

UP-DATE

THE MAGAZINE OF JOHN MASEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL



2016 has been another successful year for JMHS. We saw outstanding A Level Results and strong G.C.S.E results in the summer and a whole host of exciting enrichment events that have made the school a vibrant and exciting place to be.

Our annual Christmas Concert is at 7pm at St Michael and All Angels Church on Thursday 15th December. It is a free event, and will be an enjoyable evening with exciting performances from all of our extra-curricular groups. Our Y7 choir have been rehearsing well in lessons - please don't forget to bring your reply slips in!

We hope to see you all there

Issue 78 Dec 2016

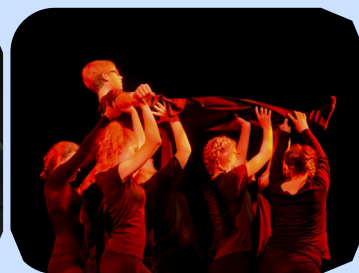
Shakespeare Schools Festival



Y10 GCSE Drama students triumphed in their performance of Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare at Hereford Courtyard Theatre on 11 November, communicating the historical narrative of jealousy, greed, power and regret with creativity and focus. This is the seventh year that JMHS has participated in the national Shakespeare Schools Festival and this year's cast received high praise from the team of professional directors and actors that they have worked alongside in preparation for the big night.

Students took part in a workshop in September to hone their performance skills and enrich their understanding of the script, as well as a full morning's technical and dress rehearsal in the main theatre to ensure a professional standard performance. These experiences have established the group as an ensemble who will go on to work together on practical examinations with a real sense of pride at what they have already achieved right at the start of the course.

The play is full of powerful rhetoric and demanded much of our performers delivering the longer speeches; they did themselves proud with clear diction, strong projection and appropriate expression. Every member of the cast was involved in highly physical scenes, enhancing the dialogue and creating visually engaging moments to highlight atmosphere. Well done to all of you.



JMHS House Champions 2016

It was a very tight race to become the prestigious **JMHS Champion House for 2016**. Beacon came second in almost every major trophy, Jubilee have won Charity and Sport, Midsummer won Attendance and several learning standards and Holywell won Points, Behaviour and Punctuality.

Overall, in 3rd place was Midsummer, in 2nd place was Beacon and our **House Champions for the first time ever in the ten years we have run our House system** are **Holywell House**. **Congratulations to Holywell House on their well deserved win.**



Pictured: House Leader Mr Bees with House Captains Niamh McCarthy & Dan Disney

Seasons Greetings from JMHS

Creative Writing...

On 23 November we attended a Poetry evening at the Master's house in Ledbury, hosted by local poet Roz Goddard (pictured). At the class we learnt that there are fun ways to engage with poetry and that anyone can do it. We learnt how to 'kill the blank', this is a technique that includes finding a topic sentence and writing for a period of time, this is helpful because a lot of the time the issue people have with poetry is that it is difficult to begin. Another technique was to find an interesting picture and to write a paragraph on what we interpreted it to be, this helps to gather descriptive focus on the details of an image.

To put these new techniques into practice, at the creative writing club that we are running, we will be covering poetry and using fun ways to get more people involved.

This writing club runs every Wednesday lunch time in the Library if you would like to come along and give writing and poetry a go. Not only are we doing this, but we are willing to help with any English homework or coursework that may need to be done.

Vivian Pedlingham and India Sockett.



FROM THE HEADTEACHER



The Autumn Term began with the news that our Y13 students had achieved the best ever A-Level results at JMHS and some of the highest average grade scores in the region for an all ability sixth form. This excellent progress resulted from high quality teaching, small class size and excellent support and guidance provided to our committed and conscientious sixth form students.

Our current sixth formers, although they have a tough act to follow, have made an excellent start to the school year. Out of a small upper sixth group of about 50 students, five have applied to Oxford University and many others to top universities. I was tremendously impressed as I conducted practice interviews last week with students' academic knowledge, wider reading around their subjects and their research for their Extended Project Qualifications. I am equally impressed with sixth formers contributions to wider school life through their ambitious and exciting production of Sweeney Todd, the leadership roles they play in areas such as our acclaimed Chamber Choir and Orchestra; their excellent help as teaching assistants and many other areas.

