

# UP - DATE

THE MASEFIELD PRESS

Produced by the Sixth Form for the School



The new reception



Above: Testing the new computers

Below: Ready for the awards ceremony photo

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY JMHS!

This autumn term, John Masefield High School celebrates its 40th anniversary.

The school came into existence in the autumn of 1978, following the amalgamation of Ledbury's Grammar and Secondary schools with Canon Frome School. It was officially opened on October 6 1978 by Captain T R Dunne, the then Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire and Worcestershire. To celebrate the past four decades we ran a whole school competition, all JMHS students were challenged to find a quote to inspire students and staff to be conscientious, considerate or co-operative – the three attributes that we all strive for.

To enter students were asked to also make a picture, take a photo or find an image. The winners received house points and saw their work displayed in their form rooms. Alongside the whole school competition, we have been using our old photographs and records for displays which will be open to public view later in the year. We would love to see photos and memories from past students of JMHS, if you have any old photos or anecdotes you would like to share please send them to [admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk).

For up-to-date news at JMHS, please visit our website [www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk](http://www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk)

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**EDITOR:** Rosie Thomas  
**GRAPHICS:** Nathan Davies



# - RESULTS - RESULTS - RESULTS -



Above: Tom Williams, Toby Raison, Ella Barber and Will Flaherty receive their results.



Left: Elen Clarke is studying music at the Royal Welsh Conservatoire

Below: Jamie Hiley who is studying Maths at Cambridge



Shown above: Mr Bees, Holywell House captains Ella Lipscomb and Lucy French

## GCSE SUCCESS

Last year's GCSE's saw the new grading system used in the majority of subjects, with Grade 8 as the new A\* and Grade 9 only awarded to the top 3% of students nationally. No less than 10 students achieved at least 4 Grade 9s, including Jack Bloomer (6 Grade 9s), Thomas Williams (7 Grade 9s) and William Flaherty (9 Grade 9s).

Year 11 achieved strong grades, 63% at least 5 good grades including English and Maths whilst 70% of entries achieved at least a Grade 4 (C) setting us above the national average, 66%. Doubling the national average, 14% received Grade 8 or 9, and a quarter received Grade 7 (A) or higher. Highlighted subjects include French, Biology, Physics and Chemistry where 40% achieved Grade 7 or above. For the fourth consecutive year, the English Baccalaureate was successful, 34% achieving it compared to the 20% national average. In history, nearly 20% (13 students) achieved a Grade 9 compared to 3% nationally. Congratulations to Year 11 for such outstanding grades.

## A-LEVEL RESULTS IMPRESS AGAIN

Another successful year of A-levels for JMHS Sixth Form with a 98% pass rate and 70% of all entries achieving an A\* to C grade. In BTEC subjects, 50% of all results were A\* to A equivalent. Highlighted subjects with outstanding results include: Languages achieving 60% A\* to A grades, Maths achieving 55% A\* to A grades, Physics achieving 50% A\* to A grade and BTEC Health and Social Care achieving 100% Distinction\* to Distinction grades, an impressive outcome.

Among the happy students was Jamie Hiley who achieved A\*A\*A\*A\* and is reading Mathematics at Cambridge. In his Maths exam, Jamie scored an incredible 600 out of 600 marks. Other students celebrating included Elen Clarke (A\*AA) who is studying Music at the Royal Welsh Conservatoire, Arthur Huxley (A\*AB) who is reading Mathematics at Bath, Emily Evans (AAB) is studying History at Exeter and Emily Henry (AAB) who is studying Acting at University of East London. Almost 90% of students have gone to their first choice universities, as a Sixth Form we are extremely proud of their results and we wish them continued success with their studies in the future.

## HOUSE CUP FOR HOLYWELL

The title of house cup went to Holywell who also claimed the Behaviour Cup and the Learning Standards Award. Holywell were strong contenders for the House Cup from the beginning of the year and maintained consistent high standards to give them the victory over the other houses.

Led by Mr Bees, Holywell has been doing something right to achieve such strong results but will they keep a hold on the House Cup this coming school year?

Well done Holywell and good luck to all the houses for this upcoming year.

# - 40 YEARS OF JMHS -



## FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It gives me great pleasure to write the introduction to our new school newsletter on the 40th anniversary of the opening of John Masefield High School. Mr Neale, our first ever Headteacher who oversaw the formation of JMHS 40 years ago, sadly passed away this summer after a happy retirement in Cheltenham.

It is twenty one years since I first came to JMHS as Deputy Head and I feel tremendously fortunate to lead a school with so many wonderful young people and such a dedicated and professional staff team.

