



16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff


## Weekly Bulletin #2

### Safeguarding Information This Week...

All students will be attending assemblies based on consent and child on child abuse starting Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September (Year 10), Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September (Year 11), Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September (Year 7), Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September (Year 9) and Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September (Year 8). These will be led by Mrs Betty, Designated Safeguarding Lead and Mr Bawden, Curriculum Leader for PSHE. They will cover what consent means, what child on child abuse is and what bullying is. We will also discuss what actions students can take if they have any concerns. Please do contact your child's tutor if you wish to discuss anything after these assemblies have taken place.

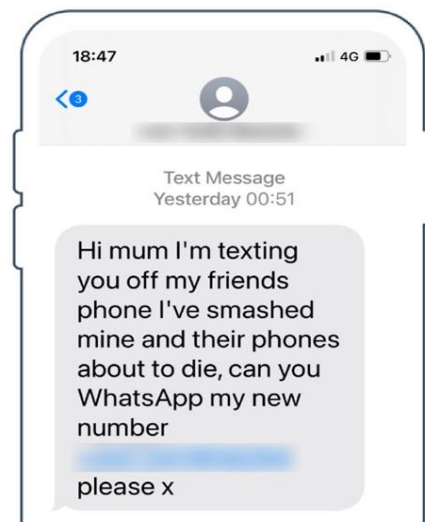
Phishing scams are unfortunately very common at the moment. Phishing is when criminals pretend to be someone else to get a victim to give away their personal details, usually by clicking on a link and going to a professional-looking, but ultimately fake, web site. One such scam that has been circulating through WhatsApp and on text messages is known as 'Hi Mum' and involves criminals impersonating friends or family members in order to gain access to your personal information.

The Ineqe safeguarding group have produced a guide to the 'Hi Mum' scam and you can read their information and advice here: <https://ineqe.com/2022/09/12/scam-alert/>



[Scam Alert – The 'Hi Mum' WhatsApp Scam - Ineqe Safeguarding Group](#)

We have recently become aware of an increase in a phishing scam, often known as 'Hi Mum'. The scam involves the impersonation of friends or family members, and can be conducted through text message or an instant messaging service, such as WhatsApp. Our Scam Alert will help you understand what the scam is, [ineqe.com](http://ineqe.com)



### Changes to SLT Links For Some Year Groups

Unfortunately, Mr Hamer (PL for Year 9) is not in school at present. We will be able to inform you of his temporary replacement next week. For now, Mrs Morgan will be the SLT link for Year 9 so please contact your child's tutor in the first instance and they will then liaise with Ms Morgan if necessary. Mrs Walker will be SLT link for Year 8 working with Ms Wilband.

### Open Evenings

Year 5/6 – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Sixth Form – Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022

## Secondary Geography Quality Mark Awarded to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School



QEGS Geography Department are proud to announce that we have been awarded the prestigious Secondary Geography Quality Mark award from the Geographical Association (GA). The Quality Mark award recognises excellence and quality in leadership, curriculum development and learning and teaching. The Quality Mark award is the result of 12 months of professional reflection, adaptation, implementation, and review by the geography department to meet 22 rigorous indicators set out by the GA. As you start or continue your geography learning journey at QEGS have a brilliant time being curious about the world and understanding what's happening right now!

Finally, this would not have been possible without dedication and drive from the geography teaching team, Miss Edwards (Curriculum Leader), Mr Hughes, Mr Machin and Ms Fisher.

### Awards Ceremony - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Yesterday we hosted an awards ceremony for students in Years 8-11 reflecting on last academic year and their achievements. A range of students were awarded with certificates to mark their attainment, progress and any special recognitions across subjects. A big thank you to our Deputy Progress Leaders Mrs Cookman and Mrs Choudhury for organising such a lovely event.

We had nominations from all subjects in the categories of Best Attainment, Significant Improvement and Special Recognition. We had an impressive number of Year 10 students also receive their Intermediate Sports Leaders Certificate for volunteering 20 hours of their time to Primary sport events! Wow!

