

# UP-DATE

Issue 93 Autumn Term 2022

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## In this issue...

- Cologne Trip
- Bookbuzz 2022
- Fundraising
- For the Love of Dance

# FROM THE HEADTEACHER

*This term has certainly been extremely busy and successful. Some of my highlights have included:*

- Seeing teachers teach excellent lessons and students working hard throughout the term including in our recent OFSTED Inspection*
- A superb dance show with great performances from students in all year groups*
- A successful German language visit to Cologne for students in Y10 and Y11*
- Our Y10 boys' rugby team deservedly being crowned Herefordshire champions*
- An excellent cup run by our Y11 boys' football team in reaching the last 32 of the English Schools FA Cup*
- Our first Christmas Carol Concert at St Michael and All Angels Church for three years*
- A considerable increase in the number of students who attend a wide variety of enrichment clubs including cookery, dance, sports, art, photography, and Warhammer club*

*Finally, last week I had the huge pleasure of showing around 5 ladies who were all in the same tutor group at Ledbury Secondary School which was located at our site between 1961 and 1965. Although our school has changed considerably in the 57 years since they left, the ladies had a wonderful time reminiscing, meeting current students and seeing their work.*

*Wishing all of our families a very happy Christmas.*

*Andrew Evans*

# ANTI VIOLENCE BEE

Y9 and Y10 pupils received a visit in November from the Anti-violence Bee during its national tour.

The Anti-violence Bee was created by the British Ironwork Centre in Oswestry, Shropshire, the same company that made the Knife Angel, which attracted thousands of visitors to its tour of cities across the UK. It's hoped the Bee will replicate the Knife Angel's impact but also be able to reach more communities in the region. The Bee has been specially designed on a trailer to allow it to be easily transported to schools and public spaces.

Two years in the making, the Anti-violence Bee was originally commissioned by Greater Manchester Police and it is made up of thousands of weapons taken from the streets of the city. The worker bee is an important symbol to the people of Manchester and was chosen to show the strength of the community. Working in partnership with local councils, West Mercia Police was delighted to secure the Bee at the start of a national tour, which also coincided with Operation Sceptre, a national operation designed to educate young people about the dangers and consequences of carrying a knife as well as targeting those who carry weapons and disrupt the sale and supply of knives.

The variety and sheer volume of the weapons in the Bee is a stark reminder that we need to continue to work with young people to suppress violence.





# FOOD BANK UNIFORM DONATION

In September JMHS made a donation of second-hand uniform to Ledbury Food Bank. Andy Collard, Deputy Headteacher said: "Over the summer we had this growing concern about the cost of living crisis and school uniform is a part of that. Our uniform actually only costs about 40% of the national average but with food prices, fuel and energy bills all going up, it is just another burden for families."

"The Food Bank is incredibly busy at the moment - so much so they've extended their opening hours - and have already had several enquiries from parents about uniform. So we put the message out to parents that we wanted more second-hand uniform and we were inundated - the response was genuinely touching. It's all good quality, you wouldn't even know it's second-hand and the kids are passionate about recycling and reusing so it works from that point of view as well."

"It's a privilege to support the Food Bank and if it helps the community and parents, then it's a win for everyone."

Ledbury Food Bank has extended its opening hours and can now be visited on Thursday evenings between 6pm and 8pm, as well as 10am-12pm Wednesday and Friday.



**LEDBURY**  
TOWN COUNCIL

## WARM SPACES IN LEDBURY

- Mondays -** Methodist Church 9am to 6pm, Library 9:30am to 4:30pm
- Tuesdays -** Catholic Church of the Most Holy Trinity 1.30- 5pm, Library 9:30am to 4:30pm
- Wednesdays -** Ledbury Foodbank 12pm to 4pm
- Thursdays -** Ledbury Baptist Church 10am to 5pm, Library 9:30am to 4:30pm
- Fridays -** Ledbury Foodbank 12pm to 4pm, Library 9:30am to 4:30pm
- Saturdays -** Ledbury Baptist Church 10am to 12pm (St Michael's) Library 9:30am to 12:30pm
- Sundays -** Various Churches are open

TALK COMMUNITY

COME ON IN

GET NICE & TOASTY

HAVE A CHAT

# WE ARE A WARM SPACE

[talkcommunity.org/warmspace](http://talkcommunity.org/warmspace)

Herefordshire Council

## STUDENT FUNDRAISING

Friday 21 October was a non-school uniform day to raise funds that were shared between two very special charities that JMHS are supporting this year; Cancer Research and APEC who support families affected by pre-eclampsia. Students were permitted to wear non-school uniform for a suggested donation of £2.

