

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

## Parent Bulletin

Dear Families,

Following the rain and disruption on Monday students quickly returned to normal routines and showed their maturity and commitment to our new school values this week. Line ups and students' arrival at tutor time has been particularly impressive. On Tuesday we had a photographer onsite taking photos of students getting stuck into their lessons across the school. School Uniform looked fantastic, and engagement in lesson activities was so impressive. We will be using these photos to update our website in the coming week so look out for changes.

On Friday we had photographers back on site taking individual photos of students in Years 7, 9 and 11. It was lovely to get a Year Group photo of Year 11 too. With only 9 months to go this year group have stepped up as role models to the rest of the school in the last few weeks. We've been so impressed with their attitude to learning and I am looking forward to reading their application letters for prefect roles next week.

Year 11 Parents' Information Evening was a roaring success on Thursday evening. We had our best attendance ever and I want to thank the staff who were involved in presenting revision techniques and even organising some revision sessions for students to do with their families. This was a great start to what will be a busy and memorable year.

We are looking forward to a busy week ahead. Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered to help on Open Evening next Thursday and we look forward to the Year 8 Parents' Information Evening on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Have a good weekend.

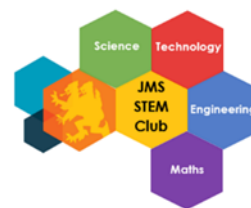


Alastair West  
Headteacher

# School News

## STEM club

Last week was the first STEM club of the school year. It was amazing to welcome students in key stage 3. Our first challenge was looking at upthrust by completing a boat making challenge. Students were in teams and had to make a boat out of plastiline to hold as much weight as possible. The winning team managed to hold 80 grams!



If you would like to join STEM club on a Wednesday 3:10-4:10pm please sign up via Bromcom and come to S5.  
Mrs Williams  
STEM Ambassador

## Plea for Garden Tools

We have several outdoor spaces on our site where we want to start gardening with students and we are asking our parent/carer community for donations of unwanted gardening tools, especially spades, pitchforks and trowels to help us get started with these exciting projects. Anything you are able to donate will be gratefully received. Donations can be dropped at Reception during the school day.

Ms Bosley  
Inclusion Team

## Learning an Instrument

Flute and other instrument lessons are available to students at school from the Oxfordshire Country Music Service. They are available in small groups, paired lessons and individual lessons and costs start at £6.80 per lesson. Free lessons are available to those on certain benefits. For those who might struggle with the full fees, Oxfordshire Fund for Music will fund 50% of lesson cost which isn't means tested. For more information and to sign up please visit [Learning an instrument | Oxfordshire County Council](#).

## Important Dates:

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October – school closes at 1.10pm for Open Evening  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October – INSET – school closed to students

Other important dates can be found on our website calendar:  
<https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/events/calendar/>

Term dates for the new academic year are on our website:  
<https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/events/term-dates/>