

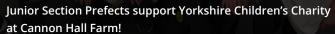


# **E-BULLETIN**

From Junior Section to Sixth Form, keeping you up to date with everything at QEGS.

## Inside this issue...







We look back at an action packed summer of Senior Section trips...





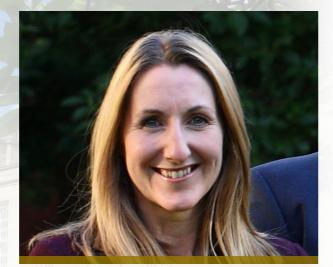
## Welcome from our Assistant Headteacher

here is no doubt that this has been a tumultuous beginning to the school term with some real highs and lows. What a relief it was, initially, to a September return with no mention of the dreaded C word: no bubbles, no home learning, no testing, and no isolation periods. For the first time in two long years, there was a real sense of normality and how the school community welcomed it!

There has been a sense of purpose across both the senior and junior sections over the last two weeks; boys have returned raring to go and as I have been in and out of lessons, and walking through the corridors, the atmosphere feels vibrant.

So the highs - boys have returned from the summer holiday looking refreshed. Many of them went on school trips ranging from Angling in Powys, Musicians in Jersey, DofE expeditions and Watersports in Spain. There are lots of incredibly smart boys in both the junior and senior sections, some amazing sixth form suits, a new catering company, Holroyd Howe, working with our catering team who are producing food which really is restaurant quality. The dining area has had a makeover and there is such a buzz as boys select from a range of hot dinners, sandwiches, fresh soup and a salad bar. The menus are all on the website and we encourage parents to have a look at what is on offer during the week. We have a new cohort of students into each of the sections along with boys that have joined in other year groups and we extend a very warm welcome to them and to you, their parents.

But of course, there have been lows as well; as a school that was founded in 1591 in the first Elizabethan age, we cannot fail to have been deeply saddened by the death of Her Majesty, the Queen. This has had an impact on a number of events that would have taken place during the ten days of national mourning.



We do not make decisions of this magnitude lightly, and as a team, one of our guiding principles is to do what we believe to be the right thing. In that vein, both our Y7 residential and Y14' prize giving events have been postponed and of course, the school will close on Monday for the funeral.

But, despite these events, our priority in these first two weeks has been to get all the boys settled and engaged with learning; we have packed a lot in with induction activities, buddy breakfasts, UCAS evenings, and the first session of QED which is always a feat of incredible engineering! The QEGS Xtra curricular programme will soon be launched and there is a packed programme of House events waiting to begin - something there for everyone to get involved in. I very much hope that the students - and staff - have enjoyed their return, that they are ready to grab all the opportunities that come with being a member of QEGS and are as proud to belong to this community as I am.

Mrs C Palin - Assistant Headteacher Freeston



Look out for our upcoming special commemorative edition of the E-Bulletin in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

# **Meet our new Director of Finance and Operations**

I am excited to be joining WGSF as its next Director of Finance and Operations. I'd like to start by thanking Laurence Perry for his guidance during our handover and for his dedication to the Foundation over the past 17 years.





I grew up in Newcastle and moved to Sheffield for a law degree at the University. I met my husband Simon in Sheffield, and have lived there since. I have two boys, Tom and Jack, who are now both at University. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first few weeks at the Foundation. Many people have talked about the Foundation as a family and that has been very evident. I feel very fortunate to have been welcomed so openly and warmly and look forward to getting to know you all.

# Meet our new Catering Manager

John Kirwan has been appointed by our new catering company, Holroyd Howe, as the Foundation's Catering Manager. John will be the main point of contact between Holroyd Howe and the Foundation. John has worked in catering for over 27 years, beginning his career as a Trainee Chef before moving into various roles as a Head Chef. For the last 13 years, John has been involved in Catering



Management. John has worked in contract catering most of his career and joins the Foundation from the Royal Armouries in Leeds, where he was Head of Operations.

