

# QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Garrity

Chair of Governors: Mr N Moore



9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

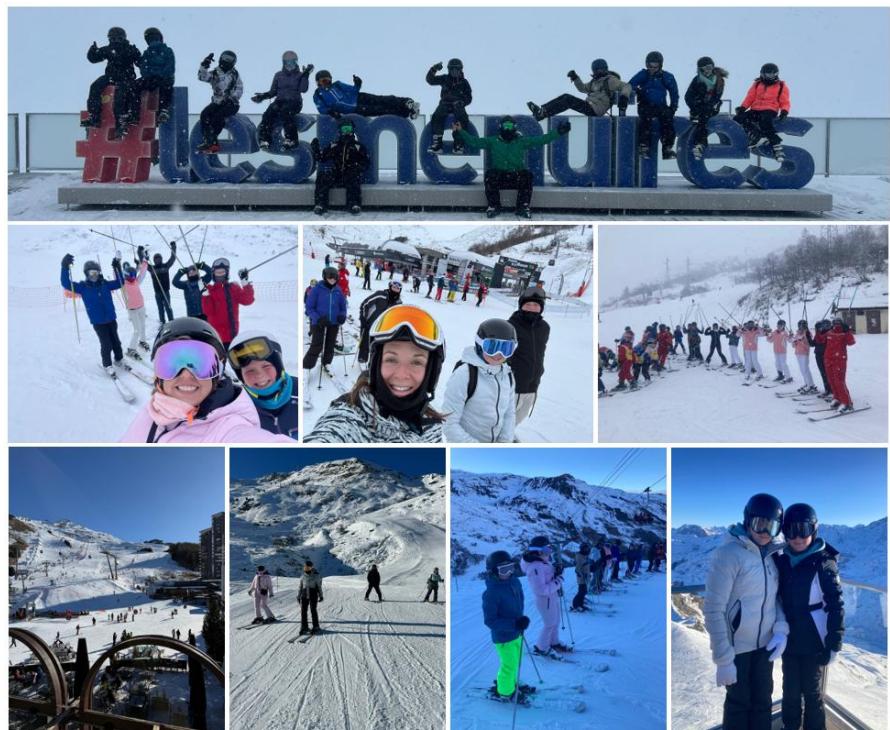
## Weekly Bulletin #15

### Ski Trip to Les Menuires – Fun on the Slopes!

On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 60 of our Year 8 and 9 students set off for an unforgettable adventure in Les Menuires, France.

The trip has been packed with excitement, laughter, and plenty of skiing as students and staff make the most of the stunning Alpine slopes. It's fantastic to see everyone enjoying themselves and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

Want to see more? Follow their journey and catch all the highlights on the trip Instagram page! [@qegs.lesmenuires.2026](https://www.instagram.com/qegs.lesmenuires.2026/)



### Well, that's a wrap on our 2025 QEGS Advent!

We've had *so much fun* handing out the incredible gifts donated by our amazing local businesses and generous parents. You truly made the magic happen, and your kindness has brought so many smiles to our students' faces. On the final day of term alone we gave out an incredible selection of prizes:

- a £150 Amazon voucher
- x2 £100 vouchers
- £75 and £50 vouchers
- and a pair of AirPods!

We've really been able to spoil our students during Advent – and they absolutely deserve it. Santa filled the school with laughter and joy, for both students *and* staff, and the festive spirit has been unforgettable during December.

### Sixth Form Exams Update

Our BTEC students in Years 12 and 13 have now started their exams. We wish them the very best of luck and would like to say a big well done for the positive start they have made so far.

Year 12 students will also be sitting their mock exams next week. Exam timetables have been re-sent this week as a reminder of when and where students need to be. All exams will take place in the Sixth Form Centre.

If you have any questions or require additional support, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

## **Free Autism Support – Derbyshire**

We would like to share details of a free, county-wide support service available across Derbyshire for autistic young people and adults, as well as their families and carers.

The Autism Empowerment, Support and Education Service (AESE) supports individuals aged 16+, including those with a diagnosis of autism, awaiting assessment, or who self-identify as autistic. The service is delivered by autistic professionals and includes online group sessions focusing on communication, emotional wellbeing, self-identity, and reasonable adjustments.

No formal diagnosis is required.

For more information, please visit: [www.derbyshireautismese.co.uk](http://www.derbyshireautismese.co.uk)

## **Year 11 Post-16 Transition Day**

### **Sixth Form Taster**

As part of the Year 11 Post-16 Transition Day, students who are taking part in the QEGS Sixth Form Taster should arrive at the Boothby Campus at 8.50am on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January.