Lastly I would like to thank our sixth formers for their friendship and support for Caitlin in the last months of her life and for their contributions to Caitlin's funeral which was a fitting tribute to a wonderful young lady

Andy Evans

News from the Library...

This term has seen the introduction of Student Librarians into the School Library. Students in Y7 and Y8 were given the opportunity to apply in September and we now have 10 Librarians who help out in the Library at lunchtimes throughout the week. The students help with shelving, issuing and returning of books, refreshing the displays and promoting reading by creating book reviews etc.

We are now running two book clubs in the school library on alternate Thursday lunchtimes. Our Y7 & Y8 book club are currently reading the new BookTrust school pack books which include *Jessica's Ghost* by Andrew Norris and *Dreaming the Bear* by Mimi Thebo and also trying to complete our book club bingo game to win a prize. This month our Y9 plus book group are reading *Elizabeth is Missing*, a touching novel about Maud a woman trying to solve a mystery whilst suffering from dementia. Over the coming months we will be reading *Barack Obama's Dreams from My Father*, *Cider with Rosie* by Laurie Lee and *The Shock of the Fall* by Nathan Filer amongst others. Book clubs are a great opportunity for like minded students to come together and discuss their favourite books and reading in general. Students are encouraged to help promote reading in the Library by creating book reviews for the books they read and enjoy.



Poppy Davis & Oliver Clarke 2 of our new Student Librarians

Chamber Choir Perform at Schools Conference



On 1 December, our Chamber Choir attended the national SSAT conference in Birmingham, with roughly 1000 headteachers and school leaders attending. The choir were selected from a number of schools after submitting an audition video. After a 6:30am start from school (!) the choir performed an hour set in the reception area as delegates arrived, as well as another half an hour slot on stage in the refreshments area. The girls performed superbly, with a number of headteachers stopping to congratulate them on their performances. A highlight of the day was that the opening speaker of the conference Dominic Peckham, a conductor of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain and numerous other choirs, spoke to the choir to tell them how fantastic he thought they were, commenting on their breath control, full tones and professionalism. We couldn't be prouder of the choir, well done!

S.Goldup

Tributes to Caitlin

We are very sad to tell you that one of our Sixth Form students, Caitlin Ronan, died peacefully in her sleep in November. Caitlin was a member of JMHS Sixth Form who joined our school in September 2015. Caitlin had a life limiting condition and her teachers taught her A Level accountancy, business and mathematics at her home. Caitlin was a strong mathematician and worked extremely hard to achieve excellent grades in her Y12 examinations. She earned the respect of her teachers who cared for her immensely and provided stimulation and compassion in equal measures. Caitlin will be remembered as a talented singer and actress who loved singing and musical theatre. She enjoyed taking part in many musical productions when younger and had the most beautiful singing voice. She was a super actress who was determined to get the most out of her short and sometimes very difficult life. Caitlin was a member of our Sixth Form Leadership Team and their charity committee. Caitlin earned the respect of the entire community through her wonderful work raising many thousands of pounds to purchase eye gaze technology for people in similar circumstances to her own. This work gave her the opportunity to form strong friendships with our students, who often visited her house to enjoy film nights, make-up sessions and lots of fun. Caitlin will be remembered as a very special young lady who touched our hearts; her suffering is now at an end and we extend our heartfelt sympathies to her parents, Louise and Sean, and her elder sister Lucy.

Mr Evans, Headteacher

"Despite everything Caitlin faced, she was determined to make the most out of her life. And she really did. Selflessly raising over £33,000 for charity to help others in similar situations to herself, Caitlin's determination to strive for the best was unbelievable. Caitlin was very curious and was interested in the lives of everyone, (in fact she never stopped asking questions!) but at the same time she was the best listener. She was an incredibly loyal, chatty and supportive friend who was always there to offer advice. Her attitude to life changed the mind-sets of those who knew her. Most of all Caitlin was the type of person that really can never be forgotten, and she will continue to impact our lives forever"

Sixth Formers, Lucy, Ryan, Emily and Elen

In Caitlin's memory, her sister Lucy, has set up a charity page for a cause that Caitlin felt very passionately about which was disabled actors being able to perform alongside able bodied actors on stage. There is a company called 'The Graeae Theatre Company' based in London which not only does that with productions worldwide but also gives them the same professional training that pupils would receive at other drama schools. You can donate to this charity at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Caitlins-Stars. JMHS and the Sixth Form will be holding various events in the near future to help fundraise towards this fantastic charity in memory of Caitlin.