"The shared vision for myself and Holroyd Howe is to provide pupil catering across the Foundation and introduce a range of healthy and nutritional foods that look and taste fantastic. It is our aim to ensure that we have a service culture that is warm and friendly which encourages students to enjoy their meals. It is important that during lunchtimes we are supporting pupils to make new positive memories of their experience throughout their learning years.

We are committed to engaging with the student councils for each year group and will work in partnership with them to develop the food offer over the coming months and years."

## Junior Section News

elcome back to a new year at QEGS - we have only been back a few days but there is already a great deal going on.

The Junior Section Curriculum Evening took place on Wednesday and we were very grateful for the large number of parents who attended to hear about recent curriculum developments. If you were unable to attend the evening, the presentations will be available on Firefly very soon and we will recommend the page to all JS parents.

Earlier in the day on Wednesday, the JS Prefects were at Cannon Hall to support Yorkshire Children's Charity at one of their important 'Schools Out' events, creating special experiences for local children. Needless to say, the boys were outstanding ambassadors for the school and we were very proud of the way they conducted themselves. They also had the opportunity to explore Cannon Hall Farm as a reward for their hard work!

The new term brings many new things and one of these, the new dining experience, has been a real hit with the Junior boys. There is a wide range of wonderfully presented food on offer and the boys are revelling in the choices available. Here are a few quotes from the Junior boys:

"The food is really good - there is a vast choice of what you can eat."

"The noodles were lovely and the meat was really tasty."

"It's great that we get to help ourselves to salads, sides and fruit."

With a greater choice comes a greater number of decisions to be made so please do look through the weekly menus with your son to help him choose his meals.

The menus are available on the school website: <a href="https://wgsf.org.uk/qegs/school-day-dining/">https://wgsf.org.uk/qegs/school-day-dining/</a>





The new term has also brought new staff to QEGS Junior Section.

**Dan Hodson** has joined us as a Year 5 Form Teacher after initially meeting boys and parents on our New Parents' Evening and Transition Day last term. He attended QEGS as a pupil and is delighted to be back at the school 'on the other side of the desk'. Dan has taught in local primary schools for a number of years and is keen to contribute to the co-curricular life of the school. He loves sport, rugby in particular, and has played for Sandal every season for the last 27 years. He supports Wakefield Trinity and hopes that one day he might see them win a trophy (something which has eluded him so far in his many years as a spectator). Dan also has a cockapoo called Hugo who keeps him on his toes with his boundless energy.

**Hollie Smith** joins us as an After School Care Assistant in the Junior Section where she will support the boys and facilitate a range of activities. Hollie's background is working in nurseries and as a child-minder, and she has already made a very positive impression on the boys in Owls.

**Rebecca Stead** will be joining us from 3 October as a Teaching Assistant and After School Care Manager in the Junior Section. Rebecca has previously worked as a Deputy Manager at a local Nursery and is keen on continuing the excellent work of **Liz O'Malley** who has kindly agreed to continue as After School Care Manager for the interim period, after officially stepping-down at the end of last term.

I would also like to announce that Mrs Shackleton will be retiring at the end of this month after 13 years of service to QEGS. Mrs Shackleton plays a huge role within the Junior Section and will be greatly missed by all of us, not least by the hundreds of boys who visit her throughout the week to ask questions, deliver messages and get patched up after a tumble on the playground. Personally, I would like to extend my thanks to Mrs Shackleton for all of the help and support she has given me over the years, especially over the last 18 months as I began in my position as Director of Junior Section. We wish her all the very best for the future and look forward to giving her a good send off at the end of the month.



Mr R Thompson - Cave **Director of Junior Section** 

OPENDAY
OPENS MINDS AND
OPENS DOORS

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# Save the Date Topen Morning - Saturday 1st October

It is our Foundation Open Morning on Saturday 1 October, 9.00am – 1.00pm, and we will be inviting a number of our pupils in Year 3, 4 and 5 to come into school and support with activities on the day. Boys in Year 6 are encouraged to attend the Senior Section Open Morning activities. Further details will follow soon but please do make every effort for your son to attend if he is requested for a particular activity.

