have the opportunity to meet as many of you as possible, so please do say hello and introduce yourselves as you see me around the school or in the community. From my experience, I know that a successful and a happy school depends on all of us working together.

Kind regards,
Nicki Mattin – Chair of Governors



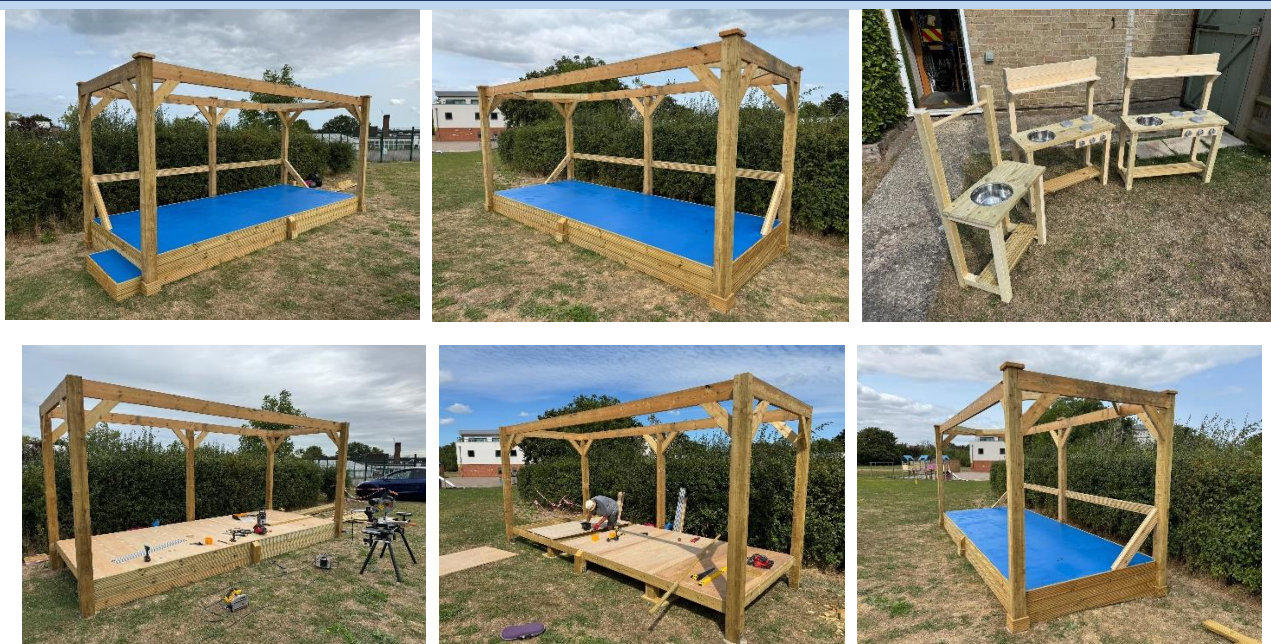
BACK-TO-SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Please click [here](#) to read important information and updates concerning school attendance. There is key information on unauthorised holidays and the importance of consistent attendance and unacceptable reasons for not attending school.

There is without doubt an epidemic of Persistent Absence throughout the country with Joy Lane Primary School facing the same challenges. Please remember that Parents and Carers have a legal responsibility to send their children to school which will help give the children the best possible chance of success in life.

Mr M Ashley Jones

NEW OUTDOOR STAGE!



We were delighted to return to school this week to discover that one of our lovely parents and his Dad spent time over the break designing, sourcing the best materials and building a fantastic outdoor performance stage for the children of Joy Lane Primary school.

A huge thanks must go to Mr Mike Young and his Dad, Graham, for not only the performance stage, but also using the offcuts to create three lovely mud kitchens as well. These resources will be well used throughout the curriculum and in particular be an excellent addition to OPAL playtimes.

I would also like to thank Mrs Dodd's class from last year and parents for raising over £400 towards the cost of the materials needed.

You can claim your little piece of JLPS History by buying an engraved name plaque [here](#) for a minimum of £5, which will be placed on the stage.

This is such a welcome addition to the school, and we feel very lucky to have such wonderful parents.



ATTENDANCE UPDATE



Attendance data week ending 6th September 2024

JLPS Whole School attendance	96.7%
Number of Persistent Absentees (less than 90% attendance)	39 pupils 6.25%

Klee – 100 %	Kahlo – 100%	Kandinsky – 96.6%
Van Gogh – 94.8%	Voysey – 100%	Vallotton – 92.9%
Picasso – 99.5%	Postgate – 93.8%	Potter – 99.6%
Riley – 95.6%	Rousseau – 98%	Ringold – 92.7%
Hockney – 96.3%	Heron – 100%	Hepworth – 95.7%
Degas – 99.2%	Dali – 97.3%	Da Vinci – 98.7%
Bailey – 95.1%	Banksy – 100%	Boyce – 94.8%
Oysters – 93.2%		

SWIMMING TIMETABLE – TERMS 1-3

Check out this [video](#) for guidance on how to pay for swimming lessons on Arbor.

