

# QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

## Weekly Bulletin #19

### Year 9 Options

A reminder that the options form is now open for Year 9 students, and needs to be completed by all students by 14<sup>th</sup> February. Students access the form via their 'Quicklinks' on the school intranet.

### Safer Internet Day and Sexual Violence and Harassment Awareness Week

Just a reminder that we will be marking these important days of awareness on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February with an extended form time until 10.15. The theme of Safer Internet Day this year 'All the fun and games: Exploring respect and relationships online'. Mr Illsley and a member of the Digital police will be talking to students about their safety online. These talks will then be followed by some activities led by tutors. Please find a link to some top tips for parents and carers to help start conversations around your child's internet usage <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2022/advice-for-parents-and-carers>

### Road Safety

We have had some concerns raised from the community about some of our students not using the road crossings when crossing the road after school. They are there to keep everyone safe and should be used by students. We have staff on community duty before and after school walking in the area, but please can you talk to your child about being careful when walking to and from school. There have been many examples in the press of students across the UK being knocked down by cars who may not have been expecting them to cross from where did. We do not want this for any of our students at QEGS.

### Year 7 Ilam Hall Visit

The Year 7 Ilam Hall trip is going to be postponed. An alternative date will be selected for this academic year and we will communicate this to you as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding.

### Year 11 Macbeth Performance

All Year 11s are invited, and expected, to attend the performance of 'Macbeth' at QEGS on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022. It is a text they will be examined on for their English Literature GCSE in the summer, and we know that the production will cover key characters, plot and quotations. The voluntary contribution towards the cost of this production is £3.00 which can be paid via ParentPay. Please read here for more details: [www.qegs.link/macbethqtp](http://www.qegs.link/macbethqtp)

### School Show

The Dance, Drama and Music department are proud to announce the QEGS 2022 production of **Oliver!** will be taking place in the Main Hall **30<sup>th</sup> March - 2<sup>nd</sup> April**. Tickets go on sale on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February, adults £9, under 18s £7. The cast, crew and designers have been working hard to put together this year's production and we are all looking forward to performing to a live audience again for the first time in two years. So please come and join us for a magical evening to see our amazing cast!

Tickets are available via the link [www.qegs.link/tickets](http://www.qegs.link/tickets)

## Creative Writing Competitions

If you would like to try your hand at some 'flash-fiction' (a story of 50 words), have a go at this competition for Derby Book Festival. You can interpret the theme of 'Space' in any way you wish, but your work must be original, and it must tell a complete story. Submit your entry here: <https://www.derbybookfestival.co.uk/flash-fiction>

If you prefer writing poetry, enter this Young Writers' competition. Your poem needs to be based on the topic 'Empowered' and there is a lot of guidance on the website: <https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/KS3-4/empowered?view=ind>

Creative writing club is on Thursday A week for Years 7-9, and Tuesday B week for Years 10-13. Come along for support with any creative writing project you're interested in.

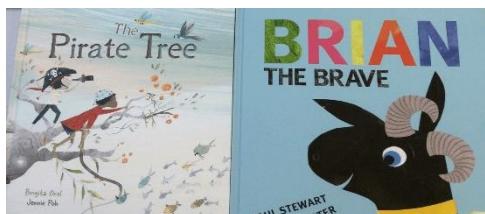
Remember to send Miss Angris a copy of your entry to either competition so that we can admire it in school too (we will always ask before publishing it). Happy writing!



### [Empowered | Young Writers](https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/KS3-4/empowered?view=ind)

Our 5 favourite poets will each win £100 and a trophy! PLUS. Every entrant receives a bookmark and we award a certificate of merit for all young writers chosen for publication.

[www.youngwriters.co.uk](https://www.youngwriters.co.uk)



### [Flash Fiction Competition | Derby Book Festival](https://www.derbybookfestival.co.uk/flash-fiction-competition)

Does my story have to be exactly 50 words long? The word limit is up to 50 words. In the past we asked for stories of exactly 50 words but we changed this. So long as you don't exceed 50 words, you'll be able to submit your stories. Do note that hyphenated words count as one word and other punctuation can affect the word count so you may need to play around with your wording to get it right.

