



Head Teacher's Newsletter

SPRING TERM

Issue No 03 | March 2024



Mrs Frost-Briggs' message of the month!



It's been another action-packed term at JF over the last few months!

This term, we say goodbye to Mrs Wooler in Drama who is moving on to a new opportunity. We wish Mrs Wooler all the very best on her new adventure.

We also say goodbye to Miss Tyers, our Deputy Head Teacher in charge of the pastoral side of the school. Miss Tyers is moving to take on her first Headship at Alvaston Moor School in Derby. Miss Tyers has made an impact and left an imprint on JF in the short space of time she has been here and we wish her all the very best of luck with her Headship!

We welcome Mr David Penman as our new Deputy Head Teacher after the holiday; an experienced senior leader who is looking forward to taking on this role and working with students, staff, parents and carers to provide the best possible pastoral care for all.

The Great Balloon Debate!

This year's Oracy Competition asked students to engage in a great balloon debate! The students were set the challenge by Mr Hampton to debate which figure from history should be sacrificed from a sinking hot air balloon to save the others!

Students have to use persuasive language, research skills and oracy skills to convince an audience to save their character in the Grand Final on last day of term! I'm really looking forward to hearing the presentations from finalists representing Martin Luther-King, Amelia Earhart, Boudicca, Brunel and Leonardo da Vinci.

Standing up and speaking in front of their peers is a difficult task for the students and I am so impressed with their commitment to doing this! All the best of luck to everyone taking part!



The Maths department ran a Pi Day Challenge to memorise the most amount of digits of Pi.

Well done to **Lara B** (Yr 8) and **Ellis H** (Yr 7) for reciting 100 digits!

Huge well done to winner **Annie D** (Yr 8) for reciting an amazing 105 digits!



Recent projects in DT from Year 8 and 9 include a new sweet dispenser, a USB Lamp and a Spotify gift!



World Book Day!

The staff took their participation in dressing up for World Book Day very seriously this year! Staff enjoyed putting on a series of activities for the students to enjoy and celebrate reading, literature, and books!



Primary transition...

We are excited to announce that we have launched our Year 5 Scholars Programme!

Year 5 students visited us last half-term from some of our feeder primary schools to take part in the first ever JF Scholars programme. They took part in an assembly and three lessons which were all themed around astronomy, linking to first Astronomer Royal, John Flamsteed himself:

- In English, students wrote their own experience of travelling to space
- In Maths, students completed an astronomy-themed escape room
- In Science, students designed, made and launched their own rockets

We look forward to strengthening our work with the Primary Schools in order to ensure Year 6 to 7 transition is the most supportive it can be.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7s into our JF family in September.



Great achievements...

Some of our Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 students took part in the UKMT Intermediate maths challenge this term and did brilliantly!

Best in school was achieved by Ted H! Well done! 😊

What's happening in History?

The History department welcomed back Year 7 students in January armed with their fabulous castles projects. From stone keep castles made out of delicious cake to cardboard Motte and Bailey castles, students once again amazed with their efforts in our annual Year 7 competition. There were individual form prizes, which included history books as well as sweet treats.

Well done to Robbie C who produced a rather magnificent model canon to accompany his written project. It was certainly something we have never seen before! Thank you to all our wonderful parents and carers who support our students to produce outstanding work.

Year 9 students have recently visited the National Holocaust centre in Laxton where they met with a Holocaust survivor, 86 year old Simon Winston, who shared a very personal story which was both touching and moving. Students were keen to be rewarded with tickets to enter a prize draw for demonstrating The JF Way in going above and beyond to impress. They were engaged throughout the day, asked many excellent questions and were super competitive in seeking out answers in the museum exhibition. Six students were the lucky recipients of copies of the book "The Fighter from Auschwitz" novel which we hope they will treasure as a reminder of the day.



The Maths stars this half-term are...



In Music...

This term we have enjoyed the Year 8 Song Contest where 148 Year 8 students performed to an audience of their peers. Each class chose a song to practise this half term, then had an hour-long workshop with Zee before they performed in front of the year group and judges. Mrs Peynado is extremely proud of all pupils that performed, from those that chose to sing solos and duets, right through to those who were out of their comfort zone, but still gave 100%. The winning form were.....8S - well done! Year 8 are definitely nothing short of remarkable!

Inspiration Day 2 - March

This week saw our second Inspiration Day where students took part in a range of activities:

Year 7 enjoyed a Faith and Culture day

Year 8 focussed on mental health and wellbeing with Sporting Communities

Year 9 enjoyed a workshop from Talk the Talk to promote their presentation skills

Year 10 worked on their team building skills at Acclimatize

Year 11 met over 50 local employers for mock interviews

All the guest speakers spoke very highly of our students saying how respectful, articulate and impressive they were which made us very proud!

Social Media

Please do follow us on Social Media so you can get more regular updates on what is happening in school. Top trending posts this month have been: The opening of our Class Charts reward store, the launch of the kindness A point, the Anti-bullying Ambassadors' kindness calendar, the Rotary art competition where Yuliana in Y8 came 1st, fund-raising events to support Tobias' charity work trip to Kenya, the Mock Trial!

Well done to...

Well done to Lexi in Year 7 for her standout written report in response to "Pompei" by Karen Ball in the History department's World Book Day competition.

Well done to...

Our U14 girls football team are in the quarter finals of the county cup!!



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