We have reset all students merit count towards their Bronze, Silver and Gold Merit badges again. Please see below for the number of Merits students will need to work towards to achieve these:

Bronze = 60 Merits

Silver = 120 Merits

Gold = 180 Merits

These will be awarded at the end of each term.

We are also aware that we had many wonderful students achieve multiple Golden Tickets last year and so this year we have introduced the Head Teachers Award. Any student that receives more than one Golden Ticket in a term, will be entered in a prize draw to win the Head Teachers Award. Golden Ticket awards come in all sorts of shapes and sizes, that range from a sweet treat, a canteen queue jump pass, fun filled activities in school or trips out.

We cannot wait to celebrate more of our QEGS Amazing students throughout this new school year.

### Duke of Edinburgh Award Updates

Apologies that next week's Awards Event has had to be postponed due to the public holiday causing a shift of events happening at school next week – a new date will be arranged ASAP.

DofE drop-in sessions will run in 557 on a Thursday lunch time – please encourage students to come along if they need any support in completing their DofE Award/help with eDofE etc.

### YEAR 9 BRONZE ENROLMENT

A letter has been sent out to all Year 9 parents/careers regarding the enrolment process for the Bronze Award and this will now be live on ParentPay. There will be an online parent/carer information session and Q&A on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 7:30 - 8pm – a link will be sent out closer to the time if you wish to join.

### YEAR 10 SILVER ENROLMENT

A letter has been sent out to all Year 10 parents/carers regarding the enrolment process for the Silver Award and this will now be live on ParentPay. If students did not participate in the Bronze Award, they are still able to complete their Silver Award (please email Ms Watson Jones if you require further information about this).

## Dance Workshop with Lincoln University

The freelance teacher visited us on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September to work with our Year 9, 10,11 & 13 dance students from the dance department at Lincoln University. Students had a brilliant time participating in a contemporary dance technique class and then developed their improvisation and choreography skills by exploring and generating movement in groups. Students worked really hard and thoroughly enjoyed the workshop. This is definitely a partnership we will be building on to develop students' knowledge of dance training and progression to higher education.



## Entry Requirements and Personal Statements for University Level Study

30-minute information session discussing the range of entry requirements needed for higher education. Explanation of the importance of a personal statement, what makes a good personal statement and planning ahead for a higher education application.

You will hear from a student ambassador who will share their experiences and what they found useful. There will also be an opportunity to ask any questions.

This event is applicable to parents and carers of secondary aged students with a focus for Year 10 onwards.

Details of the event are as follows:

Title: Entry Requirements and Personal Statements for University Level Study  
Date: Thursday 29 September 2022  
Time: 17:00 – 17:30  
Platform: Zoom (link will be sent a few days before the event)

Who are Hepp? - Hepp are an impartial organisation working across South Yorkshire and North East Derbyshire to encourage more children, young people and adults to consider higher education opportunities.

Link to register: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/entry-requirements-and-personal-statements-for-university-level-study-tickets-362993452187> and a Zoom link will be sent nearer to the event.

If you or any parents/carers have any questions, please contact 07824 431415 or email [k.self@shu.ac.uk](mailto:k.self@shu.ac.uk)

## Maths Problem of the Week

The answer to last week's problem was 36. A huge well done to everyone who emailed in with answers. The winner is Poppy R in Year 9, well done! Please come to room 531 to claim your prize.

