

Friday 11th July 2025

Parent Bulletin

Dear families,

As we get closer to the summer holidays, we continue to see students taking more of the opportunities available to them. We now have our sixth and final group of Year 8s on their Welsh Farm trip, three students are representing Oxfordshire at the English Schools Athletics Championships, thirteen are performing in the Mighty Orchestra at the National Music for Youth Festival concert, and tomorrow our Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition gets underway (with a few adjustments to ensure they manage the weather).

Earlier in the week JMS hosted a its first Coffee Morning for families for whom English is not their first language. The event was a huge success. Thank you to all of you who attended and to Natalie Simmonds for making it happen. If you are interested in joining future events you can read more about it later in the bulletin along with Natalie's contact details.

We expect this weather to extend into next week and so are inviting all students to wear their PE kit on Monday and Tuesday for our Sports Day events. Again, we will be making adjustments to ensure students stay out of the sun as much as possible. Please do send them in with large water bottles, hats and suncream.

We will return to normal summer uniform on Wednesday and our last day of term for students is Friday 18th July when we will close at 1:10pm. Until then, we have a busy week ahead with the winners of Sports Day and the House Cup both still to be decided!

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes.



Alastair West
Headteacher

School News

EAL Coffee Morning

Earlier in the week JMS hosted an EAL coffee morning led by visiting teacher Lisa Knight. Lisa is an ex assistant head of Sutton Courtenay primary school, who now works for Abingdon and Witney college. Her role is to come into schools and offer various family learning classes for parents. We are very lucky as Lisa has agreed to offer English lessons to the parents of our EAL pupils here at JMS.

In the first meeting, Lisa introduced herself and talked about what the lessons will entail. The idea is to help parents in our school community to develop and practise their English skills, while they improve their confidence and hopefully make new friends.

The event was very successful, and everyone involved enjoyed the time they spent chatting together. The parents who participated are looking forward to the course starting in September. If any other parents would like to join, they would be most welcome.

For more information, please email Natalie Simmonds : nsimmonds@johnmason.school

STEM club

This week in STEM club Lillie our year 12 STEM Star lead a session on building a model of the lungs, including rib cage, lungs, trachea and diaphragm. Lillie started the session by showing the club a video explaining how the lungs work. Lillie did an amazing job explaining and guiding each stage in the build. The end results were great as this was a tricky build and needed several sets of hands.



Next week is our last session of the school year! But do not worry we will be back in September 2025!



Young Musician of the Year

Prizes for:

Best Classical Musician
Best Rock/Pop/Jazz/Folk
Musician
Young Musician of
the Year

Concert:

Wednesday 16 July
2025
6:00-8:00pm
Main Hall
£3 (on MCAS)

Auditions:

Wednesday 18th
June & Thursday 19th
June, after school in
the Music block.

Prizes include house
points, certificates and
trophies!

House points rewarded
to students

For more details: check
Daily News slides or
contact Mr Spacksman



Important Dates:

Wednesday 16th July 6-8pm Young Musician of the year concert, ticket on MCAS
Friday 18th July – Last day of term (School finishes at 1:05pm)

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](#)



KIDS OXFORD Wet n Wild
SUMMER CAMPS

FUN-PACKED DAYS ON THE WATER THIS SUMMER!

5-7 AUGUST, 12-14 AUGUST & 19-21 AUGUST
9:00AM - 4:00PM | AGES 6-16 £90 PER DAY

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WHAT'S INCLUDED EACH DAY:

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The Old School
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Abingdon
Oxfordshire
OX13 6RD

01865 730442
sunningwell@artschool.org.uk
{domain.base_url}

WHERE CREATIVES THRIVE

Sunningwell School of Art has offered high-quality art education for over 50 years. We are now inviting children ages 11-16 to attend a free trial art class in our welcoming and rural setting. Classes on offer for Key Stage 3 and 4 students are pottery (11-16s), art and design (11-14s) and the fundamentals of art and design to compliment GCSE studies (14-16s). All classes are taught between 4.30pm and 6pm.

Located between Oxford and Abingdon in the village of Sunningwell, the classes are held in a converted Victorian school building with a unique art school atmosphere. Our small groups are led by experienced tutors who are also professional practising artists who nurture creativity, imagination, confidence and resilience.

The school is also popular with parents and guardians, and we have a common room with complimentary refreshments should they wish to wait for the children to finish their class. Some parents and guardians go on to join classes at the school themselves in drawing, painting, pottery or sculpture.

As the term time starts to wind down and everyone looks to the summer holidays, join us for our Junior Summer Holiday Courses at Oxford Sail Training Trust and give your child the chance to embark on an unforgettable adventure on the water!

www.oxfordsailtraining.org.uk