



Your Child, Your School, Your Voice

Heads Up!

Dear Parents and Carers

This time last year I wrote to you about our staffing for September and started by commenting on the beautiful weather we were having. This week? Not so much! What a week it has been, with hail, flash floods and thunderstorms – not quite the June I had planned. However, onto more pressing matters.

There is a golden milestone for Headteachers everywhere each year; May 31st. This is the deadline by which teachers must resign if they are leaving the school or moving on. In staffing terms it is crucial. If you think about it, if colleagues resign on May 31st you have to recruit to fill their post after the national deadline, and so teachers who are interested in the post from other schools cannot apply for a September start – it's all very unhelpful.

I am thrilled to say that we are fully staffed for September – in all subjects. Let me fill you in:

Mr Peter Scutt joins us as a Lead Practitioner and STEM ambassador in science; Mr Kevin Brinkley joins us as a teacher of science (sound familiar?); Mr Simon Evans and Ms Rachel Gray also join the science team, all bringing with them enthusiasm, passion for science and high expectations. Mr Hugh Mckenzie joins the maths team as an NQT, and in English, Ms Chloe Phippen joins us as Deputy Director of English and Ms Harriet Keep as teacher of English, again, all with a range of valuable experiences and the energy to enthuse our students. Mrs Amy Rose joins the humanities faculty, specialising in social sciences at A Level and finally, Mrs Astrid Fox, a very experienced and knowledgeable SENCO will take on the post as our SENCO from September.

The team looks stronger than ever for September and I am thrilled at the quality of candidates that we have had applying for the posts advertised and the low turnover of staff overall.

I hope you feel, as I do, a sense of forward movement in the school. Our results for this summer look very encouraging and we are ready for our Year 8 students to start their GCSE courses in September, with new schemes of learning and revised reporting to you at home. Our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze programme is flourishing with large numbers completing their expeditions last weekend.

John Mason is a great place to learn and our children display every day their passion for life and desire to be better. They are, as ever, a credit to you.

Have great weekend.

Sarah Brinkley

Follow me on Twitter: @HeadteacherJMS

Teaching & Learning:

Focus on Work Experience

During the week March 20th-24th, Y10 students went out to gain knowledge of the "real world" with their Work Experience. Students were placed in a vast range of different placements varying from retail, fitness, science, technology, web based business, security, local government....etc etc.

Most students (and their family/carers) secured the placement themselves which is seen as a pertinent part of the process. It gave the students a glimpse of what skills and qualities employers are looking for and the everyday working environment. These are the main aims of the programme, rather than just getting experience in an area of work they may wish to be involved with in the future.

A vast majority of the students had an enjoyable and rewarding experience.



ABINGDON CONSORTIUM FOR EDUCATION
Higher Education Fair

University Stands
 Talks on: Apprenticeships
 Choosing the Right Course
 Higher Education Options
 Student Finance • Student Life
 UCAS Application Process.

HONOURS DEGREE
FOUNDATION DEGREE
HND/C
PROFESSIONAL
APPRENTICESHIPS
INFORMATION

ABINGDON CONSORTIUM FOR EDUCATION
AGTE
 Learning at the heart of our community

Monday 26th June
 Abingdon & Witney College
 Wootton Road, Abingdon OX14 1GG
 6.00 – 8.00pm

Come along and find out about the difference between Foundation Degree and Honours Degree courses. What is an HNC? Why are these qualifications valued within industry?

NEW FOR 2017 Degree Apprenticeships

The following universities and organisations are participating:

Aston	Aberystwyth	Bath	Bath Spa
Bedfordshire	Birmingham City	Bournemouth	Cardiff
City	Coventry	Gloucestershire	Goldsmiths
Northampton	Oxford Brookes	Reading	Southampton
Swansea	UEA	UWE	Winchester
			Worcester

National Citizen Service • Neilson • The Management Academy

Representatives of Abingdon & Witney College will be available to talk about degree programmes at the college including Foundation degrees.

Marea Brown, Apprenticeship Recruitment Coordinator for the College, will be available to discuss apprenticeships including degree apprenticeships.

Advice on careers and other options will also be available.

Talks
 During the evening you will also be able to attend talks on specific topics:

Time	Room: D027	Room D033	Room D040	Lecture Theatre
6.15 - 6.45pm	Student Life	Choosing a course and university	Finance: a student and parental perspective	Apprenticeships Degree Apprenticeships
	University of Worcester	Reading University	University of Northampton	Abingdon & Witney College
7.15 - 7.45pm	Apprenticeships Degree Apprenticeships	Completing the UCAS form and Personal Statement	Student Life	Degree and Foundation Degrees HNC/HNDs
	Abingdon & Witney College	Bournemouth University	Oxford Brookes University	Abingdon & Witney College

ABINGDON & WITNEY COLLEGE • WOOTTON ROAD • ABINGDON • OX14 1GG

Art-beat 2017

Come and see our students work at our Art-beat event.

