Dear Parents and Carers,

The Maze Hill Library

On Wednesday we officially opened our newly refurbished Library at Maze Hill. The new shelving and seating was generously provided for the school by Old Roan, Tony Slaney and the redecoration work was completed over the Summer. We were pleased to welcome Old Roans and Foundation Trustees to the event, which was also attended by author Matt Dickenson who officially cut the ribbon to open the Library.

Open Evening

It was with great pride and pleasure that we welcomed a large number of parents and children to the school on Wednesday when we held our annual showcase of the school for primary parents. The school was buzzing with activity and we had a large number of students who were very keen to be part of the event, showing our visitors around and talking with pride about their school.

Information Evenings

On the 15th and 16th of October we have a series of information evenings for some of our parents.

Years 10 & 11 are on the 15th October

Year 7 and Sixth Form are on the 16th October.

I look forward to seeing you at these evenings.

JRSA Parent Meeting

On Wednesday, 9th October we will be holding our termly JRSA (PTA) parent meeting from 6.45pm in the Westcombe Park building. Everyone is welcome, so please do join us to share ideas and hear about the fantastic work that the JRSA are doing on behalf of the school.

Requests for information—action required

I am aware that we are asking you all for quite a lot of information at the moment and I apologise for this. It is all important information for us to have on file and, although I understand that it is one more thing in your busy lives to ask of you, please could you make every effort to fill in and return all the different forms as soon as you can. We are sending home hard copies with your child and hope that you can return them in the envelope that they come to you in early next week if at all possible. Thank you very much.
Half Term

A reminder that the half term break for our students is longer than usual. We have staff training days on Friday 18th October, as well as Monday 28th October when the school is closed to students.

Yours faithfully,

Cath Smith
Executive Headteacher
## 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>10 Oct</td>
<td>Open Morning</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>10.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Oct</td>
<td>Parent Information Eve (Yrs 10/11)</td>
<td>Westcombe Park</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Oct</td>
<td>Parent Information Eve (Yrs 7/12/13)</td>
<td>Maze Hill</td>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Oct</td>
<td>PRIDE Day</td>
<td>Maze Hill &amp; Westcombe Park</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 Oct</td>
<td>INSET DAY</td>
<td>School closed</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/C 21 Oct</td>
<td>Half Term Break</td>
<td>School Closed</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Oct</td>
<td>INSET DAY</td>
<td>School closed</td>
<td>CLOSED</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>3.30</td>
<td>4.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Nov</td>
<td>Year 11 Options Evening</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td></td>
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<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>
Another great week for year 7!

**Parent Information Evening**
Please come and visit us on the 16th October. This is a chance to meet your child's Tutor and myself. We will talk through our values, expectations and routines and most importantly you will have a chance to see how well they have settled in.

**Extra Curricular Activities**
The programme is now up and running. Please encourage your child to attend at least one a week. There is something on offer for everyone.

**Assembly**
Next week our assembly will focus on our plans for the upcoming Pride Day on the 17th October. On this day students will be working with an outside agency [http://brightfutures-experience.com/](http://brightfutures-experience.com/) on team building, careers and fulfilling their potential.

**Polite Reminder**
If you would like to meet with a teacher, myself or a member of the behaviour team, please make an appointment and we will try our best to see you on the same or the next day.

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**YEAR 8 | MS CAUSER | JUDITH.CAUSER@THEJOHNROANSCHOOL.ORG.UK**

We started the week with a very positive result for the Year 8 boys football team. The boys won 3–2 at home to St Mary Magdalene. They scored some fantastic goals and were very pleased with their first full 11–aside victory! I look forward to keeping you up to date with how the team progress this season. Well done to everyone who was part of the Year 8 Team.

A reminder that Year 8 boys and any missed girls will be having their HPV injections & MMR top ups if required, on **Monday, 7th October**. If you still have an outstanding form at home, it is not too late to return to school on Monday!