This year we will have a series of special events in order to celebrate our 40th anniversary. We started with a competition for students in Y7- Y11 to illustrate an inspiring quote to be made into a framed print for their form rooms. We hope displaying the quotes throughout the school will inspire students to be conscientious, considerate and co-operative. The Dance Showcase featured music from 1978 including songs from Grease and Saturday Night Fever and events will continue throughout the year. As part of our celebrations we are seeking to raise funds to refurbish our theatre including new lighting and sound systems, improved raked seating and better resources for our wonderful performing arts students and teachers. We are grateful to the Friends of JMHS who are leading our fundraising efforts.

Andrew Evans

- Top: Art on the field
- : Big hair on a day out
- : The new computers and the robotics club
- : The arts rooms and days out
- : Building the new school



# - JMHS - JMHS - JMHS - JMHS -



## STRONG YOUNG MINDS

Led by students in the Sixth Form leadership Team, JMHS welcomes Strong Young Minds, a local charity focused on increasing awareness of mental health in young people in Herefordshire.

'We work with young people to address issues which can have an adverse effect on their mental health & well-being, such as anxiety, depression, eating disorders, self-harm, bullying, cyber-bullying, relationship breakdown, employability, low self-esteem, body image & loss.'

The team hopes to get guest speakers to come in later in the year so that our students have a greater knowledge of mental well-being and mindfulness as well as the support networks available to them.

Find out more at: [www.thesymproject.org](http://www.thesymproject.org)



## CATERING

This year, JMHS welcomes a new catering company, Mid Shire Ltd. After a competitive application, the company has been keen to distribute a new menu focusing on affordability whilst improving presentation, promotions and waiting times. At least two vegetarian dishes are catered daily and vegan options will be available should there be a demand. Specific diets are catered individually.

The school is always keen to promote healthy eating and so far, the new food seems to be a hit with students enjoying the new options and much appreciating the reduced queues.

But of course, this is a new change for JMHS, so we would welcome any feedback from students and parents/carers.

Let us know at:  
[admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk)

## ROLL UP, ROLL UP!

The Sound Of Music has been announced as this year's production and with such an iconic storyline and soundtrack, we are, without a doubt, in for another impressive performance.

Rehearsals have already started and with students from all years involved, we can't wait to see the final product which will hit the stage the 8th and 9th of March 2019.

Good luck to everyone involved!

## WELCOME TO EPRAISE

This year's newest edition to JMHS is Epraise, an online planning system which allows students, teachers and parents to track student reports and work. Epraise allows students to keep up with homework more efficiently and parents to see what work their child has to do. The app also shows student information such as house points, attendance and the student's timetable. Parents can log in by visiting the school website and scrolling to the bottom of the page then clicking Epraise or using the link sent out via ParentPay.

# - SPORTS - SPORTS - SPORTS -

Left:  
Harry Lipscomb,  
Rylan Ashman,  
Holly Tout,  
Vicky Tager,  
Olly Parker,  
Menno Recordon,  
Katy Buttle,  
Katherine Beard,  
Helen Mallett,  
Charlotte Bridges,  
Katherine Allsopp  
And Amy Loader.



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

To complete their Silver Award for Duke of Edinburgh, our sixth formers had to complete two expeditions. The practice expedition took place over the Malvern Hills and the surrounding area. Split into small groups, students were dropped off at one location with a map and all their equipment needed for their two day walk. Relying solely on their navigation skills, they had to reach a campsite for the first night and then their final destination the next.

The real expedition was more difficult, taking place in Shropshire over the course of three days rather than two. Tackling unknown paths with heavier equipment and the weather turning against them, it's safe to say our sixth formers had a tiring weekend. However, despite the rain, it was smiles all round when they finished, an award well earned by everyone.

## SCALING NEW HEIGHTS

As well as having opportunities to play and compete in basketball, football, hockey, netball, cricket and rounders, five of our present Y13 students have experienced competing in the exhilarating sport of climbing. On the 5th October the team went to Redpoint Climbing Centre in Worcester to compete against 12 other teams in climbing, bouldering and speed-climbing -the three disciplines that will make their first appearance in the Olympics of 2020.

Although relative novices the team performed with great energy, thoroughly enjoying the experience and finishing a very creditable second of the state schools present.

Despite sore forearms for a few days after, all are keen to give this great activity another try.  
- Mr Hawksworth

## AMY'S SPORTING SUCCESS

We're very proud of our very own student, Amy Loader, for winning her place on the Hereford FC Women's team after two strenuous days of trials. After securing her place on the team, she has continued to play for them this season in the Midwest Counties Females Football League.

To keep fit and practiced, Amy trains twice a week and plays most Sundays however, due to a ligament damage based injury, she's had to take it easy for a while but intends to be back up and playing regularly soon!

We all wish her a speedy recovery.