If your son does not receive a letter but would very much like to come into school to support on the Open Morning, please contact the school office and we will get back to you, although we cannot guarantee in which activity your son will be involved.

We very much appreciate your support on this important day for the school.



We are hosting our Macmillan Coffee Afternoon from 2.00 - 4:30 pm on Wednesday 21st September – this will take place in the JS Hall and on the Lawn (weather permitting). All parents from both Junior and Senior Sections and any friends or relatives who wish to attend are more than welcome. Junior Section boys, it would be most appreciated if you could bring along a cake donation – you could either 'bake or fake' a cake or buns for this very worthy afternoon. Please bring these into school on either Tuesday 20th September or on the morning of the 21st September. There will also be a 'nearly new' uniform and QEGS merchandise sale at this event. Thank you in anticipation.







#### PTA

## **Junior Section Housepoints**

#### JS House Point totals for this week

1st	Savile - 145
2nd	Freeston - 138
3rd	Bentley - 130
4th	Cave - 109

#### Most House Points achieved in the Year group this week

Year 3	Joel Dube	
Year 4	Cameron Newsam	
Year 5	Eisa Mohmed	
Year 6	Fraser Roebuck	





At the end of the summer term, we were incredibly pleased to welcome Adam Cunis as our guest at the Year 6 Play: Macbeth the Musical. Adam enjoyed the show and very kindly wrote a review of the performance.

## **Macbeth the Musical** A review by Old Sav, Adam Cunis



'Fair is foul, and foul is fair: Hover through the fog and filthy air.'

Macbeth (the Musical), Act 1 Scene 1, A desert place (The Q.E. Hall.)

Thunder and lightning. Enter three Witches.

Oh hang on. Enter three witches and then another ten witches? I know James 1st was keen, he even wrote a book about them, but Mr Cheffins must really think witches are cool. Witches and... ROCK!



When I first heard about the Year 6 2022 Summer production I knew I had to witness it. One train booked from London, a few months later and I was sitting in the front row of a familiar room, familiar but different; I know this story, I know it very well. But not like this. I was promised a Rock Opera and it was well and truly delivered (NB: title changed to Macbeth 'the Musical' perhaps to encourage ticket sales). A tale of 'vaunting ambition,' secrecy, lies and bloody (watch your language) murder. Perfect for a bunch of school children then!

In my professional experience of Shakespeare it's very easy for the audience to lose track of what's going on, get bored and ultimately go home/ to the pub at the interval. We often view Shakespeare as stuffy, old fashioned and (dare I say it? With apologies to the English department)... boring.



That's because actors, directors and theatre makers have been getting it wrong.

Shakespeare is all about the audience. He might use fancy words but he's here to help:

'No, this my hand will rather The multitudinous seas in incarnadine, Making the green one red.'

Making the green one red. He's there, immediately, explaining his complicated language. What does incarnadine mean? Red. How do we know? He tells us. And that's exactly what Year 6, ably supported by Messers Cheffins and Renshaw, did!



Firstly, the text; I was delighted to discover that huge swathes of it remained unaltered. Unaltered and beautifully, naturally delivered, rippling with nuance and understanding. The boys made stirling use of their skills. Facial expression, body language, tone of voice, pace shifts and an understanding of the rhythm and meter of the words that several professional actors I know would be rightly envious of.

The secondary text was equally well conceived and delivered. Our modern receipt of Shakespeare assumes a fixed nature of his words. Well, The Tragedie of Macbeth was first performed in 1606, early in the reign of James I, and they couldn't even spell tragedy right. Not only that but it wasn't properly published until 1623 as part of the first folio, some 8 years after Shakespeare died, remembered by actors, who may not even have been in the original show! It is therefore essential to update, edit and alter the words of the play to suit our current audience and current times. Mr Cheffins' words wove in and around those of Mr Shakespeare, irreverent but always respectful.

Clarifying and gently making fun of England's most famous writer.

