

# QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

## Weekly Bulletin #13

Reminder that the last day of term for students is Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December, with a Staff Inset day on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

### Festivities

Next week, there will be lunchtime festivities for each year group. Following the rota below, these year groups will have priority seats in the canteen. There will be a free raffle with prizes and Christmas music to accompany their Christmas dinner. On the day of their Christmas dinner, students will be allowed to wear Christmas accessories, e.g. Christmas ear-rings, hats, headbands.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Year 10 and Year 11

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> – Year 8 and Year 9

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> – Year 7

There will also be a form room Christmas decorating competition. Progress Leaders will judge their years form rooms on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December. So, if you feel like getting into the festive spirit this weekend and getting creative, feel free to start decoration making!

### Parent Governor Election

Thank you to parents/carers for voting in the recent Parent Governor ballot; I am please to announce Sarah Millican was the successful candidate and was welcomed to her first Full Board meeting recently.

### Year 9 Options Survey

A reminder that the initial interest survey is due on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December to help us plan the options blocks. Students do need to be logged into their school account to access the form, and the link has been emailed to them.

### Music Concert Update

Due to rising Covid cases in our area and the increased restrictions imposed by the government this week, we have taken the decision that we can no longer have a live audience at the Christmas Concert. Instead, the concert will be live-streamed on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December starting at 4:30pm, with a recording available afterwards.

Thank you to those people who have supported us by buying tickets. We are in the process of organising refunds. If you have any queries, please contact [pettingale@qegs.email](mailto:pettingale@qegs.email).

### Sixth Form Update

As we approach the end of the first very busy term in Sixth Form, we look back on sporting events, charity collections, inclusion initiatives and environmental schemes organised by our Student Council. We are proud of their proactive attitude and creativity. Year 12 students are already getting involved in the Council and will be assisting as the Year 13 students start to prepare for examinations in the summer. We look forward to encouraging all our students to participate in more of the opportunities we have planned at 6th Form next term.

### Careers News

Our Year 11 students are continuing to receive their one to one careers interviews with our impartial careers advisors from Ideas4Careers. Each student will spend up to an hour with an advisor and in some cases receive a

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follow up interview. Following this they will be emailed an action plan detailing what was discussed and future actions. Parents receive a copy of this to the email address we have on file so that you can help them with any further research which may be needed. If you have any queries, please contact Ms Morgan at [morgan@qegs.email](mailto:morgan@qegs.email).

### Social Media

We are trying to use our Facebook page more to informally update parents on activities in school. If you do not follow us and would like to please follow this link <https://www.facebook.com/qegsashbourne>

### House Swimming Gala

We are running our House Swimming Gala on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December at Ashbourne Leisure Centre. Each House will field U13 teams for both males and females, a mixed U15 team and a mixed U18 team, which will all compete towards the overall team swimming competition and House Cup. All students that can swim are able to enter. Letters and entry forms are available from the PE office.

### House Cross Country Results

#### Year 7 Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Noah, 2<sup>nd</sup> Oscar, 3<sup>rd</sup> Will  
1<sup>st</sup> Scarlett, 2<sup>nd</sup> Issey, 3<sup>rd</sup> Olivia



#### Year 8 Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Daniel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joshua, 3<sup>rd</sup> Harry  
1<sup>st</sup> Isabella, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maizie, 3<sup>rd</sup> Emily



#### Year 9 Winner

1<sup>st</sup> James, 2<sup>nd</sup> Julian, 3<sup>rd</sup> Jake  
1<sup>st</sup> Phoebe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mollie 3<sup>rd</sup> Rosie



### Hockey and Rugby House Matches

Next week it is rugby and hockey House matches for most year groups. The House matches will take place during P4 and P5 each day.

Those that have signed up to represent their House should come to school in their PE kit on the day of their event:

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Year 9

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> – Year 7

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> – Year 10

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> – Year 11

Year 8 have already signed up and will compete in their event on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January, P4 and P5.

### Residential Trips 2022

This academic year Mrs Caton, Mrs Wright and Mrs Watson-Jones are working hard to organise residentials for years 9, 8 and 7 during the last week of term in July. We would like to give parents/carers an early warning of the potential cost. We hope these trips will be between £250 and £320 per student including all transport, accommodation, activities and meals. The trips will be optional, but provide great opportunities to build transferable employability skills and for students to grow and develop their independence and have fun. We will give plenty of warning for when booking opens and when payments are due (aiming to allow for spreading of the cost).

## Online Safety

Instagram have released a new guide for parents containing lots of useful information such as:

- Tips for parents
- Tips for talking to teens
- Managing account privacy
- Balancing screen time
- Filtering offensive comments
- And much more

Although the guide is based around Instagram, it contains lots of useful hints and tips for talking to your child about online safety. You can find the guide [here](#).

## Finally

We have had a fantastic term and I am very proud of all the challenges that students, parents and staff have overcome. As we move towards the festive break and updated government Covid advice, please keep yourselves and each other safe. At school and at home, it is really important to use the routines and measures to limit any spread of infection, which will enable us all to have a safe, family Christmas:

- Sanitise regularly
- Test regularly
- Wear a face covering when mixing unless exempt
- Consider your social distancing when mixing with others and talking face to face
- Observe advice and guidance in other settings such as shops, cinemas, restaurants and any place you may visit through this period.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity  
**Headteacher**