

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The Green Road, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1EP

Tel: 01335 343 685 Email: enquiries@qegs.email Twitter: @qegs_ashbourne

Web: www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr S Garrity Chair of Governors: Mr C Smith



21st May 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #31

Year 11 Leavers Day

Today we saw Year 11 mark their final day at school. Thank you to each and every one of them who have made us so proud through everything they have navigated. They have been dealt a difficult hand over the last year but have approached it with positivity and resilience - well done Year 11.

We celebrated with a fun filled assembly today. Thank you to the fabulous performers, the eloquent students who delivered speeches and to the staff involved in planning it. Thank you to the form teachers who put so much hard work into helping our students become the best they can be. A special 'thank you' needs to go to Mrs Bowbanks who has supported her year group for their school journey and made them very proud today with her hard work and commitment to their celebration events.





Non-uniform, Friday 28th May

Friday 28th May will be a fundraising non-uniform day, students will make a £1 contribution. This money will go towards the provision of a community funded defibrillator on the playing fields. Please remind your child of our expectations regarding suitable attire on non-uniform day, with no midriffs on show, no offensive slogans and shorts and skirts of an acceptable length.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

If you would like your child to enrol for the Bronze (Year 9) or Silver (Year 10) Duke of Edinburgh's Award the deadline for this will be the close of business on Monday 24th May. If students want to attend the Expeditions this year, the payments for this must also be made by the end of next week (Friday 28th May). If you have any questions about the Award please do contact wilband@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk

Junior Maths Challenge

The students recently took part in the Junior Maths Challenge and we have had some excellent results again. The students received 1 Gold, 13 Silver and 23 Bronze awards. Also, congratulations to Sam B in Year 8 who has progressed through to the next round which is the Junior Kangaroo.

Royal British 100th Anniversary

Rebecca B, Evan W and Tessa P represented the school at the Royal British Legion 100th anniversary service held at the Memorial park on Saturday 15th May. Rebecca laid a wreath on behalf of the school, Evan was a Standard Bearer and Tessa played "The Last Post" at the service. All three represented the school exceptionally well. Thank you and well done.

Online Safety

You may be aware that WhatsApp has recently made changes to its settings that allow anyone, not just your contacts, to add you to groups. This means that, unless you change them, you can be added to groups by complete strangers. From a child safety point of view particularly, this is very worrying. **We recommend that all WhatsApp users change their privacy settings from 'Everyone' to 'My Contacts'**. To do this, take the following steps:

1. Go to WhatsApp
2. Go into Settings
3. Go to Account
4. Go to Privacy
5. Go to Groups
6. Change from 'Everyone' to 'My Contacts'

For a video guide to carrying this out, please click [here](#).

COVID-19 Health and Safety Update

There has been a rise in Covid cases in secondary schools this week. It is important that we all do our bit to ensure that we do not jeopardise the recent relaxing of restrictions.

In the classroom, there are the yellow two metre lines in classrooms for staff to maintain social distance; windows and doors remain open to increase ventilation; we will all sanitise frequently. It is this culture that helps us keep everyone safe.

ID cards and coloured lanyards are part of our uniform expectation and are not negotiable. They ensure that students keep themselves and others safe onsite with contactless door access, contactless canteen payment and ensure we know who is on our site and that students are in the correct 'bubble' zones.

Face-coverings:

- Students no longer need to wear face-coverings in lessons. However, they will be allowed to keep wearing them if you or they wish to.
- We will still require staff and students to wear face-coverings when in corridors or communal areas (canteen, toilets etc) where 'bubble' mixing may occur.
- All students who travel by school/public transport will also still need to wear a face-covering.

Our systems of controls to minimise risks remain in place with a collective focus on 'hands, face and space' as the priority for all. Keep sanitizing, bring and wear a face covering for indoor spaces and keep socially distanced where it is possible to do so.

In addition, separate driveways for year groups, class and year group bubbles, staggered lunchtimes and other measures remain in operation.

We ask that you continue to be vigilant regarding the symptoms of COVID-19. That you and your family test regularly on Monday and Thursday mornings. That you report your results to the NHS and school. But, most importantly you stay aware to the risks as we enter this next phase of unlocking our school, our community, and our broader school lives.

We need to be notified of any positive test results via this telephone number: **07890 319042**.

Staff and students will also 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=PYCwG3TptkKUJQEK3Byuar5oHY7KACdKjL1oaEh8AqdUNVpRMUxDUK5VNVZXMUxaNTA2MVFMTVNHVC4u>

Stay safe and well this weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity
Headteacher