

UP-DATE

THE MAGAZINE OF JOHN MASEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL



OFSTED 2017

Ofsted visited JMHS in September and we are delighted to announce that they continue to rate the school as Good.

The letter from Ofsted is available on our website for you to read in full however we would like to draw your attention to a few areas of which we are particularly proud:

- The school continues to be good.
- We know our school well, including its strengths and weaknesses.
- The curriculum provides an appropriate range of subjects for pupils
- Teaching is now strong in most subjects.
- Most pupils make strong progress in most subjects and by the end of Y11 most pupils achieve high standards in the majority of subjects.
- Sixth Form students make consistently good progress and the proportion of our students who move on to university is well above that seen nationally.
- We provide high-quality pastoral care for pupils, especially those who are vulnerable in some way.
- Governance is effective and Governors hold school leaders to account for the school's performance.

We are extremely pleased that the inspection team noted that our school was a strong community and that they acknowledged our genuine desire for students to be safe and happy while they achieve as high as they can in their studies.

Next steps for the school are to improve teaching in Business Studies, ICT and Design & Technology and to ensure the progress of disadvantaged pupils continues to accelerate and the number that are persistently absent reduces.

Thanks to all the parents, students and staff who contributed to the inspection and helped the team reach their judgements.

We are indeed a strong community.

Andrew Evans

Issue 81 Dec 2017

Beacon are the 2016-2017 House Cup Winners!

The whole school assembly on the last day of the Summer Term was amazing! Students from all four houses were eagerly awaiting the results of the cups they had been working towards since September 2016. Beacon received a vast number of trophies, however last year's winners Holywell were also in the race for the House Cup, it was too close for comfort! The House Cup has now come home to Beacon and the challenge and pressure is on to maintain the flow of success for another year



Beacon House Captains Lucie Cottam & Vicki Merker pictured with Miss Limbrick and the House Cup!



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from JMHS



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

The Autumn Term started well with a successful OFSTED inspection. There were many positive comments in the inspection report, but I felt the following summed up JMHS particularly well;



'John Masefield High School is a strong community and relationships are exemplary'

'An overwhelming majority of parents who responded to Parent View agreed that the school is well led, and said that they would recommend the school. Many commented on the wide range of extra-curricular opportunities that the school offers and its 'high-quality pastoral care'

'Classrooms provide a calm and productive learning environment. Time is used well and relationships between teachers and pupils are excellent. Consequently most pupils make strong progress in most subjects'

'Pupils develop into confident young people as well as achieving good academic outcomes'

A second highlight was the opening of the new food room. The food room was last refurbished in the early 1990s, as a result the room was close to falling apart, but there was no government money available to pay the £90,000 needed to re-equip the food room. We decided to draw up plans for the new room and seek to raise the money ourselves and were tremendously appreciative when the Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity donated £54,000 towards the project. The room was completed before the start of term and then officially opened by Clive and Sylvia Richards and named The Don Rule Bistro. Wing Commander Don Rule, after his retirement from the RAF, has for the past 30 years worked tirelessly in a voluntary capacity to improve education for all young people in Herefordshire. So it is fitting that the food room is now named after him. The new food room is a superb facility, allowing up to 28 young people to cook at a time in a professional standard. The room has been in constant use since opening with our students developing their skills and cooking new and exciting dishes using fresh and local ingredients.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our Carol Service and end of term celebrations. I hope to see many of you at St Michael's Church on Monday evening and would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas.

Andy Evans

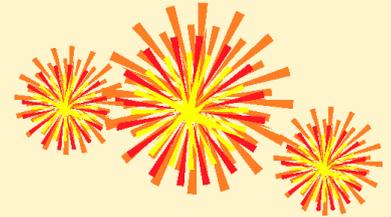
Fresh Start Fireworks

Our Y7 Fresh Start students have got off to a fizzing start this term. The two groups have been working hard to ignite their creativity with Mrs Waghorn and Mrs Carney. They have produced some cracking poems inspired by Bonfire night and they are delighted to be able to share these with you.

Now the fuse has been lit we can't wait to see what else they get up to this school year!

