

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

## Parent Bulletin

Dear Families,

Whilst short, this has been a very important week for many students in our community. The first large Year 11 exam took place this morning. Many of our Year 13s have also started their exams with more of them starting early next week. It was fantastic to see our senior students putting all their hard work into practice. Well done to all of them!

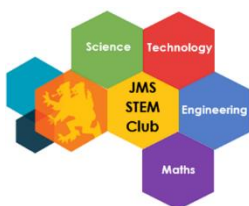
With exams up and running we have made some changes to where students can socialise during breaks, and we appreciate their flexibility in allowing students the quiet areas around the school for their preparation and completion of assessments. Time flies and it will be their turn before they know it!

The warmer weather has arrived too and with it brings some necessary reminders. Students have been, and continue to be, allowed to wear summer uniform. I know that our summer uniform does allow a wide range of flexibility so please can I reiterate my appreciation for your support in making sure your children arrive in full school uniform. A reminder that shorts are allowed, but they must be tailored. PE or sports shorts are not allowed other than in PE lessons.

We also ask that you make sure your child brings a bottle into school. We have several taps and water fountains which are available at break time and lunchtimes. Students are expected only to fill their bottles at these times and will not be allowed to arrive late to lessons or use lesson time if they forget.

### JMA Book, Uniform and Plant Sale

Save the date! On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July the JMA are holding a book, plant and uniform sale in the Courtyard at school between 10am and 12noon. All proceeds will go towards the Welsh Farm Borehole Fundraiser. We are accepting donations of school uniform and books. Please drop these to the School Reception during the school day.



### STEM club

STEM Club celebrated Sir David Attenborough's 98<sup>th</sup> birthday this week by planting sunflower seeds and having a party in his honour. We are going to monitor the growth of the sunflower seeds and have a friendly competition on who grows the tallest sunflower.



Next week we are having a periodic table competition and the following week we have Lauren Baker from Oxford Arboretum visiting us, to teach us about carnivorous plants. This hopefully will involve a carnivorous plant dissection.

We are still looking for new members for the club so come along Wednesday after school in S5.

### **Important Dates**

16<sup>th</sup> May      Year 10 Parents' Evening

24<sup>th</sup> May      Term ends at 3.10pm

27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> May Spring Half Term

Term Dates for the academic year 2024-2025 have been published on our website:

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

Yours sincerely



Alastair West  
Headteacher  
John Mason School