[www.derbybookfestival.co.uk](https://www.derbybookfestival.co.uk)

## Junior Bake Off – Looking for Star Bakers

Love Productions; the company behind The Great British Bake Off, The Great British Sewing Bee and The Great Pottery Throw Down, have recently opened applications for the 8<sup>th</sup> series of **Junior Bake Off**; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.

They are looking for young budding bakers between **9-12 years old**. Filming would take place from July 2022, but **applications close on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2022**. Interested bakers can apply online at - [www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk](http://www.applyforjuniorbakeoff.co.uk)



## A Level and GCSE Music Recital

Tickets go on sale today for the A level and GCSE music recital. This will be on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 4pm and will last approximately an hour. Please follow the link below to get your tickets (and please note that tickets will **not** be available on the door). [www.qegs.link/tickets](http://www.qegs.link/tickets)

Tickets will be £1.50 each and include a cup of tea/coffee and a cake. Seating will be socially distanced and we recommend that masks are worn.

## Co-curricular Update - Cooking and Gardening Club

Cooking and gardening club is being held this term 1<sup>st</sup> February to 15<sup>th</sup> February 22. A chance to develop cooking skills by producing a selection of dishes that demonstrate a range of techniques. Each session will run from 3.20pm - 5.00pm.

Students need to sign up to join as we have a limited number of spaces in the food room. Information will also be communicated via Teams. Please speak to Mrs Challinor or Mrs Flinders for more information.

During previous sessions we have made lasagne, quiche, sausage rolls and a chocolate log.



### Design and Innovation

Once again Year 8's doing their bit in their DI lessons. Each hotel showing creativity and high-level making skills.



### Careers Day

Last Friday Years 7-11 were off timetable for 3 periods to learn about everything careers.

Year 7 became entrepreneurs for the day, creating, designing, and producing marketing for anti-bullying merchandise and receiving a talk from a local businesswoman.

Year 8 also interacted with the local businesswoman, as well as learning about the opportunities available in the engineering industry and gained problem solving skills, escaping from a career's focused escape room.

Year 9 had some time to experience some of their option subjects and then explored the reasons behind choosing their options.

Year 10 spent the day completing some virtual work experience allowing them access to a variety of industries and their career options.

Year 11 learnt how to 'Launch' themselves into their next steps with the help of an external speaker and had the opportunity to focus on submitting applications and gaining 1:1 assistance from our careers team.

### Sports

Year 9 Rugby beat Ecclesbourne 46-7. Some great attacking rugby display, backed up by a tireless defence. Tries Scored by James K, Billy B-L x2, Julien H x2, George P and Fergus K x2. Player of the match - Julien H.

Well done to Scarlett A and Elena A who took part in the Midlands Schools' Biathlon on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Elena came 2<sup>nd</sup>, wow!

## **Sixth Form Update**

In the coming weeks, our daily tutor programme will cover a wide range of topics including; careers, LGBT history month, consent, physical fitness, and stem cell donation.

We start with National Apprenticeship week from 7<sup>th</sup> February. We have encouraged all students to take a look the UCAS Discovering Apprenticeships event on 9<sup>th</sup> February, live or on-demand. We also have input from 3 ex-students, currently undertaking degree apprenticeships; they will talk about the application process and what is involved, life as an apprentice, workload and earning as you learn. The tutor led sessions tie in with our study skills programme in which Year 12 students are currently looking at core skills such as note-taking, researching, presenting and debating, while Year 13 are considering finance, health, and the skills they will need to establish themselves independently after school whether it be university, apprenticeship or employment.

## **Finally**

Unfortunately, we have recently seen a spate of graffiti appearing on some school bus seats and around the school site. Usually with a marker pen, although some has been students interfering with muddy cars. Clearly, we take this matter very seriously and there will be significant sanctions for any student causing damage or interfering with property and vehicles. Please speak to your child about this and inform the school if any offenders can be identified to help us nip this in the bud.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity  
**Headteacher**