Caitlin pictured in Spring 2016 with some former sixth form students

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.

PARENT PAY

We are now using Parentpay as our primary means of communication with parents. If you have not already done so, please ensure you sign up using the details supplied via your child. If you need a replacement letter please contact our School Business Manager, Mrs Bradbeer.

TERM DATES

Spring Term 2017

Term Starts	Wednesday 4th January
Half Term	Monday 13th February—Friday 17th February
Term Ends	Friday 7th April

Summer Term 2017

Term Starts	Tuesday 25th April
Half Term	Monday 29th May—Friday 2nd June
Term Ends	Friday 21st July at 1.15pm

Staff Training Afternoons (Students finish at 1.15pm)

Tuesday 7th February & Thursday 16th March

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

Performing Arts Residential in London

At the start of October, 15 Sixth Form Performing Arts students travelled by coach to London for 3 days. With students from dance, drama and music, we saw an energetic performance from Stomp, watched an usual but inspiring play at the Vaults Theatre underneath Waterloo Station, and went to the Royal Albert Hall to see the London Philharmonic Orchestra play a whole concert of music by John Williams (film music). With the addition of a visit to the V&A museum to look at theatrical costumes, SkyGarden to look at the views, and a debate on youth culture and identity at the National Theatre, it was an action packed, inspiring experience for all students (and teachers!).



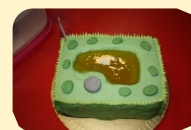
The Great Biology Bake Off

To celebrate Biology Week our biology students were invited to put their creative culinary skills to the test and create biology themed bakes.

Our students rose to the challenge and impressed our cake judges with a magnificent range of themed cakes including brains, hearts, lungs and plants to name just a few.

Every cake was dissected and tasted by our esteemed cake judges, Miss Limbrick and Mr Oaten. All of the cakes were of a very high standard, which made judging a difficult task. We are pleased to announce that first place was awarded to Izzy Baker with her creative plant cell cake. Lizzie and James Austin were awarded second place with their inner ear creation, and third place was awarded to Evie Grinnell on her very convincing eyeball cake.

Congratulations to the winners and a huge thank you to the students who supported the event so enthusiastically.



High Altitude Balloon Launch

On 15 September, Sixth Form student, Ryan Ing, launched a high altitude weather balloon to collect data on how pressure, humidity and temperature changes occur through the different levels of the atmosphere.

The experiment was for his Extended Project Qualification which is an optional independent project worth half an A level. Mrs Law who runs the EPQ project said *"Ryan has been impressive in his organisation of the project, with meticulous planning, seeking Civil Aviation Authority permission, sourcing materials and finding sponsors to help finance it. The sponsors were able to attend the launch and were extremely complimentary of Ryan, the Sixth Form and staff they met. To conclude the EPQ project, Ryan will now analyse the data captured to finish writing his report which he will then present in the spring term to students and staff."*

The balloon and its payload rose to 81,500ft before the drop in atmospheric pressure caused the balloon envelope to burst. The payload then went into freefall, reaching a speed of 110mph before the parachute opened.

During the balloon's flight, Ryan decoded the radio signal transmitted by the on-board computer and tracked its location from the chase vehicle. The payload landed in Presteigne after a flight time of 2hr 20mins, after ascending to above 96% of the atmosphere and reaching a minimum temperature of -50.9°C.

