

Friday 10th July 2026

Parent Bulletin

Dear families,

As we reach the end of another busy and successful week, we have also reached the conclusion of our “30 Days of Summer” Challenge. At John Mason School, we believe that education is about far more than academic success alone. As well as academic success, we aim to develop rounded, balanced young people with the character, habits and personal qualities they need to thrive in whatever path they choose beyond school.

Over the past 30 days, students in Years 7–10 have been fantastic ambassadors for the school, demonstrating many of the habits associated with highly successful people. Their commitment to attendance, punctuality, listening carefully, showing awareness of others and developing strong organisational skills has been impressive. These habits may seem simple, but they are the foundations of future success, and it has been wonderful to see so many students embracing the challenge so positively and achieving a phenomenal number of House Points. As a school the total of 101,051 was achieved on Wednesday evening leading to an, earlier than planned reward, the target of 100,000 points has been smashed with a total of 108,234 reached as we come to the end of the challenge. Well done to every student who contributed.

Although the temperatures this week have not reached the extreme levels experienced a fortnight ago, it has still been very warm. The measures we have put in place across the school site have enabled learning to continue smoothly, and our students have shown great maturity and responsibility by keeping themselves hydrated, seeking shade during social times and looking after their own wellbeing. I would like to thank both students and staff for their sensible approach throughout the week.

Looking ahead, we are excited for Sports Day, which takes place on Monday in school and Tuesday at Tilsley Park. On both days, students should attend in full PE kit for the entire school day. Sports Day marks the final major House competition of the academic year and promises to be a fantastic celebration of participation, teamwork and achievement.

We are also looking forward to our Summer Concert next Thursday, one of the highlights of our school calendar and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the talent, dedication and hard work of our student musicians and performers. Rehearsals have been progressing exceptionally well, and we are excited to showcase the many musical achievements of our students. There are still some tickets available to purchase, so if you would like to attend, please do book your tickets through MCAS as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

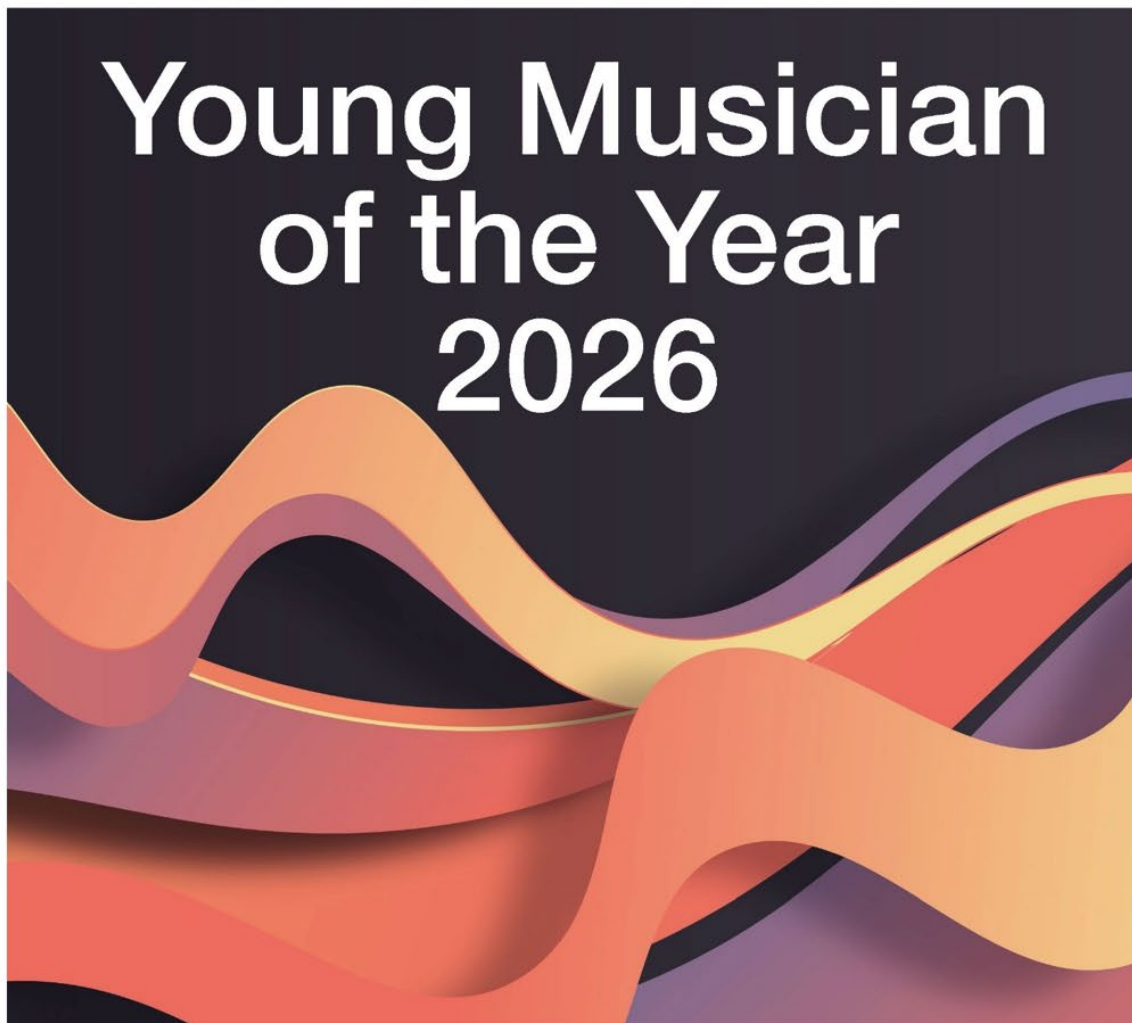
As we move towards the end of term, anticipation is building. The results from Sports Day, Young Musician of the Year, and the overall House Cup will all contribute to our end-of-year celebrations before the much-anticipated Big Reveal on Friday. We look forward to recognising the achievements of our students and announcing this year’s winning House.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to an exciting and memorable final week of the school year.

