

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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9th September 2022

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #1

On the back of such a positive start to term, such a sad day to write the first bulletin of the year. Today we have lowered our flag to half mast, held a whole school assembly and observed a minute's silence to recognise and remember Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We will be organising other events and ways to commemorate this solemn occasion and we will have further details next week. Queen Elizabeth II visited QEGS in 1985, here are some of the photographs from her visit with our own Mrs Barrie aged 4 years in duffel coat and wellies!.



Students will have an opportunity over the next week to put their personal messages into a book of condolences.

Bereavement Support

If your child requires support following the death of Her Majesty the Queen, support can be accessed via <https://www.minded.org.uk/>

Her passing may cause upset based on any grief they have suffered in their lives. They can also speak to their form tutor or the pastoral team in 540.

Parent Pay Shop – Open for Revision Guides Ordering Years 9 - 11

The Parent Pay shop has opened again for revision guide ordering <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=7712>. Please note stock is not held in school and orders will be placed at the beginning of the month e.g., Parent Shop purchases made during September 2022 will not be ordered until the first week of October. Students will be notified when ready to collect from QEGS Library. If unsure which guides to order for Maths & Science subjects – Foundation or Higher level, please speak to your teacher for advice.

Safeguarding Information - Nitrous Oxide- Laughing Gas

Nitrous oxide is a colourless gas that is most commonly found in pressurised metal canisters. You may have seen these metal canisters lying around in streets or parks.



It is becoming increasingly popular with young people in the UK and is readily available to buy online. Laughing gas is often categorised as a 'legal high' but if someone takes too much nitrous oxide, they risk falling unconscious and/or suffocating from the lack of oxygen.

It is a good idea for you to talk about this with your children to ensure they understand the levels of risk, how best to stay safe – and how to look after their friends too.

Stay calm and open-minded when you talk to your child about drugs.

Reminder to Parents, Staff and Visitors to QEGS

The school site has limited parking for visitors due to the building works taking place. Please only use the designated bays to park in and if needing to park in the bus bay, the bus slots must not be used during 08:00 to 09:00 and 14:30 to 16:00 as this does not allow the buses to manoeuvre.

Uniform

Thank you to parents, carers and students for returning to school with such smart uniform standards.

Pop-up Uniform Shop in School

The first pop-up school uniform shop will be in school on **Wednesday 14th September, 3.30 to 5pm** in the Canteen.

More will follow during the year in case you need additional or are replacing uniform:

- **5th October 22**
- **2nd November 22**
- **7th December 22**
- **1st February 23**
- **1st March 23**
- **3rd May 23**

If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals and wishes to replace items of uniform through the 'uniform bundle' offer (blazer, tie, skirt/trousers, PE top, PE midlayer – all, or some items) and has not already done so for this new academic year, please email requests directly to Mrs K Starkie starkiek@qegs.email or contact via 01335 343685. Please arrange collection of these items through Mrs Starkie as the pop-up shop will not be able to process during the above dates. The 'Supporting our Pupil Premium/Free School Meal Families at QEGS' poster is attached for reference.

Maths Problem of the Week:

One third of the animals in Jacob's flock are goats, the rest are sheep.
There are twelve more sheep than goats.

How many animals are there altogether in Jacob's flock?

Please email solutions to statham@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk. Students who send in a correct solution will have their names drawn out of a hat for a prize. Answers in next week's bulletin- good luck!

School welcomes new staff this term, over the next few weeks we would like to introduce them to you:

Emma Walker, Assistant Headteacher



I am really looking forward to joining the Senior Leadership Team at QEGS in September as Assistant Headteacher responsible for Teaching & Learning. I am excited about the new professional challenges for me personally but most importantly I am looking forward to being part of the QEGS community - meeting all the staff, students and parents over the next academic year!

I have worked in three different schools across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Staffordshire since beginning my teaching career in 2007 at Chellaston Academy. Most recently I have spent the last 10 years at John Taylor High School teaching and being the Curriculum Leader for Religious Studies and being a part of their Senior Leadership team for the last few years.

I absolutely love teaching and working with young people and so to be responsible for teaching and learning at QEGS from September feels a real privilege!

Outside of teaching, I love watching sport – particularly football and cricket- but my main hobby is music. I play piano, trumpet and soprano cornet and am a member of the Hucknall and Linby Brass Band which keeps me busy

with regular concerts and competitions (think the film 'Brassed Off' if you've ever seen it!!). Though I now live in Derbyshire with my husband and daughter, I originally come from Yorkshire and so love to return there when I can to catch up with family and friends.

I look forward to meeting you all soon!

Sixth Form Update

Welcome to the new Year 12, we are impressed with their attitude and effort in the first few days of the year. We hope they have enjoyed this week; if they have any queries or concerns, they should speak to their tutor, Mrs Allen or Mr Walker

Welcome back to Year 13, great to see them all back and ready to continue their studies with a positive frame of mind.

All students are eligible to enquire about the Sixth Form bursary. This means tested financial support for students can help with uniform, equipment, transport costs and anything related to school. Please contact Mrs V Smith smithv@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Online Safety

We know lots of our students enjoy playing online games with others but, as parents and carers, it can be difficult to know where to start when talking to them about it.

Reddit and Discord are two popular sites associated with social gaming. Both these sites have an age rating of 13+. Parent Zone has put together a guide to help families understand the benefits and risks of gaming communities for children and offer suggestions of how parents can help support safety on such sites. You can find the guide [here](#). The guide to Reddit [here](#) and Discord [here](#).

Canteen School Meals

Next weeks's canteen menu is the following:-

<https://www2.myschoollunch.co.uk/media/1956235/qegs-week-c.pdf>

Finally

Welcome to the new Year 7 and Year 12 students and also to the 20+ new students who join QEGS this September from other schools in the local area and further afield. The weather has been a challenge with short and sharp thunderstorms and some onsite construction work has also limited our normal flow. However, a new roof on the 'old block' is much needed and the expansion project is progressing at pace (good job it is water and weather tight this week!!).

I know 2022-23 will be an amazing year, thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity
Headteacher