The project was kindly sponsored by Speller Metcalfe, Fugro GEOS and Mike Bush. Ryan said *"he would like to thank all of his sponsors, his Physics teacher (Miss Williams), School ICT Manager (Mr Henderson) and the school for their generosity and support with his endeavour."*

Mr Hawksworth, Head of Sixth Form said *"Ryan is a great role model to younger students interested in furthering their study of science and geography. It was an exciting occasion for the many spectators from Y7-Sixth Form who witnessed the launch. On the back of this, Ryan is also planning to visit lower school assemblies to share the data to continue to inspire students. This whole experience will be invaluable in the*

future when Ryan applies to study Meteorology at university – he is without doubt a remarkable student."

Following the launch of his weather balloon in September Ryan has been busy analysing the data to write up his report for his Extended Project Qualification which is worth half an A-level. He was also asked to give a presentation to Herefordshire Radio Society on 4 November where he spoke for an hour to a packed audience. The feedback was extremely positive from its members who could not believe how articulately he spoke and the extent of his knowledge in someone so young. In addition the Royal Meteorological Society are publishing an article written by Ryan in their November newsletter. Furthermore, Ryan was delighted to have had contact with JMHS Alumni student, Rob Farrington who left school in 2007 and is currently studying a PhD in Cloud Physics, having already completed a MSc in Geography & Maths and a Masters degree in Meteorology. Rob has been able to give Ryan lots of invaluable advice and information when applying for his place to study Meteorology next year.



Y13 Students with Strong Young Minds

Y13 student, Nicole Barrow, is currently studying A-levels in Psychology, History and English Literature and has recently applied to study Psychology at university. Through researching Mental Health issues for her Psychology course she found out about a local scheme called 'Strong Young Minds' which helps young people in Herefordshire. She applied to be an Ambassador and has since recruited several of her peers to be involved with the Project (Lucy Admans, Chloe Morgan, Rhianna Levi & Paige Baker). The group meet weekly afterschool to undertake their training in order to become Ambassadors for the charity.

To help raise awareness on 10 October 2016 for World Mental Health Day, Nicole and Rhianna were delighted to be asked to represent the charity on a local radio programme for their views on the stigma of mental health and the help given in schools to those who need it. Mrs Law who teaches Psychology said *"Nicole clearly has a passion for Psychology and helping others and this is demonstrated in her work with this Project. She has since recruited several of her peers to be involved and now plays an active role in the scheme. This is a great example of Sixth Form students being involved in the local community and we are very proud of them"*.

Charity Run

Sixth Former Elen Clarke recently ran the Rotary Blenheim 10k race to raise money for the charity Beat who provide care and services for those suffering with eating disorders. She raised the amazing total of £1,311 including gift aid. For more information on Beat or if you'd like to make a donation please visit: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Elen-Clarke1



Y11 Have A Taste of Sixth Form Life

Over 85% of our Y11 students had an exciting day sampling life as a sixth former. As well as having access to the Sixth Form Common Room and Private Study facilities, Y11 were challenged with A-level lessons in a wide variety of subjects. In Geography, they debated whether China could take over the world; in Biology students used chlorophyll chromatography to examine pigments in leaves; in Computing (*a new course*) they looked at logic gates and debugging programmes. Students involved in the German session developed their understanding of regional industry and culture in Germany; in Core Maths students calculated wind chill factor formulae. In Physics, students analysed constructive and destructive wave interference. Health & Social Care students looked at the role of key organs of the body whilst English Literature students discussed the role of women and how they were portrayed through literature in society and culture.

If any student or parent has any query with regard to the Sixth Form, please speak to Mr Hawksworth, Head of Sixth Form on 01531 638452 or email: m.hawksworth@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk



Sweeney Todd...Another Sixth Form Triumph!

If putting on what is considered one of the most vocally intricate and musically challenging stage shows was not enough, the extremely talented Sixth Form students of John Masefield decided to do it without any input from the teachers! This was the brainchild of Emma Warren, Y13 student and Artistic Director for the show, who decided to embark upon this mammoth task for her Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and just to make it that bit more challenging, all the music was played live!

Based on Christopher Bond's 1973 play, Sweeney Todd is one of the darkest musicals ever written. The show tells the unsettling tale of a Victorian-era barber who murders all and sundry from his barber's chair for revenge whilst Mrs Lovett downstairs bakes the bodies into meat pies, selling them to the unsuspecting public. Gruesome!

