

# UP-DATE

Issue 95 Spring Term 2024



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# FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This edition of Update magazine reflects an exciting range of enrichment activities that have taken place during a short Spring Term. Sixth Formers visiting CERN had an opportunity to see how the greatest living physicists are working to unlock the secrets of the universe and visit the United Nations in Geneva, whilst our Y11 artists were inspired by visiting galleries in London. The celebrations for World Book day included beautifully decorated classroom doors that took us into the world of The Gruffalo or Willie Wonka's factory and a superb author visit from Steve Camden. Visits to Cadbury World and The Grand Hotel help students to learn more about how their GCSE course such as business studies and food technology link to the real world of work.

In addition to these trips and visits, it is great to see so many students participating in sports clubs, art clubs and many other activities. It is my strong belief that students who make the effort to participate in extra-curricular activities enjoy school more, and are more likely to thrive and succeed. One of the huge highlights for me this term was the wonderful production of 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat'. All the students who participated enjoyed the teamwork and camaraderie, and put on an amazing show that we all enjoyed. This was the last school production led by Julie Kyle, who has been a wonderful Faculty Leader for Performing Arts and contributed hugely to JMHS through excellent teaching and a superb arts enrichment programme for the past 15 years. Mrs Kyle leaves us at Easter, and I would like to wish her all the very best for the future.

With my very best wishes

Andrew Evans

## POLITICAL DEBATES

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> of February students in Y12 attended a "town hall" from Ellie Chowns, the Green candidate for North Herefordshire. Ellie spoke for 10 minutes on the housing crisis as well as some of the environmental challenges Herefordshire is facing. You will be pleased to hear that Y12 didn't hold back! They asked some excellent, insightful questions and crucially they followed up when they weren't satisfied with an answer. Ellie was very impressed at the



robustness of the debate and was happy that our students seem so politically engaged. An invitation has been extended to all political parties that have announced candidates.

## CONNECTING ACROSS BORDERS: PENFRIEND PROGRAM WITH FRIEDRICH -SPEE-GYMNASIUM RÜTHEN

We are excited to announce that our amazing Y9 German students have organised (with the help of Mrs Piva), a fantastic penfriend program! Our Y9 students are now engaged in friendly correspondence with students from Friedrich-Spee-Gymnasium Rütten, a secondary school in Germany. Through our letters, cultural exchanges, and shared experiences, this initiative aims to foster international friendships and broaden horizons as well as see the importance of foreign languages. Let the ink flow and the connections flourish!



## FILM PREMIERE FOR JMHS STUDENTS



For the last 6 months JMHS students Arsenii Boiko and Matvii Savchenko have been taking part in a project for Ukrainian and Herefordshire young people. Alongside Ukrainian filmmaker Lesya Pushyk and Rural Media the young people have created a film that was presented during the Borderlines 2024 Film Festival which ran during March. The film "Razom" premiered at The Courtyard Theatre in Hereford on the 6th March and Showcases the county's exceptional welcome for displaced Ukrainians. This filmmaking, storytelling, and cultural exploration project was funded by Herefordshire Council and the Parker Johnson Prentice Charitable Trust. Huge congratulations to Arsenii and Matvii for their contribution to this amazing achievement.

To watch the film on YouTube you can follow this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YYs42XbUDuw&t=4s>

This is the link to the Documentary film about the project:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E73spGR9ouA>

# Y9 PEER MENTORING

On Thursday, the 22nd of February Y9 students were visited by Paralympic athlete Andy Lewis. The whole year group had an inspirational assembly about peer mentoring and Andy's amazing accomplishments. Andy won a gold medal in the Rio Paralympic triathlon in 2016 and is also a British, European, and World Champion! For the rest of the morning, a select group of Y9s were able to take part in a peer mentor workshop in the school library where we learned how we could help support other students throughout the school. This course inspired students to not only to help others but also to help themselves, showing that anything is possible no matter what. Students also got to see Andy's gold medal in real life! Thank you to Andy Lewis for visiting us and sharing his amazing story.

Elsie Fletcher



# CADBURY WORLD

On Friday, 23rd February, 40 Y9 students visited Cadbury World in Birmingham. Organized by the Design and Technology Department, the students took part in a marketing, branding, and promotions workshop, where they learned about the visual history of Cadbury throughout its time. Students also learned about Cadbury's journey towards fair trade, sustainability, and becoming a zero emissions factory. During the day, students toured around the public areas of the factory, enjoyed a 4D visual cinema ride experience, and ate copious amounts of delicious Cadbury chocolate! I would like to thank all of the students for getting involved and behaving amazingly well, and a huge thank you to Mrs Davies for organizing the trip. This was a fabulous day for all! Many thanks, Mrs Fox.