Health & Social care students in Y9 and JM6 also held a cake sale raising over £180. In total we raised over £1158 with £487 going to Cancer Research and £672 to Action for Pre-Eclampsia.



CANCER RESEARCH UK



ACTION ON PRE-ECLAMPSIA  
PROMOTING SAFER PREGNANCY



# STAFF FUNDRAISERS

## Liz Witherford...

Last month, I took part in Cancer Research UK's "Run 60 in September" again to help fundraise for life-saving research into the treatment and cures of all types of cancer.

Having completed the Challenge last year, you might ask yourself why I agreed to do it again this year when I found it so tough last year. Well cancer has affected so many of my friends and family; some have been successful in their fight and I can still enjoy happy times with them now, others have not been so lucky and have left a huge void in my life. I feel very privileged to have had a healthy life and so I wanted to do my bit once again to support everyone who has, is or maybe will be affected by cancer.

With determination, I completed my 60 miles (in runs of varying lengths from 1 mile to 6 miles) on 21<sup>st</sup> September, so to encourage further donations, I set myself an extended challenge of "Running every single day in September", this being on top of my normal sporting activities and work!

Physically and mentally it was a tough month, but fortunately the good weather offered me much encouragement to get out and to pound the streets and

## Lana Laidler...

On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October I ran the London Marathon in support of APEC (Action on Pre-Eclampsia), a charity based in Evesham who are celebrating 30 years of their amazing work this year. This was my first marathon. The training was long and tough at times, especially in the heat of the summer, but the marathon itself was an incredible experience. The runners, the crowds and the volunteers made it an overwhelming experience on the day and I was extremely proud to be running in support of APEC.

Pre-eclampsia is a serious disease of pregnancy which initially causes high blood pressure but can quickly lead to severe fitting, blood clotting disorders, stroke and slow growth in the unborn baby, plus the increased risks associated with premature delivery (which is the only way to cure pre-eclampsia).

In the UK it affects 1 in 10 pregnancies and leads to the death of around 1000 babies every year. Worldwide a young woman dies every 6 minutes as a result of pre-eclampsia.



hills around my home. By the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, I had completed a mammoth 86.5 miles and raised over £800 for Cancer Research UK, both figures exceeding my achievement of last year. All in all, not bad for someone who had always said they could never run and only took up Couch-2-5k during Covid!

To be supported by school through our non-uniform day was awesome and I'm hoping that with your help, my fundraising amount will break the £1000 barrier – remember, statistics say 1 in 2 people will suffer from cancer during their lives but we can all do a bit to improve future prospects of sufferers.

Together we can beat cancer.



APEC aims to raise public and professional awareness of pre-eclampsia, improve care, and ease or prevent physical and emotional suffering caused by the disease. They do this by providing information and support to members of the public who are affected by pre-eclampsia. They also provide online education and multi-disciplinary study days for health professionals who work with pregnant women, providing expert training on detection and management of pre-eclampsia. APEC also support research projects on pre-eclampsia and provide the patient voice.



# COLOGNE 2022

This December we were delighted to be able to resume our KS4 trip for GCSE German students to Cologne.

46 students with accompanying staff visited the German city, leaving JMHS on the 1st December and staying in the Köln Deutz Youth Hostel. During the trip students visited Phantasialand, the largest winter themed park in Europe, Cologne Cathedral, the Lindt Chocolate Museum as well as enjoying browsing the Christmas markets in the city.

The trip is a wonderful opportunity for students to soak up the festive atmosphere of Cologne at Christmas and to practice their German speaking and listening skills.