The production of Sweeney Todd is the culmination of eight months of hard work for Emma and the all Sixth Form cast. The show would be a challenge for most professional companies and showcased the tremendous depth of acting and musical talent at our Sixth Form.

Poignantly Emma and the team dedicated the evening's performance to the memory of Caitlin Ronan, one of our Sixth Form students and friend to many of the cast, who sadly passed away very recently and who loved acting and singing.



Paris 2016



At the end of September, thirty two Y11 and four Y12 students travelled to Paris for 3 nights. Once again we stayed in the Fiap Jean Monnet and weren't disappointed with the welcome and accommodation. As a change to our usual plans, on the outward journey we travelled through the night which meant that we were in Paris for Friday afternoon and after a freshen up we were able to walk down to The Left Bank, The île St Louis and Notre Dame. Straight away we were able to breathe in the Parisian atmosphere, take in some sights and stretch our legs after 12 hours on the coach.

On Saturday we went shopping for our picnic lunch in the quaint Rue Mouffetard and then took a boat cruise down the Seine, past all of the main monuments. We ate lunch next to the Eiffel Tower with one of our ex-students who is currently doing her university placement in Paris. In the afternoon we went to the Tuileries Gardens and the Louvre shopping area, before our night tour of Paris when as usual

the sparkling Eiffel Tower stole the show. On Sunday morning we visited Montmartre and in the afternoon the Opera House followed by The Arc de Triomphe and the Champs-Élysées.

On the journey back we spent a couple of poignant hours at Vimy Ridge, the Canadian, First World War cemetery.

The students were outstanding ambassadors for the school and great company. From reading their diary entries, I am sure that they will return to share some of the places with family and friends and discover many more. Thank you to the students for making it such a memorable trip.

T.Knight

Birmingham Masterclass visit

On 2 November a group of 41 Y10 and 11 mathematicians visited Birmingham University to attend a Maths Masterclass on 'How to win at game shows'. They took part in a workshop focusing on the maths behind popular game shows such as 'The Weakest Link' and 'The Million Pound drop'. They joined other schools and as always Mr Waterhouse and Mr Price were very proud of the way their students took part with confidence and enthusiasm. Once again showing how amazing our students at JMHS really are!

Business challenge lessons from the Institute Of Chartered Accountants England and Wales

In October a very large group of Y11 students (60+) participated in a two part workshop designed by the Institute of Chartered Accountants England and Wales. They analysed a case study based on a publishing business, formulated some business proposals and then presented their ideas to the class and a board of Directors made up of sixth form accounting students. The Y11's were incredibly insightful and argued their case with eloquence and professionalism even when faced with some particularly tough questioning from the sixth formers! I was incredibly impressed with their ideas and detailed analysis especially as this was the first experience of accounting and business for many of them. We submitted our video presentations to the Institute of Chartered Accountants and we are looking forward to their comments later this month!

ICAEW BASE Competition

Five sixth form students (Maddie Tudor, Tom Bullard, Khayd Saxleby, Rhys Smith and Sam Badham) took part in the regional round of this very exciting business competition at Worcester's Sixways Stadium. The students analysed a business case study with the help of a mentor from a local business and presented their finding to a panel of judges (also from the local business community). The team's presentation was excellent and the feedback from judges and their mentor was extremely positive. The students gained invaluable business experience and employability skills during the day and met many employers from the area.

C.Teague

Children in Need 2016

JMHS Students from Y7 to Y13 raised in excess of £1,000 for this years Children in Need campaign by holding a non uniform day and various fundraising activities throughout the day.

Congratulations to B8b and B10b for raising over £150 of the total from holding a Cake Sale and Dizzy Penalty Shootout at Lunchtime.

The Sixth Form despite being devastated by the recent news about Caitlin Ronan decided to continue with their planned events as Caitlin had suggested many of the fundraising ideas herself. They raised over £220 towards our total by holding a Pyjama Day, Tombola, Raffle and Pie Face Competition.

Thank you to everyone who took part.