# ART CLUB

Here are some glorious watercolour paintings by our Y7 and Y8 Art Club students. These paintings were inspired by the artist Sam Cannon and students have been learning how to create a colour transition using the tricky medium of water colour. Students then created their final piece taking inspiration from a poem and quote. It is wonderful to see these students skill and talent develop over their time in art club.

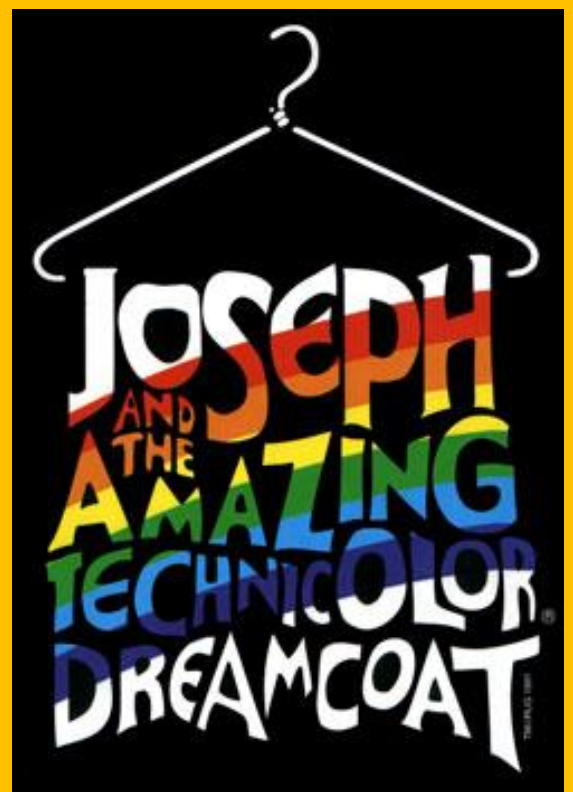


# WHOLE SCHOOL PRODUCTION



This year's whole school production, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat was a resounding success. From the fabulous LED lit stage to the gorgeous colour costumes, this performance was an absolute feast for the eyes!

The students on stage, in the orchestra, technical crews and backstage did an outstanding job of producing an engaging and enjoyable production for their audiences. What an amazing last hurrah for Mrs Kyle who is leaving us at the end of the Spring Term. Well done to all the students who took part and to our wonderful Performing Arts Faculty for all their hard work.



# Food Technology

## BUTCHERY DEMONSTRATION

Y10 Food students had a fantastic opportunity to develop their butchery skills with a demonstration led by Tim Hanks from Hanks Butchers in Ross-on-Wye.

During this practical session, Tim demonstrated how to butcher a whole deer, taking the students' earlier learning of chicken and pheasant butchery to a higher level. The students observed Tim as he skilfully transformed the deer into individual venison joints, discussing the versatility of each cut for various dishes.

Encouraging active participation, Tim invited students to try their hand at butchery and discussed different culinary uses for each joint. Later in the session, some students had the chance to mince the meat and assist Tim in making sausages and burgers. These were cooked by volunteers, concluding the demonstration with a tasting session.

The session was a resounding success, enjoyed by all, and it has sparked interest among students in potential careers in the food industry. Special thanks to Mrs. Davies for her hard work in organising this session, and we eagerly anticipate Tim's return next year.

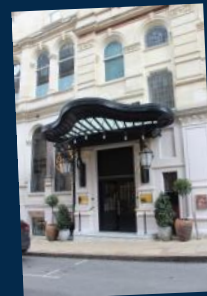


## VISIT TO THE GRAND HOTEL

Y9 Food students recently had the opportunity to visit the Grand Hotel in Birmingham. The trip was organized to provide students with insight into life in a working hotel, supporting their studies in the hospitality industry at John Masefield. The Grand Hotel, a highly rated and quality establishment, reopened just over two years ago after undergoing twenty years of careful refurbishment to restore it to its former glory.

Upon arrival, students were warmly welcomed by two members of the management team, James Higgins and Matty Carter, who gave them a talk about the hotel's history. Following this, small groups were taken on a tour of the hotel, visiting various areas such as the American diner restaurant, the main bar, the awe-inspiring ballroom, a selection of bedrooms, and culminating in a walk from the sixth floor to the ground, down the splendid main staircase. We were informed that this staircase had its own dedicated team of refurbishers who worked exclusively on it over the twenty years, removing over seven layers of paint and grime!