The German trip was truly an amazing experience and I enjoyed it so much! Every day was packed full of exciting activities. My favourite part was visiting the Christmas markets every evening, trying new foods and just enjoying the magical atmosphere.

Lily Irving

I enjoyed the experience of visiting a new country and its culture. I loved the food, architecture and going on new rides at Phantasialand. The cathedral was truly impressive and climbing the tower with friends helped me overcome my massive fear of heights. The Lindt Chocolate Museum was interesting with free Schokolade and ice skating outdoors in the middle of a Christmas market was great fun. But the best part is the friendly, festive atmosphere in Cologne (and the doughnut balls!!).

Sophie Cage



# FOR THE LOVE OF DANCE

John Masefield Performing Arts department hosted their first event with the newly installed theatre seating this term with the annual Autumn Dance Showcase 'For the Love of Dance'. Over 55 talented students from all year groups performed dances in a range of styles and entertained a packed out audience.

Y11 and JM6 dance students demonstrated their skills as part of their assessment for their vocational qualifications in exciting performances to songs from Chicago, Footloose and Moulin Rouge. They transported the audience with their thrilling choreography and engaging characters.

There were also some lovely solo performances, duets and trios choreographed by the students themselves demonstrating their fantastic creativity, musicality and expression. The dance clubs brought a brilliant energy to the stage and performed lively large group dances which lifted the atmosphere of the theatre.

The show was an enormous success in showcasing the wonderful talent we have at John Masefield and bringing students of all ages together for the love of dance.



# PUMPKIN FIESTA

Our current Y8s took part in a pumpkin growing competition earlier this year. They grew seedlings which Mrs Davies then planted in her allotment. The result were some beautiful pumpkins which our Y10 cookery students then transformed into a spicy soup which was served with a bread roll and pumpkin seeds, pumpkin tarts, pumpkin chutney and an absolutely delicious frosted pumpkin cake which were sold to staff to raise over £150 for a new local defibrillator.





# TUTOR TIME READING

This year we have introduced a whole school tutor time reading programme. Students in year groups 7-9 will have two 20 minute sessions a week which should mean they achieve approximately 24 hours of reading time during the school year. Texts have been chosen to provide sufficient enjoyment and challenge for the relevant year groups. A broad range of themes such as mental health, equalities and identity have been chosen to cover lots of the subject matter we discuss during their PHSRE sessions. We are already seeing some lively debates and interesting discussions about these books so it is clear the reading is having an impact.

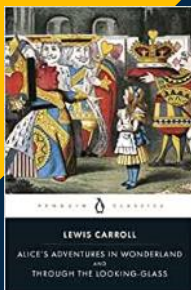
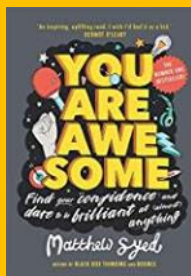
## WHY IS READING ALOUD IMPORTANT?

Reading aloud is a vital bridge to literacy.

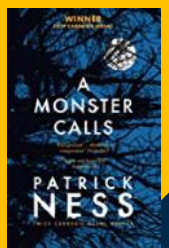
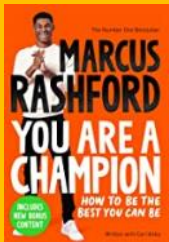
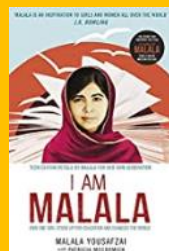
The author Michael Rosen says “advice that children should still be read to as teenagers makes sense, as they learn the complex gear changes between speech and prose.” Experts say reading aloud to children, free from accompanying work or exercises, is key to fostering reading for pleasure. A 2018 National Literacy Trust study found that children who enjoyed reading were **significantly less likely to have mental health problems**, while the Centre for Longitudinal Studies found in 2013 that reading for pleasure has a **four times greater impact on academic success than one parent having a degree**.

