

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2025

## Parent Bulletin

Dear families,

On Tuesday, 11th November, our entire school community came together for the Armistice Day service at 11am. I was deeply impressed by the respectful and reflective attitudes shown by students throughout the morning. Their conduct during this important occasion was exemplary and made me proud to be part of such a thoughtful and united school.

I would also like to commend our Year 11 students for the determination they have shown in preparing for and completing their recent exams. Their focus and resilience have been outstanding, and we are confident that these efforts will lead to excellent outcomes. Thank you to parents and carers for the support you have provided during this crucial period.

We started the week in odd-socks in recognition of our support for Anti-Bullying week and today, we held a non-uniform day to raise money for Children in Need and the JMA. I am delighted to share that the response from students and families was fantastic. Thank you for your generosity in supporting such important causes. The work of our JMA (John Mason Parent Teacher Association) plays a vital role in supporting school initiatives and creating a broader range of opportunities for our students. Please consider getting involved and let us know you can help by completing the [form linked here](#).

As the winter weather sets in, please ensure that your child comes to school with a suitable coat. Hooded sweatshirts are not permitted as an alternative. Students should wear a proper winter coat to keep warm and dry during outdoor activities and transitions between lessons. Your support in maintaining these standards is greatly appreciated.

Last week I raised the importance of high attendance, and today I would like to celebrate a milestone achieved. Every day in school matters, and strong attendance is directly linked to academic success and personal development. I am so pleased to share that Year 7 attendance was 96.8%, and Year 8 achieved 90.8%. With both year groups getting over 90%, along with Year 11 getting ever so close (89.3%). The whole school figure reached our milestone of 90%! Well done everyone who was in school today. One day is a starting point and we need to sustain this over time. This proves we can make a difference and achieve more so please keep working with us to ensure your child attends regularly and punctually so they can make the most of every learning opportunity.

A great example of high attendance was provided by Year 10 families for the excellent turnout at the Year 10 Parents' Information Evening on Wednesday. Thank you. Your engagement and commitment to supporting your child's learning make a real difference, and we appreciate the time you took to attend and contribute to these important conversations.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain the high standards that make our school community so special.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Al West.*

Alastair West  
Headteacher

## Armistice day

Ahead of Armistice Day, a group of ten cadets, scouts, and volunteers made the short journey into Abingdon to pay their respects and lay a wreath in memory of all those who made immense sacrifices for us. Later that morning, the whole school gathered in the courtyard for our Armistice Day service, which included the Last Post, readings, and a moment of silence and reflection.

This was a powerful opportunity for our community to come together and express gratitude to those who came before us, giving us the chance to live in safety and prosperity. It was a truly humbling experience and a reminder of the importance of remembrance.





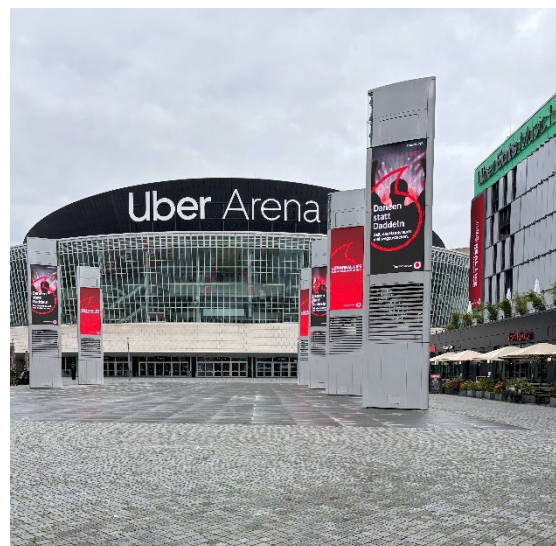
## Year 10 and 11 Students Explore Berlin – A Memorable 2025 Trip

From Friday 31st October to Monday 3rd November, 59 of our Year 10 and 11 students embarked on an unforgettable educational trip to Berlin, combining history, culture, and sightseeing.

The adventure began with a flight from Heathrow on Friday, culminating in an evening visit to the iconic TV Tower, where students enjoyed panoramic views of the city as night fell. Saturday provided a more reflective experience with a visit to Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. Our students engaged thoughtfully with the history, asking insightful questions and showing great respect for the site.



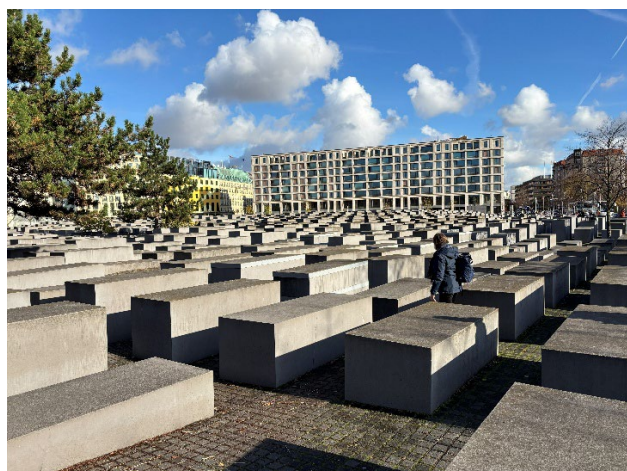
The afternoon offered a chance to relax with a scenic boat trip along the River Spree, taking in Berlin's striking architecture and landmarks from the water.