The students' behaviour was excellent throughout the day, and they asked many insightful questions about the hotel's operations. It was an incredibly successful day, and I extend my thanks to Mrs. Davies for organizing the trip for the Food students. We cherish wonderful memories of this historical and magnificent building and eagerly anticipate the day we can all afford to book the Penthouse Suite, which has hosted former guests such as 'Stormzy' and 'Tom Cruise,' for a luxurious stay.



# Food Technology

## SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE

On Wednesday 17 January, the Music department led a trip to see the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra at the Symphony Hall, Birmingham for music students in Y9 to Y12. They were privileged to see the UK Premiere of Dai Fujikura's new piece 'Wavering World', William Walton's Violin Concerto and Symphonie Fantastique by Hector Berlioz. The incredible orchestra delighted all students and conductor Kazuki Yamada was hugely entertaining enabling the audience to connect with the music. The students also got to see the Duke of Edinburgh who was sat a few seats away! A late, but incredibly rewarding evening for all.



## LANGUAGE LEADERS



On Wednesday 6th December we were delighted to take our Y9 Language Leaders to Ledbury Primary School to hold a fun and interactive session with their two Y3 classes.

The afternoon involved groups of students taking part in language games devised by our talented Y9 leaders.

The Y3 students were thoroughly engaged with the games which included all sorts of languages from Spanish, French and German to Welsh.

This visit was a great opportunity for our Language Leaders to develop in confidence and give them a taste of what it is like to teach younger students!

## Y10 UNI VISIT

On the 10th of January we took a group of Y10 students to the St. Johns Campus of Worcester University. These students had expressed an interest in attending university during their careers sessions in PHSE.

On arrival at the university we met Dr Mike Wheeler

the Principal Lecturer in Biology in the Biological Sciences Department. Mike gave us a talk about being a post graduate Science student and what opportunities are available to students who choose these subjects when they enter the work place. He also spoke more generally about the opportunities University studies provide for students and how these can prepare us for our future.

We then had a tour of the facilities at St John's Campus including a look at the Halls of Residence and some of the wonderful sports facilities the university offers.

Finally we were treated to a wonderful and informative talk from two graduates who talked us through all aspects of student life at Worcester.



# GERMAN FILM STUDY DAY

At the end of the autumn term we ventured to London with our A level students to attend the German Film Study Day at the impressive British Film Institute on South Bank. The day started very early to avoid peak rate train prices and meant we had time to experience early morning in the big city and grab a coffee breakfast. The film study day was excellent, attended by over 350 students from different 6th forms and colleges. The lead presenter, a university lecturer, used only German in an interactive, creative way to ensure all students felt involved as we worked through different films. Each student completed a study booklet during the 4 hour session and we were very fortunate that Goodbye Lenin, the film we study at A level, was one of the main films featured.



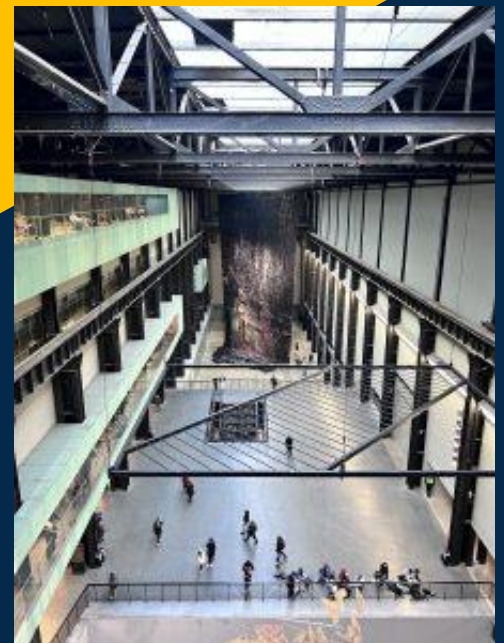
We had time before our return train to explore London on foot with students choosing something nearby to visit. We managed to see Big Ben, Downing Street, watch the Horse Guards and Christmas shop at Fortnum and Mason. We would like to thank the head of 6th Form, Mrs Laidler for purchasing the study day tickets and supporting our educational, cultural and enjoyable day out.

## Y11 IN LONDON!

Our Y11 Art students had a fabulous start to the New Year enjoying a trip on the 9th of January to London to explore some of the cultural treats the capital has to offer.



After an early start leaving JMHS at 7am we arrived in London mid morning. Our first stop was the awe inspiring Tate Modern where the students were able to view some of the most famous and revolutionary pieces of artwork that have shaped art as we know it in today's world.



