



Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School

Term 4 Newsletter

February - March 2024

Welcome to our Term 4 newsletter. Once again it is packed with a huge range of activities and achievements from across the school during which has been an extremely productive few weeks. As you will see from the newsletter, our students have been busy across a whole range of curricular and extracurricular activities.

Year 7 took part in Bikeability and gained practical and valuable skills on the course, helping them to cycle safely on today's roads. We have had a really engaging Science Fortnight, full of a whole range of activities, demonstrations and visiting speakers. It has also been an exciting time for our sports teams, with great success in rugby and football fixtures and students also performing well in their competitive matches in water polo. Our students triumphed at the Regional Piano Competition, a huge congratulations to those who received placings in the competition. We are also very proud of the 17 students from Year 10, who received Faversham Gem Awards for their dedication to providing valuable peer mentoring support within the school - congratulations.

The school production of Matilda Jr, the Dance Showcase and the Spring Concert were the biggest highlights of the term. Matilda Jr was such an enjoyable production, thank you to all of the students and staff who were involved and in particular to Mrs Oben for making it possible. The Spring Concert was an incredibly special evening and was wonderful to witness so much excellent music from across the school, my congratulations to all of the students who participated and my thanks to the staff involved; Mr Caborn, Mrs Thorpe (strings) Mr Monks (jamming club) Ms Saul (strings and piano) and Mrs Willmott (choir). The Dance Showcase was also a huge success with lots of magnificent performances from our very talented students, aided by a willing and capable technical support crew - well done and thank you to Miss Washington for helping the students to deliver an outstanding show. All three events triggered a flurry of emails from parents and carers, praising students on their performances and congratulating the crews on delivering polished and professional shows - thank you for your feedback, which we always enjoy sharing with our students.

I have been incredibly impressed by Year 11 this term, who have fully utilised the GCSE drop in support sessions; we hope the students have found them helpful in preparing for their exams. Thank you to the staff for their support and thank you to the canteen for supplying the refreshments during the after school sessions. Additionally, Year 11 were busy organising lots of exciting activities for their Charity Day. There was a wonderful community reaction from across the school as students wore pink/purple/blue accessories and took part in the 'sponge the teacher' stall, tombola stall etc. All proceeds raised from the event have been donated to the Year 11s chosen charity, Cancer Research - thank you for your generous donations.

Our new Head Student Team was announced this term. Year 12 students and staff watched the hustings videos and then voted for their preferred candidates. Congratulations to Noah W, Will H, Mihai B, Cara D, Sophia F and Africa G C. A huge thank you to the outgoing team, we are incredibly grateful for all their hard work this academic year and we wish them all the best for their remaining term and future endeavours.

Octavia Ostle and Poppy Cleary returned to school to deliver talks to our students. Poppy spoke about her career as a Barrister and Octavia spoke about her time at medical school. It was great to be reacquainted with both former students and to hear about all the wonderful things they have been doing since leaving Queen Elizabeth's.

We do hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and I would like to wish all of our staff and students a very enjoyable and relaxing Easter break. We look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 15th of April.

D M Anderson MA FRSA
Headteacher



News from MFL

QE welcomes a group of Spanish pupils in school

QE welcomed a group of 10 Spanish pupils from Concorde International language school in Canterbury for a week at the end of February. They were buddied up with 10 QE pupils from Years 8-11 for the week and experienced a range of lessons during the day, as well as having a jam-packed programme of visits out of school.

This was a great opportunity for both QE pupils and also the Spanish pupils to learn about different cultures and education systems, as well as making new friends and speaking other languages.

One Spanish pupil said that it was so good trying to communicate in another language and another pupil said that it was fun to be with their English buddies, make new friends and see new places.



Congratulations to Emilia in Year 9 for winning the MFL Easter Egg design competition, with not just one entry but three amazing designs. Well done!

This term we hosted a Japanese student on the Concorde International Programme for two weeks. She participated in Year 12 lessons and has enjoyed her time here at school.

We look forward to welcoming two French students next term in Year 10.

今学期、私たちは日本人学生をコンコルドインターナショナルプログラムに2週間受け入れました。

SEND @ QE! section of the school newsletter

Term 4's focus is sleep!



Did you know that when we are sleeping that our body is building energy, fixing and repairing, preparing us to be fit and ready for another day?

During sleep, our immune system releases certain proteins called cytokines, which are important for fighting infections and inflammation and help us respond to stress. However, when we don't get enough sleep or our sleep is disrupted, our bodies produce fewer of these important proteins. Lack of sleep can also affect how quickly we recover if we do become unwell.

Sleep is vitally important in terms of learning. During sleep, the brain sorts out and stores important information. Children who experience inadequate sleep are more likely to have problems paying attention, forgetting things and keeping up with work.

So... how much sleep do we need?

6-13 years: 9-11 hours of sleep
14-17 years: 8-10 hours of sleep
Adults: 7-9 hours of sleep



If you would like more information about how you can support your child with sleep, then MIDAS are running a course for parents on the 21st May 2024: 6pm - 8.30pm.