## THE BOOKS

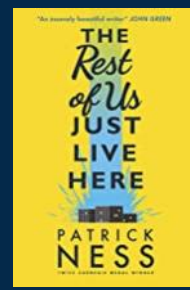
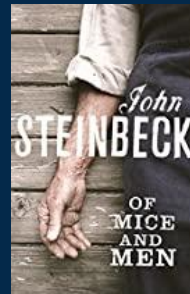
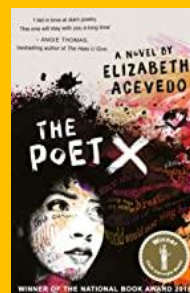
Y7



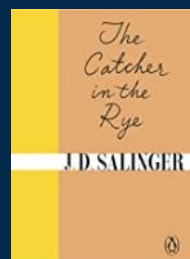
Y8



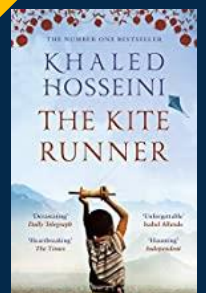
Y9



Y10



Y11



# JMHS ♥ READING



## BOOKBUZZ 2022

Bookbuzz is a reading programme from BookTrust that aims to help schools inspire a love of reading in 11 to 13 year-olds.

Participating schools get to give their students the opportunity to choose their own book to take home and keep from a list of 17 titles. They are all carefully selected by a panel of experts to ensure quality, suitability and to encourage reading for pleasure. At JMHS we held a book tasting session with the library transformed into a restaurant so students could choose their books. The books were ordered and arrived just in time for a Christmas delivery to the Y7 and 8 classes!

## STORY TIME VISIT

18 Y8s took part in two story time sessions this term for Y2 pupils from Ledbury Primary School.

As part of their Reading Ladder Award Challenges the students had to become reading buddies so this gave us the perfect excuse to invite the Y2s up for some fun reading and story telling. Thank you to LPS for being such wonderful visitors.



## CRUCIAL CREATORS

Y8 & 9 students took part in a poetry workshop in September. Students worked to bring a poem to life through animation with the help of artist Lily May Kroese. The students had a wonderful creative afternoon and it was inspiring to see their different interpretations of the poem brought to life. Thank you to Ledbury Poetry Festival for this opportunity.





# OUR UKRAINIAN FAMILIES

It has been a huge pleasure for us to welcome children from Ukraine and Afghanistan to JMHS over the last year. All these students have shown excellent manners, are working hard and contributing well to JMHS. We were delighted to receive this lovely letter from our Ukrainian families.



# DID YOU KNOW...

At JMHS pupils are able to visit our school nurse Nikki. Nikki is in school every Monday to talk with students about anything related to their health or mental wellbeing. For more information please see below or get in touch with our pastoral team.

# JM6 NEWS



## ENRICHMENT AFTERNOON AT ICEQUEST

Students from both Y12 and 13 enjoyed a teambuilding visit to Icequest Malvern, taking part in ice-skating, laser-tag and escape rooms. The students demonstrated excellent teamwork whilst having fun - not one team was 'locked in', all made it out of the escape room! "It was great!" said Olga, Y13. "I thoroughly enjoyed it." said Liv, Y13. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to relax and enjoy after working so hard this term.



Josh Crickett & Olivia Morris representing JMHS & JM6 at Ledbury's Remembrance Parade this November

# JM6 NEWS

## TRANSITION DAY

### SIXTH FORM LSAs

As part of a wide range of leadership opportunities, JM6 students can become paid Learning Support Assistants (LSAs). After receiving training, LSAs support students in Y7-11, either on a one-to-one basis or in lessons usually working on a one-to-one basis. This is having a significant impact on the confidence and progress of the students they are supporting. In the past, LSAs have supported in English, maths and science, but now we are using their support across all subjects.

### SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS APPLYING TO OXFORD OR CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

On 16 November, we arranged for Ellie Wood, Admissions and Outreach Officer for Christ's College, Cambridge University, to meet our Y13 Oxbridge applicants to provide advice and guidance for their interviews. This was followed up with Ellie meeting our potential Year 12 Oxbridge applicants for an introduction to Oxford or Cambridge and the application process. The students found the sessions extremely useful and informative.

