

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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



10th February 2023

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #20

Plans for Wednesday 1st March 2023 - Second NEU Strike Day

Thank you to parents and carers for coping and adapting when we were closed on February 1st due to the NEU strike. It continues to be a difficult scenario to plan for as we do not know which unions our staff belong to, and staff are not obliged to tell us; NEU members can choose to strike or not without prior notification; and other staff in different unions are not permitted to cover for their striking colleagues.

However, from our February 1st experience, we do now have an idea of the number of staff who may choose to strike and the capacity we estimate we can offer onsite for a partial opening. Therefore, we are planning to be open to **onsite teaching for Year 11 and Year 13 students on Wednesday 1st March**. It is always difficult to choose who we should have onsite when our capacity is limited, in this instance we have prioritised the year groups with forthcoming end of course exams. Final details including provision for home learning for other year groups will be confirmed next week. Thank you again for your cooperation and understanding.

Mr Garrity's Tea Party – Friday 3rd February 2023

Mr Garrity hosts a weekly 'Well Done Afternoon Tea' – last week the U14 Girls Football and Netball teams attended to celebrate their recent success. Students who are nominated to attend each receive food and drink treats, plus a 'Well done' certificate and a 'jump the queue' break/lunch pass for them and a friend!



Year 11 Parents and Students Revision Information Evening

There will be a Year 11 parent and student revision information and support session held **online on Thursday 16th February beginning at 5pm**. Mrs Walker will be covering useful revision strategies and ways to support your child through the revision and exam period.

Please use this link to access this. Click [Here](#)

Skybolt Rocket

On Tuesday 7th February we had an unusual vehicle in our car park - a real space rocket. The Skybolt rocket from Starchaser was part of a wider talk to inspire students in Year 9 about space exploration, research and space tourism. Steve (the company and rocket owner) was really interesting and answered lots of questions. Skybolt had taken to the skies back in 2017 and has since been decommissioned so is allowed to visit schools. Starchaser have another rocket back at base that they are developing as a potential manned space rocket. If you want to find out more have a look at the website <https://starchaser.co.uk/>



Maths Problem of the Week

Mrs White was better off by £20. Thank you for the huge number of responses in order to secure a space on the Escape room! We will be looking at allocations and numbers next week and will let the successful students know asap.

This week's problem:

Write down the next line in the following pattern. Please send in any solutions to statham@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk to be in with a chance of winning a prize.

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1
11
21
1211
111221
312211
13112221
1113213211
31131211131221
.....?

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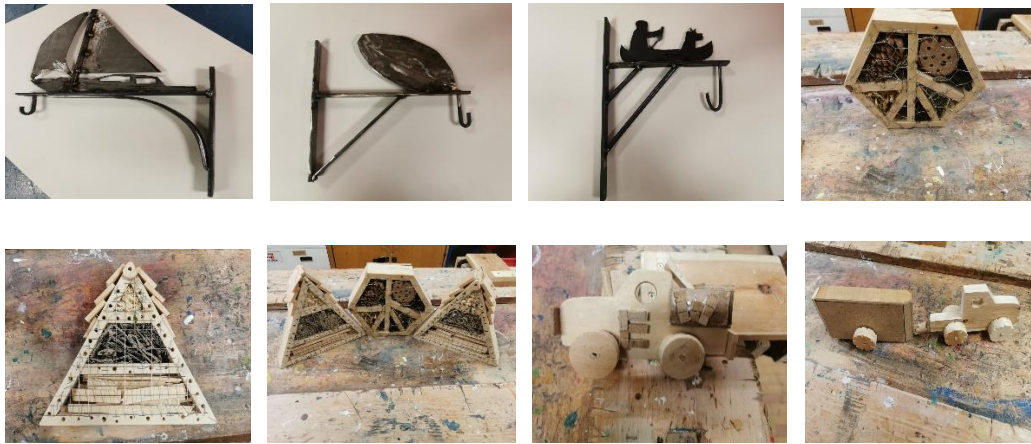
Lubrizol Visit and Workshops

On Monday Year 11 students were fortunate to participate in an activity run by local chemistry company, Lubrizol. The sessions were designed to put Life Cycle Assessments into a real-world context and also show that science-based careers do not necessarily mean working in a laboratory wearing a lab coat and safety goggles. In their teams, students used data to calculate and analyse the impact on the environment of a petrol car compared to an electric car, over 100,001 miles. Not only did this give students an insight into how chemistry is used by businesses but also gave them a chance to use transferable employability skills, such as teamwork and communication to market their product. There were various prizes awarded to groups that demonstrated effective collaboration and as the morning wore on news of this spread to other tutor groups which increased the competitiveness of some students! It was a fantastic day and Year 11 students represented themselves and the school impeccably.



