Dear Parents and Carers,

Survey: parents will now have received an email or letter inviting them to complete a survey – please let us know if you have not been contacted. I welcome the views and thoughts of parents and urge you all to find time to complete the survey. Staff and students are also completing one, and we will get the results early next term. Thank you.

Remembrance: I was in Braithwaite this weekend to participate in the annual Remembrance Service in the village. Each year, the school and The Old Roan Association lay wreaths on the memorial, remembering those whose lives have been lost in wars and marking the long association between the school and the village.

On Monday we stood, as a whole school, to join the rest of the country in paying our respects. Students and staff at Maze Hill and at Westcombe Park stood outside, listened to readings of ‘In Flander’s Fields’ and the playing of the last post before standing in silence to gather our thoughts and remember.

Student badges, biometrics and paying for school food: We have updated and replaced our cashless catering system. It will continue to be the same for parents—you will add money on to your child’s account in the usual way. Students in Year 9, 10 and 11 will be issued with identity cards on Monday and these will be used in the Westcombe Park Canteen in the place of biometrics. Years 12 & 13 already have cards that they will now need to use in this way. For the time being, Years 7 & 8 will continue to use biometrics or their PIN, but ultimately will also have ID cards to use at the Maze Hill Canteen.

The cards themselves do not hold money—they are like the Oyster cards that we use on public transport. They will also not have a photograph of the student, although when they swipe their card to pay, the person on the till will see a photograph to double check the identity of the user. It is, however, important that any lost cards are reported immediately to the school so that we can cancel them.

Our expectation is that the ID card will now become a key part of the school uniform and equipment that everyone must have in school. It may well take a few days for this habit to form, and so your support at home when your child is getting ready for school would be most helpful. Thank you.

Exams: Exam season at the school is starting again. Between now and Christmas our students in Years 11, 12 and 13 will all be sitting key exams and are currently busily preparing for these.

Joining our Sixth Form: We are busy preparing for our Year 11 Options Evening—27th November—where we will be showcasing The John Roan Sixth Form and supporting our Year 11 students in their course choices for next year.

JRSA (PTA) JRSA section (click here) - you can subscribe to the lottery or register with Easyfundraising to support the school.
Free Tours of UK Parliament for All 16–24 Year Olds

During the 2019 General Election period, 16–24-year olds can go on a free tour of UK Parliament. Available on Saturdays until 11 December, all tickets will be available to young people, offering a behind the scenes insight into the day-to-day workings of the House of Commons and House of Lords. Book tickets here.

Royal Greenwich and Blackheath Halls Youth Choir—Looking for Male Singers

The Borough’s flagship Royal Greenwich and Blackheath Halls Youth Choir are looking to expand their young male voices section. The choir have enjoyed a huge amount of success performing at a wide variety of venues, including The South Bank Centre as well as teaming up with English Touring Opera and the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

If you have a son with a talent for singing, who would be interested in joining this 60 strong classical choir, please contact Rose Ballantyne, R.Ballantyne@blackheathalls.com

Yours faithfully,

Cath Smith
Executive Headteacher
Maze Hill’s Remembrance Day Commemoration was very poignant and respectful. Martha and Theo read the poem In Flanders Fields by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae. At Westcombe Park, Dylan Haynes read the poem and Daniel Kennett Brown played The Last Post on his trumpet.

Each Tutor Group in Years 7 & 8 had a representative who placed a finger print painted poppy on the First World War Memorial outside Maze Hill Hall. Ms Simmons laid the school wreath. Thank You to all who helped make it memorable occasion. I would particularly like to thank Ms Allen, our School Librarian, for organising the thumb print painted poppies and prepared our readers.

Please see our tweet at #proudtobeJohnRoan.

Surveys

This week, students began their online surveys. This is a really good opportunity to seek our students’ views on improvements we are making, in addition to hearing our students’ view of what is important to them.

Our parents are just as important and we would like to hear from you too. Please complete your online survey as soon as possible. Details of how to complete the survey have been sent to you from Ms Clarke.

Partnerships

It has been a pleasure visiting our local primary schools and speaking with Year 6 students and parents. Halstow, Meridian and James Wolfe to name a few.

This term we have seen the start of the season of preparing Year 5 students for the transition to secondary. I visited the students and parents at Bannockburn Primary and will be visiting more primaries in the coming months.

