



6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

## Weekly Bulletin #22

### OMIGOD YOU GUYS...LEGALLY BLONDE IS ON STAGE NEXT WEEK !

The cast and band are working so hard! This week's rehearsals have been full of energy, laughter and some truly amazing performances. Our talented students and staff are putting everything into bringing Legally Blonde to life, and they would truly appreciate your support in seeing the results of their efforts on stage next month.

**Wednesday 11th March 2026 – Saturday 14th March 2026**

🔗 Book your tickets now [www.qegs.link/tickets](http://www.qegs.link/tickets)

### Reader Leaders

On Monday we were delighted to welcome Jo from 'The Children's Literacy Charity' into school to work with and train some of our wonderful Year 12 students to become Reader Leaders - reading mentors - for our key stage 3 students. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to learn some new skills and build confidence with mentoring and leading; it will also become a wonderful opportunity for some of our key stage 3 students to have the opportunity to read with a peer and gain some confidence and guidance with their reading.

It is a training programme we will be continuing to offer to Year 12's and Year 11 students (who will become Year 12's) being trained later in the year to grow our student mentors and the school's 'QEGS Reads' culture.

Any Year 12 students who would be interested in being involved in the next round of training should email Mrs Brown.

### Winners of QEGS World Book Day competition

Congratulations to winners of our World Book Day 'Design an Advert for a Book' Competition.

Felicity W, Year 9, won the first prize - a £20 Amazon Voucher

Anabelle S, Year 7 was Runner-Up and won a £10 voucher



### National Competition for World Book Day

The library is also running the National Competition for World Book Day to design a National Book token – two age categories of 8-12 and 13-16 students can enter with 1<sup>st</sup> Prize Of £100 and second £50 book tokens in each category. The theme is 'GO ALL IN' to share things student's already love through reading from football, fashion, gaming, or making people laugh. Competition entry forms can be found in the library with the deadline for submission **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** into the box in the library. The library will also be picking a winner in school before sending off for entry in the national competition.

### **'Pages & Crumbs' Book Club – every Wednesday lunch break**

Students are welcome to come along to the Wednesday lunch break 'Pages & Crumbs' book club to enjoy all things books – talk about books, recommend good reads, quizzes, competitions and enjoy a few biscuits. Speak to Mrs Fairbrother, Mrs Hinojosa or the Librarians - we welcome students to come a long and give the club a go.



### **Sixth Form Attendance Update – Year 12**

This half term, attendance letters will be sent home to all Year 12 parents/carers. This is in line with our Attendance Support process, which ensures that we provide regular updates and clear information regarding attendance to Sixth Form lessons.

Maintaining strong attendance is vital in supporting students' academic progress and wellbeing, and these updates are part of our commitment to working in partnership with families.

We also wanted to make you aware of a slight discrepancy on Go4Schools regarding sixth form attendance. We are currently in the process of changing the registration system that we use, and this is creating some issues when awarding marks to students who have a free period but remain in school.

As a result, you may notice some missing marks if you log in that would ordinarily be accounted for. This means that, at present, sixth form attendance on Go4Schools may appear slightly lower than it actually is.

Please be assured that we are aware of this issue and attendance is being recorded accurately on our new system.

We are hopeful that we will be able to find a solution moving forward. In the meantime, please do get in touch if you have any questions regarding attendance.

### **Celebration of Success – Sophie L (Year 12)**

A huge well done to Sophie L in Year 12, who recently competed in the National Gymnastics Championships.

This is a fantastic achievement and a true testament to her dedication, resilience and hard work. We are incredibly proud of her success — a super impressive accomplishment!

Congratulations, Sophie!

### **Form group and competition update**

Form time has focussed on career next steps in both year groups and included a talk tailored towards maths and science students from Nestle. Students have also been looking at options after 6th form and also the process of accepting University offers. The past two weeks have also seen students in Year 12 and Year 13 taking part in a darts competition and an art quiz organised by our Student Council. A big thank you to Mr Smith and the members of the council for their support in running these activities.

The darts competition went down a treat with students and staff alike, although we are not quite sure we have discovered the next Luke Littler just yet!



