

Friday 11th October 2024

Parent Bulletin

Dear Families,

After an exciting Open Evening last week, we have started our Open Mornings this week for Year 6 families who are considering joining our community. At both events it has been wonderful to see students meeting and greeting families and talking them through what it is like to be a part of JMS. As our visitors tour the school, they have seen focused students working hard in their lessons.

The high level of engagement in lessons is something we are very proud of at JMS. Whether they are concentrating on extended writing, deep in paired debate or developing their practical skills, JMS students are fantastic ambassadors for independent learning. Whatever they are working on there is a sense of purpose in the way they go about their learning and the atmosphere that this creates in classrooms and corridors is one with a sense of purpose and drive.

Since September we have noticed a huge improvement in the way students are wearing their uniform and with two weeks to go before half term, I would like to make you aware of a slight change we are making to our Uniform policy.

From 4th November our uniform policy will require students to wear plain grey, or black socks or black or natural tights. White socks will **not** be allowed, other than in PE lessons. I wanted to give you this early warning so that if you do not already have grey or black socks, you are able to purchase them in good time.

We will also be using our return from half term to check that every student is wearing the JMS jumper, every day, and that jewellery is kept to a minimum of one simple metal, non-jewel plain stud in the lobe of each ear. No other jewellery or body piercing is allowed and will need to be removed before students enter school.

Have a nice weekend.



Alastair West
Headteacher

School News

Parent Voice

Please have your say and complete our Parent Voice Survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf2zvpWahaLGFXpwsBx_IjYREXluupwEqzVCYrzCQt9TmF2tA/viewform?usp=sf_link

Bicycles

We have been made aware that a large number of bicycles have been stolen in and around Abingdon in the last week. Sadly, this does include an unlocked bicycle from the front of our school. If your child cycles to school, please can you make sure that they use a padlock. Students who arrive at school before 8:30am are able to put their bikes in our bike sheds which are then themselves locked until the end of the day.

If for any reason a student arrives to school later in the day, we advise that they take their bike through reception, and then lock it at our additional bike racks.

German Native Speakers

We are looking for native German speakers who have some time to give to help our A Level German speakers develop their fluency and spontaneity. If you are interested, please contact Emma Mannion, head of MFL. emannion@johnmason.school

Important Dates:

Thursday 24th October – New Tutors' Evening and Year 7 Parent Information Evening

Friday 25th October at 3.10pm – School breaks for half term

Monday 4th November – School starts after half term break

Thursday 7th November – Year 10 Parent Information Evening

Other important dates can be found on our website calendar:

<https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/events/calendar/>

Term dates for the new academic year are on our website:

<https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/events/term-dates/>