

# QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The Green Road, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1EP

Tel: 01335 343 685 Email: [enquiries@qegs.email](mailto:enquiries@qegs.email) Twitter: @qegs\_ashbourne

Web: [www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk)

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



17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

## Weekly Bulletin #25

### Shrek 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> March

This week the cast, band, crew and staff have finally come together to present our annual musical, and this year we have had the pleasure of doing 'Shrek'. Everyone has been working hard for several months learning lines, music, dances, songs; designing set and costumes all ready to present to our audience. Nothing will stop this team from running the show, facing many difficulties over the years including Covid, water closures, snow, and strike days and now not even a power cut will deter us from putting on the show. Students have persevered through these pressures and still come out shining. This week they have performed six shows to the public and the primary schools around Ashbourne and everyone I spoke to was full of praise. With many stunning performances from individual students where they have left the audience blown away with their talents, forgetting that they are young people and not trained professionals. These students have dedicated their time and effort to perfect their performances ready for this week and it has certainly paid off.

Many students have taken part in the show in the cast and crew ranging across Years 7 to 13, growing in confidence, honing their skills and making new friendships, supported by our school band with students from Years 9 to 13. For some of our performers it will be their last QEGS production and we wish them all the best for their future and hope they continue their interest in the Performing Arts. It has been a privilege to work with all the students involved in the show since our auditions in September and we are all very proud of them. A huge thank you to everyone who has helped put this show together, we were certainly very ambitious as it has been a mammoth show to produce. Well done everyone, you smashed it!

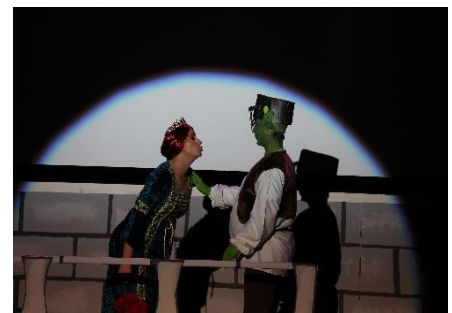
"cannot believe this was a school show"

"superb in every respect"

"such talented students and staff"

"band were staggering"

"theatrical skills are phenomenal"





### Mobile Phones and Headphones/Airpods Reminder

These are not allowed to be seen or used at all once students arrive onsite in the morning until lessons end at 3.20pm. These will be confiscated and stored in the school safe until the end of the day or, for parental/carers collection if repeat concerns arise. Further sanctions will be imposed if students refuse to comply with these expectations.

### Staffordshire Post 16 School Transport – Consultation and Feedback Opportunity for Staffordshire Residents

Under section 509AA and 509AB of the Education Act 2002, Staffordshire County Council must produce and publish a statement detailing what travel assistance will be available for Staffordshire resident students aged 16 to 19 for September 2023 to July 2024. SCC are also required to consult with various parties on the content of the statement including learning providers, neighbouring local authorities, students and their parents/carers.

Students due to become Post 16 in 2023-24, SCC would be grateful for feedback on the proposed Staffordshire Post 16 travel statement which can be found [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/post16transportstatement](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/post16transportstatement)

Please provide any feedback by 5pm on Wednesday 12 April 2023 either by email

to [transport.consultation@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:transport.consultation@staffordshire.gov.uk) or in writing to Fiona Coldwell, School Admissions and Transport Service, 2 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH.

### DofE Updates

- **WELL DONE** to all of the Bronze and Silver students uploading evidence onto eDofE for their DofE Awards... it is great to see what exciting things you have been up to!
- **BRONZE TRAINING** Bronze 1<sup>st</sup> training session **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**; meet in the canteen at 2.15pm. Please bring waterproof trousers, coat and walking boots for checking.
- **PARENT Q&A** we will be holding an online pre-expedition parent info evening and Q&A on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30-8.00pm**. Please keep an eye out for the link to join.
- Lots of students are getting to the point where they are completing activity sections and need to upload assessor reports. This can be done in 2 ways; completing the paper report in the Welcome Pack and uploading onto eDofE or directly online using the link [www.dofe.org/assessor](http://www.dofe.org/assessor).
- If your child is participating in the expeditions, please follow us on Twitter for updates; @QEGS\_DofE

As always, if you have any questions, please get in touch with Ms Watson Jones or Mrs Wright.

### Free Family Event in Chilwell

Nexus Fostering has opened a new office in Chilwell, and we would love for you to join us at our open day on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 10am – 1pm with special guest Fudge & Co joining in the fun. Vulnerable children and young people in your area need safe and loving homes so whether you are an individual, a couple or family, we will support and train you to be a foster carer and you could change your life and the lives of children near you. For more information call 0115 9815 604 or email Jo on [joc@nexusfostering.co.uk](mailto:joc@nexusfostering.co.uk)

**FREE event**

**could you help a child feel safe, loved and supported?**

**YOU can make a difference**

join us on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 10am – 1pm at Unit 26, Eldon Road Business Park, Chilwell, Nottingham, NG9 6DZ. It's the perfect opportunity to find more about becoming a foster carer and how you can help a child in your area. Enjoy some refreshments while having an informal chat with our carers and team.

**special guest**  
enjoy an interactive, hands-on encounter with unusual animals.

**FUDGE & CO**

**10am to 12pm**

For more information call **0115 9815 604** or email [joc@nexusfostering.co.uk](mailto:joc@nexusfostering.co.uk)

can't join us? enquire at [nexusfostering.co.uk](http://nexusfostering.co.uk)

**nexus fostering**

### Year 11 Mock Exams

Good luck to all Year 11's during mock week. Breakfast will be available for Year 11's from Tuesday, in the morning in the main hall from 8.30am.