The link to the booking form is below.:

<https://www.meadowfield.kent.sch.uk/assets/Uploads/MIDAS-Course-Blank-Booking-Form-PARENT.pdf>

Here are some factors to consider if you are struggling to sleep:

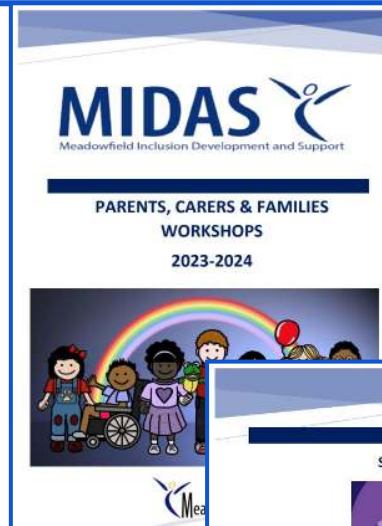
1 - Routine - This is the most important factor. Try and get into a sleep pattern.

2 - Light - When you wake up in the morning, open the curtains and make sure there is a lot of light. Getting exposure to natural light will improve the quality of your sleep and your mood.

At night the bedroom should be comfortable, quiet and dark.

3 - Screens - Some research suggests that blue light emitted from screens suppress melatonin, an important hormone which helps regulate our sleep and wake pattern. Make sure you turn off ALL screens an hour before bedtime.

4 - Diet and Exercise - Exercise during the day helps you to sleep better at night and also boosts the immune system. Try to also reduce caffeinated or sugary food and drinks.



SLEEP SUPPORT

Date	21 st May 2024
Time	18.00-20.30
Presented By	Norah Cassingham and Karen Chatfield

Sleep problems can be a persistent and severe problem for children and young people. Improved sleep can lead to reduced stress within the family and improved educational outcomes for the young person.

This half-day workshop will:

- Introduce participants to a range of sleep problems in children and young people with additional support needs
- Identify possible causes of sleep difficulties
- Consider behavioural interventions to improve them
- Provide an opportunity to share ideas with parents and carers facing similar challenges

This workshop is suitable for parents, carers and families of Early Years, primary age and secondary age children (age 9+).

This workshop is £5 per participant
Refreshments are provided



give me Peace
 help us Rise
 Oppose
 we band Together
 Educate
 to Save
 the Tension is broken
 WE ARE FREE



Year 9 Poetry as Protest Workshop

On Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th February the whole of Year 9 took part in an interactive workshop called Poetry as Protest. The workshop was run by an organisation called The Black Curriculum. The Black Curriculum empowers young people and educators across the UK to engage with Black British history three hundred and sixty five days a year. The workshop focused on the use of poetry as a form of protest and looked in detail at John Agard's poem "Checking Out Me History".

protest poem

Power - to those who have been oppressed

Rights - for those who had their rights taken

Opposing - against prejudice and discrimination

Teaching - about hidden figures in history

Equality - for everyone

Safety - and happiness for everyone

Together - fighting for equality

Power gives us voice
 Rise and say your choice
 Opinion makes freedom longer
 Together we are stronger
 Everyone must work together
 So we can live ~~each other~~
 Together we are stronger

Students created a living poem whilst learning about the significant contribution that Touissant L'Ouverture, Nanny of the Maroons, Shaka the Zulu and Mary Seacole made to our history. The session sparked lively debate and engagement from the students and culminated with students creating an acrostic poem about what they had learnt. You can see some examples of the students' work on the day here.

CHECKING OUT ME HISTORY

JOHN AGARD

LIVING POEM

Dem tell me bout Lord Nelson and Waterloo
 but dem never tell me bout Shaka de great Zulu
 Dem tell me bout Columbus and 1492
 but what happen to de Caribs and de Arawaks too

crosses a powerful army & makes military equipment

Dem tell me bout Florence Nightingale and she lamp
 and how Robin Hood used to camp
 Dem tell me bout ole King Cole was a merry ole soul
 but dem never tell me bout Mary Seacole
 From Jamaica she travel far to the Crimean War
 she volunteer to go and even when de British said no
 she still brave the Russian snow a healing star
 among the wounded a yellow sunrise to the dying

wounded people - the world go to war, helped people umm she died

Dem tell me
 Dem tell me who dem want to tell me
 But now I checking out me own history
 I carving out me identity

not water mg to them

what he wants to know about HIM

Dem tell me
 Dem tell me
 What dem want to tell me
 Bandage up me eye with me own history
 Blind me to me own identity

Dem tell me bout 1066 and all dat
 dem tell me bout Dick Whittington and he cat
 But Touissant L'Ouverture no dem never tell me bout dat
 Touissant
 a slave with vision
 lock back hoodoo
 hoodoo battalion
 and first Black Republic born
 Touissant die thorn to de French
 Touissant die beacon of de Haitian Revolution

can see what's what

what really happened

Books of history opened his eyes - Freedom leader

Dem tell me bout de man who discover de balloon
 and de cow who jump over de moon
 Dem tell me bout de dish run away with de spoon
 but dem never tell me bout Nanny de maroon
 Nanny
 See-far woman of mountain dream
 the woman struggle hopeful dream to freedom river

TIP
 I can, hiding
 rebelling planning
 forming



This year we have launched a Maths Inter-house for both KS3 and KS4 students. Students in Years 9 and 10 completed their challenge in December. Congratulations to Alex in Year 10 and Fraser in Year 9 who were Best in Year.

