

ABLE WRITERS' DAY

On Tuesday 28th November, three children from Year 5 went on a trip to Hoath Primary School where they met Brian Moses, a famous children's author. After setting into the school hall, they had to create book titles that had never been published. For example, *James and the Giant Pickle*, *Charlie and the Bacon Factory*, *War Donkey* and many more. Each child was given a marble and they had to describe what was inside it in an interesting way. As well as all of this, they had to team up with a child from a different school and invent rhyming insults! Because of all the nastiness, the children then had to compliment each other (again, rhyming). After lunch and a quick play, they came back inside to start writing poems. They had to write a rhyming junk shop poem, an alien love poem and a memory poem. At the end of the session, each child had the opportunity to purchase a signed book by Brian Moses. They were truly inspired by the day!

By Agnes M and Ella F



AFTER SCHOOL SWIMMING

We are delighted to announce that after school swimming lessons will be starting in January 2018.



For further details please see the below...

www.joylane.kent.sch.uk (Oyster Bay Community Swimming Pool)

email: swimschool@joylane.kent.sch.uk

Telephone: 01227 261430



CHOIR EVENTS AUTUMN TERM 2017

The choir has enjoyed a busy time so far this year! As well as having lots of fun singing together, which is great for our well-being, **Key Stage 2 choir** members have been busy rehearsing for our first 'gig'! We were invited to sing carols at Tesco, so enjoyed an exciting morning out in the school minibus, up to the top of the hill where we sang our hearts out! Such fun! **Key Stage 1 choir** members also had a morning out when they went to St Alphege School with lots of other local schools, to sing songs around the campfire! Once again, a great time was had by all! We look forward to a new and exciting term ahead of us as we prepare for our next gig - this time in the salubrious surroundings of Fat Sam's Grand Slam Speak Easy!

Mrs Pout



Welcome to our Christmas edition of Term Times

It is a pleasure to present to you this Christmas edition of our Term Times. You will be able to read about some of the fantastic events of the past term with a mention or two of our festive celebrations.

It has been wonderful to see so many of you supporting our Christmas nativities and plays, which have been a joy to behold. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your kind words of praise for the great work our Teaching Staff do on a day-to-day basis and how they encourage the children to show off their stage talents. The children have also had the fun of the Christmas shop and Christmas fair, put together by our wonderful fund-raising Friends of Joy Lane. I am sure you will join me in thanking them for all of their efforts and ideas to ensure our children enjoyed the special events leading up to Christmas. The children tell me that they particularly enjoyed the opportunity of ice-skating - even though the weather was bitterly cold.

As the end of this year draws to a close, I have been able to reflect on all the positive aspects of Joy Lane Primary School. The School expansion has given us superb additional classroom space and the grounds are enhanced to provide additional play space, which is now being used to full capacity. In the coming year we will concentrate on further improving our facilities for the whole school community and will keep you abreast of the developments.

I would like to remind you that should Father Christmas deliver any mobile devices to children at Joy Lane Primary School, could you please remember to help Father Christmas with setting up the security settings and parental controls to keep you all safe.

The School Council have chosen presents from the 'Gifting Tree' to go to children who are homeless or between homes. The gifts will be sent to the children at The Caldecott Foundation in Kent. Thank you for your kind donations to this very worthwhile cause.

Finally, I have added a little homework for you all on page 2 of this edition - just a little activity to keep the brain cells ticking over during the festive break.

The Staff, Governors and children would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2018.

Mrs D J Hines

CHRISTMAS HOMEWORK

We would like you to have a lovely holiday with your family and friends. Please try to do as many of these as possible. If you would like to make a poster, write a diary about what you managed to do or take photos of some of these activities, we would love to see them. Have a fantastic Christmas and we'll see you in the New Year – ready to learn!

