

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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26th June 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff,

Weekly Bulletin #35

Rome Trip Summary (15th–19th June)

From 15th–19th June, students enjoyed an unforgettable trip to Rome, immersing themselves in the city's rich history, culture, and architecture. Throughout the visit, they loved exploring some of Rome's most iconic landmarks including the Colosseum, The Roman Forum, The Trevi Fountain and The Vatican Museum.

The trip was a tremendous success, with students demonstrating enthusiasm, curiosity, and excellent behaviour throughout. They returned home with a deeper understanding of Rome's historical significance and many lasting memories of an incredible educational experience.



Happy Pride 2026

This year, for the first time in QEGS's history, we have hoisted the Rainbow Flag for Pride!

Did you know that each colour of the flag is symbolic: Red - Life; Orange - Healing; Yellow - Sunlight; Green - Nature; Blue - Peace/Harmony/Art; Violet - Spirit?

Students have been discovering more about LGBTQ+ history in form times, and student leaders have plans for celebrating Pride beyond this month. If you would like to help with celebrating or supporting the LGBTQ+ community at QEGS, please contact Angris@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk

Happy Pride!

Race 4 Life – Friday 10th July

In the upcoming weeks will be the annual Race 4 life. The date will be **Friday 10th July**. On this date students are allowed to come to school in PE kit for the run please send them, hats sunscreen and water bottles as they will be outside; may require waterproofs if it is raining.

The BTEC students have arranged for stalls and catering vendors to come in that the students may want to purchase from so please send them with money (cash or card) if wish to purchase ice creams or beverages.

All money fundraised will go to Cancer Research UK. If you would like to donate straight to them our giving page link is here <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/qegs-giving-page-23103388> all money raised goes to Cancer Research UK to help them continue with their life saving research. A letter will follow with more details in the coming days.

We will also be at Sports day on the 2nd of July, doing glitter face paint also raising money for Race 4 life.

Year 10 Work Experience & upcoming trips

We look forward to hearing from our Year 10 students next week as they return to school following their week on work experience. Thank you to all employers, local and further afield who have looked after our students to give them an amazing week! We know it has been hotter than expected, with some employers adjusting the week to make it work, we really appreciate the opportunities you have provided.

Year 10 students in school have helped with the biodiversity project with Mrs Roberts this week. They have started to prepare the soil for planting wildflower seeds, including ox-eye daisy,

knapweed, yarrow, clover and wild carrot. We look forward to seeing the wildflowers over the coming weeks.



Charlie assisted with swimming lessons with Aqua Ventures this week – the best place to be in the hot weather!

If parents and carers have yet to do so, please make sure you have provided permissions and if able to, payment for transport for the upcoming trips to University of Derby on **Friday 3rd July** (if your child signed up for the trip), and the whole year group visiting Buxton College on **Thursday 9th July** – students will be selecting their two taster sessions next week to take part in on the visit.



Year 11 Sixth Form Transition Day (Part 2)

A reminder that it is the **Year 11 Sixth Form Transition Day (Part 2) on Monday 29th June**, students to arrive for **8.50am** at the Boothby Campus, where they will be greeted by the Sixth Form Team, who will explain the plan for the day. All students are welcome to attend this event, even if they haven't applied - we are still accepting applications!

Sixth Form update

It has been fantastic to welcome our Year 12 students back after their week of work experience. It has been great hearing all about their placements, which have covered an incredibly wide range of industries and opportunities this year. We have been particularly interested to hear about some of the unique placements, including both in-person experiences and virtual opportunities.

We have also received numerous emails and phone calls from local employers who wanted to share their positive feedback, thanks, and appreciation for the hard work, professionalism, and positive attitudes demonstrated by our students. We are immensely proud of every one of them and the way they have represented both our Sixth Form and QEGS throughout the week.

To round off the week, Year 12 students enjoyed a game of rounders organised by our newly appointed Sports Captains. It was a great way to end the week, with plenty of fun enjoyed by all.

Most Year 12 students will also have received feedback from their recent mock examinations over the past few days. These assessments mark an important milestone at the end of Year 12 and provide both students and teachers with valuable feedback ahead of next term and the start of Year 13. We encourage students to reflect carefully on this feedback and use it to help shape their preparation for the exciting year ahead. Grades from these assessments will be published on Go 4 Schools from 10th July onwards, allowing students and parents to review performance in full and identify key areas for development before the start of Year 13.

Year 12 students will not be attending lessons on **Monday 29th June**. This is to accommodate the Year 11 Transition Day (Part 2). Year 12 students will be set careers and UCAS research activities to complete.