FIREWORKS

Red stars zooming,
Yellow moon glowing.
Bright twigs burning,
Cold moon shining.



Silver stars flying,
Sparkly flames howling.
Dark clouds flickering,
Colourful sparks flying.

BONFIRE NIGHT

Red sparks flying
Golden Stars shining
Colourful fireworks howling
Orange sky glowing
Scarlet firework zooming
Warm bonfire crackling
Silver sky glistening

Cold stars flickering,
Orange fire bursting.
Scarlet sparks flying,
Silver sparklers spinning.

Colourful fireworks shooting,
Golden rockets zooming.
Bright fire shining,
Dark moon glowing.



Official Opening of the Don Rule Bistro

The newly designed and refurbished food technology room was officially opened by Clive Richards OBE on Monday 16th October 2017. The opening event was well attended and guests enjoyed a delicious range of freshly cooked food prepared by the catering students.

The new food room has been named 'The Don Rule Bistro' in honour of former county councillor Don Rule. Mr Rule was deservedly awarded the MBE for outstanding military service as a Wing Commander in the RAF and upon retiring from the RAF dedicated his time to serving his new community in Ledbury, the Malvern Hills and Herefordshire. Mr Rule's contributions to our community include his work with the British Legion, Ledbury Swifts, Malvern District Council and Herefordshire Council. As Cabinet member for Education Mr Rule was outstanding, demonstrating support for every young person and every school in the county. It was Mr Rule who first approached the Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity for help in supporting and improving schools across Herefordshire.

The Don Rule Bistro has replaced an outdated and unfit for purpose food technology room, which was made possible by the generosity and support from the Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity. Clive Richards and the Trustees were supportive from the start, seeing the value of the project, providing the school with helpful advice and encouraging us to apply for a grant. Section 106 funding, FJMHS and other supporters made donations to support Clive and Sylvia's generosity.

Food technology is popular and one of our most successful option subjects. The Don Rule Bistro will make a tremendous difference to the education and enjoyment of learning for young people in Ledbury over the next twenty years.



Photo courtesy of the Ledbury Reporter



UNIFORM REMINDER

With the colder weather finally arriving we must ask that all students come to school with a sweatshirt, fleece or official JMHS Sports/Arts Hoodie if they have been awarded one. Students are not permitted to wear coats, scarves or non uniform hoodies in school buildings.

Please could we also remind parents to ensure all school uniform and school equipment is named adequately. We have a large amount of property handed into the House Office over the school year and items that are un-named are almost impossible to return.

TERM DATES

Spring Term 2018

Term Starts	Thursday 4th January
Half Term	Monday 19th February—Friday 23rd February
Term Ends	Thursday 29th March

Summer Term 2018

Term Starts	Tuesday 17th April
Half Term	Monday 28th May—Friday 1st June
Term Ends	Tuesday 24th July at 1.15pm

Staff Training Afternoons (Students finish at 1.15pm)

Tuesday 6th February, Thursday 15th March & Friday 25th May

For more information on important school dates etc. please visit www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk

News from FJMHS...

The Friends of John Masefield High School are proudly developing a friendly network of parents and friends of school and steadily raising funds to support the school.



We financially supported the refurbishment of the Food Technology Room in the summer, and this term we are funding purchases of new equipment in both the PE and Science departments.

Fundraising continues with delicious refreshments at the Christmas Concert and School Production. We have a second Quiz Night coming up and we already have a sizable steady income from the weekly JMHS School Lottery (tickets are always available at www.yourschoollottery.co.uk). Thank you to shoppers at Tesco and Waitrose who backed donations to school from both stores, and in the coming month, be sure to become a member of, and shop at, Co-op in Ledbury as they will be supporting us through their Community Fund.

Talking of recycling, we are putting the finishing touches to the FJMHS second hand school uniform service. Parents will be able to stock up on second hand uniform by shopping and paying on line or by paying cash after browsing through our uniform rail at Parents Information Evenings. All donations of good quality uniform gratefully received via school reception (in a clearly labelled bag please).