21st December Do a secret act of kindness for someone	22nd December Have a sort out of your old toys before Christmas and donate some to a charity shop	23rd December No gadget day! Try to switch off for the whole day	24th December Make a hug coupon to give to someone as a present tomorrow	25th December Don't get out of bed until it's light outside	26th December Do something helpful without being asked e.g. tidy away your presents, wash up, load the dishwasher	27th December Go for a nice walk and appreciate the countryside. Tell the person with you how it makes you feel
28th December Write a thank you letter to someone	29th December Today is: 'Be nice to your family day'	30th December Put on your favourite song, sing at the top of your voice and dance around your home	1st January Leave a 'happy' note for someone to find	2nd January Smile at everyone you see today	3rd January Get an early night so you are ready for school tomorrow	4th January We're looking forward to seeing you. Get out of bed the first time you are asked and don't forget to brush our teeth

CODING WORKSHOP

On Thursday, 21st September 2017, Year 4 and Year 6 took part in a Coding Workshop run by Enabling Enterprise and Sarah Richie in particular. The aim was to design a computer game - on paper - using a variety of skills essential for life.



They thought about Joy Lane School Values; designed characters and created 'worlds' for their game with several obstacles to overcome as well as rewards to be earned. They thought about how the character would move and finally about how they could code these actions. Each team gave a presentation for the EE Game Expo and their peers voted for the most persuasive team.

Hockney Class Votes

- Creative Kids 19 points
- Power Centipede 16 points
- The Great Gamers 22 points
- Computer Cats 17 points
- Magical Masters 19 points
- Creative Code 16 points



Very respectable scores from every team but well done the The Great Gamers. They were asked to reflect on three questions:-
 What did you learn?
 What skill did you improve the most?
 What do you want to find out more about?
 Thank you very much to Sarah for coming to visit Joy Lane Primary School and letting us think about the world of business, enterprise and game designing.

CLIMBING FRAME

There was great excitement this term as our grounds began to be pieced back together after the big build! Reception classes watched in awe as the most humungous climbing frame and the steepest slide EVER were erected on the hillock outside their classrooms! Now we can practise our climbing AND roll down the hill - what fun! Thanks go to the Friends of Joy Lane for funding this exciting equipment.



Mrs Pout

YEAR 6 - ENABLING ENTERPRISE

Year 6 had the chance to put various skills into practice during Enabling Enterprise Day when they worked in teams to design their own computer games. Teamwork, compromise and creativity took centre stage as they thought out, designed and drew the individual backgrounds and characters for their games. The computer game was set in a school and intended to promote our school values. Inspired by their ideas and in-depth knowledge of the world of computer games (those hours spent constructing worlds on Minecraft had finally paid off!), the children finished the day with a fully fledged idea for a computer game. Next stop...promoting their game with a promo video produced over the next few weeks' ICT lessons. Using PowerPoint, the children learnt to build up their game background by copying, pasting and clipping pictures. Once they had designed their main background, they were taught how to animate the objects, culminating in fantastic animations that had characters leaping and jumping across the screen, collecting apples, coins and books. Enabling Enterprise day lent purpose and direction to the children's ICT learning whilst also allowing them to bond with their new classes. A great experience all round.



KINDNESS ROCKS

Kindness rocks are special rocks that represent kindness. At Joy Lane Primary School, Mrs Godden hid lots of different kindness rocks all around the school (like at the bottom of a tree or in a classroom). They could have been anywhere! This is how it worked... Mrs Godden hid kindness rocks around the school and all of the children had to find them. If you found one, you took it to your class teacher and you could keep it for the day. In the morning, you had to go and hide it again for somebody else and it would get put on Class Dojo. I hope you found one! Here are some people who found them: Kye (Year 6) found one in the Year 6 shared area.