Particular highlights for me were the censorship of language like 'Bloody', 'bosom,' etc by Malcolm, here a prudish and fourth wall obliterating Luke Gallagher. His performance reminded me in part of Hugh Laurie in Blackadder the Third and in part was very Carry On (boys, don't watch this for at very least 5 years please).



The introduction of characters to a 400 year old play may be surprising to some but the addition of the cleaner and general house staff (castle staff?) at the Macbeth's place was very well observed. The idea of an exasperated cleaner in a castle steeped in blood had me and those around me in stitches of laughter and fits of applause. Alastair Helm reminded me of various Monty Python characters, and the outfit was perfect, indeed in my own storytelling version of Macbeth I include a cleaner.



The music was great fun. QEGS has a great tradition of rock music in general and classic rock in particular, a genre too old for me and my classmates but nonetheless something we inherited shortly after stepping into those shorts and getting put into our houses 20+ years ago.

Clearly Mr Renshaw and Mr Cheffins had an extreme amount of fun putting this together and it really paid off.



From 'Blood soaked dagger' (to the tune of all time classic 'Cat Scratch Fever') to 'Crazy Horses,' during which the MD donned a particularly frightening rubber mask, the music and the rewritten lyrics injected such pace and energy that any concerns about an audience holding interest in a story from 1057 were completely forgotten. This was Macbeth, but it was Macbeth you could jump up and down to, air guitar to, sing along to.

The music also underscored much of the violence and action sequences. Head banging witches (making sense of there being so many of them, it's so important in these times of crisis to keep local wig making business in profit), red flooded lights, kitchen utensils strewn liberally around.

It may sound as if this was all a bit mad, and it was, but it must be stated clearly that this production was always riding the wave, bringing the audience with it, contrasting high energy with really moving emotional depth and stillness. Ethan Langstaff and Aurav Vinta were superb as Macbeth and his Lady respectively. Ethan gave guilt ridden regret and over commitment to his damned cause whilst Aurav was chillingly evil. I'm always sad we don't see more of Lady Macbeth in the text. 'She should have died hereafter; There would have been a time for such a word.'

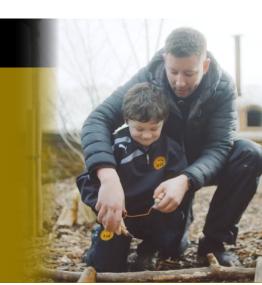


A successful production gives you tears, laughter, a racing heart and a rousing dance. Macbeth the Musical gave all this and more. Between the Witches, the murderers, the Lords and Thanes, the story was in safe hands, confident and collaborative this was a company production nonpareil. Boys and staff should be incredibly proud of the work they put in, your audiences adored you. I'm still thinking about the play 3 weeks on as I finally find time to write this review. I'm sure that you will remember this show for years to come, I certainly vividly remember Joseph from 2000. I hope you remember the camaraderie and the joy. That's what Shakespeare (and Mr Cheffins and Mr Renshaw) can do for you. If anyone says to you 'Shakespeare's boring isn't he?' You can gleefully tell them 'no,' and start tapping a beat...

## **Upcoming Forest School/OAA Education Dates**

Please see below the dates for your son's first Forest School and Outdoor Adventurous Activities sessions. All dates will be published on the JS Calendar.

Forest School Y3/Y4	OAA Y5/6	
14th Sept - 3P	12th Sept - 5D	
21st Sept - 4D	26th Sept - 5H	
28th Sept - 3R	3rd Oct - 6R	
3rd Oct - 4C	17th Oct - 6C	
	14th Nov - 6K	



## **Key Dates**

20 Sept	Y3-Y6 Parents' Evening	1 Oct	Open Morning
21 Sept	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon	4 - 7 Oct	Y5 Residential to Plas-y-Brenin
26 Sept	Class, individual and sibling	12 - 14 Oct	JS Book Fair
·	photos (further details to follow)	15 Oct	Harrison Cup Rugby
28 - 30 Sept	Y4 Residential to National Forest  Non-uniform day	18 Oct	JS Harvest Festival Assembly
30 Sept	Non-uniform day	21 Oct	JS Charity Day

YOU'LL LIKE THE WAY OUR

# OPEN DAY OPENS MINDS AND OPENS DOORS

SATURDAY 1ST OCTOBER, 9AM - 1.30PM



## House Matters









The first through-school incarnation of the House system started life much bigger and better than I think anyone could have anticipated. The immediate enthusiasm that was evident from both staff and boys was amazing.