ASSIST Anti-Smoking Course

Over the past two months a small group of Y8 students have been taking part in an anti-smoking course.

The ASSIST tutors took us to the Ledbury Market House Theatre to complete our two day training course. There, they taught numerous facts, which would definitely stop you wanting to smoke, and how to bring them up during a normal conversation with people in our year. They gave us diaries to encourage us to record our conversations. We also undertook many fun, but useful activities, which added to our knowledge and communication skills.

After the two-day course we had several follow-up sessions at school to recap and build upon our knowledge and skills. At the end of the course we were presented with a certificate for completing the training. If you want to know more about why you shouldn't smoke, please speak to us!



Niobi Noltén & Lily Brown-Goode

WINDSURFING SUCCESS!

Y9 student, James Bulson, recently competed at the European Windsurfing Championships at Sopot, Poland. James achieved his aim of getting into the Gold Fleet and after 6 days of solid racing was pleased to get 36th out of around 84 competitors. At the National Championships at Rutland Water he came second and was very proud to be presented his trophy by Briony Shaw who represented Great Britain at the Rio Olympics. James spent the whole summer windsurfing, either at training camps or in competitions around the country and his second place was due to a massive amount of hard work! As a result of his efforts he was chosen to represent Great Britain at the Windsurfing World Championships in Lake Garda in October. Here is James' report from the event:

"Over the half term holiday I travelled to Lake Garda in Northern Italy to compete in the Techno 293 Windsurfing World Championships. The competition started on Saturday 22 October with registration and the opening ceremony where all the competitors carried their country's flags and marched through the town. Sunday was the practice race and the real racing began on Monday. I was competing in the 6.8m² sail class and there were 135 under 15 year old boys from all over the world in my class. Due to the high mountains around the lake, the wind came early in the morning, died off around midday and returned from the opposite direction in the afternoon. This meant that we had very early starts and most days had to be on the beach rigging up at 7.30 am. After 2 days racing I managed to get into the Gold Fleet for the top half of the windsurfers. We raced for another 4 days in very variable winds from very strong to very light. Overall I came 23rd out of 135 which was an improvement from the European Championships when I came 36th. The gold medal was won by a boy from France, silver by an Israeli and one of my GB team mates came third. Overall the team as a whole got GB's best results for a few years. I am very pleased to have been selected again for the National Junior Squad and at the end of November I begin my winter training at the National Sailing Academy in Weymouth. I am hoping for a warm, windy winter!"

Congratulations James!



JMHS Show Strength at Cross Country Running

It was the first time in many years where JMHS have put out a Cross Country Team at the District Trials on Malvern Common. Students were very keen to sign up and have been attending practices since September. On 2 December we took 42 students, both boys and girls, from Y7-10 to compete against Malvern College, The Downs, The Chase, Dyson Perrins and Malvern St James. Arriving a little daunted by the undulating landscape, our JMHS students felt optimistic about their possible achievements ahead.

Following the course walk the students faced a staggered start beginning with the Y7 Girls, then progressing through the age groups, each age group had between 35-50 runners. A gruelling run by Immy Parsons B7B who lead the front for a while could not quite hold up over the 2km track, which meant Hattie Cox J7A over took to take 2nd in Y7 Girls, Immy Parsons 6th and Josie Thomas H7B 11th. Such a fantastic start to the day left JMHS inspired to follow suit. The Y7 boys were up next where Archie Horton H7B (pictured), led the race until the final 400m, to finish 4th, closely followed by Adam Dudley B7B in 5th and Reuben Taylor-George B7B in 7th. The Junior Girls race including our

Year 8 students was fiercely contested resulting in Rosie Loraine J8A finishing well at 18th. Tom Smith H8A lead the JMHS team in the Y8 & 9 Boys race, over 3200m, finishing an impressive 11th against boys in the year above. The final race JMHS entered was the Inter Boys Y10 & 11 race over 4500m, in tough conditions and across a slippery course, Nathan Chowns Higgs B10A finished an incredible 2nd place! An amazing achievement

by all and as always students were supportive, encouraging and respectful of others. A proud day for all involved and another pocket of sporting talent has been unlocked. Results are now in and out of 7 schools JMHS came: 2nd in Y7 Girls, 2nd in Y7 Boys, 2nd in Y10 & 11 Boys, 4th 8&9 Boys and 6th in 8&9 Girls! Nathan Chowns Higgs B10A and Tom Smith H8A have now qualified to represent JMHS in the Malvern District Team in the County Champs. We wish them the best of luck!