This week's problem:

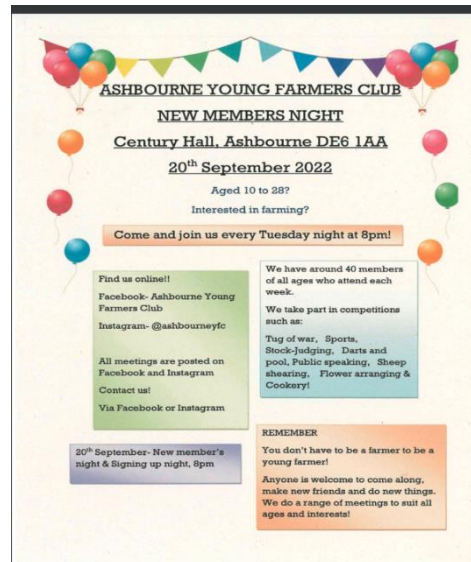
If one and a half hens lay one and a half eggs in one and a half days, how many eggs does one hen lay in one day?  
Please send all solutions to [statham@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:statham@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk)

## Sixth Form Update

In Sixth Form we have continued with introductions to different aspects of Sixth Form life. This week our Tutor programme and Personal Development courses began with reviewing how to make the best start in sixth form; whether it is having clear goals, being organised, reviewing each learning experience, or creating positive habits to begin as you mean to go on. Year 13 looked back at the skills they acquired through their work experience and all KS5 students had an introductory assembly from the QEGS Careers team. All students can request a careers appointment to support them in their choices and Year 12 will have Work Experience from 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> July 2023.

## Ashbourne Young Farmers Club

If you are interested in joining Ashbourne Young Farms Club, their new members night is taking place on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 8pm.



## New Staff:

### Thomas Atkins - Curriculum Leader for Music

I am very excited to be joining the QEGS community as the new Curriculum Leader for Music. The school has a very strong reputation for excellent music making, and I am very much looking forward to steering the department into the future, building on the current provision and making Music even better!

I have been teaching for 14 years now, having worked in schools in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. I have recently spent the last 10 years as Head of Music at Ashfield School in Kirkby-in-Ashfield, leading their music provision, as well as developing teaching and learning in the faculty of PE and Performing Arts.

I love teaching and working with young people, helping them to develop their talents and interests in music. My aim is for all students at QEGS to engage in a fun and exciting music curriculum, with students enjoying their lessons as well as developing a multitude of transferrable skills. A full and thriving programme of co-curricular activities will provide students with opportunities to further their musical skills and interests outside of the classroom.

Outside of teaching, I am the accompanist to the world-renowned Cantamus Girls' Choir in Mansfield, and I am the musical director for NOWMADS in Nottingham. When not making music, I enjoy reading and walking my dogs in Derbyshire.

Should you have any questions about the music provision at QEGS, please do not hesitate to email me on [atkins@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:atkins@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk)

### Mrs Ward-Argument – History Teacher

I have had a brilliant couple of weeks settling into the QEGS family and you have all made me feel so welcome already. I have joined QEGS after spending 6 years teaching History and RE in Macclesfield and I am looking forward to sharing my love of History and Politics here at QEGS. I have also taken on a new role of working with the Royal British Legion in Ashbourne to help plan events such as remembrance services within our community. If any of you have any ideas you would like to share then please come and find me and let me know!

I live in the Staffordshire Moorlands with my husband and our collection of pets including a dog called Poppy, a cat called Seb and a Chinchilla called Jack. At the weekends you will often find me catching up with friends or exploring new places as I love to travel and visit places of interest such as castles, cathedrals, beaches, and historic towns. I regularly travel back to County Durham, where I grew up and explore its wonderful history and beautiful coastlines.

I am looking forward to getting to know you all over the next few weeks either in lessons or around school.

## Library

Unfortunately, our library has had to close due to some additional roofing work required. We are looking at a reduced, alternative service to cover the interim period, we will update when we know more.

**Finally**

Congratulations to Ms Matkin who has had a baby girl over the summer. Also, good luck to Miss Robinson who has started her maternity leave.

We have started a book of condolence for the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, it is in our reception area if you wish to add your own message. We hope that you can pay your respects in your own way over the weekend and we look forward to seeing students back in school on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity  
**Headteacher**