Eva (Year 4) found one on the bank of the playground. Even Mr Coggin was lucky enough to find one!
 By Libby (Aged 8)

KS1 WAKE AND SHAKE

This term, nine brave Year 2 dancers took centre stage at Boughton Village Hall in a 'Wake up Shake up' competition. Over the last few weeks some of our best movers and groovers have been working hard and gearing up for the event. They enjoyed meeting children from nearby schools and supported them as they performed their own routines. Joy Lane's performance to 'What Makes You Beautiful' by One Direction was astounding. The children kept in time brilliantly and had great rhythm. Well done!



OYSTERS CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE

During Term Two, the children in Oysters have been working tirelessly and very closely with Mrs Rawlings to create their own original music to accompany the famous Christmas film 'The Snowman'.



They have all visited the music room and worked with a variety of different instruments to create their own composition to go with the film. In addition to this, all of our children submitted art work to create a sensory tunnel to lead adults into their performance area. Some of our older children even learned how to play the famous song 'We're walking in the Air' for your enjoyment.

The children and staff have really enjoyed putting this production together

and performing it. It has been a lovely end to the term.

Mrs T Dowling

NATURE CLUB

Years 1 and 2 have had a brilliant time at Nature Club this term. Each week we have braved the cold and taken our learning outside. We were busy creating sculptures, making bird feeders, designing our own wooden wind chimes and many other fun activities.



Caitlyn and Ethan in Year 2 made a fantastic fish sculpture using things from the natural environment.

Ethan said, "First we found sticks and the things we needed then we made it into a fish. I thought it was fun because we were outside."

ADVENT COMMUNITY COUNTDOWN

Reception classes joined in with the local community to create a GIANT advent calendar. We made three boxes, each telling a different scene from the Nativity story. The boxes will be opened as we move through advent- I wonder what's in them? To find out, visit The Umbrella Centre in town where the GIANT advent calendar is displayed. We thought the idea was so great that we managed to persuade the rest of the school to create a Joy Lane GIANT advent calendar too! Each class created their own Christmas scene inside a shoebox. Visit the main office foyer to find out what's inside!

Mrs Pout



OLIVER TWIST



On Tuesday, 26th September 2017, Joy Lane Primary School was enthralled by a production of Oliver Twist by the M and M Theatre Production Company. The atmospheric lighting and echoing sound effects heightened the audience's appreciation of this classic Dickensian novel with its dark, sinister representation of Victorian London.

Children laughed at the humour or gasped at the most sensitive parts of this emotional roller coaster. They sang along to the songs with gusto and in its typical 'pantomime' style of acting, they reacted to all the cues. Audience participation was paramount!

Children asked the actors how long it took to learn the show and were astonished to find out that the group of roving thespians only had two weeks to make the production their own. They were amazed when told that M and M Productions had to make and carry their own props to two productions a day. The energy and enthusiasm they put into the show was fantastic.

The final icing on the cake was an acting workshop for Year 6. This will stand Year 6 in good stead for the end of Year Production which has become Joy Lane's own Magnum Opus.

Thank you again for coming to Joy Lane Primary School and we cannot wait until next year!



SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Council representatives from Years 2, 4 and 6 attended a forum meeting along with all the other primary schools in the area. Parents were also invited to attend. They all shared their views on the successes of our schools and discussed ways in which we could share resources and work together in the future. There was lots to think about and a real buzz of ideas was shared across the tables.

Mrs King.



KENT LIFE

Year 3 had the fantastic opportunity of going to visit Kent Life in Term Two. We took part in a great variety of workshops to help bring to life our topic of the Stone Age. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day; taking part in cave painting, using charcoal to create their drawings, and learning all about why the paintings were so important. They also acted out a ceremony with a Stone Age man in which they chanted for good weather and a good harvest and pretended to sacrifice some of their classmates! They took turns grinding up seeds with stones to make flour - which was very hard work and took a long time! They acted out hunting and using weapons to catch some food to eat. The highlight of the day had to be meeting the Stone Age man called Claw - he gave the children some very funny Stone Age nicknames and told them all about life in the Stone Age.