C. Limbrick



Paralympian Jack Rutter Visits JMHS for County Champions Sports Presentation

Jack Rutter, the Captain for the GB and England Paralympian Cerebral Palsy Football Team, visited JMHS on 9 November as the guest speaker at the Netball and Cricket County Champions celebration. Jack Rutter, is a local athlete who has overcome an incredible set back in his sporting career after being left brain damaged during an unprovoked assault on a night out.

Jack was invited in to present the sports hoodies as well as to meet the students involved. As part of his visit he shared his story through a highly motivational speech and showing the channel 4 advert he featured in for the Paralympics in 2016, along with signing autographs and talking with our students. It was great

for our Y7 student Ruby to meet Jack again! Ruby plays CP Football and has previously been the mascot for Jack and his team at the CP world cup where she walked out onto the pitch with the Russia V Australia match. We hope Jack can return to JMHS in the future to inspire even more students by sharing his truly engaging story.



Netball Champs!

The Y9 Girls Netball team competed at the County Tournament in October and out of the 16 Herefordshire schools taking part took the title of Herefordshire U14 County Champions! In the pool stages they beat John Kyrle, Aylestone and Wigmore convincingly and topped their group.



In the semi-final JMHS faced Hereford Cathedral School, JMHS's nemesis in girls sporting events, the girls were nervous but excited and focussed on the task ahead. At half time, JMHS were losing 3-1, however they were more than up for the fight to turn the game around. A few changes at half time ensured we defended from the front, balls were being turned over all over the court and our students really had the bit between their teeth. It was a fantastic team effort which highlighted the resilience of our students to claw back a victory to beat Cathedral 4-3. The screams and celebration of this win was incredible, however they had one more team to face.

The final was played against Whitecross who the girls have beaten this year in the league, however it was approached without complacency, shots from Jess Neath and Jess Schofield were rolling off the net and out of court and it took a few minutes to settle into a rhythm. The JMHS students stuck together and worked tirelessly from attack to defence to finish the game win an 8-4 win. The County Champions, lead by Captain Gemma Clarke, now head to the West Midlands Netball Tournament in January.

We are looking for sponsors/donations in order to kit the girls out for this tournament to ensure they look and feel the part, at a tournament JMHS has never reached before! A fantastic milestone for JMHS PE and School Sport. Well done Girls!!
C. Limbrick

Primary Events

Y9 students in the Herefordshire Leadership Academy did a wonderful job of leading a Tchouckball extravaganza to some of our primary school students. They led skills sessions and taught the younger students the basics of the game before entering into a little tournament. The JMHS leaders did us proud and the primary school students all had fun. Y9 students also helped to run a netball tournament for our primary school students on 25 November on a brisk and chilly morning. The JMHS students umpired with great skill and confidence and were complimented on their ability by many of those watching. Our sincere thanks go out to all students who helped to lead these very successful events.

Former England International Rugby Player Inspires Students

We were extremely fortunate to have professional rugby player Charlie Sharples visit JMHS last week. Charlie currently plays for Gloucester and has also represented nationally wearing the England shirt on four occasions. He spoke to Y10, Y11 rugby players and A-Level PE students about the life of a professional rugby player, including: training, the day-to-day programme, nutrition, rest and recovery and the importance of having a career to fall back on when the rugby ends. Additionally, he spoke about careers available in rugby, from coaching to nutritionists and even the people who fly drones over the training group to be able to monitor how hard the players have worked! Students found the talk very useful and inspiring and we are grateful to Charlie for taking the time out of his busy schedule to come in. After the presentation concluded, Charlie signed autographs and shirts for the students. We thank Charlie very much for taking the time to come and talk to our students and we wish him and his team a successful season.

J.Kontarines