

Dear Families,

It is a pleasure to welcome year 11 back to full time at school and it was great to see so many of you at the parents information evening. If you were not able to attend or would like to revisit some of the information, you can access the slides here:

https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/students-and-parents/year-groups/

The John Mason school revision website is not up and running. There are general revision tips up at the moment. Next week we will be launching subject specific revision pages, so do revisit in the future: https://sites.google.com/johnmason.school/jmsrevision/

This year, we are increasing our focus on celebrating the many positive things our students do. We have made changes to our MCAS system so that you should receive an email every time your child receives any positive points from a member of staff; more specific details regarding both positive and other behavioural points will be available in the Behaviour section of MCAS, on the calendar. The days with positive points are highlighted in green.

We ran Celebration Assemblies for each year group last year and these will continue this year; there is much to celebrate in terms of students' progress, their support of the school community, sporting and artistic successes, and much more- these events are always highly enjoyable.

At the end of last term, we held a Celebration Tea where students were invited in to receive certificates recognising their efforts and achievements across the school; we were lucky enough to have Layla Moran, MP, join us as guest speaker for this event and I know she was impressed with the attitudes and mutual respect shown by John Mason students. We will be holding more events such as this during the course of the school year which we are all looking forward to.

Tutor time

AM and PM tutor time this year follows a diverse programme:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
JMS Reads and revision planning	JMS Reads	Financial education	JMS Reads	JMS Reads
Y11 Assembly	Personal development snapshots	Votes for schools	Personal development and revision	Whole School Quiz

Registered Office: Rush Common School Hendred Way, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2AW

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It is vitally important that students attend these sessions to receive daily information about important events in school, including recognition events. They will continue the JMS reads programme which has now moved to the morning session and will start to incorporate short stories to support their English language and Science GCSEs.

Sometimes there are issues that students experience which we don't see and students may not feel like they can or are able to speak to a member of staff. In these instances students can use the "<u>Whisper form</u>". This alerts us to the issue so that we can investigate.

We have now moved to using days absent from school, rather than percentages, when discussing and communicating attendance to school. This system is easier to understand and highlights that every day in school matters.

The days when the school was closed to your child's year group did not count as absence, therefore attendance has remained unaffected.

Thankyou for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school on time everyday.

Kind regards,

Mr Ben Gilkes

Director of KS4

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