

# QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

## Weekly Bulletin #14

### Speech Day

Our annual Speech Day was held yesterday, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Colin Smith, Chair of the Local Governing Body, welcomed the audience and Mr Garrity, Headteacher, then introduced his 'a world of opportunities' presentation. Prize winners were announced by Mrs Allen, Head of Sixth Form and prizes were awarded by the guest of honour and former QEGS student, Sam Keeling. In his inspirational address, Sam talked about his experience of school and his time since leaving QEGS in the world of engineering.



The event was live streamed, and a recording is now available to watch using the link below.

<https://vimeo.com/781529246/3fe1da6c79>

Photographs taken during the event will be displayed on the school website in the new year.



### Departmental Location Changes

In preparation for occupying the new building, some of our subjects will be moving locations. From **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December, Maths and Languages will be swapping their rooms.** From Monday, nearly all Maths lessons will be on level 3 from and all MFL lessons will be in the previous Maths rooms. All students and staff will have an extended Form Time until 9.25am on Monday when new timetables will be issued detailing these changes.

Further into the new year, we will also see moves for Geography, History, Business and Economics who will in the main occupy the new Boothby building, followed by RS who will occupy all of Level 1.

This is an exciting time for the school as we take advantage of new spaces and resources for our students and staff.

**Updated Term Dates for 2023-24** – slight change to the calendar, INSET day for staff now on September 5<sup>th</sup> 2023 and not 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – link here [www.qegs.link/td2324](http://www.qegs.link/td2324)

## Term Dates for 2024-2025

Term dates from the 2024-2025 academic year can be found on our website [here](#).

## Christmas Safeguarding Update

- Following the tragic events of last week, involving children on a lake in Solihull, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service would like to provide you with the attached Stay Wise publication. The leaflet highlights safety messages at an age-appropriate level.
- You may be buying your children an AirTag this Christmas which has very many wonderful uses but please be aware of how they can keep themselves safe with it. I have attached a link to an article with some key advice on <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-60164847>
- Mobile phone use - please be vigilant about your child's mobile phone use over the festive season. We deal with many issues every day and the fallout from social media usage which usually takes place out of school! I have attached the link to the NSPCC Keeping Children Safe Online documents <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



## Rewards

Our wonderful Year 11s are going on a shopping trip next week for their conduct in their mocks exams. Well done to all involved!

We also have over 600 students who will receive a Maltesers reindeer this week for not having a single negative event this term and high attendance. Well done for always achieving our 3Rs - respect, responsibility and ready to achieve.

To top this off, well done to Boothby who have received the most positive events overall and to 7B2 who have received the most positive to negative events overall with 39000 points, closely followed by 7S2, 7C2, 8H2 and 10S2. Well done all!

## School Musical Production

Tickets are now on sale for **Shrek the musical** for 14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Tickets start at £8 for under 18s and £10 for adults, there is a new start time of 7pm so please make a note in your diary and book your tickets quick before they sell out. The cast have worked so hard this term; learning their lines and rehearsing the blocking and cannot wait to perform to you. Group bookings are available please get in touch through [enquiries@qegs.email](mailto:enquiries@qegs.email)

Tickets available from: [www.qegs.link/tickets](http://www.qegs.link/tickets)



## Running Club

Alex Dyson Year 8 achieved silver award this week (50km) and Darragh G in Year 12 was the first to achieve his platinum award (200km!) - congratulations!

### Maths Problem of the Week

Our winner for this week was William G in Year 9, well done and please come to 321 to get your prize!

The solution was to take the chicken across the river, then take the fox across the river but bring the chicken with him. He then takes the corn across the river (leaving the chicken on the first side) and finally comes back and collects the chicken.

This week's problem is:

At a school fete people were asked to guess how many peas there were in a jar. No one guessed correctly, but the nearest guesses were 163, 169, 178, 182.

One of the numbers was one out, one was three out, one was ten out and the other sixteen out. How many peas were in the jar?

### Cakes for Teachers

Kai S bakes cakes for the teachers every week as part of the volunteering hours for Duke of Edinburgh. These cakes are maintaining the motivation of staff and are very gratefully received. I would go as far as to say the flap jack was the best I have ever tasted. Thank you Kai



### School Uniform - Pupil Premium Support

If your child is eligible for free school meals, this also means they are eligible for Pupil Premium support in school to help with purchasing school uniform (<https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/learning/pupil-premium/>) – this includes a uniform bundle once a year – if you have not used this opportunity yet this year and would like to, please drop Mrs Starkie an email prior to the shop visiting school ([starkiek@qegs.email](mailto:starkiek@qegs.email)) or your child's Progress Leader.

### Ashbourne Elim Church

Ashbourne Elim Church are offering lunch provision during the holidays to the families in our school. Please see website for all information [ashelim.ch/lunchables](http://ashelim.ch/lunchables)

### Sixth Form Update

This week we have sent letters about KS5 mock exams and study leave arrangements to all parents and carers of Year 12 and Year 13. Please ensure you have followed the link on the letter to give permission for your child to be absent for study leave. This is a safeguarding requirement and any student without permission will be expected to be in school as normal in addition to their exam times.

We have also reviewed all students' attendance and any student whose attendance is below 90% will have had a meeting with their tutor to ensure all appropriate support is in place to help them improve their attendance. Letters have also been sent to parent/carers.

Year 12 have completed several World of Work sessions on cover letters and CVs. Each student should now have an example of a cover letter and an up-to-date CV. This forms an important part of their Work Experience preparation as they have until February half term to organise a work experience placement for w/c 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

Christmas is nearly here, and Sixth Form is looking festive with decorated form rooms which will be judged on Friday. Mr Walker is also distributing Christmas goodies from the Advent draw each day. We wish all our Sixth Form students a very happy Christmas!

### Upcoming Key Dates:

- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Year 7,8 & 9 Flu Vaccinations
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 – Last day of term
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – Return to school

### 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 B:

<https://www2.myschoollunch.co.uk/media/1964322/week-2-qegs.pdf>

The Meal Deal is the best value for those eligible for free school meals.

### Uniform Reminder

Whilst the weather has been cold and icy we have allowed changes to footwear and clearly more layers have been worn. We have also had indoor space open every day to offer students somewhere safe and warm. However, **'hoodies' of any sort are not allowed** in school and should not be worn instead of a school jumper or PE sweatshirt. The weather forecast for next week looks a lot milder (although wetter!), please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform for each day in school.

### Finally

We have a small number of staff leaving us at the end of this term. We will be saying farewell to them next week and messages will appear in the end of term bulletin.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Garrity  
Headteacher