The KS4 results were:

Year 9		Year 10	
F	168	S	197
S	166	Q	170
G	165	E	167
E	154	G	159
Q	143	F	151

Following this we entered the top students from each year group along with a small number of our Year 11 students into the UKMT Intermediate Maths challenge. This is a national competition which aims to challenge students to demonstrate mathematical reasoning and critical thinking. 47 students achieved an award, with 24 Bronze, 13 Silver and 10 Gold. Congratulations to Alister and Fraser in Year 9, Alex in Year 10 and Charles and Alexis in Year 11 for qualifying for a follow on round which took place on Thursday 21st March.



The KS3 version of our Inter-house competition was held over the week commencing the 4th March. Students in Year 7 and 8 completed the challenge on their Chromebooks in their maths lessons. Congratulations to Frank in Year 7 and Iwan in Year 8 for being best in Year. We will be entering the highest scoring students in each year group into the UKMT's Junior Maths Challenge, a KS3 version of the national competition the Year 9-11s competed in. This will take place on Thursday 25th April.

Year 7	
F	256
G	254
E	235
Q	226
S	225
K	211

Year 8	
Q	274
G	258
F	246
S	235
E	228

I am very excited to announce that Carlotta F in Year 12 has achieved the shortlist (top 12 of 174 entries) for the 23-24 British Young Sociologists of the Year Competition run by the British Sociological Association.

The topic was 'Is the Patriarchy alive and kicking', and Carlotta's focus was 'The Bechdel Test: can it be effectively applied to real life? Carlotta completed both primary and secondary research into this and found that, yes, men and women both centre men in their conversations and it does seem to hold that women are still considered in society by their relation to men.'



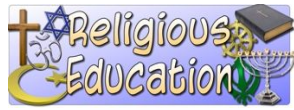
Mrs Longhurst

Humanities



GEOGRAPHY

HISTORY



The Last Supper Competition

We had some lovely entries for the Year 7 Easter competition. Here are a few examples.

The winner, **Zoe**, created a fantastic video with Lego, creating different scenes of Jesus' life that led to the last supper.

Well done Year 7!



Humanity Hub

A reminder to all Humanity students that every Tuesday lunchtime in H8, Humanity teachers will be present for any students who wish to ask for support or would like a space to complete tasks.



FOR ALL YEAR 10 STUDENTS

100 DAY COMPETITION

JOIN GOOGLE CLASSROOM TO FIND OUT MORE. SOME AMAZING REWARDS AVAILABLE

HUMANITIES HUB
H8 - Tuesday Lunchtimes

This term we are celebrating the behaviour and achievement of the following students, well done.

HUMANITY HEROES

KS3	KS4
HADLEY	JOSHUA
CHARLOTTE	BEN

KNOWLEDGE IS THE STRONGEST FORCE IN THE UNIVERSE.

Year 10 RE GCSE competition

A reminder to all Year 10 - if you have not started, it is not too late to give some questions a go. Every question answered is one sticker and further prizes for those who reach the 'gold' target.



Highlight on Mental Health



This week saw 17 students receive a Faversham Gem Award for 'Going Extra Miles' in school by giving their time to train as Peer Mentors and work with students in our younger year groups. Our Peer Mentors assist with transition from primary to secondary school and ensure a friendly face to be able to support the adjustment.

Our Year 9 Peer Mentors enjoyed an Easter party with their respective Year 7 Mentees. The Year 10 Wellbeing Ambassadors had created a fun mental health related word search as well as a general Easter word search for students to work together and build their communication skills.

Kooth is offering free virtual sessions for parents on the 22nd & 25th April that provide tips on how you can support your child manage anxiety about their upcoming exams - please use this [link](#) to sign up.

There are also resources designed especially for parents available on our website including advice on how to talk to your teen about their feelings via this [link](#).

EASTER WORD SEARCH



BUNNY EGGS CHICK JELLYBEAN

BASKET SPRING FLOWER EASTER

GRASS CANDY HUNT DYE

BONNET SUNDAY PEEPS LAMB



Our NELFT Emotional Wellbeing Team provided an informative workshop on 'Less Stress Guide to Exams'. We will provide information in due course regarding any further workshops available and should you require any further information on what the team have to offer, please contact meg@queenelizabeths.kent.sch.uk



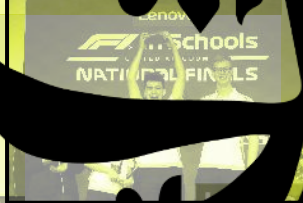
CREATIVE ARTS & TECHNOLOGY



The
VILLAIN
Awards

A variety performance of the
cruellest evildoers of all time.

23rd & 24th March 7pm
25th March 2pm



TERM 4

Drama and Theatre

This year's school production of Matilda Jr was performed to full houses on the 15th and 16th March. Over 90 students were involved in singing, dancing, acting, lighting, sound, stage management and directing. Students put on a fantastic performance which delighted all audiences. Well done to all!