Best wishes,



Alastair West
Headteacher



Prizes for:

- **Best KS3 Musician**
- **Best KS4 Musician**
- **Best KS5 Musician**
- **Young Musician of the Year**

Concert:

Thursday 16 July 2026
6:00-8:00pm
Main Hall
£3 (on MCAS)

Auditions:

Wednesday 10th &
Thursday 11th June
After school in the Music
block.

If you are interested in
auditioning, please email Mr
Spacksman

Prizes include house points,
certificates and trophies!
House points rewarded to
students

Soloists only

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

Email Mr Spacksman at:
sspacksman@johnmason.school



Whole School News

John Mason's first ever girls cricket match!

On Friday 3rd July a group of year 9 girls went to Abingdon Cricket Club to play a friendly softball match.

The girls played with confidence demonstrating some excellent bowling, batting and fielding skills.

We are excited to continue this into next year and build upon their achievements.



Curriculum News

Year 10 Master-chefs!

Despite being close to the end of term, Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students have stepped up to the plate (literally), undertaking a trial of their 3 hour practical exam last week. Students had been preparing for the test in the weeks preceding, where they were challenged to design and make a two-course menu for a restaurant theme night, demonstrating skills and understanding in cultural ingredients, nutrition, dietary needs and technical skillsets.

The results were really exciting and culturally varied, from Japanese sushi to Greek kebabs!

Many students conducted themselves really professionally throughout the process, wrote careful time plans to pace their tasks accurately, and then presented their dishes beautifully too.

Mrs Smee taste-tested the outcomes and observed some confident cooking across the two group sessions. This was fantastic practice for H&C pupils' final practical exam in Year 11 and hopefully boosted their confidence and belief about what they are now ready to achieve going forwards.

Congratulations to all those involved and thank you to Mrs Smee, Mrs Byron and Ms Andrews for their work supporting the exam.



Outgrown Uniform Collection

If you are having a clear out before the end of term, we are always happy to receive any outgrown good quality uniform that we can offer to the current students.

We currently have plenty of shirts and trousers but would greatly appreciate donations of JMS branded white polo shirts, House PE shirts, and jumpers.

Thank you for your continued support.

Upcoming Important Dates:	
Thursday 16 th July	Summer Concert
Friday 17 th July	School closes at 1.05pm - End of Summer Term
Monday 20 th July	Inset Day – Staff Training
Monday 20 th July – 31 st August	Summer Holidays
Tuesday 1 st -Wednesday 2 nd September	Inset Days – No students
Thursday 3rd September	Start of term for Year's 7, 11 and 12
Friday 4th September	All Students back in school

For a complete list of upcoming events please view the school calendar on our website here:
[Calendar - John Mason School](#)

Term dates for the academic year are on our website here:
[Term Dates - John Mason School](#)

Facebook page link here: [Facebook page](#)