



17th April 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff

Weekly Bulletin #26

Year 13 Morocco trip

Before Easter, a group of 14 Year 13 students travelled to Morocco for a jam-packed, 7-day adventure. They got to experience the culture and traditions in various locations, allowing them to be fully immersed in Moroccan history. They began with a walk around Marrakesh, horse and carriage ride and shopping experience in a handmade cosmetic shop, before riding camels into the Agafay desert for a stunning night of sunsets, pool fun, card games and traditional music and dancing. Then they headed into the Atlas mountains, where they learnt about the history and growth of the village of Imlil, visited family houses and shops, and completed



a 2-day trek, including a picnic at above 2000m, incredible views and an overnight stay in the remoteness of a mountain village. They enjoyed trying a variety of Moroccan foods, including Berber breakfasts consisting of lots of fresh bread and mint tea. When back in Marrakech, they visited the water museum and then had a great time practising their 'haggling' and bartering skills when shopping in the traditional souks, followed by an electrical storm at sunset to top of a brilliant week.

Welcome back to Year 12 and 13

We would like to warmly welcome all Year 12 and Year 13 students back following the Easter break. For our Year 13 students, this term marks the final stage before their summer examinations and assessments. We appreciate that this can be a demanding and pressured period, and we like to remind parents and carers that support is available for students during this time. If you feel your child would benefit from additional support, please encourage them to speak with Mrs Allen or Mr Walker, who will be happy to discuss the options available. Just as a reminder, Year 13's final day in school is Friday 8th May, if students are on a BTEC programme they may be required to attend lessons after this point, therefore, they will need to check with their subject teachers regarding their final leaving date.

Inspiring STEM Talk

Before the Easter break, we were delighted to welcome Jill from CRSA into the Sixth Form to deliver an inspiring talk on women in engineering.

Jill shared her own career journey, challenging stereotypes and highlighting the wide range of opportunities within the engineering sector. Students gained valuable insight into the skills, resilience and confidence needed to succeed in this field.

It was fantastic to see such high levels of engagement, with students asking thoughtful questions and considering future pathways they may not have previously explored. We are very grateful to Jill for taking the time to support and inspire our students.

Year 12 visit University of Derby

Year 12 students studying Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Psychology, accompanied by Mrs Baugh and Mrs Harrison enjoyed a fantastic and informative visit to the UK Uni Search event today, hosted at the University of Derby.

Throughout the day, students had the opportunity to speak directly with a wide range of universities, apprenticeship providers and employers from across the country, helping them to explore their future pathways and options beyond sixth form.

As part of the visit, students also took part in a taster day delivered by the university. This included hands-on experiences across different subject areas, the chance to meet current students and academics, and a guided tour of the campus facilities. A particular highlight was an exclusive visit to the university's brand-new Biosafety Level 2 SuperLab, where students explored the specialist learning environment, examined equipment and spoke with technicians about how the lab is used in real-world scientific study.

Students also attended a series of informative talks covering student finance, universities and how to write a strong .

Overall, it was a highly valuable experience, giving our science students a deeper insight into higher education and helping them feel more confident about their next steps.



PE Co-curricular Summer Sports Clubs

Please encourage your child to try one of the PE summer sports clubs. All students are welcome to attend the designated clubs for their year group. The primary emphasis of co-curricular sport at QEGS is on enjoyment through increased physical activity. There will also be opportunities for competitive sports fixtures, for those that want that, in athletics, cricket and rounders. For lunchtime clubs, students only need to bring a pair of trainers. For after-school clubs, students need to wear their QEGS PE kit. Clubs will start from Monday 20th April 2026.

Year 8 & 9 Sports Tour – places still available

There are places still available for the Year 8 and 9 Gibraltar football and netball sports tour in March 2027. If there is anyone that is interested that hasn't already paid a deposit, students can collect a letter from the PE office on Monday or Tuesday next week for more information. Deposit deadline is **Friday 24th April 2026**.



Year 8 Athletic Sportshall County Champions

Huge congratulations to our Year 8 boys on becoming Sportshall Athletics County Champions! Fantastic effort by the whole team in yesterday's county competition.

DCC Replacement Bus pass cost

Derbyshire School Transport have increased the cost of a replacement bus pass to **£10.30** from 13th April 2026, if your child is eligible for a bus pass. Payment is made in cash to Student Services who will order the replacement pass and provide a temporary pass for bus travel before receipt of the new pass.

Rare plants in the Peak District

The Peak District is the main site where two nationally rare species are found: alpine penny-cress and spring sandwort (also known as leadwort).

Both plants are tolerant of heavy metals in the soil and are often found growing on old leadmines. Good places to spot these plants are Gang Mine, a nature reserve near Wirksworth and the Derbyshire Dales.



School Canteen

Menu choice week beginning 20th April 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://mynewterm.com/trust/Tapestry-Learning-Partnership/145491> Current QEGS vacancies:

- Site Manager

Upcoming Key Dates This Term

- 22nd April – Duke of Edinburgh Awards Ceremony, invited students
- 23rd April – Year 8 HPV vaccinations
- 28th April – Primary Sports, Athletics
- 28th April – Year 10 Parent Teacher Meetings, in person 3.45pm to 6pm
- 4th May – Bank Holiday, school closed
- 6th May to 8th May – DofE Silver Practice Expedition
- 6th May – Swift Watching, 7.30pm to 9pm
- 7th May to 8th May – DofE Bronze Practice Expedition
- 12th May – Primary Sports, Kwik Cricket
- 14th May – Year 8 Parent Teacher Meetings, in person 3.45pm to 6pm
- 18th May – Swift Watching, 7.30pm
- 19th May – Primary Sports, Kwik Cricket
- 20th May to 22nd May – Year 10 Geography Fieldtrips, Buston & River Dove
- 22nd May – last day summer 1 term

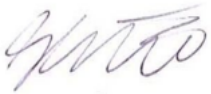
Finally

Thank you to my colleagues who have been overseeing the day to day running of QEGS on the 2-3 days a week I have been at our fellow Tapestry Learning Partnership school, Chellaston Academy in Derby. The new headteacher has now started at Chellaston, Mr Leese and he has enjoyed his first full week in post. I have now been asked to support another of our trust schools, City of Derby Academy for 2 days a week until the end of the summer term. The arrangements that I currently have in place with my deputies, Mr Walker and Mr Davis overseeing QEGS on the days I am offsite will remain in place for this period.

Congratulations and welcome to all of the Year 6 students and families who were offered and accepted a place at QEGS for September. We are proud and honoured that you chose us for your child's secondary school. There will be plenty of transition events and support for all students and parents in the coming months.

Thank you and farewell to our colleagues Dave Smith and Steph Campey (site team) who move on to pastures new.

Yours faithfully,



Scott Garrity
Headteacher

Enc: Co-curricular Sport timetable