Support of FJMHS is always welcome. Meetings are open to anyone and the next is on Monday January 15th at 7pm upstairs at the Halo Leisure Centre. We also have a newsletter about projects and ideas and ways of helping – just sign up at our website. The FJMHS website is www.fjmhs.org.uk and further details on the above, and more, can be found there. Thank you for your support.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Our Y7 book group has got off to a flying start this year, we have enjoyed numerous books including Frank Cottrell-Boyce's *The Astounding Broccoli Boy*, Frank was even kind enough to write to the group after we tweeted him a picture of some of our broccoli book reviews! The group held a cake sale in November to raise some funds to purchase a set of books, it was very successful and they raised £70 now they just have to agree on which book to buy!

Our new Y7 Student Librarians have settled well into their new roles, we have over 8 volunteering each week to help in the library.

This year's Scholastic Book Fair was a great success making over £600 in sales which gives the school £300 in vouchers to spend on new books. Thank you to everyone who came along.

There is still time to vote for the Library in Tesco's Ledbury Stores Bag for Help Scheme, voting closes January 1st 2018, if we are successful, this money would be used to help promoting reading and literacy at JMHS with new books for the library and some exciting author events in 2017-2018. Please remember to vote for us when you are doing your Christmas Shopping!!



Geography Quiz

At the end of November three Y10 students were presented with the opportunity to go to an inter-school Worldwide Geography Quiz at The Cathedral School in Hereford.

The quiz itself consisted of several challenging rounds including one on field work, one on map skills and one on famous landmarks. We worked as our team of three against eight other schools and there was also an individual round, it was a very interesting and enjoyable experience.

As a result of our co-operation and determination we came third with only 1.5 points separating us from the winners Fairfield High School!

Overall we had an amazing time, we all thoroughly enjoyed it and we would like to thank all of those that organised the event and enabled us to attend.

India Hewitt



Junior Leadership Team 2017-2018

This year each house at JMHS will support a different charity chosen through a School Council vote. The charities chosen are: Cancer Research for Jubilee, Birmingham



Children's Hospital for Beacon, Place2Be for Midsummer and Strong Young Minds for Holywell. Each house will be fundraising in different ways throughout the academic year. Events will include: a '12 Days of Christmas Raffle' by Beacon, sports charity matches by Jubilee, 'Soak the teacher' by Midsummer and a Christmas Jumper day led by Holywell. The House Captains will also lead a Community Project where the Chamber Choir and members from each of the houses will sing in the local care homes in Ledbury. We wish them the best of luck in these enterprises.

J.Mason

Remembrance Day 2017

Head Boy and Head Girl Brandon Caffull and Emily Henry were proud to represent John Masefield High School at this year's Remembrance Day Parade in Ledbury.

The event was well attended with hundreds of spectators and representatives from HMS Ledbury and the Ross-on-Wye Territorial Reserves in attendance along side local dignitaries and representatives from local groups.



Photo Courtesy of Chris Ponter

French Exchange 2017



During the October half term some Y11, 12 and 13 French students participated in the French exchange with our partner school College Jeanne D'Arc in Bayeux, Normandy. They spent a day in a French sixth form, visited Honfleur, the Bayeux Tapestry and the Normandy beaches, went bowling and spent time with their French families.

Pictured are the students at a welcome reception hosted by the Head teacher of the school and the local Mayor. We look forward to hosting the return visit in December.
T. Knight

JET SET GO

The JMHS Sixth Form has a very talented group of singers, dancers, actors, musicians, directors, choreographers and artists who recently put together a Sixth Form production of 'Jet Set Go'.

Rehearsals were extremely busy, everyone had this great energy and buzz about the show, all wanting to do the best they could.

As the choreographer the cast were absolutely amazing to work with and seemed to love the show as a whole. We all worked extremely hard yet had so much fun drawing out all the comical elements to get the audience laughing!

The cast were pushed musically and physically with dancing, singing and acting which was evident in the final piece as they pulled it off so effortlessly.

Overall it was so much fun as everyone was extremely enthusiastic about the uplifting and comical show. The experience was definitely a positive one and it was great to be a part of the final product knowing that as a team we had put together the show ourselves and supported each other throughout the process.



