



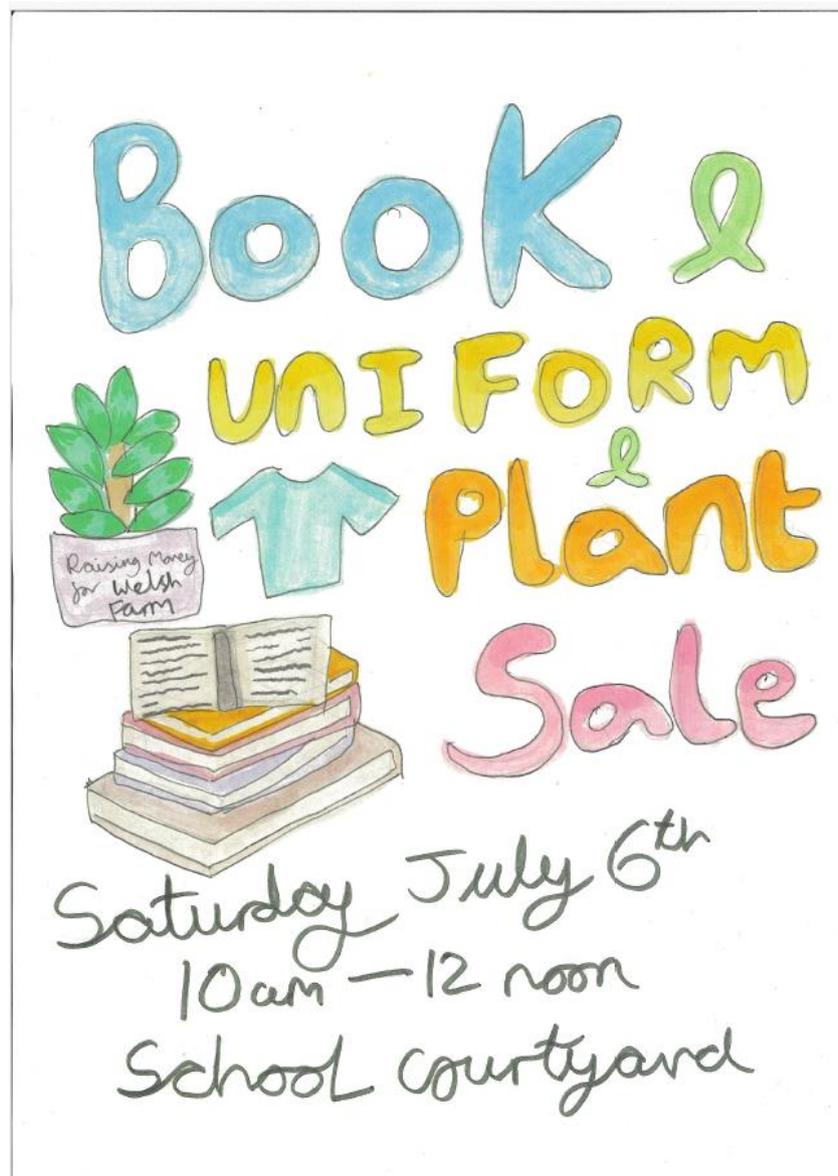
Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## Parent Bulletin

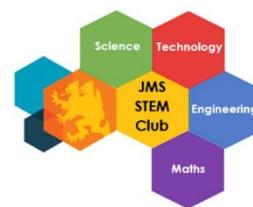
Dear Families,

We have had another busy week with two groups of Year 8 students returning from the Welsh Farm. They may have been exhausted but they have had huge smiles on their faces. Speaking to a former student earlier this week it is clear how much the Welsh Farm experience means to so many.

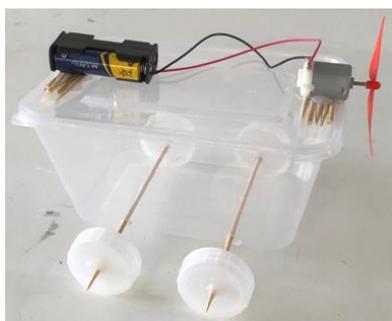
Currently, every time we send a new group of students up to the Welsh Farm, we are sending them with hundreds of litres of bottled water. This is why we and the JMA are working so hard to raise money to drill the borehole which will provide a permanent source of water. Our next fundraising event is the Book, Plant and Uniform Sale tomorrow morning and I would love it if you can join us.



