

UP-DATE



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FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I have been delighted with the way students in all year groups have demonstrated that they are conscientious, considerate and co-operative this term. I have seen students produce excellent work in class and strive to achieve as well as they possibly can in their end of term tests and exams. 99.5% of the school population wear masks in lessons and corridors without ever complaining and by doing so help keep themselves, their friends and our community safe. Students have participated in extra-curricular clubs, sports, and arts with great enthusiasm. The recording of the wonderful Christmas concert is just one example of their excellent contributions.

The year group I have spent most time with is Y7. They have made a strong start at JMHS. Their books are well organised with some beautifully presented work. They are positive and well behaved in lessons and many are making positive contributions to extra-curricular activities including

- Excellent attendance and participation in sports clubs especially netball, hockey and rugby with some superb performances and great sportsmanship from the school rugby team
- Full participation in house sport and a good team spirit
- Many students helping to maintain the school site with voluntary litter picking or planting 250 new trees
- Some superb cooking in lessons and at Cookery Club
- Over 50 attending the library each Monday and Wednesday lunchtime
- Many joining in music and dance clubs

All the students enjoying the weird and wonderful challenges set them on a weekly basis by their excellent Year Leader, Miss Limbrick.

I spend every break and lunchtime with Y7 and have thoroughly enjoyed their company, seeing first-hand their good manners and kindness to each other and the school staff

Andy Evans

STARTING JMHS

When I arrived at school there were lots of staff helpfully guiding us all to the right place. I walked to the sports hall and saw the entirety of Y7 come in and felt immediately welcome. We gathered in our tutor groups and were welcomed by our year leader Miss Limbrick and tutors. Everyone looked really smart in their new uniform and we had our photos taken. Our thumbs were scanned in the dining hall as this is how we pay for our lunch. I found out that Y7s can also get brunch at first break (my favourites are the pain au chocolat and buttered toast). I was nervous about getting lost, but it was okay because we all stayed together as a tutor group on the first day. After lunch we went to our tutor rooms to do some fun activities. They gave us a guided tour of the school and we all got our own timetable. We finished the day by going to our last lesson (P5). For me this was Drama. Then it was time to go home. It had been an amazing first day and I was looking forward to coming back the next day.

George Taylor J7A

Before starting high school, I had a lot of worries e.g. bullies getting lost and homework. But on my first day at JMHS it was one of the best moments ever, all the teachers were very supportive and showed us around.

Everyone is very friendly and by the end of the first week you know where everything is and where all the classrooms are. Also you won't get detention for not knowing where your classroom is!!

Overall there is nothing to worry or stress about as all the staff want to make your JMHS experience an amazing one.



Year 7 making origami cranes in the library at lunchtime

Y7 CAKE SALE

This October Y7 held a cake sale raising over £217 for Guide Dogs for the Blind:

“The cake sale was one of the best things to happen at school. So many people came and it was fun to raise so much money. I never thought that we would be able to make so much for our charity but there were lots of people who wanted to buy the cakes. I think we have made a difference!”

Denisa Todea–H7B



Y8 PHOTOGRAPHY WINNER!

Y8 pupil Poppy Wilkins took a photograph during lockdown as part of an online art lesson which she then entered into a competition run by the Wildlife Trust. Poppy went on to win the competition and her photograph has been included in the 2022 Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Calendar. Well done Poppy!

Copies of the calendar are available in the Wildlife Trusts shops or online at www.herefordshirewt.org



TREES TREES TREES

In December many Y7s took part in tree planting with our very own wonderful Mrs Davies who organised the event. All the trees were kindly donated by the Woodland Trust who have given out many trees to schools across the United Kingdom as they try to make our country great again, full of lavish new saplings of all different kinds that will one day become ginormous trees!

Mrs Davies, the Y7s along with some JM6 students were able to plant over 100 trees which will become sturdy and strong for the future long after we have left John Masefield and hopefully they will grow for many more years to come.

The Woodland Trust has donated thousands of trees across the country to schools and communities. On their website they quote 'we want to make sure everybody in the UK has the chance to plant a tree. So we're giving away hundreds of thousands of trees to schools and communities. Together, we'll get millions more trees in the ground.'

Emily Pontin–M7A



Y9 LANGUAGE LEADERS

The Modern Foreign Languages Department was thrilled to be able to visit Ledbury Primary School this term with over 20 Y9 Language Leaders.

