



**John Mason School**  
OPPORTUNITY | RESPECT | DETERMINATION

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## Parent Bulletin

Dear families,

What an amazing week for the Performing Arts department. Jesus Christ Superstar was, without doubt, one of the most fantastic performances that I have ever seen. The range of talent and skill shown by students on the stage, in the band, backstage, sound and lighting crews was incredible.

We have been inundated with reviews from those lucky enough to get a ticket for one of the performances so rather than me sharing what I thought, I have shared some of their comments for you to read below.

Have a lovely weekend.

Alastair West  
Headteacher

# Jesus Christ Superstar School Production

## Rave Reviews!

“When I saw the invitation for reviews in the programme I just had to send a quick email to say I was blown away by tonight's performance.

From the outstanding soloists, to the brilliant scenery, from the engaging and dramatic acting of the apostles and ensemble, to the fanatic dancing with brilliant choreography... from the professional sounding musicians to the seamless work of the back stage crew.... It was such a triumph!!

What an unforgettable performance and an example of teamwork at it's best. A huge well done to all the students and staff involved.

A proud parent!”



“I just wanted to say congratulations to you and your team of pupils and supporting staff for a fantastic performance of Jesus Christ Superstar last night. My wife and I enjoy going to watch musical theatre and were hugely impressed with the show. The performances and all round production were incredible, and I cannot imagine how much work must have gone into this since September.

Congratulations and best of luck for tonight's performance”



“Oh what a night!

What a wonderful evening of entertainment.

Herod's performance was hysterical, Pilate's was positively intense, and Jesus and Mary just wonderful. But the star for my 9 year old daughter was Judas, you held the attention of a child as she navigated a challenging story.

But for me the stars were in the band, never before have I seen a school production with live music played throughout - Bravo.

So thank you, in the world we live in, for 2 hours yesterday evening, everything was alright with the world and it's future in in safe hands.”



“I just have to say a HUGE thank you for the superb show Jesus Christ Superstar that you and the cast and crew produced last night.

Having taught at John Mason for over 40 years I have seen many shows and witnessed both musical and theatrical performances; last night will go down as one of the best. Comparable with Les Miserable some 20 years ago; many of those characters went on to perform professionally.

There was the same high level of talent on show last night so here's hoping all the cast thoroughly enjoy tonight and the memory of being in the show will last long in their memories and perhaps lead to even further success in the future

Please pass onto all involved and again THANK you for all your efforts CONGRATULATIONS”



Thank you to ALL the cast, crew, staff and helpers for an absolutely incredible event. The presentation was professional, polished and a true joy to watch. You've showcased your talents and should be very proud of yourselves for your individual achievements and as a team. A special thanks for the BSL signer bringing inclusivity. Enjoy the aftershow party and your much deserved rest.



Thank you so much for such an amazing performance. Such great team work, performers,  
back stage organisation, lighting, band, scenery and BSL.  
An absolute triumph and equal to a professional production.  
John Mason has very committed teachers and I appreciate all the additional time they give to the school.



Speechless. A thing of complete beauty, that gave me goose bumps, made me laugh and cry, and feel quite privileged.  
And all from the best seat in the house watching your single drumstick work its magic on your magical band.



Jesus Christ Superstar was an absolute triumph! I was completely in awe of the phenomenal performance both nights. I still can't quite believe that the choreography was done by students (!) and having an excellent pupil band really took the show to another level. The commitment by every member of the cast, crew and staff was evident in every moment of the musical. The four dancers were absolutely superb and the level of dance demonstrated by the whole cast was also impressive. The singing and acting talent shown by every member of the cast was also amazing and a cut above anything I've seen in other secondary schools. Judas and Mary Magdalene/Annas - what voices! Pilate had such stage presence. I could say something hugely complementary about every single person (you'd be here all night!) - and that's what made this show so impressive.

Thank you so much to the staff. I know how much time this takes up in addition to the huge amount of time you gave to the students. It's incredibly rare to have a team who are willing to dedicate this much time in order to achieve such high-level results - and across the board. Thank you for the life-changing experience you have given to everyone involved. None of them will ever forget it. Wow... Just wow!!!



Thank you to the JMA volunteers who ran the refreshments stall on both evenings. An important part of the JMA's role is supporting school events as well as fundraising. If you're interested in getting involved with the JMA please email [JMACHair@johnmason.school](mailto:JMACHair@johnmason.school)



# School News

## Can you help our MFL Faculty?

John Mason School's MFL department is looking for a native or fluent Spanish speaker to volunteer as a Spanish Conversation Assistant to help us provide as many opportunities as possible for our Year 10s - 13s to practice their Spanish speaking. It can be once a week or more often. If you or anyone you know may be interested please email Ms. Balaguer at [ABalaguer@johnmason.school](mailto:ABalaguer@johnmason.school) for more details.

## ArtBytes – National art Competition Y9 – Online Gallery now open!

[John Mason School | Schools | Art Bytes](#)

The 30 Y9 participants in this art competition now have their work available to view online. The work is currently in a judging process.

After initial judging to elect a 'Top 3' from each participating school, the next stage is a public vote that opens on the **3<sup>rd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> April**.

Once the vote opens in April, please do log on and register a vote for your top artwork. It would be great if there were lots of votes cast! Individuals need to enter an email address to be able to vote, so can only vote once. Anyone can vote, so do please encourage friends and family.

The winner from the school round then goes through to regional finals.

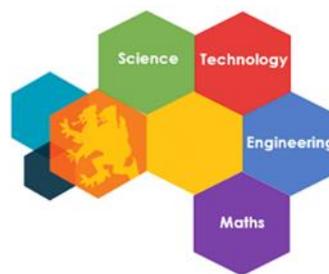
Thank you for showing the Y9's your support.

Claire Pennington  
Director of Visual Arts

## STEM Club

To get us ready for Easter we experimented with air pressure with an egg and flask. The students put lit matches into a flask with an egg on top, which was pulled into the flask. This happened due to the change in air pressure created when the air cools and condenses.

It felt like magic, but unfortunately was not!



## **Important Dates:**

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 1.10pm - term ends

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – term begins

Other important dates can be found on our website calendar:

<https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/events/calendar/>

Term dates for the academic year are on our website:

<https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/events/term-dates/>

Term dates for the next academic year are now on the website:

[Term Dates 2025-26](#)