

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## Parent Bulletin

Dear families,

Welcome to Summer Term 1.

A very warm welcome back to our students and staff following the Easter break, and a particular welcome back to those who returned from two fantastic off-site learning experiences. Our Ski Trip to Cerler, Spain was a wonderful success, with excellent snow conditions and a brilliant balance of skill development, resilience and teamwork. Students and staff alike returned visibly proud of what they had achieved and with many great memories from the week.

We are also delighted to welcome back our Year 12 Geographers, who spent the first four days of term at Dale Fort Field Centre in West Wales as part of their A Level Geography course. Students engaged superbly with the programme, made strong academic progress and represented the school extremely well throughout the residential experience.

Across the rest of the school, students have settled back quickly into summer term routines and are enjoying the summer uniform arrangements. You can find a link to our uniform policy [here](#). As always, we maintain high expectations for uniform to ensure consistency and fairness for all students. This week we have needed to speak to a small number of students regarding issues such as hair colour, footwear, jewellery or the wearing of hoodies or tracksuit tops. In the interests of fairness, we will always persist until these issues are resolved. Your continued support in ensuring students arrive at school in correct uniform is greatly appreciated and helps staff focus their time on teaching and learning.

The summer term is always an exciting and important time for our examination year groups. Year 11 and Year 13 are now in their final preparations for GCSE and A Level examinations, and staff continue to support them closely during this crucial period. Next week, it will be the turn of Year 10 as they begin their mock examinations. It has been lovely to see students making the most of the sunshine, revising together on the field and demonstrating real commitment to their studies. We are confident that their hard work will pay off and wish them all the very best.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,



Alastair West  
Headteacher

## Whole School News

Please find information below for a meeting you can book onto and a student lunchtime club, please come along.



# COFFEE AND CONVERSATION about AUTISM

**MONDAY  
11<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
11:05 -12:05**

Join Ruth Cox of OCC's Communication and Interaction Service to talk about how your child's autistic tendencies affect family life and what you can do.  
Have your questions answered.  
Share your worries.

Confirm your place by emailing:  
[jms.inclusion@johnmason.school](mailto:jms.inclusion@johnmason.school)

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE  
JOHN MASON SCHOOL

## BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB



**EVERYONE WELCOME**

Join us every **Tuesday Lunchtimes in G03** (Mr Duckham's Room) for some fun, interactive sessions learning the basics about BSL. **No previous experience required** From alphabet to learning sign songs to having a proper conversation, we cover a range of topics that help broaden your knowledge and expand your horizons. Bring your lunch, meet new people, and play lots of games. It's a great skill to have up your sleeve- you don't have to come to every session (but you can), whatever suits you best because every sign you learns makes a difference.

## LRC Book Fair – Help Us Earn Free Books!



The banner features a purple background with a yellow and blue 'LRC BOOK FAIR' title. It includes the Scholastic logo and the text 'Your NEXT FAVOURITE READ is waiting'. A white box states 'OVER 200 BOOKS TO CHOOSE FROM'. Three book covers are shown: 'Fearless' by Lauren Roberts, 'Beth IS DEAD' by Katie Bernet, and 'THE ENEMY' by Charlie Higson. A 'GO ALL IN.' logo is also present. On the right, a 'NEW and TRENDING?' section displays a grid of book covers including 'THE TWISTED ONES', 'GAMES UNTOLD', 'WUTHERING HEIGHTS', 'LOVE AND THE FAST LANE', 'YOUNG SHERLOCK', 'SWEET AND SOUR', 'THE BOOK THIEF', 'ONCE UPON A HEART', 'THE HUNGER GAMES', 'Good Girl, Bad Blood', 'KICK', and 'CRINGE CLUB'. A red box with a QR code and the text 'Scan the QR code to pay online!' is shown, with a list of instructions below it.

**LRC BOOK FAIR**

**NEW and TRENDING?**

Over 200 BOOKS TO CHOOSE FROM

**Order and pay for books from 7<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April**

Scan the QR code to pay online!

- Select **John Mason** from the drop-down menu. Follow the online payment link.
- Order using the **Wish List** (Collect a form from the LRC)

The **BOOK FAIR** is here on: **April 21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>**

**GO ALL IN.**

The LRC will be holding a book fair next week from 21st-27th April.

Students are welcome to come in and look at the books on sale during their English lessons (with permission) or at break times. Books can be paid for online using the QR code and selecting John Mason and collected the next day from the LRC.

To browse books at home, go to [www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases](http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases). Book vouchers can also be purchased as an alternative way to pay.