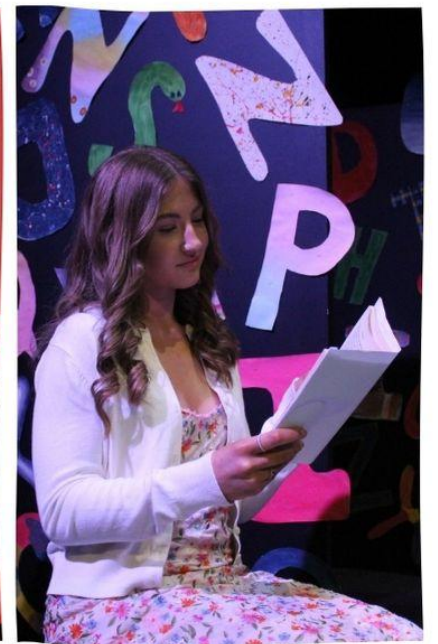
ROALD DAHL'S

Matilda

THE MUSICAL JR.

Book by
DENNIS KELLY

Music & Lyrics by
TIM MINCHIN





We asked our students to write their own version of 'When I Grow Up'. Sing it as your own karaoke!

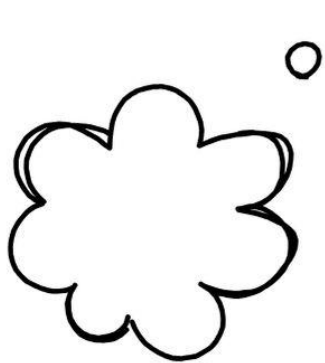
QE WHEN I GROW UP...



When I grow up,
I will be kind enough to save the people
that need saving all around the world
Everywhere to be a grown up

When I grow up
I'll be smart enough to read all night long
Know ancient fights by heart
History and I will never be apart

And when I grow up
I will jump into the rain
And splash in all the puddles that I find,
And I won't care cause I'll be all grown up



And I will wait up,
Until I'm old enough to leave for lunchtime
Roll my skirt up, throw paper planes
And I won't care cause I'll be all grown up
When I'm grown up

When I grow up
I will be strong enough to climb the mountains
And to dive the deepest ocean
I can be free, no more school for me
When I grow up

And when I grow up,
I want to read all of the big books
that you get to buy and understand
When you're grown up

When I grow up
I will be fast enough to win the race
and old enough to keep the pace
that you need when your a grown-up

When I grow up
I will be nice in everyway that matters
Even when the days are long and hard
I'll smile cause I'll be a grown up



Queen Elizabeth's
Grammar School

Design Innovation Competition- Rotary Club of Canterbury Visit

On Thursday 22nd February five Rotarians visited our Year 12 Product Design students. The students are entering an Innovation Design competition that is held annually by the Rotary Club of Canterbury and Canterbury Christ Church University. The Rotarians came to look at the students ideas, ask questions about them and give feedback on their presentations. Sessions like these help the students focus on their entries and gives them practice presenting their ideas, developing vital communication skills.



"It was great fun!" said Rotarian Julie Reza. She added: "It was lovely to hear about the variety of ideas the youngsters had, with innovations ranging from small-scale ones to be used by individuals and others to be used by local councils. I found it particularly interesting to hear how the youngsters came up with their ideas - often because of a problem that they or someone they know has faced. These youngsters are the problem solvers of tomorrow and it's good to know we might be helping them strengthen this skill."

We would like to thank the Rotarians for their time and support; our students really benefited from this session!

District Finals of Rotary 'Young Chef' Competition 2024



After winning the local heats in February, Darcy went through to win the District finals of the Rotary 'Young Chef' Competition.

Six finalists competed at the Archbishop's school in Canterbury to prepare and cook a two-course meal within a fixed budget in two hours. Each contestant was called up by turn to present their dishes. The judges asked questions while assessing the final presentation and tasting the dish. Before announcing winners the Judges emphasized what a hard decision it had been – with a tiny margin separating each contestant. They said how much the judges had enjoyed the tasting and encouraged the contestants to keep cooking and added how they had really enjoyed eating such a high standard of food, saying, "The flavours, taste, and presentation were all excellent."

Finally, they announced the winner – Darcy, from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School! Well done Darcy!



Term 4

It has been an exceptionally busy few terms for the Music department, full of performances and student successes. We ended Term 3 with the Chamber Concert, held on Tuesday 6th February in St. Mary's Church. This concert highlighted the exceptional talent of the Queen Elizabeth's Chamber Choir and Chamber String Orchestra, who performed a demanding programme with excellence. The quality of the soloists and small ensembles was truly outstanding, with particular commendations to Zoe R, Josh C, Felix E-M and Carys A for their fantastic leavers solos. The highlight of the concert was the Chamber Choir's performance of Fauré's epic *Requiem*, a piece performed by professional choirs around the world. Our students tackled this work with excellence, and produced a top-class performance that would be the envy of many a choral society! A recording of the performance can be found [via this link](#).

This term also saw our pianists compete in the regional qualifier of the inaugural Kent & Medway Grammar School's Piano Competition. Jemima E (Y12) competed in the Grade 6-7 category, Mihai B and Emilia K (Y12) in the Duet category, and Felix E-M (Y13) in the Grade 8+ category. Jemima took 2nd place in her category, and Mihai & Emilia and Felix all won their respective categories, meaning that all of our brilliant pianists have qualified for the county finals! The county final will be held at St. Gregory's Centre for Music, Canterbury, on Saturday 22nd June, and further details on tickets for the event will be sent out in due course.