John Mason School
 Excellence through Creativity

'Art-beat 2017

Be inspired by the creativity of young minds...
 GCSE & A Level Art, 3D Design, Graphics & Textiles
 20th - 24th June (Public times Tue-Fri 3.30-4.30pm)
 06 Gallery & Visual Arts Faculty
 Late Opening: Thursday 22nd June 3.15-7pm
 Saturday Opening: 24th June 10am-12.30pm

Sporting Achievement for Dyllin Floyd

Over the half term break Dyllin Floyd was presented with The Jack Petchey outstanding achievement award for his skill, time and effort in helping The Werewolves of London ice hockey team achieve their goals when representing England at a tournament in Canada in March 2017 and also helping all newcomers to The Werewolves of London ice hockey team no matter the position, age or skill level and making their transition to a new team and representing England go as smoothly as possible for the coach, player and their families.

Dyllin will be going to a presentation ceremony in London in November to accept the honor of this outstanding achievement award.

Also over half term Dyllin attended the 'Best of British' goalie camp in Sheffield (invite only) in readiness for preseason (2017/18) selection for South West conference and England teams selection.

Dyllin's family are very proud of him in these achievement's.



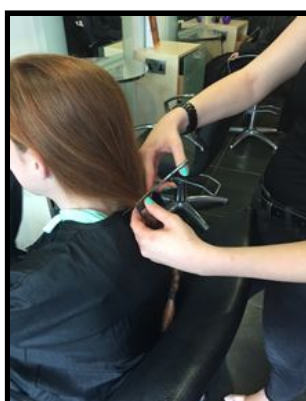
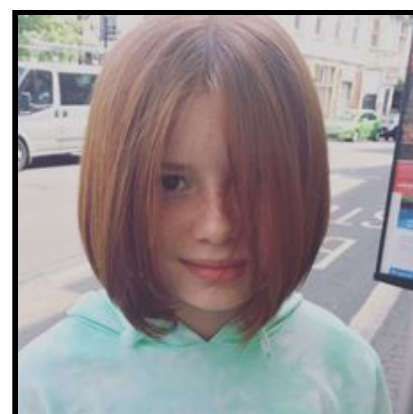
Community News:

Rachel chops her hair off for the Little Princess Trust

Rachel Hunt, 7AJT, has spent the last few years growing her hair but made the decision to have the big cut over half term and donate her hair to make a wig for a child suffering from cancer. Rachel and her mum set up a JustGiving page to try and raise money for the Little Princess Trust. Little Princess Trust provides real-hair wigs, free of charge, to boys and girls that have lost their own hair through cancer treatment and other illnesses. So far she has raised £400 and donated 12 inches of her hair!

Well done Rachel, it looks fabulous! if anyone else would like to donate to this worthy cause, it is not too late, the JustGiving page is still open and you can access the page by following this link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraisingpage>



Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd June: Sports Days
 Tuesday 20th June - Saturday 24th June: Art-beat exhibition (see poster above)
 Sunday 25th June: Year 8 Welsh Farm trips start;
 Monday 26th June: Community Concert
 Wednesday 5th July: Open Morning - 9.00am -12.30pm
 Thursday 13th July: Argentan trip leaves;
 Friday 14th July: Year 8 Welsh Farm trips end;
 Friday 14th July: i-Day;
 Sunday 16th July: Koln trip leaves;
 Monday 17th July: i-Day;
 Tuesday 18th July: i-Day;
 Wednesday 19th July: i-Day;
 Thursday 20th July: term ends at 1.10pm;

John Mason School
Faculty of Performing Arts

June 26th 2017
7pm

Summer Concert

Music from students and staff

Tickets: £2.50 / £2
(£3 on the door)
Available from JMS Student Services

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
by William Shakespeare

Directed by Kevin Rankin

7pm-9pm
JMS Drama Studio
15th & 16th
March 2017
Tickets £3 / £2.50 Conc.
T: 012353 524 664

Midsummer Night's Dream by the Duodecim Theatre Company

It's back!
For TWO nights only
Wednesday 28 June & Thursday 29 June at 7pm.

Following the huge success of this show in March, we are performing it again in June and entering it for the 2018 NATIONAL STUDENT DRAMA FESTIVAL.

Tickets are now on sale (£3) for the June performances. Book them now, before it sells out.

Email Student Services or call on 01235 524664.

ICE POP SALE!!!

WHEN? BREAK TUESDAY 13TH JUNE

WHERE? ON THE FIELD

PRICE? 40p each
or 3 for £1

WHY? TO RAISE MONEY
In aid of

WE ARE MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT

SALE
second hand uniform

Please donate your unwanted uniform via school reception

JMA will be organising another sale in the summer