

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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11th December 2020

Dear Parent, Carer, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin#13

Higher than expected levels of staff absence resulted in us having to ask a year group to work from home on Thursday and Friday this week. Apologies for the short notice. Staff absence continues to change on a daily basis and we want to be sure we can be safe onsite and provision your child's education in the best and most sustainable way possible. We are trying to ensure that no one year group is disproportionately affected, equally we are seeking to avoid additional childcare pressures by not asking Year 7 or 8 to work from home where we can. It is a juggling act and we want to thank parents again for being so understanding and supportive of our actions.

In planning for next week, we already know that on Monday 14th December, Year 12 will be required to work from home and Year 12 teachers are now planning ahead to ensure learning and teaching are ready for online access.

Remote Learning

If students are trying to post a message to your teacher on Teams, make sure they '@ teacher name' so they get a notification that a student is trying to contact them.

Year 9 Options

A reminder to Year 9 students and parents that the initial interest survey closes on Monday. Students need to be logged on to their school account to access the survey. All Year 9 students have now been emailed the link, and if they click on the link in that email (so they are already logged in) it should help with accessing the survey.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=PYCwG3TptkKUJQEK3Byuakrjlxlt85pHlrU--64IQz9UQVVaMktCUFNZMjdlWUhWUFFBMzJaSlpaSy4u>

COVID-19 – What to do at Christmas

If you or a member of your family develops COVID-19 symptoms you must book a test either via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by telephoning 119. You will need to provide details of all close contacts and follow guidance on self-isolation.

If a student or member of staff tests positive for coronavirus [COVID-19], having developed symptoms **within 48 hours of being at QEGS** please telephone 0789 0319042 so QEGS can assist with identifying close contacts.

Notification of confirmed Positive Cases

If a student or member of staff tests positive for coronavirus [COVID-19], having developed symptoms **more than 48 hours since being at QEGS**, QEGS does not need to be contacted, NHS staff on 119 will support you.

Please note our coronavirus [COVID-19] Positive Test Outcome telephone will be checked daily between the end of term and Wednesday 23rd December 2020. It will then not be checked between Thursday 24th December 2020 and Friday 1st January 2021. If you have any concerns during this period please telephone 119.

If a student or member of staff tests positive for coronavirus [COVID-19] and has to self-isolate for the start of term, you should telephone 0789 0319042 on Saturday 2nd January 2020. This will help us in planning for a successful return to school.

Pupil Premium

A reminder to parents that if their circumstances have changed they and the school can seek help through Pupil Premium funding. To see if you are eligible for additional funding please access www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals. **By applying online you will be informed immediately if you are entitled or not.** As soon as the entitlement is confirmed, the school will be notified and your child will start to receive their free school meals and the school will receive additional funds to support your child's education. If you cannot access the online application form or you need help in completing it, school can offer you the use of a computer and somebody to help you – or complete the application form in your presence on your behalf. Please contact bembridge@gegs.email if you require any support.

Free school meals over Christmas

As part of the government's commitment to end child poverty families of pupils who have free schools meals at school will be sent a food voucher directly by Derbyshire County Council to cover the 2 week Christmas break. Derbyshire County Council have said that when the winter grant scheme is ready to launch they will provide schools with information to ensure that parents are aware of how the grants will be distributed and how to contact the county council, not the school, for more information or queries.

Ashbourne Christmas Lantern Trail

Christmas Lantern Trail, will take place on 13th and 20th December from 3pm to 6pm in Ashbourne. For more information on Christmas in Ashbourne please see www.ashbournefestival.org. Clues can be downloaded from the website for the children to solve and to help them find the lanterns, but pre-printed copies will be available on the night, beside a sanitizer station, on our stand at the Christmas tree in the market place. Shops will be open with decorated windows following an advent theme, and there will be free parking. The trail will finish with a small prize at the Christmas tree in the Market Square. This is a visual trail; those viewing the lanterns are expected to social distance, the same as they would in the streets normally.

009 Bus

Confirmation that his route will continue to operate with the current timings in January. Unfortunately, the provider cannot collect before 3.30pm

Reports

Student reports will be issued for all year groups at the start of next term. This will include a 'mock exam certificate' for Year 11, with all of their subject grades. Year 7 Flight paths and grades will be issued with their April report.

Achievement

Well done to 10x3 who completed their revision and assessment with Miss Marsh-Morgans. They revised everything they have done so far for An Inspector Calls and prepared for their final assessment, they were amazing!

Christmas Jumper Day

Students have today taken part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day. There have been lots of festive jumpers worn and we have raised £717.55.

One more bulletin to go before we reach 2021 and what we hope will be a fantastic year for you all.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity
Headteacher