Design and Innovation

As our Design and Innovation groups have just moved onto their next rotations, here is a showcase of the great work students have produced within the department.



National Youth Dance Company Workshop

The dance department welcomed professional dancers from the National Youth Dance Company who worked with our Year 9, 10 and 11 dancers. They had the opportunity to work with different dance material and develop their own repertoire which will support them in choreography towards their BTEC dance course. It was a nice chance to learn from other dance teachers as we all move in different ways. They learnt some material which was created for the NYDC who are based at Sadlers Wells in London. Students were informed of their training programme for ages 16-18 during the school holidays and how it supported them to progress into the dance industry to train further or work.



Boys Rugby

The Year 7-9 boys rugby teams travelled to St Joseph's College in Stoke on Saturday morning. It was fantastic to see so many boys committed to playing school rugby. The Year 7's game finished in a 6-6 draw, Year 8's won a tightly fought match 7-6 and the Year 9's suffered a narrow defeat 24-17. Well done to all involved.



BTEC Sport and Exercise Science National Extended Diploma

Last Thursday our Sixth Form students who study the BTEC Sport and Exercise Science National Extended Diploma took a trip to the High Performance Unit at Derby University. We took part in a Sports Therapy session where we learned a range of taping techniques to combat injury, and also a Strength and Conditioning session in which we learned the techniques and safety points around performing compound lifts.



Year 7 Football - Cup Match Win vs Frederick Gent School



The Year 7 Boys' U12 Football team won 4-0 against Frederick Gent School this week, which now puts them through to the quarterfinals of the Derbyshire County Cup. The long-range goal from Captain Alfie W will not be forgotten and the boys were again outstanding ambassadors for QEGS. We now wait to see who the boys will play in the final eight. Goal scorers: Alfie W., Daniel M. x2 and Oscar H.

Year 8 Camping Trip

Exciting news - our Year 8 camping trip is almost ready to be opened for booking. This year we will be heading back to Yorkshire but staying the week at How Stean Gorge. There will be several adventurous activities such as gorge walking, stand up paddle boarding, canoeing, abseiling and climbing. We leave QEGS on 17th July and return on 21st July. Places strictly limited to 90 and places will be allocated via a lottery if demand exceeds this number, it will not be first come first served. Cost is £340 per child and is inclusive of transport, activities, camping and food. Look out for a letter with information to sign up in the near future.

Years 7, 8 and 9 Final Week of Summer Term

In addition, for Years 7-9 (inc those Year 8s not camping) - the final week of term will be filled with educational trips and activities on site linked to personal development and raising aspirations. On the Friday there will be a traditional activity day with a range of 'just for fun' trips available to choose from and fun onsite activities. More details to follow.

Sixth Form Update

This week we welcomed Mr Robert Court, Liberal Democrats prospective parliamentary candidate for the Derbyshire Dales. He asked Year 13 students about their main concerns (NHS and cost of living) and spoke about the 2019 General Election and the distribution of votes, what that means for Parliament, together with some information about how to vote and the need for photographic ID. The students asked questions about the Liberal Democrat manifesto, why the last Liberal Democrat leader lost their seat and what the Liberal Democrats would do about the crisis in the NHS.

We will be welcoming speakers representing the Conservative party and the Labour party in the coming weeks. Year 12 have focussed on alternatives to university, including gap years, employment and apprenticeships. As it is National Apprenticeship Week, they watched videos created by previous QEGS students describing their experience of the recruitment process and life as an apprentice.

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.

Upcoming Key Dates This Term:

- 15th February – **Year 8 School Disco** (Year 11 Prom fundraiser) 3.30-5pm in the Main Hall £3 entry (payment via ParentPay) sweets and drinks on sale
- 16th February – **Year 11 Revision Information session** & parents evening 5-6pm (TEAMS)
- 17th February – Last day of term

FOOD CENTRAL

£2.60 Meal Deal

Choose one item from each section:

Main Meal

- Hot dish of the day
- Jacket potato with one filling
- Panini
- Plated salad
- Hot filled roll
- Hot wrap of the day
- Soup with roll
- Filled naan
- Large hot pasta with sauce
- Tariff A, B or C sandwich

Dessert

- Hot dessert
- Small fruit pot
- Piece of fresh fruit
- Traybake or cookie

Drink

- Radnor water 330ml

FOOD CENTRAL

DERBYSHIRE
County Council

Finally

Congratulation to Mrs Brewell (Senior Science Technician) and her family on the birth of their baby boy.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Garrity', written over a faint rectangular stamp.

Mr S Garrity
Headteacher