Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term, following what I hope was a restful week for all of our families. The term ahead is a busy one with Mock Exams, a Christmas Concert, the Celebration of Achievement Evening, our Sixth Form Open Evening and many more events.

I hope, therefore, to see many of you over the next few weeks as you join us to support your children in the wide variety of activities that they participate in at school.

It is also around this time of year that we like to find out what you feel about the progress that the school is making. A separate letter regarding the parent survey has been sent home via Parent Pay this morning. It can also be found here and directly through the school website. I would love to have a strong return from parents in order to have a full picture from you all about what you feel the school is doing well, and where we could be doing better. Thank you in advance for this.

JRSA (PTA)

JRSA section (click here) - you can subscribe to the lottery or register with Easyfundraising to support the school, or find some dates for your diary for social events to meet other parents. JRSA link to our website click here.

NEW—Quick Links—News to Share Page

Please see our new Quick Links—News to Share Page for instant navigation to sections of interest—click here.

Yours faithfully,

Cath Smith
Executive Headteacher
Welcome back everyone. I hope you are all fully rested and ready for the term ahead.

Year 7 Group Changes
You will have received a letter before half term regarding changes to your child’s timetable. Unfortunately, due to a glitch in our computer system, the information was incorrect. This is regrettable, however the issue has now been rectified. Your child will be directly informed by their Head of Subject.

On Monday, 4th November, there will be some changes made to the Maths groupings.

Many thanks,

Josephine Okokon
Associate Headteacher
Maze Hill Lead
Quick Links—News to Share Page

**News from the JRSA (PTA)**  – Please see news [here](#). Website click [here](#).

**News from the Heads of Year**
For Year 7 click [here](#)
For Year 8 click [here](#)
For Year 9 click [here](#)
For Year 10 click [here](#)
For Year 11 click [here](#)
For Sixth Form click [here](#)

**Music Department News**  – Please click [here](#)

**The John Roan School Library News**—can be found [here](#)

**Dates for the Diary** click [here](#)

**The John Roan School Library and Mycenae House Reach Out Newsletter** can be found [here](#)

**GCSE/BTEC Parents Information Booklet**  – please see [here](#) and is also available directly via the school website.

**Parent Survey Letter** can be found [here](#) and directly through the school website.
If you would like to support your school by doing very little, now is the time to do it when Christmas is fast approaching. The John Roan School has an Easy Fundraising account, what this means is anyone buying online can get free money for the school.

You firstly need to sign into Easy Fundraising and choose The John Roan School Association as your good cause (details attached). If your computer has the latest operating system, you will be able to add the icon link to your tool bar. Every time you shop online a pop up will remind you to click on it before you buy. It’s simple, please give it a go.

I would also like to welcome new members to our meeting, especially those who have offered to help with marketing PR and accounts, thank you. Please look out for our minutes in the few weeks, we are planning a few events and would welcome any help.

Happy shopping,

Kind regards
Eve Daniels—Co-chair

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/
## Dates for the Diary — Autumn Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 Nov</td>
<td>Remembrance Day Celebrations</td>
<td>MH &amp; WP</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/C 18 Nov — 6 Dec</td>
<td>Year 11 Mocks</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Nov</td>
<td>Instrumental Concert</td>
<td>MH Hall</td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>4.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Nov</td>
<td>Year 11 Options Evening</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Dec</td>
<td>JRSA (PTA) Meeting</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>6.45pm</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/C 9 Dec — 19 Dec</td>
<td>Sixth Form Mocks</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Dec</td>
<td>INSET DAY</td>
<td>School closed</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Dec</td>
<td>Celebration of Achievement Evening</td>
<td>MH Hall</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/C 16 Dec</td>
<td>Achievement Assemblies</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Concert</td>
<td>MH Hall</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>8.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Dec</td>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I hope you all had a lovely holiday and a good rest. Year 7 have made a fantastic start back, looking smart, behaving well and working hard.

PRIDE Day
On the 4th December we have our second PRIDE Day, which will focus on staying fit and healthy with an emphasis on healthy bodies, minds and relationships.

Assembly
Ms Farwell and 7O are planning and delivering the assembly for next week, their topic is Remembrance Day which we are all looking forward to.

Homework
This week, students have been the visiting the ICT Rooms to log onto 'Show my Homework', accessing the programme in school to change and personalise their password. Hopefully there will be no further issues, but if your child is having difficulties please send them to me to resolve the problem.

Welcome back to all of the Year 8’s!

This week during assembly, we have launched a new initiative to reward student’s attendance this half term. Each week there will be a draw for all students with 100% attendance for this half term, their reward will be a “jump to the front” pass. This will allow them to jump to the front of the food queue at Breaktime and Lunchtime for the week. At the end of this half term, we will be completing a prize draw for all students who have 95% or greater attendance for this half term. I look forward to announcing these prize winner at the end of the term.