Destiny Dawe

Books Books Books!

This November students at JMHS were invited to donate their old and unwanted books as part of an initiative led by our Head Girl Emily Henry and the Friends of JMHS.

Emily is working to create a link between JMHS and the Dr Bethuel Setai School in South Africa. One of the ways of helping this school is to provide them with some fantastic reading material in the English language.

We were overwhelmed with the number of books we received and were delighted to be able to help not only the Dr Bethuel Setai School but our own school library and also our local library in Ledbury who were holding a book sale to fundraise for various projects themselves.

In all we received in excess of 500 books. 200 of these will be sent to South Africa and over 200 high quality popular reading books were added to our own school library

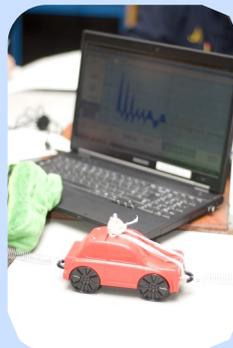
Thank you to everyone who took part in the initiative and donated books.



Photo courtesy of the Ledbury Reporter

Dynakar Donation

The Science Faculty were recently in receipt of £500 towards the purchase of Dynakar equipment. The money was kindly donated by the Friends of John Masefield High School and the Dynakar technology will allow students of all Key Stages to investigate Forces and Motion in an engaging and memorable way while also helping students to appreciate the use of ICT as a means of analysing and modelling real-life data. Y12 and Y11 Separate Physics students have already made good use of the equipment to understand velocity-time graphs and to investigate Newton's Second Law; the faculty have plans for many more applications of the Dynakars. Our thanks go to the Friends for helping to make Physics lessons (even) more interesting and enjoyable!



Autumn Dance Showcase

Nearly 100 students performed in this year's Autumn Dance Showcase. Students from every year group in the school were represented throughout the event with performances by the Junior Dance Club, Senior Dance Club as well as the dance exam classes. There were a large number who also successfully auditioned to perform their own choreography in the show. The wealth of talent we have at John Masefield seems to grow every year and the audience enjoyed the range of styles and creative talents that formed the thoroughly entertaining show. The students were delighted with a packed audience and enjoyed a rapturous applause at the end of the evening.

Some of the Dance club students will be going on to compete as part of the Great Big Dance Off in Birmingham next term and so we wish them the best of luck as they represent our school for the first time as part of this Nationwide competition.

A. Goodall



Celebration of the Pumpkin

On 7th November Mrs Davies kindly brought in six pumpkins from the Ledbury Allotment association for use in food lessons. A class of Y10 GCSE Food students took on the challenge to prepare, cook and present five different dishes using the pumpkins. Students were divided into teams and demonstrated great skill, and creativity to produce the following delicious pumpkin treats: roast pumpkin soup, pumpkin bread, pumpkin pie, pumpkin cake and two groups produced 14 jars of spiced pumpkin chutney! Members of staff came down and tasted the dishes and generously donated money for St Michaels Hospice with a total of £65 being raised.



GOLFING SUCCESS FOR HARRY

Y10 student Harry Griffiths has continued to achieve considerable golf competition success and recently attended Gloucestershire Golf Union's annual presentation evening where he received three presentations from Sky Sports commentator John E Morgan for his outstanding successes at three different age levels in the union's Jeff Hall Trophy.



Harry's dedication, disciplined manner and impressive play resulted in him being top of the Under 14s league table, being third in the Under 16s and runner up in the Under 18s.

Harry was selected for the South West England trials at Under 16s level and the Welsh boys' under 14s team, achieving eighth place in a competition at Cradoc in Brecon.

Representing the club's men's A team Harry will be competing at the top level in 2018 in the North Gloucestershire Foursomes Division One League.

JMHS PE & SPORT COLOUR CRITERIA

Always shows a positive **attitude** in every PE/Dance lesson.

(Achieve at least very good (6) or better in all PE/Dance Progress Checks this year.)

Is **committed** to a range of extra-curricular sports clubs and fixtures.*

Inspires and **encourages** others to **participate** in PE lessons and extra-curricular clubs.