It's always lovely to hear of success outside of school within the year group. I love hearing about Music exams and sporting events that are being completed by the students outside of school. This week Leon completed his 11–12 Hever Castle Triathlon. He even managed to tidy up some paper cups on his last run! Well done Leon, it looks like you had fun and were presented with a medal for your efforts.

Finally, this week saw the grand reopening of the newly refurbished MH Library. It was a lovely ceremony with one of our "Library nerds" (her own words) Martha, delivering a wonderful speech on how important the Library was not only to her, but the other students at Maze Hill. I was proud to be able to listen and support her speech and be a part of the wonderful community that Mrs Allen and her team have created.

Another brilliant week for Year 8. I hope you have a good weekend.
We started this week by 9A delivering an assembly on Black History Month, explaining about the Transatlantic Slave Trade, as well as the importance of Thomas Clarkson. I was very impressed by the information that 9A shared, as well as the confidence they displayed during the assembly. 9A have laid down the gauntlet for the rest of the Tutor Groups now. 9N will be next delivering an assembly on Remembrance Day.

Next week we will start to allocate our lockers for the next 3 years. Please ensure your child has returned the permission letter back to their Tutor if they wish to have a locker.

We are still having teething issues with ShowMyHomework. If your child is having difficulties logging into SMHW, please ensure they click onto the Office 365 log in section. Once they have entered Office 365, their username will be their initial followed by their surname and the number 17; for example eduncan17. The email addresses seem to cause the biggest problems - please ensure the new email address is as follows: eduncan17@thejohnroanschool.org.uk. There is a presentation on the school website showing parents/carers how to log in.

We are still having a number of our Y9s being issued with detentions for small things, which can easily be rectified; one being the homework, the other being their equipment. Many of our students are not bringing a reading book into school, which is resulting in the students receiving a detention. Please ensure they are fully equipped for the school day.

Lastly, if your child has lost their planner, please email me so I can put their name onto ParentPay to purchase a new planner. The cost is £5.

As always, if you would like me to share particular pieces of information for our Weekly Newsletter, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Have a great weekend!

Parents Information Evening—Tuesday, 15th October from 5–7pm
This is an opportunity for parents and carers to gain a greater understanding of the courses that their child is following. During the evening, there will be a presentation giving details about GCSE qualifications, information regarding how parents/carers can support their child during exams and an opportunity to meet with members of staff to ask more specific questions. Please see the attached letter.

Work Experience - 18th to 22nd May 2020
Please see the attached Work Experience letter and 'Own Find form'. It is vital that students/parents start trying to find placements as soon as possible. If a student is finding it difficult to obtain a placement, please ask them to come to me and I will help were possible. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Reminder: Mock exams commence on Monday, 18th November

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".

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: Year 11 Parent Information Evening on Tuesday 15th October
Please do try your best to attend this evening, as it will be an opportunity for you to speak with your child's Teachers/Head of Department about his/her progress early in the term, what revision books may be needed, how best to support your child etc. This is an invaluable opportunity to find out what the upcoming mock exams will be all about and how we will be working together for the remainder of the academic year.

Another plea for your assistance about the homework I'm afraid. Far too many students are now either copying each other's homework or rushing to complete their homework at break/lunchtime. Neither of these are conducive to learning and retaining the valuable concepts from homework. All students should now be able to log on to SMHW and all parents should now also have access. You actually don't need to login to SMHW to be able to access/see the homework, unless the homework is a built in quiz on SMHW. Please may I again ask for your assistance in ensuring that your child is completing any issued homework and also doing so to the required standard.

Year 11 PRIDE Day 1 will be taking place on Thursday, 17th October. This PRIDE Day is about Active Citizenship, which is all about raising awareness of fundraising, particularly for a local charity. Throughout the day students within their respective Tutor Groups will research different methods for fundraising, as well as local charities. The school already has an international charity partner, which is the Don McMath Foundation. We would like to now build a partnership with a local charity, which Year 11s will play an integral part in.