### Pupil Premium

Please see attached poster for Pupil Premium family support. If you are newly eligible and have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact with [starkiek@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:starkiek@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk)

### Maths Problem of the Week

Our students really enjoyed working through the Pi day problems, and we have had some amazing results on the Pi memorising challenge - results will be out once the remaining classes are checked.

This week's problem is:



You have three bags, each containing 2 marbles. Bag A has 2 white marbles, bag B has 2 black marbles and bag C has 1 black and 1 white marble. You pick a random bag and pull out one marble. It is white. What is the probability that the remaining marble in the bag is also white? Please email in answers to [statham@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:statham@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk) to be in with the chance of winning a prize!

### FPTA Update

A promotional poster for 'easyfundraising' for Queen Elizabeth's PTA. The poster has a teal background. At the top, it says 'easyfundraising' with a logo. Below that, it says 'Turn your online shopping into everyday magic for'. Then, 'Queen Elizabeth's PTA with easyfundraising'. A subtext says 'You shop, brands donate to us. It won't cost you any extra!'. There is a QR code and a 'How to sign up' section with three steps: 1. Visit the link or scan the QR code (http://efraising.org/6IMbpbqt92), 2. Register and download the app, 3. Your favourite brands donate when you spend. Below the steps are logos for various retailers: Booking.com, eBay, M&amp;S, ASDA, Argos, Tui, Switch, John Lewis, Apple, Viking, Sainsbury's, BT, Just Eat, and Borden. At the bottom, it says 'Download the easyfundraising App' with Google Play and App Store logos, and mentions 'Excellent 3.945 reviews on Trustpilot'.

Did you know we can support our school by raising money every time we shop online? Support that means we can buy extra resources and experiences for our children - and it does not cost us a penny!

We are using 'easyfundraising', a free fundraising platform that allows us to earn money when we shop online. 'easyfundraising' works with over 7,000 online retailers, everyone from Tesco, eBay, Sports Direct, M&S, Boots, Just Eat, Booking.com, and everything in between.

Once signed up all you need to do is start your shopping journey at the 'easyfundraising' website, use the browser extension or app (information will be provided when you register) and the retailer you shop with will send us a free donation based on how much you spend.

With the cost of living impacting everyone, this is not about asking you to spend more, but to make you aware that if you are

making an on-line purchase anyway that by using 'easyfundraising' you can give to us at the same time and at no additional cost to you.

So please support us if you can by registering yourself today <http://efraising.org/ctsIVuL2mlat> <http://efraising.org/6IMbpbqt92> it only takes 2 minutes and all you need is your email address.

Please also share with your friends and family if they would also like to help – the more the better to raise much needed funds!

## Congratulations

Dylan S Year 9 has been selected for both Derbyshire and East Midlands Boxing teams Derbyshire saw action Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> March, Dylan won his bout Vs Yorkshire team member.



## NSEA Success

Our Equine team competed at Eland Lodge last weekend and again proved to be great representatives of the school. New team member Emily came 4<sup>th</sup> in the 70 class & the took part in the team event for the 80 class who became team winners. Chloe & Imogen also took part in the 70cm class but less successfully. Chloe finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the 70 class too.



## Sixth Form Update

A date for your diary - **Year 13's (A-Level students) last day in formal lessons will be on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May**, this is in line with the first exams taking place from Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

**Students completing Level 3 BTEC courses will be told that this date may be extended/later** if they still have assignments to complete and submit. Therefore, we have asked them to check the plan/leaving date with their individual BTEC teachers.

After student feedback told us that exam focus was a challenge for some of our students, this week Year 13 had a workshop on Preparing for Revision and Exams, followed by structured practice papers in exam conditions. We gave them a revision guide with tips, advice and planning templates to help them get started.

For Year 12, following the appointment of next year's Head Students (details to be announced next week), recruitment of the specialist Student Council roles will start now. Role descriptions as diverse as Treasurer, Sports Captains, Heads of Well-being, Environment, Inclusion, Charities and Communication amongst others, are available from the Sixth Form office

Two Sixth Form students attended the Mayor of Ashbourne's Awards dinner on Wednesday. Scarlett F and Eliza C were presented with awards for their contribution to the community. In addition Olivia M and Eva M were also recipients of the award



## Canteen School Meals

Next week's canteen menu is the following:-

Week C

<https://www2.myschoollunch.co.uk/media/1964376/week-3-qegs.pdf>

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



## **QEGSMAT Vacancies**

Please keep an eye on our vacancies at QEGS and within the trust.

At QEGS these include:

- **Head of Science**
- **Teacher of Science – Physics**
- **Clerk to Governors (part-time)**
- **Science Technician (part-time maternity cover)**
- **Midday Supervisor (part-time)**
- **Student Services Receptionist (part-time)**

Further details can be found at: <https://www.quegsmat.com/current-vacancies/>

## **Upcoming Key Dates This Term:**

- w/c 20<sup>th</sup> March – Year 11 core mock exams
- 20<sup>th</sup> March – Year 10 PCE
- 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Primary Arts Day
- 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Bronze DofE Training session – P5
- 27<sup>th</sup> March – ABRSM Music Exams
- 28<sup>th</sup> March – Year 12 PCE
- 29<sup>th</sup> March – Dance and Drama performance evening
- 30<sup>th</sup> March – Last day of term
- 31<sup>st</sup> March – INSET (school open for staff only)

## **Finally**

Thank you to parents, carers, students and staff for managing through the snow and the strikes. Hopefully the next few weeks will have minimal disruption. In particular, well done to the show team who have still been able to meet their performance deadlines with all that has been challenging them. I know the show team will have a well-deserved lie in tomorrow morning. Well done, you have earned it!

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity  
**Headteacher**