Day	Year / Class	Time
Monday	Year 4 – Hockney	2-3pm
Monday	KS2 Oysters Group <small>(Group 1 and 2 to alternate swimming each term)</small>	1-2 pm
Tuesday	Nursery	9:30-11:30am
Tuesday	Year 4 – Heron	1-2pm
Tuesday	Year 4 – Hepworth	2-3pm
Wednesday	Year 6 – Banksy	1-2pm
Wednesday	Year 6 – Boyce	2-3 pm
Thursday	Year 5 – Dali	1-2pm
Thursday	Year 5 – DaVinci	2-3pm
Friday	Nursery	9:30-11:30am
Friday	Year 5 – Degas	1-2pm
Friday	Year 6 – Bailey	2-3pm



BREAKFAST & AFTERSCHOOL CLUB – IMPORTANT INFO

[Joy Lane Primary School - Arbor](#)
[Joy Lane Primary School - Wrap Around Care](#)

Please note that for both our Breakfast Club and After School Club facilities to work safely and effectively, and also to ensure that we have the correct ratio of staff to children each day, we must know attendance numbers in advance.

To secure your child's place in these clubs, it is essential that all sessions are booked up and paid for in advance and that there is no outstanding debt. Watch our handy [video](#) to see how to book via Arbor.

Your WRAP AROUND CARE account must be topped up before you are able to book, and if you have any outstanding debt, your child will not be able to access this facility.

Please note that you would need to book up Friday before the following week to secure your place. As a reminder, our After School Club capacity is 60 so you will be unable to secure a place if numbers exceed this.

Last minute emergency requests for children to access Breakfast Club or After School Club may be granted, subject to availability, supervision and pre-payment. Please note that if your child's name is not on the register and the school has to make staffing adjustments, you will receive a phone call from the school office and a £20 fee will be charged in order to accommodate the late request to look after your child.

The school office is always available should there be any advice needed on how to book Breakfast Club or After School Club or if you would like to discuss any aspect of this letter.

I am sure you will understand that pre-booking is for the safety of the children, as well as ensuring staff ratios are correct, and to meet with compliance regulations. Finally, it is imperative that you contact the school office if you are having any issues with booking or payments so that the school can assist you with your query; moving forward, this will also ensure there is no misunderstanding over bookings and payments.

Phone Main Office: 01227 261430 / Mobile: 07542 133247 (3.15pm—6pm)

Email: enquiries@joylane.kent.sch.uk

OPAL PLAY THANKS



We would like to express our thanks to Roxanne from Coastal School Uniform Company for her extremely generous and kind donation towards our OPAL Play scheme. The additional toys and items will make a huge difference to our children's playtimes – thank you from the whole of JLPS! You can view our OPAL Wishlist [here](#).

For all your uniform needs visit Coastal School Uniform Company [here](#).



FRIENDS OF JOY LANE

We have been pleased to donate new books to all of the new Reception Starters, with thanks to all of your kind donations and support from the last years fund raising. We hope all the new parents have enjoyed reading them with the children.



Please come to the FoJL AGM on Thursday 12th September at 6pm in the Lower School Hall. You can become a Friend, join the committee or simply find out how we did last year and what our plans are for the year ahead.

MEET THE TEACHER SESSIONS

A reminder of the upcoming 'Meet the Teacher' sessions:

- Years 1 and 2 'Meet the Teacher' – Monday 9th September 9am
- Oysters SRP 'Meet the Teacher' – Wednesday 11th September 2:15pm
- Years 3 and 4 'Meet the Teacher' – Monday 16th September 9am
- Years 5 and 6 'Meet the Teacher' – Monday 23rd September 9am

This is a great opportunity to meet your child's new class teacher and find out expectations for the year ahead. Sign up is not necessary – just turn up on the day after you drop your child off. We will ask you to wait outside the classrooms until the children have left the classrooms to go to assembly. If you are unable to attend, recordings will be made available on the school website.



FOOTBALL COACH NEEDED!



Our school football teams, both boys and girls, are looking for a volunteer coach for 45 minutes to an hour each week. You may have experience of coaching with local clubs or are just enthusiastic with some football knowledge and willing to help. At school, we will provide adult support and will manage the children's arrival and exit from the training. We will also provide footballs, a DBS check, and of course, enthusiastic and well-behaved children.

We can liaise with you around which is the best after school day of the week for you to commit and will also arrange and manage fixtures and any paperwork. Your commitment would just be the coaching with you arriving at school at 3pm to set up and finish at 4.15pm. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the school office who will put you in touch with Mrs Luckhurst and Miss Byrne who will discuss everything with you. Thank you.

AUTUMN / WINTER MENU 2024-25

The price of a school meal is £2.80. Watch this [video](#) for help on how to pay for school dinners.