We rounded off this term with the annual Spring Concert, which was held in the Elizabeth Quinn Theatre on Monday 25th March. There were performances from the QE Choir, Chamber Choir, String Orchestra & Chamber Strings, Jamming Club, and a wonderful selection of solo and group performances. The evening was a wonderful success and so far, we have raised £400 in donations from the Spring Concert to go towards new instruments and equipment in the Music Department. Thank you so much for your incredible generosity.

Our concerts would not go ahead without the hard work of our amazing Music department. A huge thank you to Mrs S Thorpe for her amazing work with all the string players and her soloists, as well as to Ms J Saul playing and accompanying in the concert. Additionally, thank you to Mr J Monks for leading the Jamming Club expertly, as well as accompanying our fantastic choirs.

Finally, the biggest thank you to all our amazing musicians! It has been a brilliant term of music making, and we're all looking forward to moving on to Summer repertoire after a well earned rest!





Eco Garden Project

Zoe is placing stones ready for our pizza wheel of edible flowers and pollinators. **Any donations of lavender, violets, chamomile, dianthus, cornflowers and violets would be gratefully received.**



Students enjoying the new path and planters made from recycled sleepers, thanks to Mr Harvey.



Students have also upcycled old pallets from around the school and turned them into herb planters.

Any donations of gardening equipment, tools, compost, seeds, plants, wire, bamboo etc. would be gratefully appreciated.



Sowing tomato, pepper and butternut squash seeds with Jane Beedle, local garden designer and Bake Off finalist.



Year 8 Food Tech Character Cake!



Year 9 Lino Reduction Prints







Dance Showcase 2024



Term 4 saw the return of the Dance Showcase where this year's theme was based around the concept of 'Time'. With 15 choreographies created, each taking a unique approach to the set theme, the audience were blown away by the talent that QE possesses.

Alongside the dancing, the show was accompanied by the phenomenal talents of the music department. This made for a great interval and even more praise from our audience. A special mention needs to go out to Flo S and Deji O in Year 13 for their dedication and help towards the showcase, with Flo's choreographies being part of her A Level PE coursework grade and Deji O for presenting the show. We wish them the best of luck going forward onto their next adventures.

To all 46 dancers, musicians, lighting, media crew and the dedication from Sixth Form students and staff all across the school, thank you for yet again another amazing showcase at QE. In total QE have raised £683.36 in donations toward 'Together Rising' and 'Cancer Research' charities.





PE News - Term 4 2024

Girls' Football

Heartbreak in Herne Bay!



Saturday 16th March saw the U14 Girls' Kent Cup final v. Newstead Wood, Orpington. The scene was set, our girls were prepared, having had training sessions previously and they were all fired up to be representing QEGS in their new team kit. Lots of people had told us how big the Herne Bay FC pitch is, but until we turned up, we didn't quite realise how big! It was all very 'professional' in the lead up to kick off, with the girls using the dressing rooms, and the starting XI walking out onto the pitch to line up and shake hands with the opposition and match officials. The butterflies were flying around my stomach, so I can only imagine how the girls felt!

And the whistle went, Newstead Wood started pushing hard and after a very rapid breakaway from their forwards, we found ourselves 1-0 behind and chasing, after about 90 seconds. Thankfully, the huge support from the QEGS staffroom and families picked the girls back up and they actually played REALLY good Football. The pure grit and determination of our girls to claw back a goal never wavered - Miou putting in some speedy runs down the wing, Zhana covering every blade of fake 3G grass there was, the entire defence (Isla, Eden, Esmee, Elif, Ottie & Tiff) putting their bodies between the ball and goal, and Adrianna running the show in the midfield, whilst team captain Sophie made some amazing saves - the first half had it all. Unfortunately, it also had another counter attack from Newstead Wood and with full size goals, 2-0 was inevitable.

At half time, Mr Cowlam gathered the troops for a pep talk and the girls in red came out for the second half with fire in their hearts to try their best and score a goal back. Some major tactical changes, masterminded by Mr French saw domination in the midfield by Sophie and Adrianna. In true team spirit, Hazel played in goal for the second half, to allow these tactics to happen and was assertive and strong for the remainder of the game. This second half tactics also saw the midfield (Erin & Freya) and strikers (Emma, Maddie & Lucy) work even harder as we pushed ever closer to their goal.

Unfortunately, it was not meant to be this year - we eventually lost the game 2-0 but I am incredibly proud of the whole squad for the way in which they have played, gelled as a team, worked hard and fought for everything throughout the season.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with this group of players, and although some may be too old to play in this competition next year, I know the Year 8 are very keen to push just as hard next season. I would also like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to all of the players' families for supporting us all, and to Mr French and Mr Cowlam for supporting me and keeping the energy high! Finally, thank you to all colleagues who turned up at the final to cheer us on - I know the girls really appreciated seeing you all there, as did I!

And in other girls' Football news.....we have been busy playing district friendlies this term, as an U13 team (Years 7 & 8 combined). First up was Year 7 v HBHS, where our girls came away victorious 5-3 in a well-fought match. Next up was 11 a-side v The Sittingbourne School. Chiedza & Darcie (Year 8) joined us for this, having been missed out of the Cup run team. Both of them played their socks off and I'm looking forward to them playing in the U14's next season. QEGS won 8-1 with goals from Erin (4), Chiedza (3) and Maddie H.