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](#)

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

Dates for the Diary click [here](#)

Free Tours of UK Parliament for All 16-24 Year Olds – book tickets [here](#)

YEAR 11 – USING EXTRA TIME DURING EXAMS – please find [here](#)
 JRSA Lottery
Please note that the bank account details for The John Roan School Association that were published in last week’s newsletter were incorrect. If you are interested in supporting the school through The John Roan School lottery, you have a very good chance of winning, we only have just over 100 tickets sold and six times a year we pick out 2 cash prizes.

For as little as a £1 per month, you can really support your school see [here](#). All you need to do is set up a standing order electronically (£1 per per month gives you one entry, £5 per month gives you five entries) and you will be entered into the school lottery, its as simple as that. Each half term we will let you know the lucky winners.

Support your school by setting up a month payment to The John Roan School Association, account number 70474169 and sort code 20-98-57.

Easyfundraising
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. [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/)

Happy shopping,

Kind regards
Eve Daniels—Co-chair


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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>End Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W/C 18 Nov — 6 Dec</td>
<td>Year 11 Mocks</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Nov</td>
<td>Instrumental Concert</td>
<td>MH Hall</td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>4.30pm</td>
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<td>27 Nov</td>
<td>Year 11 Options Evening</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<td>3 Dec</td>
<td>JRSA (PTA) Meeting</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>6.45pm</td>
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<td>4 Dec</td>
<td>PRIDE Day 2</td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
<td>All day</td>
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<td>W/C 9 Dec — 19 Dec</td>
<td>Sixth Form Mocks</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<td>10 Dec</td>
<td>INSET DAY</td>
<td>School closed</td>
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<td>11 Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Lunch</td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
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<td>12 Dec</td>
<td>Celebration of Achievement Evening</td>
<td>MH Hall</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>W/C 16 Dec</td>
<td>Achievement Assemblies</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Concert</td>
<td>MH Hall</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>8.00pm</td>
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<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>
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</tbody>
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**Remembrance Day**

On Monday, we held a ceremony to remember all those who lost their lives in World War One and Two. A two-minute silence was held at 11.00am and students very respectfully listened to a reading of 'In Flanders Fields' and to one of our students playing 'The Last Post'.

**'Jump to the Front'**

This week we introduced 'Jump to the Front' passes as a reward for excellent attendance. The passes last one week and allow 6 students to go directly to the front of the break time and lunch time food queues. To qualify for the weekly draw, students must have 100% attendance since the October half term. If a student does not have 100% attendance, they will have a chance to enter after Christmas, as each half term is a new start.

**Tutee of the Month**

This week we introduced Tutee of the Month. Each month Tutors will select two students in their group who are displaying PRIDE attributes and are excellent ambassadors for the year group.

November Tutees of the Month are;

- 7J Matthew and Tosia
- 7O Josh and Sophia
- 7H Tyler and Darcie
- 7N Nali and Chloe
- 7R Tache and Ariadni
- 7A Alessandro and Leona

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**Year 8's have been working hard and led a great example in our Remembrance Day Celebrations. Students read a poem and laid a wreath of poppies at the front of the school to remember all those who died during the wars, including ex-John Roan students.**

Following on from this, 8O presented a beautiful assembly on the importance of Remembrance Day and the importance of the Poppy. All students were fantastic and delivered a great assembly! Thank you 8O.

I hope everyone has a great weekend.
This week marked an important date in the calendar; Remembrance Day. We began our week with a Tutor Group assembly about Remembrance Day, delivered by 9N and Mr Soane. Huge congratulations and well done for the students in 9N who delivered a section of the assembly.

Our next assembly will be delivered by 9O and Ms Heselden and is about ‘Making Good Choices’. The focus of the assembly will be our GCSE options, which we will be choosing in the New Year.

I plan for our students to use a very helpful website during our Tutor Time after 9O’s assembly. iCould is brilliant, as it gives suggestions into possible career paths based on personalities, which I hope will help our students make informed decisions on their options.

I would urge all students to look into the iCould website to get inspiration if they are concerned about their choices. Please click the link below: https://icould.com/buzz-quiz/?buzz_page=0

As always, thank you for your continued support. Have a great weekend.

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Year 10 Ice Skating Trip to Streatham Ice Rink
Please see the attached letter. The deadline for the reply slip and payment is Monday, 9th December. If parents do not have a ParentPay account, your child can obtain a PayPoint barcode from Ms Proctor in the Administration Office. Please note that if the school has any concerns regarding a students behaviour or attendance, they may be not be allowed to attend.

