

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Garrity

Chair of Governors: Mr N Moore



27th March 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #25

Congratulations to the recipients of this year's Ashbourne Town Mayor's Awards.

The Mayor of Ashbourne, Cllr Caroline Cooper welcomed students and staff this week attending the Ashbourne Recognition Awards at Ashbourne Town Hall. It was a fantastic evening celebrating the achievements of people across our community — and, once again, our students truly shone.

These awards recognise their dedication, compassion, and positive impact on others—values we are proud to see reflected in our school community.

A huge congratulations to all of our award winners:

- Environment Champion Award – QEGS Student Leaders
- Wellbeing Award – Emily L
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Champion – Iris L
- Mayor's Recognition Award for Outstanding Person – Matilda C
- Highly Commended Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Champion – Miss Angris

Well done to everyone involved for making such a meaningful and memorable afternoon. #TeamQEGS #Succeed #Community



World Book Day, National Competition to design a new book voucher

Thank you to students for taking the time to design a book voucher for entry into the National Competition. The entries showcased our students' creative skills, and 3 students were awarded easter eggs by Mrs Roper and Mrs Bramwell following QEGS judging of entries - Miley T Year 11, Olivia H Year 9 and Isabelle C Year 7. Well done!

Primary Culture Day

An engaging and inspiring event where students had the opportunity to explore a wide range of activities. From creative Art sessions encouraging both expression and awareness. Students also experienced elements of Spanish culture, plus took part in a Transition-focused activity aimed at building confidence and resilience. One of the highlights was the Escape Room experience set in our amazing library, which brought teamwork and problem-solving to life in a fun and interactive way. Thank you to student leaders and the amazing QEGS staff for leading the sessions!



Year 11 Leavers Hoodie

A reminder for Y11's that the online shop for your Leaver's Hoodies opens from 1st April 2026 and will close on 15th May 2026.

After the shop closes, any late orders will incur an additional £7.50 set-up charge per hoodie and will only be available for a very limited time.

How to Order:

- Visit www.schoolsinuniform.co.uk
- Select the Leavers Hoodies tab
- At checkout, choose "Local Pickup"
- From the drop-down box, select "Leavers Hoodies Collect from school"

Year 11 Sixth Form Applications Update

Year 11 Sixth Form applications to QEGS Sixth Form have been progressing well. Students have received confirmation of their conditional place offers this week. If you have any queries, please do get in touch.

We also have the second part of our Taster Day coming up on 29th June for Year 11 students. More information will be shared closer to the time.

Student Achievement Spotlight



Well done to Charlotte H and Wesley G in Year 12 for their fantastic participation in the 120 Hours Architecture Competition. This annual competition challenges students to respond to a creative design brief within just 120 hours. This year, participants were tasked with designing a new home for Kittiwake birds in the city of Tromsø, Norway. Working collaboratively, Charlotte and Wesley used the 120 hours to develop and produce their innovative design. Their dedication, teamwork, and creativity are a great example of the talent within our school community. We are very proud of their efforts—congratulations to both students!

End of Term Event

We finished the term by going back to the 70s/80s with a *Krypton Factor*–style competition between Year 13 tutor groups. Well done to Mr Smith's form, who were the overall winners! Lots of fun was had by all, and it was fantastic to see students letting off some steam during a busy period of exam preparation. A big thank you to Mrs Thrupp for organising this enjoyable event, and to Mr Walker for being our very own Gordon Burns!



We also wished our Sixth Formers well for the Easter break with a fun Easter egg hunt to round off the term.

Year 12/13 Student Leadership

The Sixth Form Student Council application process was launched this week, with current council members visiting Year 12 tutor groups to talk about their roles. They encouraged new students to take over the reins and begin preparing for the handover after Easter. We welcome and look forward to receiving a wide range of applications for the range of roles available.

Year 13: End of Term & Exam Arrangements

As we approach the start of the exam season, we would like to share key information regarding the end of Year 13, alongside important exam guidance. The Sixth Form team remains available throughout this period to support students with advice and guidance.

Leavers' Day – Friday 8th May 2026

Students will attend Form time and Period 1 as normal, followed by an informal leavers' assembly, photos, shirt signing and a BBQ. Students are expected to leave site by 12 noon and to conduct themselves sensibly within the community.

Study Leave – from Monday 11th May 2026

A-Level students will begin study leave and will only be required in school for exams. BTEC students should check with their teachers, as some may still have final assessments to complete.

Year 13 Prom – Friday 10th July 2026

We look forward to celebrating with students at Morley Hayes, with the event organised by the Student Council.

Examination Information

Exam timetables will be issued before the Easter break. Students must arrive punctually, bring the correct equipment, follow the Sixth Form dress code, and wear their lanyard. Water is permitted in clear plastic bottles only. Any concerns should be directed to the Sixth Form office.

Revision Support

Departments will continue to offer revision sessions—students are encouraged to attend and check schedules carefully.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 13 students for their dedication and resilience, and we wish them every success in the weeks ahead. We look forward to supporting them through to results day and beyond.

Sixth Form Students Host Heartwarming Community Afternoon

We are incredibly proud to celebrate a fantastic event hosted by our Sixth Form students in collaboration with a local charity - Connex. The event was led and organised by Georgia M in Year 12 and along with her peers, she warmly welcomed over 30 local elderly residents for a delightful afternoon filled with tea, cake, bingo, and music. The event created a fantastic sense of community, bringing generations together in a relaxed and joyful atmosphere.

Guests were treated to a variety of live performances from our talented student musicians and singers, whose efforts added a special touch to the occasion and were greatly appreciated by everyone in attendance.

The care, organisation, and enthusiasm shown by our Sixth Form team were outstanding, and the event was a shining example of student leadership, kindness, and community spirit.

Red Nose Day – update

Every contribution makes a difference, ❤️ #TEAMQEGS Thank you for your support – the total raised so far is £179.12! <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=20452>



Primary Sport, netball

This week we had the year 3&4 High 5 Netball tournament. Seventeen teams took part and we managed to complete the tournament before the rain started.

Thank you to all of the Year 9 Sports Leaders that led the event.



Nature Notes



Look out for wood anemones in shaded areas over Easter. Wood anemones are a sign of ancient woodland and grow very slowly. You may see a few violets growing around the bottom of trees.

News from QEGS Biodiversity Group

A huge thank you to Clare Tuck, who has donated plants and seeds to help us convert the overgrown bed in front of the Level 3 teaching block into a bee and butterfly garden.

School Canteen

Menu choice week beginning 13th April 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:

- Caretaker

Upcoming Key Dates This Term

- 27th March – Last day of Spring 2 term
- 13th April – School Reopens, Summer 1 term
- 15th April – Schools In pop up shop, 3.30pm to 5pm, Canteen
- 16th April – Exam Performance Evening, 7pm to 9.30pm, Hall
- 17th April – Year 12 Scientists visit University of Derby
- 23rd April – Year 8 HPV vaccinations
- 28th April – Primary Sports, Athletics
- 28th April – Year 10 Parent Teacher Meetings, in person 3.45pm to 6pm

Finally

Farewell to Miss Bill who goes off to ventures new in the maths world, we wish her well for the future.

We finish the term with so many successes and achievements, well done to students and staff. There will be lots of Year 11 revision classes onsite over the Easter break, well done those students who have opted in and are 'locked in' to doing their best when it comes to the exams in May and June.

We hope you all have a restful Easter break, and we look forward to seeing students and staff return on Monday 13th April ready for a busy summer term.

Yours faithfully,



Scott Garrity
Headteacher