Year 12 Student Success – Ledbury Young Poets Competition

Congratulations to Charlotte H (Year 12), whose poem, *The Weight of Bronze*, has been selected as a winner in this year's Ledbury Young Poets Competition in the Secondary Schools and Higher Education (12–18 years) category. This year's theme was *In My Imagination*. This is an excellent achievement in a prestigious national competition, and we are delighted to celebrate this well-deserved success. Well-done Charlotte!

Under 17 Netball team

Our Under 17 Netball team completed Day One of the World Schools Netball Cup on Thursday, an international tournament that brings together some of the most talented and determined young netball players from around the world. The event celebrates teamwork, leadership, sportsmanship and the positive values of competition, while providing students with opportunities to make new friendships and represent their school with pride. The team has made an outstanding start to the competition and currently sits 2nd in the league standings after defeating last year's tournament winners, Solihull, and securing an impressive draw against a strong Australian side. The girls will continue their campaign over the remaining two days of the tournament on Friday and Saturday, and we wish them every success as they compete for a place among the World Schools Netball Cup champions.



Sports Day – 2nd July 2026

Parents and Carers have received a Sports Day letter with the schedules of track and field events today. Spectators can attend the day by booking via www.gegs.link/tickets – ticket booking will close on Wednesday 1st July at midday for registering attendance. Please note, we will not be able to accept parent/carers turning up on the day for the event without being on the booking list.

Free School Meals – Important Information for all Parents

Important information has been emailed to all parents regarding Free School Meals (FSM). Please check your emails and read the letter carefully. **A copy is also attached to this bulletin.**

In summary:

- If your child currently receives Free School Meals, **you are required to reapply.**
- If you receive Universal Credit but do not currently receive Free School Meals, you may now be eligible to apply under the Government's expanded eligibility criteria.

Please refer to the letter for full details and application information.

Ilam Hall – 200 years celebrating

Please see the attached poster to the bulletin for more information.

Nature Notes

As our school is located close to the Peak District, we benefit from beautiful wildflowers that thrive in limestone areas:

In June look out for the common spotted orchid alongside the trails and around the dales.



In Lathkil Dale we have the rare Jacob's Ladder (*Polemonium caeruleum*) that flowers in mid-June.



At QEGS several areas of grass are being allowed to grow long and our Year 12 Biodiversity group is enhancing these areas with native wildflowers to improve our biodiversity.

School Canteen

Menu choice week beginning 29th June 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:

- Teacher of English, maternity cover, 2 part time vacancies.

Upcoming Key Dates This Term

- 29th to 1st July – Year 12 Gold DofE practice expedition
- 29th June – Year 11 Sixth Form Transition Day
- 29th June – Year 12 A Level Biology fieldtrip
- 29th June – Year 11 students and parents/carers Sixth Form information evening, Sixth Form Common Rm
- 29th June – Swift watching, 8pm, meet at Main Reception
- 30th June – Year 9 Sports Leaders Spring Lakes trip
- 30th June – Year 10 and 12, DT/CDM trip to the London Design Museum
- 1st July – Year 8 Science trip to Twycross Zoo
- 2nd July – Sports Day, spectators tickets www.gegs.link/tickets , closes midday 1st July.

- 2nd July – Summer Music Concert, 7:30pm, School Hall, ticket link [here](#)
- 3rd July – Year 10 University of Derby visit
- 7th and 8th July – Year 6 Transition Days
- 7th July – Year 6 Parents Evening event, Main Hall, 6pm – 7pm
- 8th July to 10th July – DofE Silver qualifying expedition
- 9th July to 10th July – DofE Bronze qualifying expedition
- 10th July – Race 4 Life event, students Years 7 to 10.

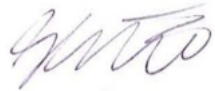
Finally

Advance notice: the final day of the summer term, **Wednesday 22nd July 2026**, school will be closing earlier at **1:00pm**. School bus routes have been adjusted for the earlier pickup; public bus routes will be nearest timetabled time.

Uniform returns to the summer standard on **Monday 29th June** for all students in Years 7,8,9,10 and 12. For Years 7-10 it means that blazers and jumpers are optional. Shirts, ties, trousers or skirts and plain black shoes/trainers with a working ID card and lanyard please.

Well done to the students and staff for adapting to the unseasonable warmth we have had this week. Most parts of the school site are shaded and cool and the areas that have been hot, we simply have not used. Lolly ice sales in the canteen have hit an all-time high and the staff are being treated to an ice cream at the end of school today. Well done everyone and thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully,



Scott Garrity
Headteacher

Enc: Free School Meal letter, and Ilam Hall poster