

Friday 8th December 2023

Parent Bulletin

Dear families

We are still collecting your responses to our consultation on the John Mason School Values. [Please click here to let us know what you think.](#) It will take you less than five minutes and allows us to make sure we've included your voice.

This week has included two big evenings for different year groups in school. Year 11 visited with their families into school on Thursday for their last Parents' Evening before their GCSE exams. It was also the first Parents' Evening to take place "LIVE" in school in a long time. Whilst technology has its place, the in-person conversations taking place were far more productive than on-line versions have been. Speaking to families on the evening it was clear that you were happy to have heard about what is going well as well as feeling secure in your understanding of what steps to take over the final months of preparation. There will be further opportunities to talk, but for now Year 11 are steaming ahead.

Year 7 joined us in very different circumstances for their Winter Ball on Friday night. The staff and members of the JMS involved in putting on this spectacular celebration did an amazing job. I know that our Year 7 students will join me in thanking them for making it happen. The dance skills on display were rumoured to be the best seen in Oxfordshire this year. (And that's just the teachers!)

As we head into our last full week there are still plenty of seasonal events coming up. Alongside the opportunities to celebrate we continue to focus on our behavioural expectations. We are determined that all students develop the habits required to make our school a place where every child can feel comfortable and safe to dedicate themselves to becoming the best versions of themselves.

We expect all students to keep their hands to themselves when playing during social times. We expect students to only use toilet facilities for what they are intended, and to leave quickly making space for others. We expect students to switch off their mobile phones and put them away as soon as they arrive in school.

We will continue to remind students of these expectations and we will use our consequence system when required. We appreciate your support with these consequences as we know that they play an essential role in changing habits and improving all students' experiences at John Mason School over time.

Year 7 German Christmas Biscuit Baking Competition

Year 7 students and families are invited to take part in this competition. There will also be a Spelling Bee competition and a German Christmas quiz. The MFL team look forward to seeing year 7 there!

YEAR 7
Weihnachts
PLÄTZCHEN
BÄCKWETTBEWERB

German Christmas Biscuit Baking
COMPETITION

To enter
bring your bakes to the main hall on
Monday 18th December, 6pm
Entry: Students/siblings Free - Parents £2