(Leadership, organisation etc)

Shows **determination** and **resilience** when faced with challenging situations.

Always shows **respect** and **equality** for others.

*Extra-curricular participation: Dependent on training and competition commitments at County/National Level, as well as academic commitments



Its never too late to join in and start playing for any of the teams at JMHS. For more information on how to get involved ask any member of the P.E Faculty

The staff and students at JMHS would like to extend their gratitude to Ledbury Rugby Football Club for supplying coaches to enable our teams to train at the club on Monday afternoons.

Sports Focus on Tom Holmes

Y13 student Tom Holmes started playing bowls age 7 as a member of Ledbury Bowling Club. He progressed well winning the Novice Singles at the Club when he was about 11 and in 2015 Won the National U18 Singles Competition at Bowls England National Finals. He went on to represent England in the British Isles Series and Won the U18 British Isles Singles in 2016. He has played for England in the U18 Test Series since 2015. In 2017, Tom's success has continued and alongside his Team Mates he went on to win the National Fours Competition at the Bowls England National Finals. He will now represent England again in the British Isles Series which will be held at Leamington Spa in 2018. He was selected as a Junior International Player for England and played last weekend in a wet Llandrindod Wells in the U25 Series which featured top bowlers from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. In September 2017 Tom also represented England again in the U18 test series at

Clevedon Bowling Club where they won the competition against Wales.

When the outdoor season finished, Tom moved back indoors to train hard as he was then representing England for the English Indoor Bowling Association. In early October Tom competed in the Indoor U18 International Series in Bristol coming second to the Scottish winning team.

Congratulations to Tom from everyone at JMHS.



Tom is pictured with the National Fours Trophy which he won in August 2017

Aquathlon

On 17 October, 13 students took part in a first time event: an Aquathlon, held at Lucton School. Students completed a gruelling swim followed by a very demanding run around a very hilly field! All students enjoyed the event and finished very tired indeed. All students performed very well and were a credit to the school. Notable performances came from Rob Wilson who won the Y10 event, Mollie Schofield and Rosie Lorraine who finished second and third respectively in the Y9

event and Angelina Gill who finished third in the Y7 event.

Well done to all the students who took part in this event
J.Kontarines



County Football Success

At JMHS we are very proud to announce that Nathan Chown Higgs and Toby Raison have been selected to represent Hereford's U16 county football team this season. Both boys have been keen and instrumental players for JMHS throughout the years at our school not only through brilliant individual performances, but also through their respect of staff, opponents and peers alike. Both boys are part of the Prefect team at JMHS and are fantastic role models to the younger students. I wish them every success during this season.



J.Kontarines

Football Enrichment

In the past two weeks over twenty of our Sixth Form and Y11 students have taken part in two highly contested football games as part of the Sixth Form Enrichment Program held on Wednesday afternoons.

The first of the two games took place at Hanley against their respective Sixth Form, and was highly contested with chances going amiss for Hanley in the first half. This then changed during the latter half, with Nathan Lavery putting away our only chance at a goal for the game. The game was tense until the last seconds with both teams looking for their own winning goal, this however came for neither team as the game ended in a 1-1 draw.

The next game took place on the 29th November, this time against Hartpury College. This game took a more competitive approach in lieu with the changed side that we were facing. During the first half, the John Masefield side looked tired, and this was capitalised upon with a Hartpury shot going in from outside the box. The Sixth form side then started to play some good football, with set plays and through balls just going amiss of the strikers. However, new found striker Tom Holmes changed this as an expert strike found the back of the net, bringing the game to a tie; after a period of time, John Masefield were awarded a penalty, the responsibility then fell to our only goal scorer of the day Tom Holmes, whose shot was saved by the Hartpury keeper, diving just to his right. Hartpury were given a single chance at goal in the second half thanks to superb defending from the back four and midfielders, with this result also coming to a 1-1 draw.

The enrichment programme was created to make sure the Sixth Formers have a good balance of work and social time within their Y12 and Y13 experience, and by including some of our experienced Y11's in the side, it is good to see the sixth form and lower school relationship being further strengthened.

Brandon Caffull