PRIDE points totals were calculated for Term 1 and the top 3 places were awarded as follows:

3rd 8N - 1832 points
2nd 8O - 2763 points
1st 8R - 2897 points

Well done to all students in these forms! Keep up the good work.

Hope everyone has a great weekend.
It was good to see and welcome back our Year 9s after their Half Term break. Everyone has had a productive and settled first week back, which is always a positive.

On Thursday the 31st, our girls football team had their first Cup game against International Academy of Greenwich (IAOG). We won 2–1! We played very well and the girls will have a special mention in assembly on Monday. The girls went all the way to the final last year, but fell at the last hurdle. Fingers crossed they can go one step further this year and we can win the cup. The girls also have a Basketball fixture which I will announce in next week’s newsletter.

I am looking forward to taking the Year 9 boys football team to their away match in the Cup in a few weeks time! I’m really looking forward to taking the boys and watch them showcase their skills.

Lastly for this week – Attendance. Last year, our year group was ranked as the best in the school for attendance. Unfortunately, this year we are now the worst year group. Please make every effort for your child to be in school on time each day. Even if they seem unwell, as we can always send them home if they become worse during the day.

The amount of information and lessons they miss in one day is incredible. I am aware that last year we had numerous issues with the school being shut. However, this year, the school and the atmosphere has significantly improved. We now need our attendance to start improving now too. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to support.

Have a great weekend.

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Work Experience – a reminder that ‘Own Find’ Forms need to be returned to Ms Proctor (WEx Admin) by the end of this half term. Forms will not be accepted after the Christmas break.

GCSE/BTEC Parents Information Booklet – please see here and also available directly via the school website. This booklet is designed to give parents an understanding of the courses that their child is currently studying. If you have any questions, please contact the Head of Department.
Reminder – Only 10 school days to go before the mock exams commence on Monday, 18th November. I’ve been really impressed and pleased with the number of students who are now staying late and using the facilities in the ICT breakout area to support their revision. I know not all students like to revise at school and that is absolutely fine, but please may I ask for your support in ensuring that your child is seriously preparing for the upcoming exams as I am very concerned with the number of students that I have spoken with who have still not started revising. It is not too late to start revising now, if revision has not already started. It just means that it will need to be more intensive. Please use the information/resources provided at the recent Key Stage 4 Parents Information Evening to support with this. Please see below for guidance on how to carry out effective revision (research driven) for you and your child to peruse.

Reminder — John Roan School Class of 2020 Yearbook is on ParentPay, ready to purchase at the fantastic price of £16. Please could you get your orders in early. Thank you again for the photos of your children as babies but I’d still like some more for our double spread of “guess the baby”. It was a pleasure to receive so many baby photos last week for the yearbook (thank you for them). It is not too late to provide baby pictures for the yearbook (a digital copy is preferred to a hard copy).

Please could you ensure that I receive back a signed permission slip from you and your child, so that I am able to use photos we have from trips, SIMs etc and also that you give permission for your child to take Tutor/Year Group photos for the yearbook.

Reminder — School Leavers “hoodies” shop has been set up. The website is https://www.schoolleaverscompany.co.uk/leavers-hoodies-login
Please use the USERNAME: SL47471 and the PASSWORD: 47471joan.

I’m hoping to also launch a rewards for revision scheme next week, with possibly 10 free (hopefully more) prom tickets for students who complete their cards. Letters for ice-skating should also be coming home next week for those students who were picked from the hat.

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

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One of the hardest issues for students is not just carrying out revision, but carrying out effective revision. A colleague of mine came across the article below that I have included the web links to. I thought that I would share it with you due to its effectiveness, which was tested in research at the Sandringham Research School and is a very effective way to revise. I think that it could be beneficial to your child in preparation for the mocks by informing them of more effective revision techniques, which would then lead into their GCSE exams next year.

Calling time on ineffective revision

The below is the Memory Clock, a model that was developed for students to help them revise more effectively. The model was developed using research from the Science of learning and our article explains how it works and how we have used this tool in school.
I was really pleased with the record number of 100% attenders in the last couple of weeks. This means all students are in class working towards being successful. I look forward to further record breaking weeks.

We have settled into the new term and all eyes are on the upcoming mock exams. Timetables will be issued soon. Exams will take place in the last two weeks of the term.

Year 13 UCAS applications are going well, we have more and more sent off to UCAS every week, which is great news for students to get those offers from Universities before the crowds submit their applications in January. Students should be getting final draft personal statements in for final checking now.

