

Friday 2nd February 2024

Parent Bulletin

Dear families,

At the start of this term we introduced Celebration Assemblies and each year group have their own morning. These are fantastic opportunities for students in each year group to broaden their understanding of what our community is able to achieve, and to be inspired by the commitment to a wide range of activities.

To give you a flavour of what we find out in these assemblies I want to share with you just a few of the achievements celebrated in the Year 8 Celebration Assembly this week:

Malo and Dylan competed against 200 Year 8 students from around the county and Malo came 9th overall.

Lilidh has demonstrated huge passion for music in her practice and performances and is making incredible progress.

Lewis has been pursuing a passion in astronomy and thanks to his dedication and perseverance he has managed to capture the following images:



Together, Year 8 have collected a total of 3246 positive points so far. When these are divided up, Ock House are in the lead, Stert House are in second and Thames House are rapidly catching them both.

And it's not just Year 8. We are seeing this range of achievements across the school every week and we want to hear from you about what they are achieving outside of school as well.

This week I heard from Kacper's Dad that he had placed 5th in his England Squash tournament. Kacper was competing at Silver Level – the third highest competition in the UK and he coming 5th was his best personal achievement. Whilst we may not all become Squash players it is inspirational to hear that when John Mason students put their minds to it they are competing on the National stage.

If there's something we should know about your child and their achievements out of school then please let their tutors know. We love to hear from you and it helps us all to be reminded of all the fantastic things that are going on both inside school and beyond.

I am sure we will have more to celebrate in just a few weeks' time with the eagerly anticipated school production just around the corner. Rehearsals have been going well and tickets are now on sale, and you can purchase these through your MCAS account. Well done to all students and staff for the dedication they putting into their preparations.



Year 11 Trial Exams and Revision Resources

Year 11 have started their final trial GCSE exams and we wish them luck. Students can find their exam timetables on their Bromcom app and parents/carers can also view their timetable in their MCAS account. Revision strategies and resources for students can be found [here](#).

Bedrock Learning for Year 7 and 8

John Mason school has chosen to partner with Bedrock Learning. In doing so, we have placed literacy at the heart of your child's learning journey. We know that a child's education is not just about school, and that support from people at home can make a huge difference to their progress.

Bedrock invite you to their online Bedrock Parents' Information Evening at; 7pm, Tuesday 20th February 2024 to give you the chance to find out;

- What Bedrock is

- Why it's important for your child to use Bedrock
- How you can support them in their learning

To sign up for their Parents' Information Evening, please click on the link below.

Can't make the live session? Register anyway and a recording will be sent for you to watch on demand. We look forward to seeing you there!

[Bedrock Parents' Information Evening - Secondary \(getcontrast.io\)](https://getcontrast.io)



TERM TIME CLASSES • HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS • PRIVATE TUITION

ART CLASSES • AGES 5-13

February Half Term 2024:
'Winter Wonderland'

Traditional drawing, painting, and sculpture, combined with unique projects, experienced teachers & professional quality materials. Each workshop covers a new, exciting subject or technique.

Half Term Week February 2024:
Northcourt Centre, Abingdon - Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Ladygrove Community Centre, Didcot - Tuesday, Thursday

Classes from 10:30am - 2:00pm

BOOK NOW:
WWW.CYGNETSARTSCHOOL.COM/ABINGDON

Lunchtime FREE Taster Drinks
The Diner - Wednesday 7th Feb

Come and try!

Should we serve these drinks in the future?
This will **cut out** all the plastic bottle drinks/can/cartons.
Drinks served into **reusable bottles**.

- ✓ Less Cost
- ✓ Juices and Flavoured Water
- ✓ Great Flavours
- ✓ Always Chilled
- ✓ Planet Responsible





Important Dates

9th February School finishes at 3.10pm
12-16th February Half Term

Yours sincerely

Al West

Alastair West
Headteacher
John Mason School