QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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15th September 2023

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #2

Young Farmers

Young Farmers is a national youth organisation for the UK that helps to support people in agriculture and the countryside. They take part in charity events, competitions and activities. They help develop key skills, improve confidence, work with local communities and enjoy a dynamic social life.

A few members of the young farmers attend QEGS and would like to invite other students from the local area to join. They hold weekly meetings at varied locations that range from stock judging, farm tours, quizzes, sports and games nights. There is a **new members meeting on Tuesday 19th September where they will have a skilled events night held at the Royal Oak function room in Mayfield at 8pm**. They also have a Facebook page with upcoming meetings and events. You do not need to be a farmer to join young farmers!

Student Success

Dan Ottowell, ex-Qegs student, will be playing at the Metronome in Nottingham on 13th October to celebrate his new single 'Moon Project' which was recorded at Abbey Road Institute Studios with another former student, James Brennan, who is currently on a prestigious music course at Abbey Road. The single has already been played on the radio!! Dan is also celebrating having just played three official sets at Glastonbury!! Ticket link: <u>https://linktr.ee/danottewellmusic</u>

Rugby Update

The U14s rugby team, had a fantastic win in the first round of the Schools sports magazine National competition against Mount St Mary's earlier this week. They demonstrated fantastic determination and skill set with some brilliant tries scored. Man of the match Isaac F.





The U18s rugby team had their first match of the year in the National cup on Wednesday. They faced a very well drilled Bishop Vesey's grammar school team who showed to be too strong for QEGS. All is not lost as QEGS will now be playing in the National Bowl competition.



PE Co-Curricular

The PE department have started their co-curricular sport timetable this week and have been really impressed with the number of students attending both lunch and afterschool clubs. Please encourage your child to attend at least one of the PE clubs, all students are welcome!! Timetable attached.

Go 4 Schools Homework Documents

We are aware of an issue accessing some homework documents on the app and have raised this with GO 4 Schools. Parents and students should still be able to access documents via the website.

Proud to be part of the **QEGSMAT**

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Ashbourne Park

Derbyshire Dales District Council is carrying out a visitor survey of Ashbourne Park. They are keen to get young people and their families to take part in the survey. The closing date is Monday 18th September – see poster (right).

Updated QEGS Behaviour Code

At the start of the new academic year, we implemented a new behaviour code to recognise where students are meeting the 3Rs, respect, responsibility and ready to achieve. Teachers will award these each lesson and students will be able to use their QEGS points to spend in the school rewards shop. **The QEGS Rewards Shop on level 3** will be **open**

from next week for students to spend their Rewards points. Each year group has a different day for exchanging their points. Monday – Year 7 Tuesday – Year 7 Wednesday – Year 8 Wednesday – Year 9 Thursday – Year 10 Friday – Year 11





For sanctions, when detentions are issued by the class teacher it is important for students to attend at the first point to ensure it does not escalate and increase in duration. During the lesson class teachers will address students individually to address when they are not meeting the 3Rs to provide additional support and help get them back on track. You will be able to see your child's achievements each day on the parent app for go4schools.



School Nurse Provision

See the poster (Left) for details, new room, Rm 508 (near student services), Wednesday Drop-In for any student.

Sixth Form Update

It has been a very busy and productive week for our Sixth Form council who have had their first meeting of the new academic year. As well as discussing some new ideas and plans for the coming weeks, the council welcomed a guest speaker, Nick Flux. Nick is one of our school governors and he came along to support our student leaders by providing them with some valuable advice regarding teamwork, leadership styles and idea implementation. Nick has kindly offered to provide some further coaching sessions to our student leaders, and they are looking forward to collaborating with Nick again soon.