Parents are invited to view and order books on-line at [www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay](http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay) and selecting John Mason from the drop-down menu. Orders can be made between 7th-27th April, and the books can be collected from the LRC.

Please support JMS by purchasing a book for your child. Every book bought earns rewards for the library. Many thanks and happy reading!

## Summer term Sports Clubs



### **Clubs to start *Monday 20th April***

*Please ask your parent/carer to enrol you to the after school club you wish to attend via MCAS. Bring your PE kit if participating after school. Any questions please ask the member of staff leading that club.*

<b>Day</b>	<b>Lunchtime (In the Gym)</b>	<b>Afterschool</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<i>Girls Active (Netball courts) with Miss Uzzell and Mrs Marriott</i>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>Year 7 and 8 Tennis with Mr Borja</i>	<i>All years Athletics with Team PE</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>		<i>Year 7 and 8 Summer Sport with Mr Davies</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<i>Year 9, 10 and 11 Tennis with Mr Davies</i>	<i>Year 9, 10 and 11 Summer Sport with Mr Borja</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<i>JMF6 Summer sport with Mrs Marriott</i>	

## Art Bytes - Last chance to enter your Vote!

From Friday 20th March – Sunday 19th April 2026 you will be able to VOTE for your favourite artwork and it is the public vote which determines each school's winner.

Winners then go forward into the next round of judging to be in with a chance of becoming a regional - or even national winner! To raise the profile of the Year 9 artists in our community, please encourage everyone to vote - students, teachers and parents/family members can all get involved.

Please remember to cast your vote. Go to [John Mason School | Schools | Art Bytes](#) and click on the 'VOTE NOW' button. Under the top 3 artworks will be a 'vote now' button. Each person may cast one vote.

Thank you,  
Ms Pennington



Guardian of the Temple

Ethan B

Watercolour & coloured pencil, 20cm, 20cm

**VOTE NOW**

View in AR



Rio

Reuben R

Watercolour & pen, 20cm, 20cm

**VOTE NOW**

View in AR



The Temperate Toucan

Chris R

Watercolour & pen, 20cm, 20cm

**VOTE NOW**

View in AR

## OX14 Learning Partnership Weekly Update

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

The poster features a dark background with a purple-to-orange gradient. At the top left, the text 'FIND YOUR FUTURE' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. Below this, 'ABINGDON FUTURES FAIR' is written in a larger, white, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath, the date and time '7 May 4pm- 6pm' are displayed in white. A circular inset image on the left shows a group of students in a school setting, some looking at brochures. To the right of the image, the text 'Speak to 25 UK universities and get information on' is followed by a bulleted list: 'Courses', 'Entry requirements', 'Application processes', and 'Student experience'. Below the list, it says 'Plus find out about other post-18 options. For all local students in Years 11 to 13. Free to attend, book your place now!'. Further down, it states 'Hosted in the Pavilion at Abingdon School, entry from Park Road OX14 1DE. No onsite parking.' At the bottom left, there is a QR code with the text 'Scan to book' above it. At the bottom right, the OX14 Learning Partnership logo is shown, featuring a stylized 'OX14' with a curved line above it, and the text 'Learning Partnership' and 'Challenge, Inspire, Support' below it.

**FIND YOUR  
FUTURE**

**ABINGDON  
FUTURES FAIR**

**7 May 4pm- 6pm**

Speak to 25 UK universities and get information on

- Courses
- Entry requirements
- Application processes
- Student experience

Plus find out about other post-18 options.  
For all local students in Years 11 to 13.  
Free to attend, book your place now!

Hosted in the Pavilion at Abingdon School, entry from Park Road OX14 1DE. No onsite parking.

Scan to book



**OX14**  
Learning Partnership  
Challenge, Inspire, Support

The Abingdon Futures Fair is back again with an impressive range of UK universities. Aimed at current Year 12s and open to all local students in Years 11 to 13 (and their parents), come along and speak to university representatives about their courses, admissions and student experience to inform your choices on what to do next.

Who should come?

- Year 13s who are undecided about university study or starting careers;
- Year 12s who are exploring universities and courses;
- Year 11s who are looking for inspiration and guidance;
- Parents and guardians of students aged 16 to 18.

Free entry and open to students from all local schools. Please note there is no onsite parking for this event.

[Book here](#)

<b>Upcoming Important Dates:</b>	
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Year 11 Art GCSE
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 10 Pre-Public Exams
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Year 11 Graphics and 3D exams
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 12 A-Level Art Exam
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April – Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 12 Trial Exams
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday - School Closed

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](#)

The next academic year dates are also on our website now.