### SAFER STREETS INITIATIVE

As an extension to their Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural (SMSC) programme all Y12 students have now engaged in a series of presentations under the 'Safer Streets' initiative. The students can now identify what the early warning signs of an unhealthy relationship are and have an increased awareness of sexual abuse and exploitation. They are also aware of the importance of active bystander behaviour when dealing with inappropriate behaviour. The students responded well and felt that they had benefited from the sessions delivered by Purple Leaf Education and West Mercia Women's Aid.



JM6 head student Elli Thomas did a wonderful reading at the Ledbury carol service on 11th December at St Michael & All Angels

## Y11 SIXTH FORM TASTER DAY

On the 18th November, 115 of our Y11 students had a break from their usual GCSE diet and became Sixth Formers for the day, experiencing a range of A 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 what differentiation is and why we need to use it. In English they explored the role of dreams in the Gothic genre in challenging cultural taboos, photographers created beautiful cyanotype prints. In Biology students undertook a range of experiments to hone their practical skills, including a kidney 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 from different styles including Brecht, and 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 what business in the future might look like, and the key drivers of change.

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



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](http://www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk/sixth-form)





# SPORTS NEWS...

## HOCKEY



Congratulations to our Y8 and Y9 Girls Hockey teams. Y9 recently played a mini tournament at JMHS beating Aylestone 3-0 and drawing against Lucton 1-1 and our Y8's played a County tournament at Whitecross School. The Y8's played with grit and resilience, defending like heroes and attacking ferociously! They didn't win any medals, however they came back to school with proud smiles and tired legs!

Well done girls—bring it on next year!

## Y10 COUNTY CHAMPS!

Y10 have had another strong season on the rugby pitch, which saw them crowned as the U15 County Champions. They played some hard-hitting powerful rugby and the skill and pace of our backs has been most impressive.

Playing Bishops in the County final, the game started with JMHS needing to defend resiliently under some severe pressure. Fortunately, we kept discipline and made tackles to prevent the opposition from scoring. The first half was a tense affair as both teams fought hard to gain any sort of foothold in the game. JMHS opened the scoring with a penalty kick from Callum P that meant we went into the break 3-0 to the good. At half time the mood was confident and determined.

The second half started much like the first with Bishops in the ascendency. JMHS did however look a constant threat with their pace out wide and were unfortunate with a couple of breaks that did not quite work out.

With the game finely poised and both teams knowing any score would be huge, Eddi N made a stunning break from deep in his own half to score the first try of the game. JMHS now looked more confident and energetic, and scored two further tries through Alex D and Nathan F to win the game 24-0.

It was great to see the game played as it should be; tough, hard-fought, yet always in the right spirit. The squad have had a terrific season and should congratulate themselves on the focus, discipline and resilience they have shown in training and in matches.

Squad: Harry O'B, Callum P, Eddi N, Fabian K, Fletcher T, Ben P, Ryan S, Keanu C, Brad L, Callum L, Freddie D, Casper W, Ollie J, Adam B, Nathan F, Alex D, Tom CN, Fergus RC, Tim W

Results: JKHS 55-10, Fairfield 42-22, Kingstone 24-12, Bishops 24-0 (final)



## NETBALL

It has been great to see so many students attending Netball Club on Mondays. Y9 and Y11 played in a County tournament with both year groups finishing in the top half.

JM6 students continue to lead a practice on Monday afternoons for Y10 and 11 students. JM6 netball results have been improving during the course of the term, with the high energy and positive mental attitude of the students shining through

## Y8 RUGBY

Large numbers of Y8 students have attended training led by Mr Seager (Ledbury RFC). Students have played some hard-fought games. Most impressive have been situations where the boys have passed the ball well and run onto the passes with pace and energy through the gain line. I would like to thank Mr Seager and Ledbury RFC for all their hard work with coaching the boys and allowing us to hire their excellent facilities for matches.

## FOOTBALL

U15 and U16 teams are progressing well in the ESFA Small Schools trophy. Both teams have recorded wins against some strong opponents and are looking to continue this run into the New Year. Y10 are through to the last 16 of their competition and the U16 team are into the last 32. In Y10, selection has been an issue with 18 high quality players available to play, all of whom have played their part in the results so far.