Work Experience.
A reminder - 'Own Find' Forms must be returned to school by the 17th December. Forms will not be accepted after this date. Students who do not attend work experience will be in school following timetabled lessons.
**Reminder:** The first set of mock exams in Year 11 commence on Monday, 18th. There’s been a real buzz of excitement amongst students in school as they’ve been preparing for these exams. Some intervention classes are really well attended and some could be better attended. As I’ve said to the students, if their teachers are going to give up their time to support them, usually in small groups, then the least that they can do is attend those sessions.

**Reminder:** The 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 is not too late to provide baby pictures for the yearbook (a digital copy is preferred to a hard copy). **Please keep these coming!**

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. **Quite a few of these have been returned but there are still a huge number of Year 11 students who have not returned this.** Please let me know if you have misplaced the slip, so that I can provide you with another copy. I really would like to start moving forward with the yearbook next week.

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

**Reminder:** The deadline for paying for the ice-skating trip is next Friday, 22nd. If payment is not received by this date, I will have to allocate your child’s place to another student as there are a lot of students who missed out on the 58 places. If there are any parents experiencing any difficulty with paying for this event, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will try to support. The students have been really excited about this, so if you are unsure as to whether your child has secured a place, please check your ParentPay account.

Students doing BTEC Sports recently had an exam which we received the results for this week. The results were absolute fantastic but we know that we can, and will, do better. The pass rate was 88%, with 56% of students also attaining a level 2, which was the highest that they could get. These results are already higher than those attained by last year’s cohort and it’s important that we continue to build on this positivity. It only goes to show that if you put the work and effort in, then more often than not you get the results. These students really put in a lot of hard work into this exam and were rewarded as a result. Special mention must go to Haydn, Bobby, Zachariah, Sihaam, Bradlee and Bobbie who all attained a level 2 merit and were only a few marks away from a distinction.

In our weekly assembly on Tuesday, I reminded students that they should be attending as many Sixth Form/College Open Evenings as possible over the next few weeks to get a clearer picture as to what they may wish to do for further education. With that in mind, I’d like to remind you that The John Roan Sixth Form Open Evening is on Wednesday, 27th November. It would be great to see as many of you there as possibly.

Attendance to school has slipped recently, more so this week than last week, and it’s a big concern, particularly so close to the mock exams. As previously requested, please do send your child in if they are able to attend. We will keep a very close eye on them and contact you should the need arise. More often than not, when they are here they feel better as the day goes on and they then haven’t missed out on a day of learning and feel less anxious about school. The link between good attendance to school and high attainment is a very strong one, so please, please, please let’s get them in to school as often as we can!

Please continue to support with homework.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

**YEAR 11 – USING EXTRA TIME DURING EXAMS**

Please find [here](#) a very useful presentation about the use of extra time during the exam season.
All Sixth Form students had an interesting, informative and, at times, a sad presentation from homelessness charity Depaul on Monday. Students were involved in an interactive, decision making presentation around the causes of homelessness in young people and the support that is available, along with the decisions that might not be the best ones to make. Students found it informative and engaging.

Congratulations go to three School Council members - Savanna, Morgan and Deborah - who organised and held a cake sale for Year 7, Year 8 and Sixth Form student in the Maze Hill site on Monday. They were raising money on Remembrance Day for the Royal British Legion. The students raised an incredible £66.00.

All students have been issued with a new ID card. Please ensure your student has theirs and keeps it safe. It will cost £5.00 to replace.

UCAS applications continue to be sent off, congratulations to those students who have already received some great offers from universities. Students are urged to submit their personal statement for checking before 22 November to ensure adequate time for redrafts.
National Non-Fiction November
To celebrate National Non-fiction November, the following will be taking place:

Taskmaster
Do the students have what it takes to be the Non-Fiction Month Taskmaster Champion?

Do the students enjoy doing weird and wonderful challenges?

Then they need to sign up to take place in Non-Fiction Month Taskmaster on Friday, 22nd November. Five places available only! Other students will be our audience.

Reading Lists
Why not try one of our recommended reads to celebrate National Non-Fiction November, and this year’s theme is Transport and Travel around the World?


The John Roan Word of the Week
Word: Taskmaster

Definition:
Someone that imposes a task or burdens another with labour.

Example sentence: “He was known as a tough but fair taskmaster”.

Synonyms: slave driver, authoritarian, disciplinarian,

The Weekly Challenge: Use the noun, taskmaster, 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.