BIG DAY OUT...

Year 5 musicians from across The Coastal Alliance stormed the Kent Headteachers' Conference on the morning of Thursday 23rd November. It has to be one of the most stressful few hours ever for everyone involved, but we all came away knowing it has to be one of our proudest experiences too.

It all began with a suggestion from Ms Hines that Mrs Rawlings might like to come up with 'something musical' for the Headteachers' event where each time different schools are given the opportunity to entertain and impress.

Joy Lane Year 5 students began by learning the song - Katy Perry's classic *Firework* - in their class music lessons. 25 lucky Joy Lane students were then chosen to help run a one-day workshop for 40 children representing each of the coastal Primary Schools. The musicians learned each of the 5 musical parts – boomwhackers, pianos, singers, guitars and drums before deciding which role to specialise in for our final performance. Our coastal infant schools contributed by creating their own *Firework*-inspired dance too.



On the day of the performance everyone gave their A game and really rose to the challenges of setting the stage in a hurry, remembering a piece they hadn't practised for two weeks and conquering any nerves. We left Ashford International Hotel full from expensive biscuits and buzzing after a superb performance. To quote one local Headteacher, "It made me cry it was so good!".

SCIENCE EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Once again London Underground engineer Mr Rawlings traded one of his well-deserved days off to run a Science workshop for Year 6. Gravity and air resistance were the focus topics of his workshop, in line with Term 1's unit on Space. After learning about the engineering and science behind space shuttles (in particular, their re-entry to Earth), the children worked in groups to replicate a shuttle pod.



Rather than launching themselves into space, they were challenged to design and construct a pod capable of protecting an egg (un-boiled, of course!) that would be dropped from a height.

To make their challenge more in keeping with the engineering behind space travel, each group's pod was weighed to ensure it was as lightweight as possible; furthermore, its capacity was measured to encourage the children to make their designs as streamlined as possible after they learnt about the impact of friction on returning shuttles.

The Year 6 classrooms suddenly became a flurry of activity - cotton wool, string, bubble wrap and sellotape were present in abundance. How big should the parachute be? How would they attach their pod to the parachute? Would all the eggs

survive the design process unscathed? A definite no to the latter.

Taking their carefully constructed pods and parachutes outside, the children eagerly unwrapped their eggs one by one after Mr Rawlings had launched them off the top of the play equipment. Excitement abounded as each egg was found to have survived its flight – cushioning their egg and employing the force of air resistance had paid off.

Once back in class, the children wrote about their experience, focusing on their skills of applying, analysing and evaluating scientific experiments. Cracking fun!

DISTRICT FOOTBALL

Three teams travelled with Mr Good and Mrs Luckhurst to represent Joy Lane at this year's District Tournament held at The University of Kent.

Our Girls' Team and Boys' B Team played with great enthusiasm and effort. For most, it was their first visit to such a tournament in School colours and, whilst they did not progress to the latter stages, they were a credit to our school.

Our Boys' A Team, having won their group, cruised through the Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals before losing a close Final 0-2 to Swalecliffe's A Team.

Group Matches

JLPS 1-0 Bridge Juniors

JLPS 5-0 St Christophers School

JLPS 4-1 Blean Primary School B Team

JLPS 1-1 Reculver Church of England Primary School

Quarter-Final JLPS 1-0 Swalecliffe Community Primary School B Team

Semi-Final JLPS 0-0 Hampton Primary School (JLPS won 6-5 on penalties)

Final JLPS 0-2 Swalecliffe Community Primary School A Team

Noteable performances were given by all players giving 100% throughout.

CONGRATULATIONS!



OYSTER BAY NURSERY



The Oyster Bay Parents and Carers enjoyed a Christmas Decorations Workshop at the beginning of December – they made sparkling decorations to take home and to put up in the Nursery. It is certainly starting to feel a lot like Christmas!