Reminder Increase in School Bus Fare on DCC Routes

The bus fare for students travelling on the Derbyshire school bus routes (not eligible for a bus pass) increases on Monday 25th September to £1.20 per journey. Glover's bus routes (001, 002, 005, 007, 013, 411, 443, 735) will be introducing the opportunity for students to purchase tickets to ease the need to find change:

- 8 x tickets for £10
- 10 x tickets for £12

The tickets can be used in subsequent weeks if not all used in same week of purchase e.g. if student attends cocurricular after school and does not use. The journey tickets once purchased become the responsibility of the



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student to keep safe and replacement tickets will not be provided by Glovers if lost.

Students travelling without a pass on the 009 route will be required to pay for each journey travelled as before and students on the 114, 110/111 pay the service route fare.

Canteen

Could you please ensure that your child has sufficient funds on their ParentPay accounts when using the canteen and ensure that any deficit accounts are credited.

Canteen School Meals

Next week's canteen menu is the following:-

Week 2: <u>https://www.schoolmeals.derbyshire.gov.uk/site-</u> elements/documents/week-2.pdf

Pupil Premium

Please see the attached leaflet for support available for parents, carers and families in Derbyshire. Reminder Mrs K Starkie is our Pupil Premium Co-ordinator and able to support with any queries you may have.

Free school meals Your child could be eligible for free school meels aged up to 18 if you're on certain benefits. Find out more at: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals Holiday activities and food programme This programme offers school holiday activities and healthy food for children across Derbyshire, Sessions are free for families who claim benefit related free This progra school meels. Find out more at: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/haf Funded childcare If you have younger children then you might be eligible for up to 30 hours of funded childcare. Find out more here: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/childcarecosts Council Tax Support More people could be eligible for support with their Council Tax than realise it. Visit: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/counciltaxhelp Mental health and wellbeing Ith is really important. Get support here: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth Free healthy lifestyles support o stop smoking, lose weight and can get get more active with www.livelifebetterderbyshire.org.uk **Benefits check up** You could be missing out on benefits that you're entitled to. Find out more at: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/welfarebenefits Borrowing and saving You can get information about lower cost alternatives to pay day loans, savings and community banks at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/savingsandcredit

THE COST OF LIVI

Don't miss out. Visit: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/costofiiving

QEGSMAT Vacancies

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

Upcoming Key Dates This Term:

- 21st September Year 10 & 11 Dance Workshop
- 25th 27th September Year 13 Peak Centre Trip
- 26th September Bronze DofE Year 9 Meeting
- 27th September Opening Evening
- 4th October DofE Awards Ceremony
- 5th October Year 10 girls STEM Workshop
- 5th October Year 12 & 13 Tutor Evening
- 6th October Year 12 Volunteers Fair
- 9–13th October Year 11 Geography Urban Fieldwork Trip
- 10th October Sixth Form Open Evening
- 11th October Year 12 UCAS and Apprenticeship Fair Leicester
- 13th and 16th October Student Flu Vaccinations
- 16th October Year 7,8 & 9 Tutor Evening
- 17th October Year 10 & 11 Tutor Evening
- 25th October Dance and Drama Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Theatre Trip
- 26th October A level Physics Alton Towers Trip
- 26th October Last Day of Term
- 27th October Inset (school open for staff only)

QEGS Governor Vacancies

Thank you to Phil Taylor and Richard Pike who have recently stepped down from our Governing body after a number of years' service. Phil and Richard held 2 different positions: Co-opted Governor and a Community Governor. These roles are aimed at ensuring there is a wide range of skills and experience on our governing body. With these roles, the Chair and Vice Chair would shortlist and recommend to the governing body their appointment, there is no election for these roles. If you are interested in one of these roles and feel you have skills and experience to offer, please get in touch with our Clerk to Governors, Alison Griffiths-Brown <u>Griffiths-brown@qegs.email</u> to enquire and possibly make an expression of interest.

Finally

We have had a really successful week in school. Students are smart in their uniforms, are being punctual to lessons, they are being respectful, responsible and ready to achieve in nearly all cases. Please check your child's Go 4 Schools record to see how they are doing so that you can celebrate their successes too. If you need any help with this, please let us know.

Yours faithfully

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Scott Garrity Headteacher