This is a fantastic experience for both JMHS and LPS pupils enabling our students to demonstrate their competence in both French and German.

“I really enjoyed visiting the Primary School and teaching German because it was fun to talk to and teach the students” - Will

“Going to LPS was a very rewarding experience. I was happy to teach the pupils French, it seemed that they were excited and enjoyed the lesson. This also boosted my speaking abilities and I learned how to project my voice clearly. I have learned new skills that I can use for the future”.
-Liepa

“Going to the primary school with the other Language Leaders was a really fun experience. The children were very polite and got on with the tasks we had set them. The school was very welcoming and the teachers were very happy to have us there to teach their children” - Sophie



NEW BENCHES!

Recently our dining room patio has been furnished with new picnic benches! The new benches are a great place to sit and eat, read, draw or do any other activities Y7 Students enjoy. As soon as the benches were in place Y7 have been enjoying using them in great ways at brunch and lunch. We all love the fact it is a comfortable easy place to sit and catch up with friends and an accessible place to sit and do homework and other things.



Elsie Fletcher - M7A

ANTI BULLYING WEEK & CHILDREN IN NEED 2021

On Monday 14th November we celebrated Odd Socks Day for the Anti-Bullying Week

Odd Socks Day is a national event all about celebrating what makes someone unique.

On Friday 19th November we had our Children in Need Day where we could wear our own clothes for £1 which would be donated to the charity. It was strange seeing everyone with out uniform! JMHS raised over £522 in total.

Holly James—H7A



THE FRANKFURT GERMAN MARKET

Unable to go to the country itself, we were delighted to finally give our hard-working Y11 students a small taste of Germany safely at the Frankfurt Christmas Market in Birmingham last week. In the morning, the students enjoyed ice skating with some impressive reverse skating and spectacular falls, but especially lots of laughter. This was followed by the Ferris wheel with a great view over the festive city. Some students ate lunch in the typical German style of Currywurst mit Pommes, whilst others saved themselves for German chocolate and Haribo. They were able to walk safely to the big shopping centres via a much-extended pedestrian area and hopefully bought presents for all the family. Finally, many purchased the traditional German market mugs and beer glasses - empty of course!!

Frau Whitton and Frau Piva.



PENGUIN 'LIT IN COLOUR' GIVEAWAY WIN

The English Department is delighted to announce that it has won 130 new books in the Penguin Lit in Colour book giveaway. Penguin UK received over 160 applications from schools around the UK - including ours written by Dr Ruth Lewis - and a panel of judges picked JMHS to be one of the recipients.

Three big boxes arrived last month with 100 Penguin books by authors of colour for our students to enjoy, as well as 30 copies of Sathnam Sanghera's 'Empireland' and an accompanying resource pack.

Plans for this wonderful literary haul have already been made, and the English Department is hoping to introduce the texts in a range of ways over the next few months. We look forward to reading and showcasing the texts in Y7 Creative Writing Club, English lessons, library lessons and displays, A-level study and a wide variety of other activities.

While the majority of the Penguin Lit in Colour books are fiction or creative writing, the giveaway includes many works of non-fiction.

"I was in my final year at university before I read a brown author. I was well into my forties before I began to get my head around the complexity of British imperial history and its modern legacies. It has been a thrill to see Empireland seized upon by people, on the left and right of British life, as a balanced way into the often toxic debate about colonialism. And it's exciting that thousands of young people across Britain will not have to wait as long as I did to start thinking about these issues."

Sathnam Sanghera, author of Empireland



The Library display on Lit in Colour

JMHS ♥ READING

Each year at JMHS we have a calendared series of events to promote and support reading for pleasure. This term our reading focus has been: story-telling in September; Poetry in October; Non-Fiction in November and Christmas Stocking fillers for December. Teachers, who have been working their way through the top 100 teen reads, shared what they have been reading on 'Ask Me What I'm Reading Day' and also via classroom doors. Y7 have been sharing 'All the Things that Could Go Wrong' by Stewart Foster during tutor time and hope to finish in the new year. Y8 and Y10 tutor groups have enjoyed 'Maggot Moon' by Sally Gardner and 'Perks of Being a Wallflower' by Stephen Chbosky to name a few.

Next term brings Fresh Start January: Speaking for Freedom.