Last week we also took on Barton Manor in a tough, competitive match. They had some dominating players in the midfield, but with Nia in goal, we were kept reasonably safe! After a solid team performance, we once again came away winners 3-2, with goals from Erin (2) and Maddie H. The final game of the friendly season was against Whitstable School, where the girls won 4-0, with goals from Emma S (3) and Zhana.

I have thoroughly enjoyed this years girls' Football season and seeing the students grow and progress. I am very much looking forward to next year already!

Boys' Rugby



Wow! What a season QE boys Rugby have had! Year 7 were able to field two teams (35 players) in the local Rugby festivals held at QE. Both teams performed incredibly well with stand out performances from Zac and Oswyn.



Year 8 came 2nd in the Swale Shield only beaten on the day by a very physical team from The Howard School. We did, however, beat all other teams that stood in our way including a very tough game against Borden Grammar School. Alex led the team by example, Liam scored the bulk of the tries and Nathaniel ensured the defence remained strong at the breakdown. The team continues to go from strength to strength - well done Year 8!!

Year 9 came second in the Rugby 7s tournament, only being beaten by Beths Grammar School from Bexley. The team adapted very well in hot conditions with everyone playing their part. They also won the Swale Shield! It was an amazing team performance! They dominated all of the other teams in the tournament including the 'mighty' Howard School. They scored 16 tries and only conceded 1, which came in a very tough deciding game against local rivals, The Abbey School. Our Year 9 team played a lovely game, they were secure at the breakdown thanks to the hard work of the forwards and then Oli distributed the ball to Logan, Danny or Leyton to help the team over the try line- brilliant! Well done to all the players - we are very proud of your achievements!

Year 10 are still undefeated at Rugby! Despite this fact they finished 2nd in the Swale Shield due to a drawn game against the eventual winners, The Howard School. The Year 10 team practices harder than any other team in the school and this has shown with the level of skill that they bring to the game. It's hard to single out individuals when the team performs so well together, however, well done to Charles for leading the team so well this season.



Green Group held its first ever QEBay this term.

QEBay was a student-organised and student-led event which involved the sale of second hand clothes, books and revision guides donated by students. The goal behind the event was to promote the idea of sustainable practices through recycling and reusing preloved items. It was a very successful event well supported by students from across the school. In total, £78 was raised which the Green Group will reinvest to support further projects across the school. Green Group are really proud of this event being the first of its kind and we hope to repeat the event for Years 7-9.

Thank you to everyone who supported Green Group by donating items and a very big thank you to those who were there on the day, particularly those who were helping to make sure everything ran smoothly.



Geography Trip to Barcelona 2024

By Sophia F Year 12

Our recent trip to Barcelona was brilliant - it was a lot of hard work but it certainly was worth it! We spent the first day studying the coastline along Sitges, near to where we stayed. This involved creating a beach profile by measuring the angle of the beach, the width and length of the beach and the depth either side of the groynes. Following on from this we took a long walk much further down the coast, away from the sandy beaches, to some pebble beaches where we measured the size of pebbles to investigate the effects of longshore drift. It was very interesting seeing the contrast along a single coastline from pebbles to sand and also looking at the different types of coastal management strategies that are in place.

On the second day we all went into Barcelona to look at the human side of the fieldwork. Barcelona is incredible and we got to see some stunning architecture as we walked through, including Gaudi's Casa Batlló. We went to El Raval and were looking at regeneration projects in the area such as Las Ramblas and the Barcelo Raval Hotel. This was very interesting as we looked at the contrast from the North East and West to the South East and West of the Raval. We collected quantitative data relating to residential and environmental quality as well as qualitative data including mood maps and smell maps.

On the third and fourth days we split and got to choose whether to continue coasts or regeneration. I chose regeneration as I found it interesting seeing the effect of these projects and how much they actually did help to regenerate the area. Our work on these two days was much more individual as we all came up with different questions to investigate relating to the area. We also had a bit more free time on these two days to be tourists, so we went to the Gothic Quarters and saw the cathedral there which was absolutely amazing, as well as going to a rather busy food market - the La Boqueria.

Every evening we had a bit of free time to explore Sitges and have ice cream, and on one of the mornings we even got up early to watch the sunrise on the beach. The church near to where we stayed looked incredible when it was all lit up at night. While it was a tiring trip, it was a great experience and it will remain a highlight of both A level geography and my time at Queen Elizabeth's.





QuEST NEWS

What's been happening in QuEST?

This term has been a busy term in QuEST! The new committee has attended its first conference; we hosted Kent Physics Day and we have also celebrated Science Fortnight.

Tonbridge

An exciting experience and opportunity for QuESTies who took part in the Tonbridge Conference! Despite the letdown of some poster printing confusion, QuESTies weren't deterred and thoroughly enjoyed a day out, with a number of interesting talks given by other students; from the science behind the *Interstellar* film to the maths behind spaghettification, the day offered a wide range of presented research projects. Not only in physics, however this was where my interests lied. Furthermore, professors and world class experts in their fields exposed students to a variety of complex topics in university style lectures. An overall enriching experience for all!

Helena H. Vice President

I found it interesting and was quite an experience to see what others have been doing and was interesting seeing all the professors from Oxford and elsewhere.

Ryan B.