Students will be greeted by Sixth Form staff and will attend a brief assembly introducing them to the day's activities. They will also be registered as part of this. Students will then be issued with a mini timetable, outlining where to go for each of their four taster lessons.

Throughout the day, students will have opportunities to ask questions about their Sixth Form application, Sixth Form life and subject choices etc.

Following the taster day, Sixth Form staff will visit a Year 11 assembly in the coming weeks to remind students of the next steps in the application process.

### **Post-16 options - college, apprenticeship routes**

Students are to arrive at Canteen for 8:50am where Mr O'Keefe will meet you to provide students with a mini timetable for the day during registration. Please remember pen, pencil ruler and calculator for the sessions planned.

## **Proposals to change home to school transport policies**

Derbyshire School Transport wish to receive views on proposals to change travel policies for eligible school children to 16, Post-16 learners and for students with special educational needs and disabilities. It follows updated legal guidance from the Government providing greater clarity on councils play in helping to transport children to school, giving an opportunity to consider updating current policies to make them more inclusive and promote independence.

If parents/carers have not already completed the survey via DCC emails to home address, please take time to complete as your feedback is important for the shaping the future of school transport.

<http://qegs.link/dcctravelconsultation26>

### **Well done to Harmony**

Harmony L, Year 7 (second on left/front row) performed in Oliver Twist over Christmas with Derby Theatre. Well done!



### **Schools In pop-up shops**

Schools In uniform has confirmed the Extra Small PE Polo shirts are now in stock - outstanding orders will be sent out this week.

An extra pop-up shop will visit school on **Wednesday 14th January from**

**3:30pm to 4:30pm**, in the School Canteen with the full range of sizes of the PE Kit and black V-neck jumpers should you wish to purchase items for your child.

If you require any other items (blazer, shirts, skirts etc), please email [sales@schoolsinuniform.co.uk](mailto:sales@schoolsinuniform.co.uk) directly with your requests before end of Tuesday 13th January and these items will be confirmed/brought to the pop-up shop on the Wednesday.

Further dates for the Spring Term pop-up shops from 3:30pm to 5pm, in the School Canteen will be:

- **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February**
- **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March**
- **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

## **School Canteen**

Menu choice week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> January will be week 1.

Prices for items purchased in the canteen can also be found on the below page:

<https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/parents/canteen/>

## **QEGSMAT Vacancies**

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

<https://recruit.sampeople.co.uk/Jobboard/Trust/qegsmat>

## **Upcoming Key Dates This Term**

- 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> January – Year 12 mock exams
- 13<sup>th</sup> January – Post-16 Transition Day for Year 11 students
- 14<sup>th</sup> January – Schools In pop-up uniform shop, 3:30 to 4:30pm school canteen.
- 15<sup>th</sup> January – **re-arranged - Year 9, in person Parent Teacher Meetings, 3:45pm to 6:00pm**
- 22<sup>nd</sup> January – Year 9 Option evening, 5:00pm to 7:00pm
- 3<sup>rd</sup> February – Primary Sports, Athletics
- 4<sup>th</sup> February – Schools In pop-up uniform shop, 3:30pm to 5:00pm, Canteen
- 4<sup>th</sup> February – Year 13 Parent Teachers Meeting, 3:45pm to 6:00pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> February – Primary Arts Day 1
- 10<sup>th</sup> February – Primary Sports, Athletics
- 13<sup>th</sup> February – Last day of Spring 1 term

## **Finally**

We would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support as we begin the new term. The first week back after Christmas has been an extremely positive one and a fantastic way to start the year.

The week began with two INSET days, focused on the continual development of our *Team QEGS* culture. These days allowed staff to work together to ensure we leave nothing to chance for any of our students and continue to provide the very best education, care, and support for all.

We were delighted to welcome students back through our half-termly *QEGS Classroom Assemblies*. These assemblies reinforced clear routines and expectations for both students and staff, ensuring consistency and clarity across the school. Our students have been a real credit to the school, demonstrating their commitment to these expectations and contributing to a calm, purposeful learning environment. It has been a brilliant start to the new year.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and that you have managed to stay safe during the recent weather conditions. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing partnership and support.

Yours faithfully,



Matt Walker  
**Deputy Headteacher**



Kev Davis  
**Deputy Headteacher**