

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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1st April 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #26

Thank you for being so supportive of our return to onsite, face to face learning. Today, we have welcomed back our 'shielding' students and staff, who have been managing their teaching and learning from home. The last 12 months has been a real challenge and I am really proud of what we have all achieved together. What we do now and how we act next will help determine our next 12 months.

Community Safeguarding:

Now more than ever, our community spirit and sense of responsibility will be key to helping to repair and restore the lifestyles that we once took for granted.

Warmer weather, along with recently changed outdoor restrictions has meant that our students have been able to see their friends in small groups, maintaining social distancing and respecting the local environment and members of our community.

Unfortunately, some of our students have not been respectful of each other and the local environment when they have socialised in the local park and in other areas such as Mappleton bridge. In fact, some students have potentially jeopardised these freedoms for others by not following Covid laws, causing anti-social behaviour, damaging school property (most notably trespassing and damaging the fencing and equipment on the school Astro-Turf) and mixing with young adults where we know drugs and alcohol have been consumed.

We want to work with parents, the police and the local community to keep our young people safe and ensure we have high quality, community amenities which can be accessed and used by all. Therefore, we ask for your support:

- Please check where your children are going/have been and with whom.
- We have found that many concerns either stem from or are exacerbated by inappropriate use of mobile phones, photographs/videos and social media. Please check and challenge how your child is using this medium to ensure they remain safe and do not compromise the wellbeing of others.
- Remind your children of their responsibility to keep themselves and others safe (your family too!), by maintaining social distancing and respecting the current Covid laws when mixing outdoors.
- If you observe any anti-social behaviour, trespassing on school property (specifically our Astro-Turf) or other private land/property – please call the police straight away on 101 for non-emergency, 999 for emergency matters. Please also inform us at school. We want to keep everyone safe and we will cooperate fully with the police and support parents when concerns arise.

COVID-19 Home-Testing

Thank you to our students and staff for the excellent start to home-testing. This now needs to continue over the Easter holidays and into the next school term. Students and staff have enough tests to do this twice per week, preferably on Monday and Thursday mornings in the first week and then Wednesday and Sunday in second week. Please remember to test before returning to school after Easter.

Staff and students will need to log their results with the NHS, following the instructions in the box, and with the school using this link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=PYCwG3TptkKUJQEK3Byuar5oHY7KACdKjL1oaEh8AqdUNVpRMUxDUK5VNVZXMUxaNTA2MVFMVNHVC4u>

Reporting Symptoms and Positive Tests of COVID-19 During the Easter Holidays

Although we will not be in school we are still required to notify if we have symptoms of COVID-19 and/or a positive test result. **School needs to be notified on 07890319042 if a member of staff or student develops symptoms of COVID-19 or tests Positive at any time up to and including the 7th April 2021.** We also need to know as soon as possible if a student or member of staff has symptoms or tests positive at a time which will affect their return to school at the start of the new term.

HPV Vaccination Day Tuesday 20th April 2021

On Tuesday 20th April we will be hosting a vaccination service which will involve around 450 students, mainly from Years 7 & 8. Those families involved will have received a letter via email yesterday.

Go 4 Schools

One thing we have definitely gained from this recent time is a greater communication between school and parents. We would like to continue with this further and encourage students to know that school and parents are there to support them with their education.

You may know that, at QEGS, we use Go 4 Schools to record all behaviour events, homework and now attendance of students at school. We would encourage you to download the app so you can keep up to date with behaviour events your children may have had, homework they have been set and their attendance. There will be an updated user guide on our website to navigate this app. You can choose which notifications you receive to create bespoke communication.

TT Rockstars

We have recently purchased a subscription to the TT Rockstars website. This is a fantastic resource to help your child with their mathematics fluency, particularly their times tables. Your child can ask their maths teacher for their login if they do not have it already.

We are planning on running some competitions in the summer term to find out who is the RockGod of QEGS! Please look out for further information on this after Easter.

Census

In Maths and Geography lessons this week students have been looking at the national census and why it is important. They have also completed their own mini census in school and analysed the results of this. From these lessons, students have realised the importance of maths across the curriculum and the methods used to analyse large quantities of data efficiently. Well done to all involved in making this happen.

Online Safety

Live streaming is now a very popular feature of many apps and platforms, and all you need to livestream is an internet enabled device like a laptop or a smart phone. If your child enjoys livestreaming, you may want to read [what is livestreaming](#) to find out more about it and help your child have a positive online experience. Over the past few months, many of you may have watched a livestream, or taken part in a video chat. Livestreaming can be a fun and enjoyable online activity for a lot of people, particularly during the pandemic period. If you want to know more about livestreaming, the risks and safe use, watch this short video: [video](#) or download this [handy guide](#).

Red Nose Day!

We have increased this year's impressive final total to **£2187.97!** QEGS students once again rose to the challenge to fund raise and we are so impressed with their efforts. Well done again to all involved and for raising this fantastic figure.

Maths Challenge Week 2021

Over the last week or so, Years 7-10 have been taking part in a Maths challenge, competing against each other in lesson in their house teams. The puzzles and tasks have involved students working on their teamwork, problem solving, logical thinking and number skills. We can now announce that the winning house team is.... Hull! Well done Hull. In second place, only 12 points behind, were Boothby.



Year 10 students solving puzzles and tasks.



House Totals	Points awarded
Hull	3824
Boothby	3812
Cokayne	3586
Spalden	3726

House Music Competition Results

The votes are in and have been counted. We do indeed have some very talented students at QEGS and it is wonderful that they've had a chance to show you all what they can do!

First of all, a huge well done to all students that entered. We had a very long debate in the music department about who to include in our shortlist - the quality of music making was extremely high. Everyone who entered earned points for their house, so a round of applause to you all!

So, to our individual winners.

In the junior section our winner was.... drumroll please..... Tara L in Year 8!
And in the senior section..... Dan O in Year 10!

And the house scores:

4th place: Cockayne with 100 points

3rd place: Hull with 140 points

2nd place: Boothby with 210 points

1st place: Spalden with a whopping 465 points!

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Miss Wilband has sent out a letter for enrolment to the Bronze, Silver and Gold DofE awards for Years 8,10, 12 and 13.

<https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2021/03/QEGS-DofE-Enrolment-Letter-2020-21.pdf>

Weekly Maths Challenge

This weeks challenge has been emailed to students.

Dance and Drama Lessons


After the Easter holidays all dance and drama lessons will be practical. Students will be required to wear their PE kit, blazer and lanyard on the days they have dance and drama as well. Please ensure they also wear the school PE hoodie under their blazer. For further information please see the link

<https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/key-information/school-uniform/#1593120957771-51927523-0506>

I hope that you and your family have a safe and family focused Easter break. We have a busy and eventful summer term planned and we want you all back safe and well to enjoy the next term.

Stay safe and well. Take care.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Garrity', written in a cursive style.

Mr S Garrity
Headteacher