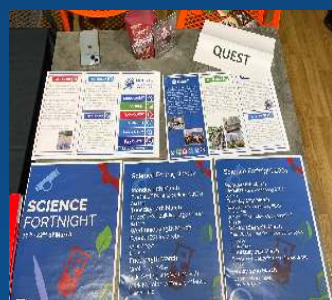
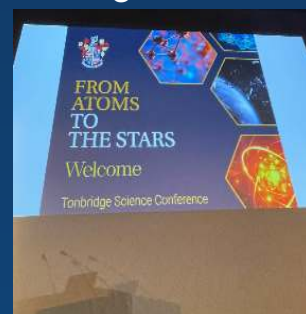
Sophia (QuESident) and I attended the Tonbridge Conference as members of EcoQuEST, and we both found it a great opportunity. We heard from three guest speakers with varying STEM careers and expertise, but I think most importantly, we heard from other students. The other projects ranged from 'fruit flies and sleep deprivation' to the 'science of vaping' and it was a lovely environment of students all open to learning about each other's research.

Emma S. EcoQuEST Co-head

Kent Physics Day

Kent Physics Day was hosted at QE this year on March 9th. This is an event for Physics teachers and technicians in Kent to share ideas and projects. QuEST had a stall where we spoke about the projects we have been working on and presented posters for our Science Fortnight. We had the opportunity to network with other groups where we saw some of the new equipment and the technology they were using, as well as meeting with doctors like Dr Jess Wade from Imperial College in London and hearing about what they have been doing. It was a very successful day with people taking inspiration from us as well as us taking inspiration from them.

Sophia F. President



QuEST



QuEST NEWS

Science Fortnight

Science Fortnight ran from the 11th March to the 22nd. These two weeks were filled with activities, run by QuEST, for the lower school, as well as talks from Mark Moreton about veterinary science and Sonia Jackson from Plastic Free Faversham.

The talk from Plastic Free Faversham was both informative and interactive with a recycling activity. This was a very insightful talk, showing the depth of the plastic issue - with plastic being found in the most remote areas in the world. More plastic was produced in the decade from the year 2000 than there was between 1950-1990. It really showed us how much we need to do as a community, especially when it comes down to recycling, and how much more education is needed about the plastic problem.

Sophia F. President

For Science Fortnight, we also got to hear from Plastic Free Faversham, in which I learnt the implications in recycling plastics, and speaker Miss Jackson kindly visited Eco in the QuEST room to see our projects.

Emma S. EcoQuEST CoHead

Amid the excitement of Science Fortnight, Mark Moreton gave a talk last Friday on all things Veterinary. From the variety of jobs on offer, different routes and pathways into veterinary jobs, which jobs are suitable depending on your particular priorities and some first hand anecdotes, whether inspired by his eye-catchingly gruesome pictures amid surgery or from student and teacher questions during the Q&A. Furthermore, we were given a look into the importance of not only keeping our furry friends healthy but also the importance of keeping owners happy too and maintaining excellent relations! Overall, an excellent opportunity for students looking to apply for Veterinary courses!

Helena H. Vice President



Eco QuEST



We have been testing different variables and how that affects the propagation of aloe vera cuttings. So far we have tested the amount of rooting tip powder applied to the base of the cutting, the amount of time we leave the cutting to callus over before applying the powder and whether the type of potting soil affects rate of growth. Alongside this we've started to propagate jade plant cuttings and are looking to propagate spider plants in the future. This is part of our overall plan to put plants into each room of our school, improving the atmosphere and learning in each classroom.

Charles A-B.



QuEST



QuEST NEWS

Junior STEM



This term the Year 7s have been putting their engineering abilities to the test in an attempt to make the best rocket using only the materials: paper, card, tape, and *Blu Tack*. Having spent the first session together learning to make and fly basic designs, we are now giving them the opportunity to develop their scientific method, through them crafting a variety of rockets, each with different independent variables. Year 7 has shown a lot of excitement in this challenge, experimenting with different masses, what materials they use and planning the angles at which they will fire their rockets, as well as making them look as cool as can be. All this will be judged by how far their rockets go, the teamwork demonstrated, and of course style points for their designs, in order to crown the best rocketeer in Year 7.

Ed B.

This term the Year 8s have continued working on their Bronze Crest Awards. This has seen them getting busy using the sodastream to make their fizzy drinks and watering plants with different types of acid to measure the effects of acid rain. To end the term we had a science week special where the Year 7s joined the Year 8s to take part in the iodine clock practical. This experiment involved mixing five solutions together and then waiting for the mixture to suddenly change colour. We tried using different volumes of some of the solutions to see how this affected the time taken for the solution to change colour and then we tried to get them to change colour in time to a song. While most were successful, we had one unsuccessful mixture that just didn't change colour. All in all everyone enjoyed it and it was a fun change from what both groups have been working on this term.



Sophia F. Head of Junior STEM

RoboQuEST



For Science Fortnight, RoboQuEST hosted a small Lego robotics competition which involved building and coding a robot to complete some tasks. This occurred over the course of two lunch times, with one dedicated to the building, and the other being used for coding before allowing the robot to attempt the course. On the build day, we separated everyone into two teams, which each got one basic robot assigned to them that had been prepared prior to accelerate the building process. From this, the teams were then able to add their own modifications, to construct whatever they believed would give them the best chance. Due to the nature of the competition, attaching to and pulling a truck a short distance, both teams attempted to build a hook - but incorporated widely different designs. At the start of the second day, we introduced both teams to the software they would use to code their robot, before letting them each do some test runs of the course, which was now revealed to them in full. After each team had finalised their code, we gave each robot 3 attempts, from which they would be judged on the best. With points for course completion, robot design and teamwork, the RoboQuEST team was then able to determine a winner.