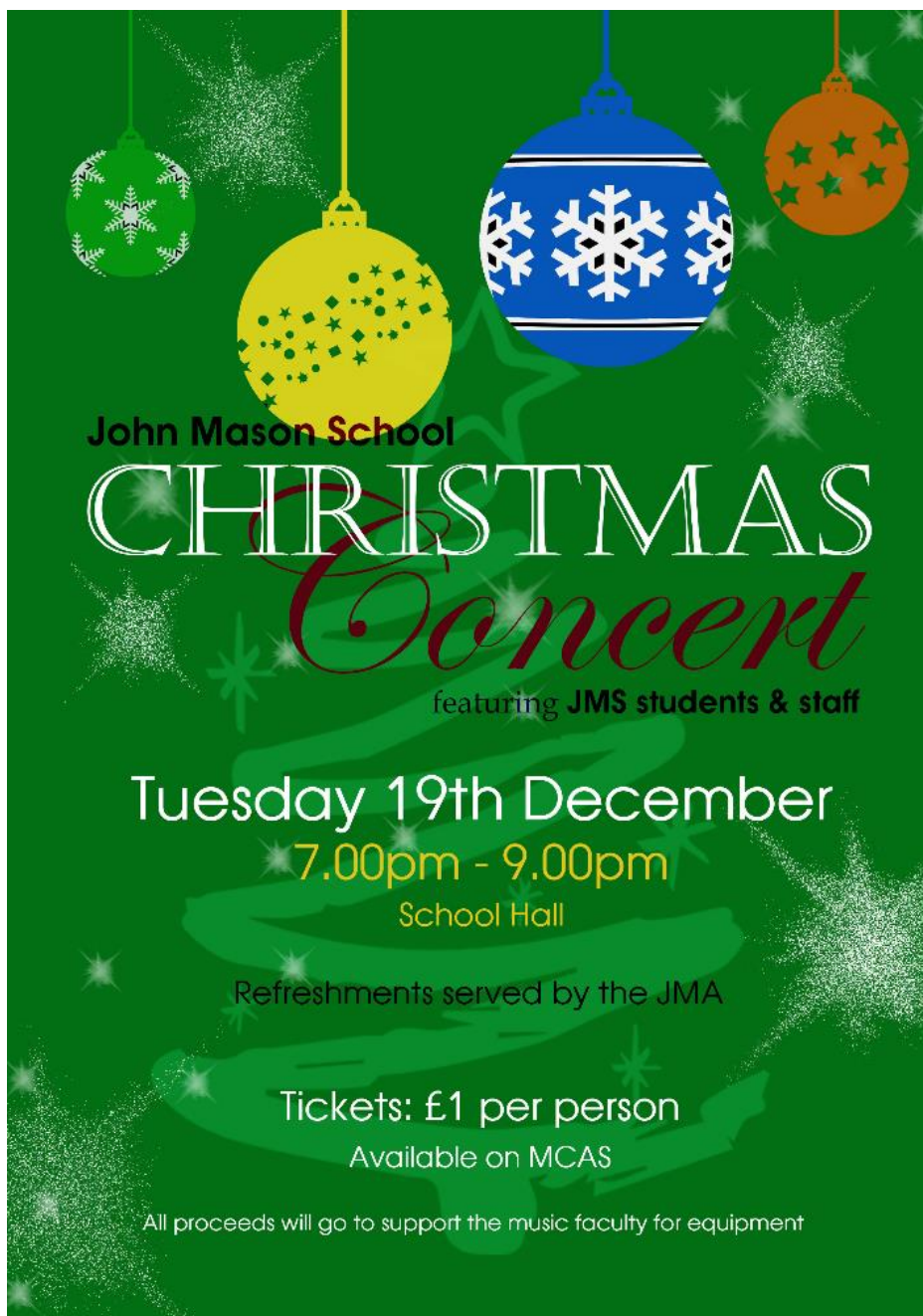
Also take part in the
Spelling Bee
German Christmas Quiz
Achievement points and prizes to be won

SHARE PHOTOS OF YOUR BAKING SKILLS WITH US
ON TWITTER & TIKTOK @JMSGERMAN

Christmas Lunch in the Diner

We will be serving Christmas Lunch in the Diner on Wednesday 13th December. If your child would like a Christmas lunch, the cost is £2.70 and you will need to purchase this in the products section on your MCAS account – please note this is not the same process as topping up their lunch account. The lunch will be a turkey dinner with a vegetarian alternative followed by ice cream. Please purchase your child’s lunch by noon on Tuesday 12th December to allow our catering team to plan accordingly.

Christmas Concert



Tickets are still available via your MCAS account for the Christmas Concert.

Lost Property

We have a huge amount of lost property (most of it not labelled) that we would like to return to students before the Christmas break. Students are welcome to come to reception during break or lunch or after school to check for items they have lost. We will have lost property out in the main

reception area for parents and carers to come and check between 3.10pm and 4pm from Thursday 14th – Tuesday 19th December. At the end of this term, any lost property that hasn't been claimed and isn't named, will be recycled.

Careersfest

Careersfest Oxfordshire will be taking place on 20th March 2024 at the Kassam Conference and Events Centre in Oxford. This is an opportunity to meet a range of Oxfordshire employers, further education colleges, universities and training providers. The poster with a registration link can be found here:

https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/assets/Twilight_Careers_Fest_24_flyer.pdf

Important Dates

13th December – Christmas lunch served in the Diner

14th December – Year 9 Options Evening

19th December – Christmas Concert

20th December – school finishes at 1.10pm

Yours sincerely



Alastair West
Headteacher
John Mason School