### **Y12 Parent's Evening - next Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March**

A reminder that its Year 12 Parents Evening next Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March. There is still time to book if you haven't managed to log onto the appointment system. Please refer to the letter sent before half term for more information and visit [qegsashbourne.schoolcloud.co.uk](https://qegsashbourne.schoolcloud.co.uk) to book your appointments.

### Still time to support Easter eggs for Ukraine

Following the success of the Christmas Shoebox Appeal, school now have the opportunity to bring joy to children in Ukraine who are living in desperate conditions. Easter is just around the corner, a simple Easter egg can bring a moment of much needed joy and a reminder that they are not forgotten. If you would like to donate an Easter Egg, please bring to school before **9<sup>th</sup> March**, students' Form Tutors will be collecting in the donations. A minimum of a 90g egg is ideal. Please do not bring in cream eggs or mini sized eggs as these are not suitable.



### Sports Hall Athletics competition

This week we took 2 teams in Year 7 and 2 teams in Year 8 to Anthony Gell to compete in the Sports Hall Athletics competition against the local Derbyshire schools.

Everyone gave 100 %, RESULTS ARE STILL PENDING. Well done to everyone that competed!

### Swift Awareness Evening at QEGS (Boothby)

Please come along to an information evening hosted by Derbyshire Swift Conservation to encourage local people to find out more about swifts and how to protect them.

Swifts are acrobatic birds that visit the UK every summer to breed but are now red-listed as critically endangered due to loss of nest sites and reduced numbers of insects.

Ashbourne has been selected as one of 12 places across the Derbyshire Dales for lottery funding. This will help Derbyshire Swift Conservation to survey where Ashbourne's swifts are currently nesting, fund nest boxes for key sites across the town and involve local people in their protection. We are also fortunate in having swifts nesting each year at QEGS and we would like to do more to support them.

**This is a free event, which will be held in the canteen at Boothby.**

You can register your interest in the event using one of the links below:

link: <https://bit.ly/4rvDNui>



### School Canteen

Menu choice week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> March will be week 3.

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://mynewterm.com/trust/Tapestry-Learning-Partnership/145491> Current QEGS vacancies:

- Finance Assistant
- Agricultural/Equine & Animal Care Tutor
- People & Culture Assistant

### Upcoming Key Dates This Term

- 12<sup>th</sup> March – Year 12 Parent Teacher Meetings, in person, 3:45pm to 6:00pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> March – School show, Legally Blonde the Musical [www.qegs.link/tickets](http://www.qegs.link/tickets).
- 17<sup>th</sup> March – Primary Sport, netball
- 19<sup>th</sup> March – Swift Information Evening, Boothby Campus, 7pm to 9pm
- 20<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> March – Morocco Trip for Yr 12 & 13 students
- 24<sup>th</sup> March – Primary Sports, netball
- 25<sup>th</sup> March – Year 11 Parent Teacher Meeting, in person, 3:45pm to 6:00pm
- 27<sup>th</sup> March – Last day of Spring 2 term

### Finally

Thank you to the kind member of the community who visited school today to reward and thank three of our students for their good deed. Richard, Jonathan and Charlie, all in Year 9 assisted an elderly gentleman who had fallen in town. Our three kind and caring QEGS students sprung to help him until further assistance arrived. Today, a member of the family brought the three boys a giant pack of Celebrations and a thank you note. Well-done boys, very kind and caring behaviour, certainly embodying our value of 'Give' to the community.

Staff enjoyed a 'Thank you' cupcake this week as part of Employee Appreciation Week from the Tapestry Learning Trust, with staff shout outs to celebrate and recognise colleagues for their hard work, commitment and care shown across all the schools in the Trust.



Thank you to parents and carers for taking the time to complete the online form in the 'Your Voice Matters' letter sent out on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March, please keep submitting your views via the form [Your Voice Matters - helping Shape the Future of Our School – Fill in form](#) ; Mr Walker will be providing feedback to questions raised in the coming weeks.

Yours faithfully,

Scott Garrity  
Headteacher