On Sunday, the group explored some of Berlin's most famous cultural and historical sites, including the East Side Gallery, the Olympic Stadium, Checkpoint Charlie, and the Jewish Museum. Students were able to connect classroom learning with the city's rich history, gaining deeper insight into Germany's past and present.



Monday's itinerary included visits to Potsdamer Platz, the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, and the Bundestag before the group departed for the airport. These final visits provided a fitting conclusion to a trip that was both educational and inspiring.

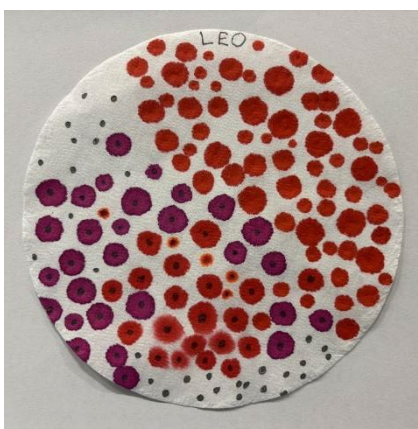


The 2025 Berlin trip offered students a unique opportunity to experience history firsthand, develop a greater understanding of German culture, and create lasting memories.

## STEM Club

This week at STEM club we wanted to spend some time remembering those who fought in the world wars for us.

We spent some time discussing the different coloured poppies and what they represented. The students were given the challenge of making poppies using Chromatography. Chromatography is a separation technique used to separate mixtures of soluble substances. The students made some amazing pieces of work.



Next week we will be celebrating National Men's Day by completing Einstein's liquid layers.

## Whole School News

### Odd Socks and Using our Power for Good - Anti Bullying Week

This week, students marked Odd Socks Day, celebrating individuality and the importance of kindness through fun and creativity.

As part of our ongoing anti-bullying initiative, an engaging assembly explored the impact of bullying and how unkind words or actions are examples of using our power negatively.

Students were reminded that we can all use our power for good — showing respect by treating others kindly, demonstrating determination by standing up against unkind behaviour, and creating opportunities for a safer, more supportive school environment. Pupils were encouraged to report unkind actions or bullying to any member of staff or by using the “Report It” button. We also shared our next steps in strengthening our anti-bullying culture: every member of the JMS community will be invited to sign our Anti-Bullying Charter. Any bullying is too much bullying, and together we are committed to shifting the culture by using our power for good. Year 9 and Year 11 will have their assemblies next week.



### Have Your Say – Parent Voice Survey

We value your feedback and want to ensure your voice helps shape the future of our school. Please take a few minutes to complete our **Parent Voice Survey** by clicking the link below:

[Complete the Survey Here](#)

Your opinions and suggestions are important to us, and your responses will help us improve the experience for all our students and families. Thank you for your support!



# JMF6

ABINGDON

## SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

**THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2025**  
**5:00pm - 7:00pm**  
**Location: Fitzharrys School**  
 All welcome - no need to book




### Upcoming Important Dates:

|                                                                 |                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November                              | JMF6 Open Evening at Fitzharrys 5-7pm |
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November     | Year 11 Art Pre-public Exam           |
| Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November | Year 11 3D Pre-Public Exam            |
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November    | Year 11 Graphics Pre-public Exam      |
| Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December                                 | Yr 7-9 Flu Vaccinations               |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December                                 | Yr 10-11 Flu Vaccinations             |

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](#)

### **OX14 Learning Partnership Weekly Update**

Please find the weekly update for the OX14 LP linked [here](#) for circulation and the website link here: <https://www.ox14lp.org.uk/events/>



## CAMHS WEBINAR SERIES

All webinars: **Wednesdays** | **12:00-1:30 PM**

To register for a webinar visit: <https://oxpcf.org.uk/webinars>

24 September 2025

**What to Expect from the CAMHS: NDC  
(Neurodevelopmental Conditions) Service**

22 October 2025

**Supporting family member's mental health through  
compassion**

26 November 2025

**Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA)**

17 December 2025

**Autistic Burnout**

28 January 2026

**Demand Avoidance**

25 February 2026

**Understanding, preventing, and supporting  
meltdowns**

25 March 2026

**Support in the community for young adults  
(post-18)**

These sessions, presented in partnership with CAMHS, aim to provide insights, expert guidance, and discussions on key topics related to SEND.

To learn more or register for a webinar please visit: [oxpcf.org.uk/webinars](https://oxpcf.org.uk/webinars)