Autumn & Winter Menu

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1	*Cheese & Tomato Pizza Baked Potato Wedges Baked Beans & Sweetcorn Salad *Low Sugar Vanilla Ice-Cream	Chinese Chicken Curry *Vegetable Dahl Curry Steamed Rice Cauliflower & Whole Green Beans *Carrot Cake & Cream	Roast Pork & Gravy Vegan Sausages & Gravy Apple Sauce Roast Potatoes Carrots & Cabbage *Sliced Melon	Beef Lasagne *Roasted Vegetable Lasagne Garlic Bread Mixed Salad Chocolate Mousse & Mandarins *Orange & Strawberry Mousse	*Battered Fish Fillets *Veggie Nuggets Chips Baked Beans & Peas *Fruit Flapjack
WEEK 2	*Jacket Potato (Beans, Cheese, Vegan Cheese, *Coleslaw, Tuna & Mayo) Mixed Salad & Vegetable Sticks *Raspberry Ripple Mousse	Beef Kofta *Falafel & Hummus Flatbread Vegetable Cous Cous Greek Salad & Green Beans *Fruit Yoghurt & Granola	Roast Chicken & Gravy Sage & Onion Stuffing *Root Vegetable Gratin Roast Potatoes Carrots & Broccoli *Fruit Salad	*Pork Sausage Roll Veggie, Chickpeas & Feta Roll Mash Potato Baked Beans & Sweetcorn *Lemon Drizzle & Custard	*Fish Fingers Tuna & Sweetcorn Bites *Quesadilla Chips Baked Beans & Peas *Chocolate Shortbread
WEEK 3	*Vegetable Tart Potato Puffs Baked Beans and Roasted Vegetable Wedges *Frozen Fruit Smoothie	Chicken & Chorizo Ragù *Vegetable Ratatouille Steamed Rice Cauliflower & Peas *Marble Cake & Custard	Roast Gammon & Gravy *Broccoli & Cauliflower Cheese Roast Potatoes Carrots & Green Beans *Fruit Jelly	Mince Beef Hotpot *Soya Mince Hotpot Broccoli & Swede Mash *Pear & Plum Crumble & Cream	*Battered Fish Fillets Spinach & Feta Filo Spiral Chips Baked Beans & Peas *Orange Biscuit
WEEK 4	*Macaroni Cheese Focaccia Bread Vegetable Sticks & Baked Beans *Ice-Lolly	Pork Meatballs in Tomato Sauce *Lentil Meatballs Pasta Mixed Vegetables & Broccoli *Peach & Strawberry Tart & Cream	Mince Beef & Gravy Pie *Soya Mince Gravy Yorkshire Pudding Roast Potatoes Carrots & Peas *Fruit Salad	Chicken Fajitas & Wraps *Mexican Haloumi Bake Sour Cream Mexican Rice Sweetcorn and Tomato & Cucumber Salad Chocolate Brownie & Fruit Compote with Vanilla Sauce	*Fish Fingers *Sweet Potato Burger Chips Baked Beans & Peas *Ginger Hob Nob Cookie

Gluten Free option available for Pasta, Pizza, Sausages, Fish, Biscuit. Dairy Free & Vegan option available for Pizza, Cheese, Ice Cream, Custard & Jelly.
*Vegan option available.

Available Daily:

Freshly Baked Bread, Pasta with Tomato Sauce,

Fresh Fruit, Yoghurts, & Veggie Sticks.

Dietary Information:

C Celery, D Dairy, E Egg, F Fish, M Mustard,
S Sesame, \$ Soya, S Sulphite, W Wheat.



YEAR 6 - SECONDARY APPLICATION INFORMATION

For children starting Year 7 in September 2025 applications opened on Monday 2nd September and close on Thursday 31st October 2024. Click [here](#) to find out more about the process. If parents have any queries, the team can be contacted on kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk.

Please make sure you check your local secondary schools' websites so that you know when their Open Mornings and Evenings are taking place. You are welcome to arrange visits to local schools of your choice for a look around and to get a feel of which school may be the right fit for your child.

Some of these open mornings or appointments will be in school time, and this will, of course, be authorised absence from Joy Lane. Please inform the school office if your child will be away for a time visiting a secondary school between now and the end of October when the whole process closes.

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment to discuss options or get some advice from Mr Rogers or Mr Ashley-Jones regarding the secondary school application process if you so wish.

PARENT & CARER CHECKLIST

- Next week will be **Week 2 of the [menu](#)**.
- Download a copy of our handy Term 1 dates [here](#).
- Remember to pack a healthy, nut-free breaktime snack for your **KS2 child**.
- If you have a child in Year 6, please be aware that the secondary application process is now beginning.
- You are invited to the **FoJL AGM on Thursday 12th September at 6pm**.
- If you haven't yet completed your child's pupil collection arrangements form, please hand this into the office as soon as possible.
- Paper copies of term dates and our new menu are available to collect in the office foyer.
- Don't forget to come to our **Meet the Teacher sessions, starting on Monday**.
- Year 6 parents will be receiving a letter about mobile phone permission. Please note that only Year 6 children are allowed to bring in mobile phones.

