

Friday 19th April 2024

Parent Bulletin

Dear Families,

Since I joined John Mason at the beginning of the year I have lost count of the number of parents and older students who have shared memories of their visits to the JMA Welsh Farm. It is embedded in the JMS experience and a rite of passage for all students.

The impact of climate change and local agriculture has had an impact on water accessibility, and I am overawed by the response of the JMA and others to raise money to pay for a borehole so that we can keep it running for future generations. I can't wait to see you for our next fundraising event, a night at the races!

Please join us for an exciting night at the races!

Come along to our Race Night in the school hall on Friday 26th April. (Please note this is an adult only event). Bring your friends and family along for a great night.

Race Night Pre instructions:

Owners and Jockeys to be purchased in advance. The cost is £5 to be an owner or a jockey. Prize for the winning Owner and Jockey of each race.

£1 entry on the night in cash (or card if buying in conjunction with food and drink vouchers). Prices of food and drink will be advertised in advance of the event. Please let us know how many of you are coming by emailing events@johnmason.school to book your place.

CASH ONLY for betting on the races. £1 minimum for each bet.

BBQ - Burgers and Sausages (Vegetarian and Vegan and Gluten free available) (payable by cash or card).

Refreshments supplied from Majestic Wine and the Loose Cannon Brewery, soft drinks and some non alcoholic options will be available (payable by cash or card).

Raffle with some amazing prizes from local businesses amongst other games. We will keep updating this page

with our prizes (if you would like to donate a prize, please get in touch) (payable by cash or card).

Race 9/final race - we will auction the horses for a **BIG JACKPOT** prize. Horses can be purchased by individuals or as a team.

To purchase your jockey or owner in advance, please make your payment via bank transfer to:



John Mason Association Welsh Farm Account

Sort Code:54 21 23

Account Number: 48326909

Quoting your name as a reference and **THEN** email events@johnmason.school to let us know how much you have transferred and if it is for a jockey or horse (or both). We can then allocate them to your name.

Raffle prizes so far include:

Blenheim Palace - annual family ticket

Mostly Books - £10 voucher

The Dogs Spot cafe - tea for two dogs voucher

Parasol restaurant - 3 bottles of wine

Wet n Wild £45 voucher

Beans and Blend cafe - breakfast and tea voucher for 2 people

The JMA Registered Charity Number is: 309637

Sporting Achievements

The Year 8 netball team competed at the County Finals recently. This was an extremely tough competition, with the top 4 schools from Oxfordshire competing against one another.



Their results were :

8-1 Win Cherwell

7-8 Loss Burford

11-2 Win Gosford Hill

This meant that the team came 2nd overall, which is an incredible achievement.

Rugby Success

Congratulations to Kevin, Toby and Finn for winning the Oxfordshire County Rugby Semi-final beating Faringdon 26-14 and good luck for the County final against Bicester this Sunday.

Trip to China

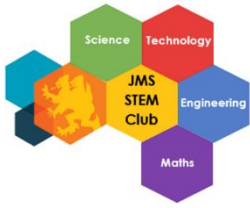
At the end of last term 10 year 10 students headed to China on a joint trip with Bartholomew School and Oxford High School. The 10 day adventure packed a lot in and the students even spent a day with their pen pals and had a visit to their Pen Pals school.



The trip flew into Beijing and spent time in Beijing before taking the bullet train to Xi'an for 5 nights before returning to Beijing for the last two nights. Many of the famous sites were visited including the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City and The Terracotta Warriors.

It was an incredible, unforgettable experience and we are thankful to Oxford High School and the Swire Foundation for making this trip possible.

STEM Club



To celebrate Earth hour STEM club made their own candles. They had to measure the correct amount of wax and then melt it in a water bath. Once melted they could choose the pigment they wanted to add and a scent. The club got creative with halving the amounts so they could create layers. They looked and smelt absolutely amazing.

Next session we will be welcoming AECOM an infrastructure consulting firm to discuss engineering.

If you would like to join STEM club on a Wednesday 3:10-4:10pm please come speak to Mrs Williams in S5.



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

9th May Year 8 Parents' Evening
16th May Year 10 Parents' Evening

Term Dates for the academic year 2024-2025 have now been published on our website <https://www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk/events/term-dates/>

And finally...

We had an unexpected visitor on Thursday lunchtime. Henry the Hen managed to escape a neighbours garden and visit the school field. Both students and staff demonstrated teamwork, creativity and animal handling skills which went well beyond expectations. Henry was carried to reception where she was reunited with her owners.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Al West'.

Alastair West
Headteacher
John Mason School