- Mr Kontarines



Team of 5 left to right:  
Rylan Ashman, Jamie Cricket,  
Ethan Gibbs, Lawrence Walsh,  
Jasper Gilbert  
Right:  
Lawrence Walsh manoeuvring the wall

# - ARTS - ARTS - ARTS - ARTS -

## SHOUT!

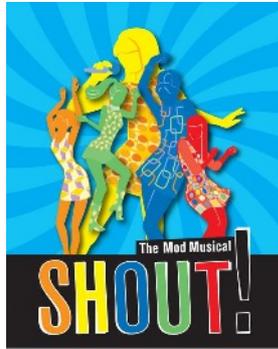
On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November, this year's Sixth Form production, SHOUT!, hit the stage, showcasing the rise of 60's music from the perspective of 5 girls facing life's dramas.

Directed as an EPQ by Roma Farnell, the production was entirely student led and a huge success. The one-off performance attracted a large audience and was a true reflection of the hard work and dedication the students have put into producing this performance.



Directed by: Roma Farnell  
Choreography: Helen Mallett  
Music: Elly Merryman

Produced solely by students.

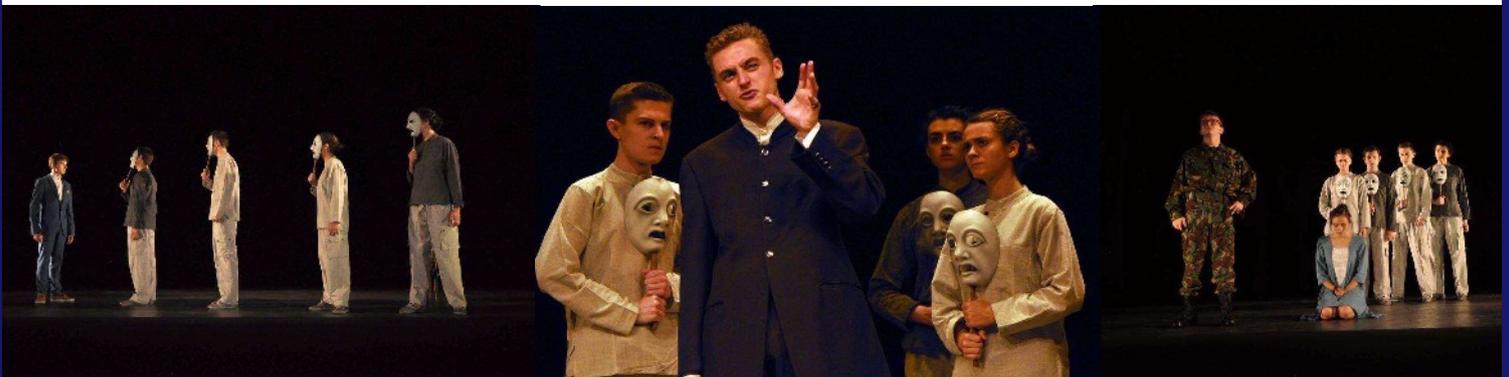


## MUSICAL SUCCESS

One of John Masefield Sixth Forms students has recently been accepted into the prestigious CBSO (City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra) youth orchestra.

Jack Bloomer, who plays the French horn, auditioned for the orchestra in July but never expected to get in because he was recovering from braces which made performing difficult. However, after succeeding in being accepted, he worked on perfecting his playing in time for the orchestra's October concert, which was a success. Well done Jack!

Right: Jack Bloomer who has just been accepted into CBSO.



## MALVERN PRODUCTION

Over the summer holiday, current Sixth Form students and alumni starred as members of the Malvern Theatres Young Company, performing Sophocles' tragedy 'Antigone'. Roma Farnell, Jason Johns, Ben Mowbray and Emily Henry – who played the lead role- took part in the Edinburgh fringe festival for a weeks run on the Mile.

It was a challenge to adapt the performance to fit a smaller space and timeframe but the show was obviously a success as almost every performance was completely sold out!

'It was a fantastic experience, our cast of 12 worked intensely together for 4 weeks, performing to full venues as a tight knit group showed me the importance of adapting as a performer and trusting the company' - Roma Farnell



Above: Emily Henry as Antigone

# - JMSF - JMSF - JMSF - JMSF - BARRY ISLAND: A DAY IN THE SUN



Shown Above : Left to Right, Immy Platt, Hazel Dudley, Dan Dawe and Helen Mallett

To celebrate completing the first hard year of A-levels, Year 12's took a well-earned trip to Barry Island at the end of last year.

With the incoming summer sun holding up for the day, we spent the day playing beach games and the more daring braved a swim in the not so tropical Whitmore Bay. Others, strolled down the promenade to the fair ground as well as visiting the infamous Marco's Café from the TV series, Gavin and Stacey. For lunch, fish and chips all around followed by ice cream of course.

It was the perfect summer's day for the sixth formers to get together and celebrate the end of another hardworking year for the sixth form, here's to another one to come!