Meanwhile, looking for some stocking fillers? Either look at the English extended reading list published on our curriculum overviews on the website or consider these choices:

Julia and the Shark by Kiran Millwood Hargrave
Scythe by Neal Shusterman
Run Rebel Run by Manjeet Mann
Arctic Star by Tom Palmer
Six Crows by Leigh Bardugo
The Castle of Tangled Magic by Sophie Anderson
Every Day by David Levithan



Or for us adults. We recommend:

Girl ,Woman, Other by Bernardine Evaristo
Where the Crawdads Sings by Delia Owens
American Dirt by Jeanine Cummings
The Collapsing Empire by John Scalzi
Rock Paper Scissors by Alice Feeney
The End of Men by Christina Sweeney-Baird
The Silence of the Girls by Pat Barker



Many of these books are also available to borrow through your local library or through the Borrow Box App



Your library in one app.

BOOK BUZZ 2021

We have been delighted to gift every Y7 and Y8 student with their very own book again this year thanks to the BookTrust's BookBuzz scheme!

The students took part in book 'tasting' in the school library which was transformed into a 'Reading Café' for the sessions.

Over 300 books will be delivered to the students in the New Year. We hope they enjoy reading them!

SENIOR MATH CHALLENGE SUCCESS

Over 50 of our Y11 and JM6 students took part in the UKMT'S Senior Maths Challenge in November. There were some excellent results with over half of the entries being awarded Bronze, Silver or Gold awards which is quite some achievement! Two of our very best mathematicians were invited to go on to take part in the Senior Kangaroo Challenge. Congratulations to Edgar Peet (Y11) and Alex Allcock (Y13).

STORYTELLER VISIT

Our Y7 and Y8 pupils received a wonderful visit from Gloucestershire Storyteller and author Bill Church this week. Bill entertained the Year groups with his retelling of Arthurian legends during the sessions.

Bill is pictured here with Y7 students in the school library.



POETRY MACHINE VISIT

As part of our Poetry Day Celebrations on the 7th October the Library was thrilled to host Beth Calverley and her Poetry Machine. Beth spent the day talking with some of our students and then created personalised poems for them.

It was a fantastic creative day that inspired the students to look at poetry a little differently.

Huge thanks to The Ledbury Poetry Festival for providing us with this wonderful opportunity



JM6

REMEMBRANCE DAY



On Sunday 14th November, two of our Head Students, Alex Allcock and Rebecca Carney represented our School and Sixth Form in the Remembrance Day Parade in Ledbury Town Centre.

Alex and Rebecca demonstrated respect and pride, laying a wreath in memory and taking part in the reverent and moving service.

CAKE SALE

Y12 student Tabby Evans organised a cake sale in JM6 to raise funds for The Sickle Cell Society.

Lots of students contributed with donations of cakes including vegan cookies, vanilla muffins and flapjacks. It was a delicious way to raise money for this deserving charity.



TASTER DAY 2021

On Friday 12th November, 130 of our Y11 students had a break from their usual GCSE schedule and became Sixth Formers for the day, experiencing a range of level lessons as part of our advice and guidance on selecting the right path for themselves post-16.

The students enjoyed being immersed in a wide range of A Level experiences. In Maths they investigated differentiation and its use. In English they explored the role of dreams of the Gothic genre in challenging cultural taboos. Students undertook a range of experiments in Biology, to hone their practical skills, including a heart dissection and use of more technical microscopes to investigate cell division, while in German they looked at popular culture and politics to explore new vocabulary and gain an insight into modern Germany.

Drama students interpreted an A level set text utilising four distinctive styles, including the physical theatre of Berkoff. During the Photography taster, students were inspired by the photographer Slinkachu, using everyday objects and mini figures to create surreal, humorous images. Students were introduced to the basic photographic equipment and made their own backdrops in order to create their scenes. The chemists conducted practical experiments and calculated the molar volume of the mass of gas produced in reactions.

ICT students analysed the uses and impact of AR, (Augmented Reality) and VR, (Virtual Reality) whilst Business students looked at how the Government raises and spends funds including the basics of our taxation system. For art, students explored large scale chalk and charcoal to create responses to the Art of Guy Denning, using expressionist mark-making and movement to create their own portraits.

Overall students thoroughly enjoyed the day and the insight it gave into life as a Sixth Form student at John Masefield. This taste of JM6 will be followed up with 'Futures' discussions, a member of the Sixth Form team will further discuss students' subject choices and preferences over the next four weeks.



For more information about JM6 please contact:

Mr Hawksworth—Head of Sixth Form

Hannah Lauzier Sixth Form Assistant or

visit www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk/sixth-form



SPORTS NEWS...