Wynn H. Head of RoboQuEST



QuEST



QuEST NEWS

BioQuEST 

BioQuEST's Science Fortnight

This term in BioQuEST, we have been focusing on a new area - moss. We visited the nearby stream, collecting moss samples from both there and areas around the school. We then looked closer at these samples under the microscope, trying to identify the different microorganisms that live in them.

We gave KS4 the opportunity to work with us on our moss microscopy project during science week, in a moss safari practical. Moss samples were collected and soaked in water, in order for us to see the microorganisms. It was quite a chase because some of them were really fast! However, we did still manage to spot quite a few - including a 'lemon-shaped one'!

For Science Fortnight's theme of time, we also decided to look into how long it would take plants to grow under the influence of different fertilisers, with KS3. The ones we explored were ground coffee beans (an organic fertiliser) and a synthetic fertiliser (like the ones you can buy at the shops). We added the same amount of each fertiliser to the topsoil of the Mexican Hat Plantlets and after watering them the same amount, we waited a week. The plants are slowly growing and showing some variety in height but we are going to keep tending to them for a couple more weeks to see some better results.

Havva I.
Jemima E. Head of BioQuEST



QuEST



Free Health Simulation Suite Open Event – 9th April

If anyone is looking for a free day out in the school holidays, they can come and join in the family-friendly activities in our state-of-the-art building where we train future health and social care professionals.

We have simulated hospital wards, an operating theatre, nurses' station, a flat to replicate care in the home and amazing manikins that mimic human bodily functions.

We are offering a unique and immersive experience blending fun, education, and hands-on activities for all ages. Perfect for anyone but especially if you have an aspiring future healthcare professional in the family!

- **Don a stethoscope and listen to our manikins breathe! Find a pulse and then make them talk, they even blink their eyes!**
- **Handwashing experiment – using our 'fake germ' lotion and UV light box, let's see how well you can wash your hands and discover where germs lurk.**
- **Meet our skeletons and label them bones!**
- **Escape from our escape room!**
- **Creative zone with quizzes, colouring and make your own eyeball!**

Book your free day through this link:
<https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/events/2024/health-simulation-suite-open-event>



Health Simulation Suite Open Event





QE PTFA School Uniform Recycling Project

The PTFA at QE run a school uniform recycling project where used clothes are donated, sorted and stored.

If parents need uniform for their children, they can

- make an email request to QEGS-UNIFORM@outlook.com
- get in touch through the Facebook page QE Faversham PTFA-Uniform Recycling Project
- Contact the school office, leave your contact details and we will get back to you.
- We have a stall at the summer fete, year 7 open days and transition events.

Suggested Price List for September 2022

Item	Suggested Donation
Blazer	£10
Jumper	£5
Tie	£3
Sports top*	£6
Shorts*	£5
Rugby top	£10
Hoodie *	£8
Old logo hoodie	£4
Training trousers*	£8
Girls leggings*	£8
Holdall	£3
Skirt	£5
Skort	£8
Shirts	£1
*New style kit	

When you get in touch, we aim to have your items with you within a week.
If you qualify for PUPIL PREMIUM, the uniform will be supplied free of charge.
If you would like to donate items, please leave them at the main school office

The uniform store is well stocked, so please get in touch.

Last week the Girls' U19 Water Polo team competed in the English Schools' Swimming Association National water polo plate finals at Marlborough College. They battled through some tough games but unfortunately their hard work was outdone by some much stronger and older teams. However this is the most successful the team has been so far in its third proper season. Girls' Captain Phoebe L is extremely proud of all the hard work that went into last week's tournament with outstanding effort from the whole squad who just kept powering through every difficult game - indeed this was noted by one of the referees who came to praise the team after their last game. This is the first time of many of our players have played at this high competitive level and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Thank you to Dr Perkins for giving up your time and committing and believing in every single one of us and to Mrs Woods and Ms Humpage who both gave up their time to assist us too.



REMINDER - all Chromebooks must be kept in their protective case for insurance purposes. Please also ensure the device is fully charged each day.

2023-2024

Term 1
Staff Development Day – Monday 4th September

Tuesday 5th September (Year 7)

Wednesday 6th September (all Years) to Friday 20th October

Term 2
Monday 30th October to Friday 15th December

Term 3
Tuesday 2nd January to Friday 9th February

Term 4
Monday 19th February to Thursday 28th March

Term 5
Monday 15th April to Friday 24th May
Bank Holiday – Monday 6th May

Term 6
Monday 3rd June to Friday 19th July

2024-2025

Term 1
Staff Development Day – Monday 2nd September

Tuesday 3rd September (Year 7)

Wednesday 4th September (all Years) to Friday 25th October

Term 2
Monday 4th November to Friday 20th December

Term 3
Monday 6th January to Thursday 13th February

Term 4
Monday 24th February to Friday 4th April

Term 5
Tuesday 22nd April to Friday 23rd May
Bank Holiday – Monday 5th May

Term 6
Monday 2nd June to Friday 18th July