## STEM Club

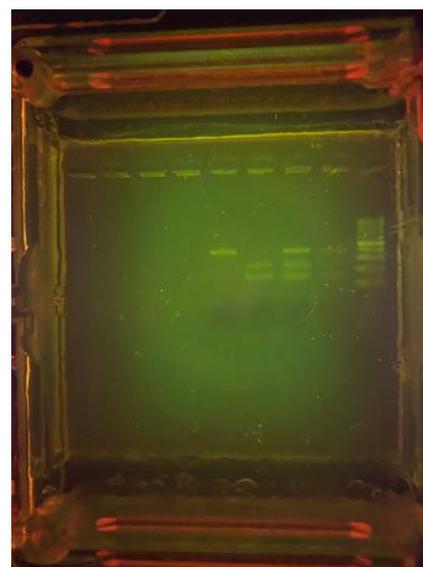


STEM Club has spent the last few weeks engineering propeller powered cars. They have used a variety of materials from Lego to recycled tubs and bottle tops. This has been a challenging task resulting in trial and error, which is a great way to learn. We had to consider weight and friction leading to alterations and some rebuilds. Once we managed to get the cars to move, we then worked on making them faster! This challenge has built many skills in both engineering and physics, but best of all teamwork. We have supported each other in the engineering to help completion.



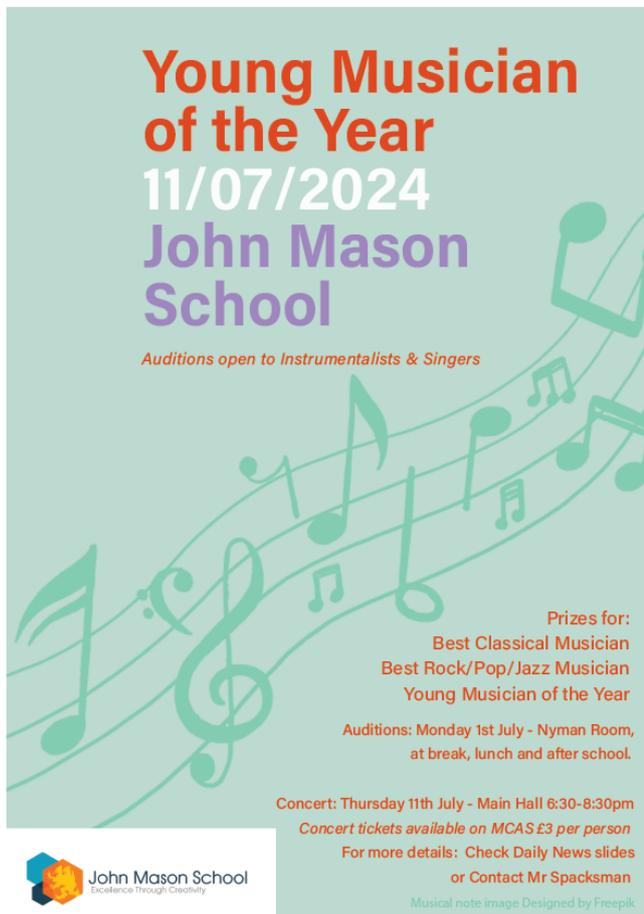
## Vertex Pharmaceuticals Year 10 trip

On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June a class of year 10 students visited Vertex Pharmaceuticals to learn about sickle cell anaemia. The day started with discussions around different diseases the students had already learnt. They then were invited into the laboratory to see sickle cells under the microscopes. The students were fascinated to see the difference between normal red blood cells, and red blood cells affected by sickle cell anaemia. The students were taught how to use Micro Pipettes before practicing using them on a guide. Once the students were confident in using the laboratory equipment, they learnt the stages involved in testing human DNA for the sickle cell gene using electrophoresis. The students set up their own gel electrophoresis and tested real DNA for sickle cell anaemia. They were able to see who out of the 4 family members had sickle cell anaemia and who were carriers or not affected.



The day was fascinating and very interesting for both students and teachers. We will be continuing to visit Vertex next school year to gain more knowledge and skills around different areas of pharmaceuticals.

## Important Dates



**Young Musician  
of the Year**  
11/07/2024  
**John Mason  
School**

*Auditions open to Instrumentalists & Singers*

Prizes for:  
Best Classical Musician  
Best Rock/Pop/Jazz Musician  
Young Musician of the Year

Auditions: Monday 1st July - Nyman Room,  
at break, lunch and after school.

Concert: Thursday 11th July - Main Hall 6:30-8:30pm  
Concert tickets available on MCAS £3 per person  
For more details: Check Daily News slides  
or Contact Mr Spacksman

John Mason School  
Excellence Through Creativity

Musical note image Designed by Freepik



John Mason School

**Y7  
SUMMER  
PARTY**

The JMA are hosting a Y7 Summer party to help raise funds for the Welsh Farm Borehole

TICKET PRICE £7.50 INCLUDES:  
BBQ  
DRINK & ICE-CREAM  
PHOTOBOOTH

**JULY  
22  
7.00-8.30pm**

Image accredited Designed by Freepik

23<sup>rd</sup> July – school breaks at 1.10pm for the summer holiday

Yours sincerely



Alastair West  
Headteacher  
John Mason School