



JM6 Newsletter: 22 February 2021

Dear Sixth Form Students, Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families have had a pleasant half term. At the time of writing we are still to hear of the arrangements for schools to return and the procedure for calculating A level grades this year. We are expecting details on both this week and will inform you in a separate communication as soon as matters are clarified.

Alumni success

It is always fantastic to hear of the successes of our alumni and to know that we have played some part in helping them towards their many achievements. So it gave me great pleasure (and a sense of being very long in the tooth) to hear of the success of former student, James Brighton. I have been reading with a sense of pride the first academic publication from Dr Brighton called 'Gym bodies: Exploring fitness cultures' an ethnographical study of the reasons and meanings people attach to their fitness practices and venues. I had the pleasure of teaching James who took A levels in Physical Education, English and Business in 1999 at JMHS. He went on to gain his Doctorate in Philosophy and is currently Senior Lecturer in the Sociology of Sport & Exercise at Canterbury University. James has just signed a contract for his second book exploring disability sport.

Brilliant Cyber Security training opportunity for JM6 students

Sixth form students at John Masefield can now freely access Immersive labs. Immersive labs is a cyber security training platform used throughout the industry, their customers include GCHQ, Met Police, P&G and Royal Mail. Immersive labs enable students to build an understanding of cyber security, starting at the fundamentals and building through to a skill set level of industry veterans. The platform is there for students to work through in their own time, to fit around their current academic studies. Employers use the platform to offer apprenticeships and job opportunities to dedicated individuals. To gain access to the platform please contact Head of Computer Science, Mr Luke Kenvyn.

Post-18 Careers guidance

To ensure we continued to offer post-18 careers guidance to you as planned during this lockdown period, we arranged on Wednesday 3 February for Hereford and Worcester Group Training Association (HWGTA) to deliver a live Teams question and answer session on apprenticeships. The session involved Nicky Scott from HWGTA and some present Engineering / Business & Commerce/ Accountancy apprentices offering an insight into what an apprenticeship is really like. Over seventy JM6 students joined the meeting and had a chance to ask questions and learn more about apprenticeships.

Ahead of the session the students were asked to watch a HGTWA presentation giving some general information on apprenticeships. I have included the link so students and parents /carers can have another look at the presentation: https://youtu.be/APU_8oORixE .

Performing Arts

The Performing Arts faculty have decided to put on a musical showcase in October with year groups performing together and rehearsals starting once students are back in school. Inspired by BBC's The Greatest Show Mrs Kyle is asking students to choose numbers for the showcase. Initially this will be via this form <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=h9QXkipHEkSqJlaQB-bBMasзма4yKrZLnQGTQb6YZ1pUQ1BXMIJKWVBGTUkySFJKM0NNUczQ0tNWC4u>.

Lastly I hope you share my optimism that a return to greater normality is nearly upon us and that we will once again be able to greet and teach face to face our cohort of superb senior students. It can't come soon enough!

Yours faithfully



Mark Hawsworth
Head of Sixth Form