TREE PLANTING



All classes thoroughly enjoyed planting their own trees. This is the beginning of our Woodland Area Development. The Eco Reps worked extremely hard to prepare the area and resources. Well done one and all!

Mrs King.

NURSERY NATIVITY



The Oyster Bay Nursery children performed beautifully in their Christmas Nativity performance, 'The Star that Overslept'. They told the story of the sleepy, Big Star that slept for too long and forgot she had an important job to do on Christmas Night! Thank goodness the other Nativity characters woke her up in time and all remembered to follow her to see Baby Jesus.

The children sang, danced and spoke with amazing confidence! They were all superstars!

YEAR 2 NATIVITY

This year, the children in Year 2 pulled out all the stops to ensure the children and adults of Joy Lane were 'blown away' by their performance of 'The Advent Calendar'. The children perfected their lines, practised their best singing voices and executed some rather fabulous dance moves! Adults were amazed by the confidence of the children performing in front of such large audiences and Mr Ashley-Jones, himself, was astounded by the show, finding himself almost speechless! The Year 2 Team were incredibly proud of all the children and we wish you all a very restful Christmas break.



WALK TO SCHOOL CHALLENGE!



This term, Van Gogh won the District Walk to School Challenge! Yay!

On Tuesday 21st November, two lucky representatives of Van Gogh (Year 1) got to travel to Leeds Castle to collect a special certificate and prize for their class. It was a fun morning in a beautiful setting. Chloe and Arthur felt like superstars because they were photographed so much!



We were also lucky enough to receive some free copies of 'The Curious Tale of the Dodo' which has been written by a local Whitstable author. You should be able to find them in the libraries around school.

BEACH TRIP



Postgate, Potter and Picasso took advantage of our fantastic proximity to the beach to inspire our learning theme of 'At the Seaside'.

We became environmentalists for the day and began by looking at beautiful natural physical features of our beaches on a fun scavenger hunt. We then looked for man-made features and were pleased to report that our litter survey showed people are taking care of the coastline. Rosie in Postgate explained, "You shouldn't leave rubbish on the beach because otherwise sea animals could get stuck in it and it might hurt them".

GREAT FIRE OF LONDON



Year 2 have been learning all about the Great Fire of London and to celebrate we recreated the fire itself. Thank you to all those who built such amazing houses for the reenactment – it was certainly a memorable moment that really enriched all the learning we had done in the classroom!

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

On Friday, 1st December 2017, 10 Year 5 Children had the privilege to visit Christ Church University in Canterbury to celebrate Annual Language Day with the theme of Christmas Around the World.

After a short but pleasant journey on the mini-bus, 10 overexcited Year 5 pupils disembarked opposite the Campus and were greeted by University Language Students who ran the workshops.

There were workshops in Dutch, Japanese, Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin), an Indian dialect and Arabic. Unfortunately, I could only attend 2 workshops of my choice.

For the Spanish workshop we looked at Christmas celebrations. During Advent, they had a Day of the Innocents, which is similar to April Fools' Day. On the 31st of December, as the clock strikes midnight, children eat a grape and adults drink wine.

We learned the Dutch greetings children use and learned how to pronounce them – you had to pronounce j as y and be quite nasal. This was such good fun.

During the Japanese workshop, children learned how to write 'Happy Christmas' in Japanese writing using black paint and writing in columns. This appeared very difficult and we were amazed at how well children managed the task. They even made a Japanese book mark.

The Chinese and Arabic groups learned how to say greetings fluently including Happy Christmas and performed what they had learned to other groups.

At the very end, the University Students performed a German dance where the adults chose a 'willing volunteer' to dance with them. Some children hid under chairs at the prospect of dancing with an adult in front of other children but they were discovered! It was hilarious and a lovely way to end the workshops with refreshments and entertainment.

Thank you to Miss Gillmore and Mrs Andrews for organising this fabulous day out.

Kayla Year 5



