

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The Green Road, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1EP

Tel: 01335 343 685 Email: enquiries@qegs.email

Web: www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr S Garrity

Chair of Governors: Mr N Moore



14th February 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #21

School Show – 'West Side Story'

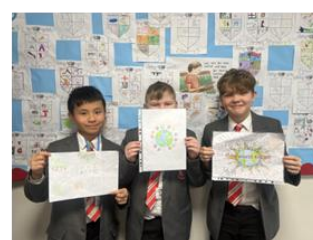
Tickets are on sale for 'West Side Story' running 26th - 29th March from 7.30pm in the Main Hall. We cannot wait to share with you what our amazing students have been working towards. For months they have worked hard learning lines, songs, blocking, choreography and the music. Tickets are available on our online box office using the link below, make sure to book in advance. As always, the show promises to be a night to remember, from the first notes to the final breath, West Side Story is one of the most memorable musicals and greatest love stories of all time.

Buy your tickets here www.qegs.link/tickets



'Spirited Arts' Competition for Year 7 students

All Year 7 students have been tasked as home learning to produce an entry to a national competition titled 'Spirited Arts'. This encourages students to explore spirituality and faith through creative expression.



Theatre trip to Nottingham

Last week, Year 7 and Year 8 students watched Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at Nottingham Theatre Royal. The Old Testament story was brought to life on stage and students left with a lot of songs stuck in their heads!



Reminder – World Book Day competitions

Still time for students to enter the World Book Day competition for a chance to win prizes. Entries for both competitions must be handed in to the library before the end of the day, Friday 28th February 2025. Good luck!

Big Yellow Bus visits from Buxton & Leek College

On Monday afternoon the Apprenticeship Tutors from Buxton and Leek College visited QEGS to share information to Year 10, 11 and Sixth Form students how to find apprenticeships linked with childcare, education, business, accounting and finance careers. Thank you to the Buxton & Leek Tutors for their time and information provided.



QEGS's Pride Event Needs you!

On Saturday 14th June 2025 2-4pm, The Ashburnian Society is hosting the first ever QEGS Pride event. We are hoping to make this a family fun afternoon with stalls and a possible talent show.

If you would be interested in helping to bring this together, please email Miss Angris via angris@qegs.email with who you are and what you could help with (this could be helping to set up and clear down, running a craft stall, providing décor, running a mini disco, helping the FPTA on the bar- all offers of support are welcomed and it doesn't need to be for the full time of the event). We need students, parents, carers and members of the local community to help us to make this the most fabulous event of the year!



Artist in Residence workshops

A big thanks to all the students who took part in our Artists in Residence workshops on Monday. Students from Years 7 to 13 spent the day with three professional artists and took part in sessions on ceramics, textiles and illustration. They produced some fantastic pieces, and it was great to see them having fun and learning new skills.

We are looking at a new date for the photography workshop and will be in touch with everyone who is signed up as soon as possible - there are a few spaces remaining if anyone else is interested. Please see a member of the Art team for more information.



Year 13 Parents Teacher Meeting (PTM) - Thursday 20th February

The Year 13 PTM will be in person and held in Boothby Campus and Sixth Form, Thursday 20th February from 3:45pm. A letter has been sent out to all Year 13 parents & carers and appointments can be booked on the SchoolCloud. This is the final opportunity to speak with your child's subject teachers regarding Mock Results and next steps and all parents and Carers are encouraged to attend.

Year 13 Student Finance Presentation - Tuesday 27th February

On Tuesday 18th February 2025 Sixth Form has arranged a presentation about Student Finance for our Year 13 students and their parents and carers. It will take place in QEGS Sixth Form Common Room and will start at 6pm.

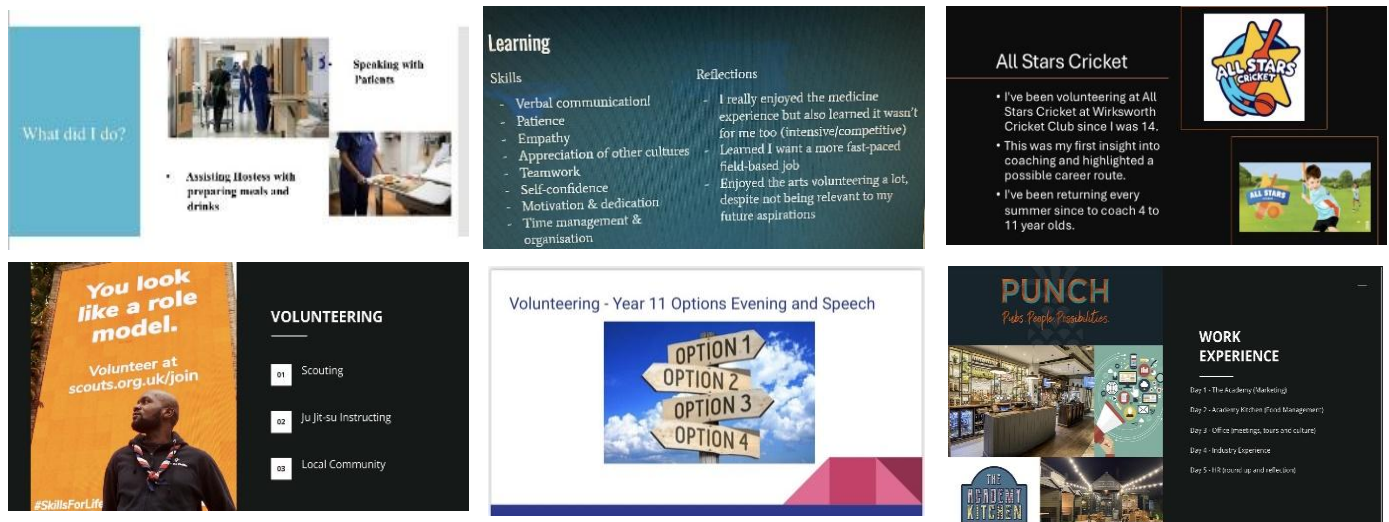
The talk will be provided by the Student Recruitment team from Sheffield Hallam University and will cover all aspects of student finance. Year 13 students who have applied to go on to university are strongly advised to attend the meeting with their parents and carers.