Following the research of local charities within each Tutor Group, the students from each Tutor Group will choose a local charity that they would like to fundraise for, the means by which they will fundraise and how much they predict that they could raise. At the end of the day each Tutor Group will present their report to the year group, as well as a group of dignitaries from the Foundation, JRSA and some local residents about why their local charity should be chosen. Each Tutor Group will endeavour to raise money for the local charity they have chosen, but the panel will choose one from the presentations to further support.

I’m looking forward to seeing you all at the Key Stage 4 Information Evening on the 15th October. You should be receiving your invitation letter in the next few days, if you haven’t already done so.

Mental Health Day
Thursday, 10th October is Mental Health Day. I am proposing a mobile phone detox for the week. Please could you ask your child to hand in their mobile to me on Monday morning and I will return it on Friday after school for the detox. Phones will be stored securely in the school safe and I will also be locking away my phone for the week.

I’m sure that you have all seen the latest scientific research showing how time away from social media decreases depression and anxiety, particularly amongst young people and will also help your child to focus more on revision for their upcoming mocks this week. Looking forward to your support with the mobile phone detox next week.
Instrumental lessons are now in full swing and it has been great to hear the wonderful sounds coming from lessons.

Numbers for extra-curricular clubs have been slightly on the low side though, so please do encourage your children to attend these.

**Extra-curricular music ensembles schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Ensemble</th>
<th>Time/Location</th>
<th>Year Group</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays</td>
<td>School Orchestra</td>
<td>3 – 4pm, W001</td>
<td>All year groups *</td>
<td>Mr Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>Junior Voices</td>
<td>Lunchtime, M107</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Ms Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>String Group</td>
<td>Lunchtime, M107</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; 8**</td>
<td>Ms Talbot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursdays</td>
<td>FJS (Funk, Jazz &amp; Soul Band)</td>
<td>3 – 4:30pm, W001</td>
<td>All year groups***</td>
<td>Mr Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>Senior Voices</td>
<td>Lunchtime, W001</td>
<td>Y9 - 11</td>
<td>Mr Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>Rising Stars Music Club</td>
<td>Lunchtime, M107</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Ms Evans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>Rock Band</td>
<td>Lunchtime, Steel Pans room MH</td>
<td>Y7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Mr Luckett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fridays</td>
<td>Music Tech Club</td>
<td>3 – 4pm, Recording Studio WP</td>
<td>Y9 - 13</td>
<td>Mr Jones</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Orchestra is open to any student that plays an orchestral instrument that has passed grade 1 and is working towards grade 2.

** Beginner to grade 1 group for violin/cello players

***FJS is open to any student that plays either saxophone, trumpet, clarinet, guitar or piano that has passed grade 1 and is working towards grade 2.

**Payment for two instrumental lessons**

This will shortly be on ParentPay. I will send texts home when this has happened.

**Instrumental loans**

We are in the process of assigning instruments to students and hope to complete this next week. Once we have done this, parents will need to sign a loan agreement and complete the payment on ParentPay. Again, I will send texts home when this is all set up.

If you have any questions regarding instrumental lessons, extra-curricular or concerts, please do email me.

Many thanks,

Mr Wright
Head of Music
The Bookopoly Challenge
This year, we are challenging John Roan students to read and review a book from each suggested category from the Bookopoly board throughout the year. There are many categories to choose from including: award-winning, humour, science fiction and many more...

Students will receive achievement points for each book they read and review, and a grand prize if the board is completed.

Bookopoly boards are available from the Libraries.

Mycenae House Christmas Planning Committee
The John Roan School is hosting a Christmas party for local senior citizens alongside the Outreach Team at Mycenae House, and we would like students to help organise everything from the food to the decorations.

The committee are meeting every Tuesday before school in the Libraries and breakfast will be provided!

The John Roan Word of the Week
Word: Integrity

Definition: The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles.

Example sentence: “He had honor and integrity.”

Synonyms: honesty, principle, honour

Word group: noun

The Weekly Challenge: Use the noun, integrity, 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.