We then headed off to Delight, an innovative media art exhibition that offers a fresh creative interpretation of the urban city life of Seoul. This was an immersive experience of lighting, visuals, sound and other media. Finally we had a whistle stop tour of White Cube, a contemporary art gallery in Bermondsey before we headed off to Pizza Express for dinner before heading back to Ledbury.

This trip exposed our Y11 students to many diverse form of art and their associated styles and techniques. Visiting galleries, museums, and art installations provides real-world exposure, fostering creativity and helps broaden these students artistic horizons.

Thank you to Mrs Parry and Miss James for organising such an amazing visit.



# JMHS ♥ READING

## WORLD BOOK DAY 2024

Children's author Steven Camden visited us on March 8th for World Book Day and held assemblies with both Y7 and Y8 where he talked about the creative writing process and how he comes up with ideas for his books. Steven's interactive assemblies were great fun and utterly inspirational. After the assembly students were given the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of Steven's books and one lucky Y7 class got to take part in a workshop during their library lesson in the afternoon which was great fun!



## DECORATED TUTOR ROOM DOORS

Tutor groups were challenged to take part in a decorate your door competition for World Book Day. We had some amazing entries from the Hungry Caterpillar to Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Well done to everyone who took part.

## READATHON

Y7 and Y8 are currently taking part in a Read for Good Readathon and raising money for this wonderful charity who provide books for children in hospital all over the UK. Students can be sponsored for all kinds of reading challenges. To donate or sponsor your child please visit <https://readforgood.org/send-money/> Thank you for all your support.



# JM6 NEWS

JM6 has had bumper Winter and Spring Terms with exciting and educating trips, inspiring guest speakers and a number of charity fundraisers, interspersed of course with test weeks, Mock A levels, work experience and University/Apprenticeship interviews. The pace has been high so we've built in exam-calming resources, one-to-one mentoring, study skills, revision and retention slots and even provided a dedicated drop-in session for the 6<sup>th</sup> formers with the school nurse. Both she and our Pastoral Lead are able to signpost students to well-being resources and counselling where needed.

## GUEST SPEAKERS

Guest Speakers to JM6 have really inspired our students over the past few months. A senior GCHQ intelligence officer came and talked to a large group of 6<sup>th</sup> formers about life in the British Intelligence services. He provided highlights from his Cold War years as a Russian linguist, supporting 2 and 3-star generals in Iraq and at the Joint Force HQ in Northwood; running the 24/7 operations centre during several terrorist campaigns and leading the UK arm of a US base in Northern England and briefing several Prime Ministers and Foreign Secretaries. Students were given information around apprenticeships and careers at GCHQ and there were some great questions from the floor.

An ex-manager of the Red Arrows attended our Y12 GCSE awards event and talked about his 30 year career in the RAF and how his aspirations to become an officer were met within a few months of signing up. From a non-officer logistics role to a Flying Officer in the space of a few months, he explained that enthusiasm, grit and determination he earned the fast-track promotion and he encouraged students to take work ethic at school seriously as it would stand them in good stead.



## CHARITY FUNDRAISERS

We are so proud of the Charity arm of the Student Leadership Team who have organised various events in the first half of this academic year, raising funds in excess of £300 for St Michael's Hospice, Children in Need, Cancer Research, The Royal British Legion and Red Nose Day.



## NEXT STEPS FOR Y11

As we approach Easter we have been interviewing current Year 11s who are looking towards level 3 qualifications; i.e. A Levels and BTEC vocational courses. We have provided a taster day for all Year 11s in the dedicated JM6 building and look forward to a transition day in the Summer term for those planning to join us in September.

## UNIVERSITY VISITS

Recent trips in JM6 have included visits to some local universities including Aston University and all of our Y12 attended a UCAS event at Worcester University where they met representatives from Universities, Apprenticeships and Employers. These trips are ideal for preparing our students for their next steps in their educational journeys.



For more information about JM6 please contact:

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



# JM6 NEWS

## CERN 2024



It was an early start! Fortunately, the bus from school to Heathrow was warm and comfortable, and before most of us would normally be waking up we were checked-in and on our way to Geneva. It had to be an early start as we had a lot to fit in.

Our first visit was to the Geneva Observatory. Due to the slightly confusing bus system we also managed to include a short tramp across the Swiss countryside, enjoying blue skies and beautiful views of the Jura mountains. Once we got to our destination, they showed us one of the on-site telescopes they use, but also the control room for their main telescopes in the Chile's Atacama desert; it was amazing to think that a dish 11,000 km away would be turning left or right depending on the clicks of a mouse in the room.