SHOWJUMPING SUCCESS FOR TRIXIE!

Y11 Student Trixie Moss is a dedicated and passionate equestrian. She was recently scouted by a fellow equestrian with over 30 years of competing experience as a broken hip meant they were unable to continue competing this year on their horse Hakuna Matata (known as Bradley at home). Recognising Trixie's good horsemanship and young talent in the sport they offered her some local show jumping competitions with him. Trixie was thrilled by the opportunity as she is currently producing her own 5 year old horse which means competing a youngster at the moment is often challenging requiring patience and education over winning. Over the following 4 weeks their success was overwhelming and it was suggested Trix & Brad try last minute to qualify for the Dodson Horrall Amateur Show Jumping championships at Aintree.

In just 6 weeks Trixie competed at stay away shows; Eland Lodge, Cricklands British Championships in Cardiff where she came 1st in the 1m and 3rd in another class out of 92 competitors), Weston Lawns in Coventry, Ponderosa in Newport and Chard in Somerset. They came home in colours every time and qualified for the Aintree Championships by coming in the top 8 jumping in the 1.10m jump off.

Trixie and Brad competed at Aintree on 9th to 14th of November and had a rewarding and successful experience.



Y7 RUGBY

Our Y7 rugby team remain unbeaten this season and are playing to a high standard. Well done to all the boys who have taken part and been very committed to training.

Once again, huge thanks to James Seager of Ledbury RFC who has given freely of his time to coach the students.

Thanks also to Ledbury RFC who are working closely with the school to provide a better rugby experience for our students. Plans are in their infancy at the moment but are very exciting. More information to follow soon!



FORTY CLUB CRICKET AWARD FOR LEDBURY CC UNDER 15's

The Forty Club was set up in 1936 with the aim of encouraging sportsmanship in young people by playing cricket around the country with Junior teams. Every year they play over 130 fixtures in eleven districts of the UK, and nominate either a school or Youth XI in each region as a District winner in terms of sportsmanship and teamwork. A black tie dinner is held for the 11 winners at Lords where they are presented with their awards. This year the West Midlands district award was won by the Ledbury Cricket Club Under 15's team. This is a tremendous achievement and the team were the only grassroots cricket team to win a district award, with most district winners coming from independent schools. Their captain, Thomas Fleetwood (JMHS student), was presented with the trophy at the Lords' dinner on 19 November 2021, proudly watched by the team's coaches (all ex-JMHS students).

The Under 15s team in addition to captain Thomas Fleetwood includes the following JMHS students: Jack Cambridge, Billy Ussher, Jacob Evans, Bertie Butcher, Fraser Renfrew Clarke and Joseph Pugh. The youth section at Ledbury Cricket Club has gone from strength to strength over the last 10 years through the dedication and commitment of their team of volunteers and make a fantastic contribution to the local community. We have been delighted as a school to work with them to support the development of youth cricket in Ledbury.

Picture above: Tom receiving the award from ex-Test Match Special Producer Peter Baxter

SPORTS NEWS...



JM6 NETBALL FIRST TEAM

The JM6 Netball first team hosted Hanley Castle's first team and put in one of their best performances of the season to date.

The whole squad worked hard to deny the Hanley Girls space and won all four quarters coming away with a 22:14 victory at full time.

Stand out performances were the link up play between Esmee Platt, Molly Schofield and team captain Lucy Hayes.

LA LIGA & SUPER 7'S

As well as competitive matches against other Sixth Forms, this year the JM6 students have got behind lunchtime sports leagues in football (La Liga) and netball (Super 7's). The competitions involve Y11, Y12 and Y13 students with over 110 of them getting involved in total. Sports captains Lucy Hayes and Bruno Recordon have helped Mr Hawksworth develop and organise this new opportunity to help our students get active, meet other year groups, and just enjoy sport.



Y9 GIRLS HOCKEY

There has been a fantastic team effort from all the girls in the Hockey team this term. They have played John Kyrle High School twice with both games ending 0-0! The hockey was end to end action and very exciting to watch. The Y9s are going to be focussing on their shooting skills in the New Year as they are in search of a goal!! Well done girls!



**SENDING YOU SEASONS GREETINGS FROM
ALL OF US AT JMHS**

HERE'S A LITTLE FESTIVE JOKE FROM CONOR IN H7B

What kind of motorcycle does Santa ride on?

A Holly Davidson!