As ever please don’t hesitate to contact me if needed.

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**THE MEMORY CLOCK**

1. **Plan topic**
2. **Elaborate**
3. **Test knowledge**
4. **Practise answers or tasks**
5. **Set a timer**
6. **Recreate exam conditions**
7. **Read mark schemes**
8. **Read examiner reports**
9. **Re-draft**
10. **Check**
11. **Review**

The article ([https://researchschool.org.uk/sandringham/blog/calling-time-on-ineffective-revision/](https://researchschool.org.uk/sandringham/blog/calling-time-on-ineffective-revision/)) explains how it works, but for those interested in a more detailed description of the different stages of the model, you can download an information leaflet that was created for students and parents here: [https://sandringham.researchschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2018/02/Sandringham-Memory-Clock-leaflet.pdf](https://sandringham.researchschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2018/02/Sandringham-Memory-Clock-leaflet.pdf)

Furthermore, the following download includes subject-specific examples of how the Memory Clock could be used in practice [https://sandringham.researchschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2018/02/Sandringham-Memory-Clock-Subject-examples.pdf](https://sandringham.researchschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2018/02/Sandringham-Memory-Clock-Subject-examples.pdf)

I highly recommended looking into the above as I know it could be very beneficial for your child.

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**SIXTH FORM | MS COOK | HELEN.COOK@THEJOHNROANSCHOOL.ORG.UK**

I was really pleased with the record number of 100% attenders in the last couple of weeks. This means all students are in class working towards being successful. I look forward to further record breaking weeks.
Welcome back and I hope you all had a lovely half term. The second half of the Autumn term is always a busy time for Music and this year is no exception. Please see below for a list of events that are taking place in the run up to Christmas. I currently do not have exact dates for some of the events but hope to have these by the end of next week.

**Dates for this term**
- 20/11/19 – Royal Greenwich Instrumental Gala, 6:30pm, Blackheath Halls
- 26/11/19 – Instrumental Concert 1, 3:30pm, MH Hall
- 16/12/19 – GCSE performance exam 1, all day
- 17/12/19 – Christmas Concert, 6:30pm, MH hall
- TBC – Maritime Cluster Concert, Old Royal Naval College Chapel
- TBC – Demelza Christmas carol singing

**Payment for two instrumental lessons**
If your son/daughter is taking two instrumental lessons this term, then please can you make the payment on ParentPay.

**Instrumental loans**
Payment for instrumental loans is now available on ParentPay. Most students should have collected their loaned instrument this week, along with an instrumental loan agreement. Please can the loan agreements be signed by a parent/carer and then handed back in to me.

**Instrumental lessons timetables**
Timetables for all instruments/lessons are up and running for the rest of this term. Please email me if you would like a copy of the relevant timetable.

Many thanks,

Mr Wright
Head of Music
Dementia Friends Training
Mycenae House has arranged an additional opportunity for John Roan students to take part in Dementia Friends Training in December. A Dementia Friend is somebody that learns about dementia so they can help their community. Dementia Friends help by raising awareness and understanding, so that people living with dementia can continue to live in the way they want. Following the training, trips will be arranged to local care homes so students will be able to use their training to help others.

If students would like to take part they need to come to the Libraries to sign up. This opportunity is available to all year groups.

The John Roan School Library and Mycenae House Reach Out Newsletter can be found here.

Bake Sale at MH
Members of the Christmas Planning Committee are holding a Bake Sale on Friday lunchtime on the 8th November to raise funds for the Christmas Party for the Senior Citizens at Mycenae House. Baked goodies will be priced from 50p. We’re looking forward to raising as much money as we can for the Christmas Party.

All New Key Stage Reading Lists
Looking for something new to read? Why not try one of our recommendations from our new Key Stage lists? Can you read all the books before you turn 13, 16 or 18? These reading lists are available from the school website or the Libraries.


Wow, It’s So Quiet in Here Wednesdays
Maze Hill students are invited to join us every Wednesday breaktime in the Library for a relaxing session of colouring, reading, homework, as well as the opportunity to listen to classical musical. But this is a breaktime with a difference. No-one is allowed to talk! This is already proving popular with students, with requests to even expand into lunchtime!
November 2019 Books of the Month......

All these amazing reads have just arrived and are now available to borrow from the libraries.

The John Roan Word of the Week

Word: Rhetoric

Definition:
Speech or writing intended to be effective and influence people.

Example sentence: “He has toned down his rhetoric of late”.

Synonyms: oratory, eloquence, hyperbole.

The Weekly Challenge: Use the noun, rhetoric, as many times as possible throughout the week and you could receive PRIDE points every time! This can be verbally OR in your written work.

Word group: noun