

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



7th October 2022

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #5

School Day Timings

We have reviewed the first few weeks of term and we want to help students and staff be on time and ready for their lessons. Feedback from students and staff has helped us understand some of the pressures they face with such a big school site. This is also in preparation for our new teaching and changing block which will open in the Spring. Therefore, the slight change to the school day is the addition of two 5 minute changeover slots between Periods 1-2 and 3-4. The adjusted timings are below and will start on Monday 10th October. As ever, we expect students and staff to be on time and we expect prompt starts to all lessons. We will review the impact of this change in the second half term.

SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS	
Form Time	08.50 - 09.10
Period 1	09.10 - 10.10
<i>Lesson Changeover</i>	<i>10.10 - 10.15</i>
Period 2	10.15 - 11.15
Break	11.15 - 11.35
Period 3	11.35 - 12.35
<i>Lesson Changeover</i>	<i>12.35 - 12.40</i>
Period 4	12.40 - 13.40
Lunch	13.40 - 14.20
Period 5	14.20 - 15:20

Curriculum Maps

We have been busy updating the Curriculum section of our website, sharing more information with you on each department's vision, the breakdown of the timetable hours in each year, and more specific curriculum details, including the key topics, skills and assessments for students each half term. Please do take a look and let us know what you think!

<https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/Learning/>

<https://qegsmat.com/curriculum/school.php?sch=1>

Co-curricular Activities

Here at QEGS, we value education in the broadest sense; with sport, the arts, enterprise, performance, employability skills, competition, cultural school visits and many other amazing opportunities taking an equal standing with academic success. We are proud that our co-curricular timetable includes **over 100 different activities**, which take place before school, at lunchtimes and after school. This ensures an education which is enriching and well balanced, so that students are prepared for a life beyond school. Please take the time to have a look through the timetable with your child and encourage them to participate in extra-curricular clubs.

<https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/learning/clubs-and-co-curricular/>

Splendid Productions

This week the drama department have worked with Grace from Splendid Productions theatre company. She explored their style and techniques through a devising workshop to support our students in year 9, 10, 12 and 13, who will be creating their own material in response to a stimulus. Students had a fabulous morning developing character and material to tell a story. Our key stage 5 students will be recreating a scene from one of Splendid's productions for their performance assessment next March, and our year 9 and 10 students will be devising their own

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play incorporating these techniques they have learnt. It was an invaluable experience to work alongside one of their practitioners and gain an insight into how they build characters and plays from scratch. Students have said "it was an amazing workshop, fast paced and energetic" and "it was so much fun to work with an actor from the company we are studying". This is a partnership we will be developing further in the future; we look forward to doing it all again next year!



Sporting News

Football success - congratulations to the Year 9 and 11 students that played in the Derbyshire Dales U14 and U16 7-a-side football tournaments this week. This was a competition between QEGS, Highfields, Lady Manners and Anthony Gell. Both teams performed really well, conducted themselves in a positive way throughout and won their respective competitions!

Co-curricular PE clubs - a reminder that all students are welcome to attend the sport and exercise clubs that we offer. Although we do enter competitive competitions, the primary focus of our co-curricular offer is to give students the opportunity to have fun, whilst being physically active. For before-school and lunchtime clubs, students do not need to change into their PE kit, but do need to bring a pair of trainers to wear in the sports hall. For the after-school clubs, students do need to change into PE kit.

Primary Sport

Yesterday we held our 2nd event of the year which was Year 5 and 6 football. 26 teams took part (over 240 children) - it was a great afternoon of football with lots talent, smiles and enjoyment had by all.

The sports leaders were spectacular once again and led the whole event from start to finish. A big thank you to all the primary students, teachers, parents and Year 9 sports leaders for making it such a successful day.



Sixth Form Update

This week Mr Garrity spoke to all KS5 students about the new Boothby Campus building due to open in the Spring term. The students were impressed with the new study space and canteen that will be available to them. Year 12 Meet the Tutor evening took place on Thursday and Year 13 Parent Consultation Evening takes place on Tuesday 11th October. A letter with the link for making a booking was emailed out and can also be found in the Parents section of the QEGs website

World Mental Health Day - Wear Yellow

On Monday we are marking World Mental Health Day. Please see the poster attached to the bulletin. If students are able, please bring in a donation for Young Minds.

Students can wear uniform with a yellow accessory or full non uniform as long as a top/ trousers/ dress/ jumper are in yellow.

Non uniform simply with a pair of yellow socks or small yellow item is **not acceptable**.

Maths Problem of the Week

Congratulations to Penny T in Year 8 who won last week - please come to 530 to collect your prize! There were several correct answers, including $743+859=1602$.

This week's problem;

A Teacher thinks of two consecutive (one after the other) numbers in the range 1 to 10, and tells Alex one of the numbers and Sam the other.

Sam and Alex have the following conversation:

Alex: I don't know your number.

Sam: I don't know your number, either.

Alex: Now I know!

Can you find all 4 solutions?

Please send any entries to statham@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk to be in with a chance of winning a prize!

Online Safety

Several news stories this week have, again, highlighted how vulnerable our young people can be to content they are exposed to online. In many cases, exposure to inappropriate content online could easily be avoided by taking some basic precautions, such as blocking the senders of offensive material. **By far the best way to keep your child safe online is to be interested in what they are doing – you do not have to be an expert yourself, just interested in what they are doing.** The NSPCC have an excellent resource on their website, that gives hints and tips for talking to your child about online safety. You can access that [here](#).

Ashbourne Parkrun

Our friends at Ashbourne Recreation Ground parkrun are taking part in parkwalk month, alongside their regular Saturday morning runs. Throughout October, everyone is encouraged to come along and give the event a go, runners joggers and, especially, walkers. Walking is a great way of soaking up the parkrun atmosphere, getting the opportunity to chat to people, being active and is something that whole families or friendship groups can do together. It is also one of the best entry points into parkrun, especially for those who may be taking their first steps towards healthier and happier lifestyles. If you would like to give it a go, events are held every Saturday on Ashbourne Recreation Ground, starting near the pavilion at 9am. There is a first-timers welcome at 8.50am. If you are coming along for the first time, please register at <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/> before attending and bring your barcode with you. The team would love to see you!

QEGSMAT Vacancies

Please keep an eye on our vacancies at QEGS and within the trust: <https://www.qegsmat.com/current-vacancies/>

Canteen School Meals

Next week's canteen menu is the following:-

Week A:

<https://www2.myschoollunch.co.uk/media/1956229/QEGS-Week-A.pdf>

Finally

Please take an interest in what your child does on the way to and from school. We have had some reports of anti-social behaviour in and around the town and we will be following these matters up with the students and their parents. If you see anything that you think we need to know, please get in touch, we will deal with it and involve the police if necessary.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity
Headteacher