This is an excellent opportunity for you to learn about the student loans process and ask any questions you may have. The session is expected to take approximately 45 minutes and there will be an opportunity to ask questions.

Advanced Futures Award presentations

QEGS Sixth Form were pleased to welcome the interim CEO of QEGSMAT, Mark Mallender to the Advanced Futures Award presentations. These are short presentations delivered by the students who have completed more than 60 hours volunteering, gaining leadership skills along the way. Lucas B, Oscar H, Will A, Jay W-J, Henry V and Ava G talked about their experiences, touching on the skills they have learned and the elements they enjoyed most.

They were a great example of how the activities and opportunities given to QEGS 6th form students enhance their learning and, in many cases, significantly influence their future choices through the skills and experiences they have enjoyed.



Teaching Assistant support over Year 11 mock exam period

Year 11 mock exams begin Monday 17th February and run until half term. During this period our TA's will be supporting some of our Year 11 students completing their mocks, this will mean that there will be some change to support across these two weeks.

QEGSMAT Vacancies

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

Currently live for QEGS:

- Teacher of Mathematics
- Cover Supervisor
- Teaching Assistant

Soon to be live for QEGS:

- Data and MIS Coordinator

Further details can be found at: <https://qegsmat.face-ed.co.uk/vacancies>

School Canteen

Menu next week is week 1 – www.qegs.link/menu1

Upcoming Key Dates This Term

- 17th to 28th February – Year 11 mock exams
- 18th February – Year 13 Student Finance Talk, 6pm, Sixth Form Common Room
- 20th February – Year 13 Parent Teacher Meetings, face to face and onsite
- 21st February – Year 12 & 13 Experimental Physics trip to Sheffield Hallam
- 25th February – Primary Sports, netball
- 26th February – Primary Arts Day
- 26th February – Schools In Uniform Pop-up Shop, 3:30 – 5:00pm, School Canteen
- 27th February – Year 13, Student Finance presentation, 6pm, Sixth Form Common Room
- 28th February – Year 13 Business trip to Bullring
- 28th February – Last Day of Spring 1 Term
- 10th March – Start of Spring 2 Term

Finally

Lots to celebrate this week, well done students and staff.

I accompanied Mrs Harrison and the Year 8 STEM team to their IET Faraday Challenge in Nottingham yesterday. Such a fantastic experience for the students, competing and showing their teamwork skills against 5 other East Midlands schools. Developing a real-world prototype of an engineering solution – and QEGS won!! Now they are through to the regional finals in June!!



We were also informed yesterday that our QEGS Sixth Form is in the top 7% nationally for our 2024 results. This is a phenomenal achievement for any comprehensive school. Well done to all of our staff and students. For QEGS students to have on their CV not only their grades, but also to be able say that you attended one of the best schools in the country should make you very proud. It makes me very proud indeed.

Good luck to Year 11 next week in their second round of mock exams. Free breakfast will be available each morning in the main hall. Please encourage your child to get a good night's sleep, balance revision with fresh air and exercise, eat well, attempt every question, manage time in the exams and try their best! We believe that Year 11 can do it, they just need to have faith in themselves too!

Have a great weekend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Scott Garrity'.

Scott Garrity
Headteacher

Encl. World Book Day Competition Poster

WORLD BOOK DAY COMPETITIONS 2025

Not just one, but two chances to win a prize!

The first one is a **READING** competition.

Read a library book that features a different country to our own and then write a postcard featuring details of the book.

This could be a fiction book, and the postcard could be from one of the characters in the story or a witness to the events.

Or it could be non-fiction, and the postcard could be a news report or written by a visiting tourist.



The second one is a **WRITING** competition.

Invent your own Mythological Creature and tell us all about it.

Tell us the name of your creation, what it looks like, where it came from and where it lives now. What motivates your creature, what personality traits does it have, and does it possess any magical powers?

You can include a small drawing of your creature, but the writing is the part that will (hopefully) earn the prize. (*No more than 2 sides of A4 paper*)

Entries for both competitions must be handed in to the library before the end of the day on

Friday 28th February 2025.

The prizes will be awarded after the half term holiday. Ask for more details or help with your book choice in the library.

