

Friday 8th March 2024

Parent Bulletin

Dear families,

Over the last 3 months, I have made a number of changes to our Senior Leadership Team and our Pastoral Team. These changes are allowing us to align individuals' strengths closely with the needs of the school. We have also made a range of new appointments and we are excited to have our teams grow and know that this is going to strengthen the pastoral provision at John Mason.

To strengthen our pastoral support until some of our new appointments join the school, we have arranged for several mentors to work with individual students. This is not something we are able to offer all students, but I know that it will have a benefit for all as it will help us to develop a calm and productive school. The SLT leads for each year group are providing additional support to those year teams, and I am grateful to the excellent work the current members of the pastoral team are doing.

Alongside these changes we have also been working hard to appoint additional staff in a range of different subjects. I look forward to sharing further updates with you soon. The full team is listed at the end of this Bulletin.

British Science Week



John Mason School are running two competitions to celebrate British Science Week. One is a poster competition for years 7-9 and the other is a competition to write an article for the Evolve biology Magazine. More information on both these competitions can be found here:

<https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/events/whats-on/>

Year 9 Mandarin

Y9 Mandarin class had two visitors from Oxford University- Queen's College translation project last Friday and the whole class had an session with the two visitors. They learned three Chinese idioms and used them to guess the theme of a Chinese pop song- The moon stands for my heart. Students were given a vocab glossy and translated lyrics. At the end of the lesson, students compared two versions of the pop song and were given the opportunity to translate the lyrics more creatively. Students really enjoyed the workshop.

Sporting Success



Congratulations to the Gosford All Blacks U16s girls rugby team who on Sunday became the National U16 Girls South West Champions beating Ivybridge by 17 points to 15. The fixture was played in Devon in front of a huge home crowd and the home team had a lot of support but the Gosford girls didn't let that stop them and played spectacular rugby to come through the winners. Taia in year 10 and Annabel in Year 11 are both part of the team and we congratulate them on their huge achievement.

Parking in local area

At the beginning and the end of the school day the roads around our school site can get busy. Please can I ask that you are considerate of our neighbours when you are parking your car to pick up or drop off your children.

Futures Fair



The OX14 Learning Partnership are looking forward to welcoming students to the upcoming Futures Fair on April 23rd. It is a great opportunity for current year 12s and year 11 and 13 students and parents to meet representatives from a range of universities. More information and booking is via the website [linked here.](#)

Important Dates

14th March Year 7 Parents' Evening
28th March at 1.10pm School breaks for Easter
15th April Term starts

Yours sincerely

Alastair West
Headteacher
John Mason School

Senior Leadership Team

Mr Alastair West Headteacher
Leadership and Management
School Improvement
Acting lead on Behaviour and Attitudes
SLT link for Y11

Mr Robin Conway Deputy Headteacher
Quality Assurance
Curriculum
Acting lead on Inclusion
SLT link for Y12 & 13

Ms Jules Preston Assistant Headteacher
Director of JMF6

Ms Lucy Dasgupta Assistant Headteacher
Data and Systems
SLT link for Year 10

Dr Andrew Stanger Assistant Headteacher
Teaching and Learning
SLT link for Year 8

Mr James Thompson
(Joining in July) Assistant Headteacher
Inclusion

Ms Kath Byrom
(Joining in June) Assistant Headteacher
Connectedness and Values (Leading on behaviour and attitudes)

Ms Cally Batcheldor Acting Assistant Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead
SLT link for Year 9

Mr Ben Gilkes Acting Assistant Headteacher
Attendance
Director of Key Stage 4
SLT link for Year 7

Extended Senior Leadership Team

Ms Sally Butler Associate Senior Leader
Director of English

Ms Sarah Atkey
(Joining in September) Associate Senior Leader
Director of Maths

Dr Richard Marsh Associate Senior Leader
Director of Science

Mr Chris Fulwell Associate Assistant Headteacher
Director of Key Stage 3

Mrs Anushka Fitzherbert Acting Head of Maths

Pastoral Team

Mr Ben Gilkes Director of Key Stage 4

Ms Shari Barnett Deputy Director of Key Stage 4

Mrs Tracey Miles Student Manager for Key Stage 4

Mr Aidan Conroy Acting Head of Year 9 and Director of Humanities

Mrs Allanor Kent
(Joining in April) Head of Year 8

Mrs Colleen Ludlam Student Manager for Year 8 and 9

Mr Michael Migliaccio Head of Year 7

Ms Amy Cofield Student Manager for Year 7