

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



7th May 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #29

Thank you to the parents, carers and staff who responded to our plans for the school day structure for September 2021. We will share a summary of this feedback in the next bulletin and also clarify some details, answer questions raised and outline the next steps.

Student Safety and Being Vigilant

We have been made aware of a recent incident, when a white van approached one of our students in Fenny Bentley. Fortunately, our student is safe and well. Can we remind parents to have a conversation with their children about being vigilant. They should always tell someone if they have a change of plan to normal routine. Try not to take shortcuts which puts them in a secluded place without others nearby and do not accept lifts from strangers no matter how nice they may seem. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Rewards

We are always reviewing the rewards we offer at QEGS to ensure those students who have met QEGS expectations are rewarded for doing so. We have lots of students recently receiving their 50 and 100 merit certificates, large numbers receiving their QEGS Amazing Golden Tickets and lots and lots of positive phone calls made to parents. We are delighted to announce that, if Covid restrictions permit at the time, we will be hosting a QEGS Awards Ceremony for Years 7-10 on Thursday 15th July 2021. More details will be issued but we are very, very excited at the prospect!

Survey Reminder

Please could parents take the time to fill in the feedback survey via <http://www.qegs.link/pcqaam21> if you have not yet had the opportunity to complete it. We always value the feedback we get from parents and this survey also includes the opportunity to assist our planning for the next academic year as well as comment on the current academic year. We would like responses by Friday 21st May.

Reminder - Year 10 Geography Fieldwork Next Week

Next week, all Year 10 Geography students will be going on a fieldtrip to carry out river survey along the River Dove. This is a key component of the Geography GCSE course is a unit entitled "UK Geographical issues" and is necessary for students to succeed their exam in summer 2022. Students are to meet on the bus bay at 8.40am on the appropriate day (Tuesday 11th May - Miss Edwards' 10T, Wednesday 12th May - Mr Hughes 10P1 and Miss Edwards' 10P2, Thursday 13th May Miss Wilband's 10Q1 and Ms Fisher's 10Q2) they will return at approximately 2.15pm. Students will be required wear appropriate clothing and to bring a packed lunch on the day of the trip. If you require more information please read the letter (www.qegs.link/y10gif) or email Miss Edwards edwards@qegs.email.

Sixth Form Update:

It has been a busy week at the 6th form with Year 13s beginning to finish their courses and Year 12s busy interviewing for positions of responsibility within the Sixth Form Council. After a full day of Head Student interviews, and an extremely strong field, there were 4 successful candidates: Rebecca B, Alex F, Amelia B and Laura B.



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Well done to our four new head students and to all that applied, you were amazing. The new Head Students' have got straight to work advertising for other positions of responsibility within the Council and will be interviewing for these early next week.

Thank you to our outgoing Head Students who have done a fantastic job in a truly challenging year

Alongside these exciting announcements we have also had a busy tutor time this week with the National Citizen's Service coming in to promote summer opportunities as well as our Year 13's talking to form groups about their experiences applying for apprenticeships.

Lastly, we have also had our final day, for now, with Mrs. Allen who has gone on maternity leave. We wish her all the best and excitingly await news of her new arrival.

Staffordshire Moorlands Connect Bus Service Proposal and Survey

Staffordshire Moorlands Connect have been selected by the Department of Transport to design, develop and implement a Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) service in Staffordshire Moorlands over the next 3 – 4 years; this service will build on the existing Moorlands Connect service and will be integrated with local bus services, offering an app-based booking and scheduling system. While the finer details are still being worked up, the service will commence in September 2021. The service will integrate with the Leek to Ashbourne, Buxton to Ashbourne and Buxton to Leek local bus service, providing opportunities for residents and visitors to access services and to enjoy the Staffordshire Peak District.

Staffordshire CC would really welcome support (residents in SCC area/possible users of the bus) with this project, as they believe it could be of real benefit to children in the outlying rural areas, particularly those attending before or after school clubs and those over 16 who are no longer eligible for school transport.

The full details of the proposal are on webpages – [Staffordshire Moorlands - Rural Mobility Fund - Staffordshire County Council](#) and survey via <https://consultation.staffordshire.gov.uk/>, feedback deadline 14th May 2021.

Delicious Sustainability in Year 9

School received a large quantity of bananas via the Ashbourne Food Bank this week as they had too many to share with the community. The bananas donated were used in Mrs Flinders' two Year 9 classes to produce approximately 30 banana loaves. We linked it to sustainability and food waste which is something we are looking at currently.



Student Equipment

Please ensure that your child is ready for school with the correct equipment for the classroom and outdoor lessons. Having the correct stationary equipment (pens, pencils, ruler) makes for a prompt start to a lesson. Our staff will always have spare equipment but it is important to instil a sense of responsibility in being prepared for their lessons. PE kit must also meet the school expectations.

School is beginning to feel like 'school' again with staff and students planning and enjoying many of the things we have been unable to do for some time. Sports Day, fieldwork, trips and visits, practical activities, Year 11 and Year 13 leaving celebration events and new student leadership roles are just a few of the things that this term will bring.

Confirmation of some key dates:

- Year 13 teaching and assessments will be complete Friday 14th May
- Year 11 teaching and assessments will be complete Friday 21st May
- Year 13 leaving celebration and BBQ Friday 28th May (further timings and details to follow)
- Year 11 leaving celebration and BBQ Thursday 27th May (further timings and details to follow)
- Sports Day Friday 25th June (details to follow)
- Community Day (summer fair), Race for Life and fundraiser Friday 9th July (details to follow)

Parents will be welcome to attend our Sports Day and Community Day (Covid restrictions permitting) and this year more than ever, we want to see as many of you as possible to thank you for your ongoing support.

Have a great weekend. Be safe, think of others and try to take time for yourself to stay fit and well.

Yours faithfully

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

Mr S Garrity
Headteacher