After a large breakfast the next day we took the tram in the direction of the mountains, to CERN where we received a short lecture on the history of particle research at CERN. We then headed off on a bus to the other side of the facility for a look at how the collider is controlled and how experiments are performed; you know you are involved in serious science when it takes 10 minutes in a vehicle to cross your apparatus!

Our first tour was about how they run the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) ring itself. Using a huge display screen a research scientist talked us through some of the main techniques used to spin two infinitesimally small particle beams around a 27 km ring, and then bring them to collide where needed. Part-way through the talk a button was pressed, the display screen became transparent, and we could see the control centre for the LHC next door!

We also visited ALICE, one of the four main experiments on the LHC (another bus journey required!). With the beam in operation, we weren't able to go down to see the ring itself, but saw the control centre for the experiment, and could look down into a 40 m void to the concrete shielding below that was keeping us safe from high energy radiation. Displays in a presentation theatre gave us an idea of the vast scale of the detector, and exhibits of old equipment demonstrated the mind-bogglingly complicated engineering involved. The researcher told

'quark-gluon plasmas' produced by smashing lead nuclei together, which replicate the conditions in the Universe a few millionths of a second after the Big Bang; knowing what happened then is key to working out why the Universe is like it is now.

We spent the afternoon at the CERN visitor centre, trying out various interactive exhibits that illustrate some of the key science and engineering on which the whole operation relies. We also got to see the world's very first web server, on which Tim Berners-Lee first deployed the HTML protocol. Without that computer would TikTok even exist?

With a head full of information we headed into Geneva that evening. The city is known for its high-end watch and pen shops, but we were lucky also to find a light-festival in progress, with various art works dotted around the town along the side of the lake. Kinetic sculptures driven by pedal bikes, a light-beam transmitter allowing you to send Morse code across the river, a sheet of spray in the lake being used as a huge projection screen for images of marine life; there was a lot of creativity on display.

We had seen a lot already by the Thursday morning, but we took a bus (past the UN building) to the Geneva Museum of Science, which housed a collection of all sorts of old device and equipment that told of the city's contribution to science and medicine. Then it was a stroll down from the museum to the town centre, past the 140 m fountain firing straight out from the surface of the lake, and a bus to the airport.

We were lucky with the weather on the flight back and were treated to a gorgeous sunset that never seemed to end. The night was clear, and as we crossed the Channel you could see both coasts at once, lights twinkling away at each other, separated by a distance only just over one trip around the LHC.



# SPORTS NEWS...

## Y10 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to our Y10 basketball team who have been crowned County Champions. After winning their group the team qualified for the tournament finals which were held at Whitecross School. In their first game against The Hereford Academy they overcame a 6-0 deficit to win the match 9-8 before beating Aylestone 5-0 in their second match to go on undefeated and become the overall winners. The winning team included Charlie, Freddie, Fin, Daejuan, Ben, Lewis, Liam, Harley and James. The team represented JMHS brilliantly and demonstrated great sportsmanship and determination. Well done to them all!



## Y9 GIRLS FOOTBALL

Starling Bank's 'Kick On with Starling' campaign involving Lioness, Jill Scott, aims to help grow the women and girls' football community at grassroots clubs and schools. Last summer they offered clubs and schools the opportunity to apply for a Starling Bank sponsored team pack. We are very grateful to Ms Davies for successfully submitting a JMHS application for this support. We received a complete girls' football strip for 16, training equipment, match balls, and a lot more at the start of the Autumn Term. Thanks also to 'Your Name on it' for adding the JMHS logo to the kit. The Y9 girls' football team wore the new the strip for the first time this week and we hope that there 5-0 win against St Mary's School on Tuesday is a good omen for a winning streak now the new kit is available. The winning team included Holly R, Eden M, Poppy B, Stella R, Angela M, Lily M, Gracie C, Eloise T, Tilly O and Bea P

## SHOW JUMPING

On Sunday 25th February the JMHS Show jumping team competed in the NSEA Eventers Challenge at Allen's Hill in Pershore.

Massive congratulations to Jamie Owen in Y10 who came 1st in Round 1 (out of 56 riders) and is now heading to the National Finals and to the rest of the team; Y9 students Marissa Pigott and Lottie Thompson who represented JMHS in equestrian showing jumping. The team were placed 5th out of 12 schools in Round 1 and 6th out of 8 schools in Round 2. The trio demonstrated some impressive riding and wonderful horsemanship throughout the event. We are very proud of them and look forward to hearing all about their next outing!