## DEADLINES APPROACHING!

With winter just around the corner, art students are especially busy making efforts to draw their coursework to a close before they begin their final pieces and exam preparation. Since the beginning of summer, a total of 17 art, graphics and photography students have been working strenuously at their NEAs, covering a variety of topics from the celebration of diversity, to the exploration of layering media. These coursework projects account for 60% of these subjects' final grades, therefore the sheer amount of time, effort and thought that have been put into these sketchbooks make them a true joy to look through.

They were showcased at the JMSF Open Evening, accompanied with talks from both teachers and students currently working through their A-Levels. We expect to see the coursework and final pieces fully finished in time for the New Year.



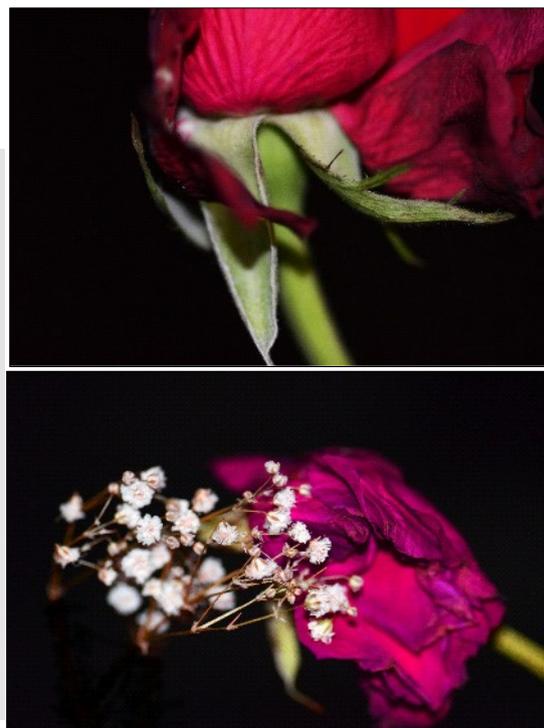
Above : Nathan Davies, Y13 Art Sketchbook  
Below : Abbie Dance, Y13 Photography

## EPQ: A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

The opportunity to do an EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) within the sixth form always allows students to show what they are passionate about. This year was no different with one sixth former focusing her project on the conservation and study of ring tailed lemurs.

Looking to work within conservation in the future, she explained how deforestation and farming can affect the Madagascan mammals. To help, she suggested avoiding buying rosewood products which often fuel the 'illegal pet trade' or even adopting a lemur in the wild.

Every EPQ is different, from artefacts to essays, and this study into animal conservation is no exception, we can't wait to see how everyone else's EPQ's turn out.



# UP - DATE: INFORMATION

THE MASEFIELD PRESS

## UNIFORM

Over the last two years the School has been introducing new rules and regulations on the school uniform.

One of the changes being introduced this year has been the new grey scheme, including a new styled skirt for girls and smart grey trousers

All new JMHS uniform is available to buy from:

Clubsport, 24 The Homend, Ledbury, HR8 1BT

Your name on it, Unit 3B Ashvale, Business Centre, Cradley, WR13 5LU

## TERM DATES

### Autumn Term:

Half Term:

Monday 29 Oct. - Friday 2 Nov

Term Ends: Friday 21 Dec (1:10pm)

### Spring Term:

Starts: Tuesday 8 Jan

Half Term:

Monday 18 Feb - Friday 22 Feb

Ends: Friday 12 April (3:15pm)

### Summer Term:

Starts: Tuesday 30 April

Half Term:

Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May

Ends: Friday 19 July (1:10pm)

These dates can also be found on the school website.



Since its re-launch 18 months ago, Friends of John Masefield High School (FJMHS) has been busy supporting the school. We have enjoyed the traditional parents-helping job of providing coffee, cakes and ice creams at Performing Arts events which not only provide welcome sustenance, but also helps cover the costs of these excellent shows and concerts.

Friends recycled uniform service is working well, and stewarding the school car park at the Ledbury Celebration Day provided an appreciated service and some extra income which went straight to school.

Various other fundraising avenues, such as the on-line School Lottery (open to over 16's), supermarket schemes, Quiz Night and Bingo evening all generated enough money for FJMHS to be able to finance the purchase of new equipment for the Food Tech Rooms, Science (Dynakars) and PE (table tennis, badminton and hockey kit). FJMHS appreciates the support of sixth formers, especially when helping with refreshments or stewarding in the Car Park in July, and we look forward to seeing some of you in this 40th Anniversary Year.

- FJMHS

Curious? [www.fjmhs.org.uk](http://www.fjmhs.org.uk) has more information.

## CONTACT US:

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**Email:** [admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk)

**Mr Hawksworth - Head of Sixth Form:** 01531 638452

**Find us online at:** [www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk](http://www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk)

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