From the initial start of a fiercely and blood-drawing encounter between the staff rounders teams to the huge roars that were witnessed during sports day, everyone was very quickly behind their House colours and cheered on their team. Whether that be winning and scoring maximum points or be it just to complete, participate and pick up a solitary point, they all mattered and brought about the crowning of Mr Affleck and his Cave team as the inaugural winners of the 'Calvert Cup' - The trophy that was generously donated by Toby Calvert, House Captain of Savile.



Again, however it was really nice to see that everyone was able to get a small piece of the victory celebrations - Bentley won the Senior Section, Freeston won the Junior Section and Savile convincingly won sports day. This year though we are going bigger and better and aim to be even more organised with more events, more participation, more competition and importantly more fun than last year saw.

The aim this year is to have a full calendar of events publicised over the coming weeks so that we can all see what is happening through the year - we will have the bi-weekly quizzes again, lots of sport and repeats of the very popular events from last year such as Masterchef, in addition to linking with the new QEGS Xtra programme being launched by Mr Archer. This will allow us to have access to more clubs and societies and really make the House system truly embedded in everything we do.





To that end we aim to have the new Firefly pages fully up and running together with all of the information and dates for many competitions and challenges available by the end of September. Mr Affleck is going to hold a special celebration assembly to go through his thoughts and memories of last year on 22nd September and at the end of which we will distribute new ties to the incoming House Captains for this year - alongside the various scholarship ties we usually do.

Congratulations to them all for their appointments. Here's to a good year --- good luck and let the games commence.....

	Bentley	Cave	Freeston	Savile
Y13 Head of House	Ben Goodman	Max Gallagher	Will Sharp	Charlie Fisher
Y13 Deputy Head of House	William Thomas	Aaron Moorby	Max Shelton	John Parker
Y12 Assistant Head of House	Will Fyfe	Janik Peeters	Aditya Krishnan	Esa Butt
Y12 Assistant Head of House	Timothy Spawforth	Arthur Broadbent	Will Heath	Will Almond
Y11 House Captain	Louis Price	Chester Lomas	Oscar Smith	Morgan Bennett
Y11 House Vice Captain	Harrison Vincent	Harvey Bolton	Michael Dube	Ahmed Hassanein
Y10 House Captain	Jack Ilsely	Billy Child	Charlie Newton	Christopher Barnett
Y10 House Vice Captain	Oscar Smith	Joseph Groves	Oliver Bostwick	Daniel Akintolu
Y9 House Captain	Aston Ineson	Ihan Ha	Buba Sanyang	Ayan Sinha
Y9 House Vice Captain	Prince-Michael Ovie	Tom Gains	Shalom Fabiyi	Haroon Choudhary
Y8 House Captain	Will Priest	Harry Boswell	Sebastian Patel	Zach Williamson
Y8 House Vice Captain	Krish Daru	Theo Lewis	Max Barron	Arthur Young
Y7 House Captain - winter	Ethan Langstaff	Luke Gallagher	Oliver Parker	Thomas Wood
Y7 House Vice Captain - winter	Zac Hildyard	Sebastian Sprenger	Ayo Fasae	Teshomi Kayode
Y6 House Captain winter/spring	ТВС	ТВС	TBC	TBC
Y6 House Vice Captain winter/spring	TBC	TBC	ТВС	TBC

# **Senior Section News**

EGS staff welcomed the Y7 pupils back on Wednesday 7th September. The pupils were excited and naturally a little bit nervous to get to know their new teachers. They started the day by taking part in some ice breaker activities followed by the 'Passport to QEGS' which takes the boys on a scavenger hunt around the senior school site. It allows the pupils to discover some of their classrooms, where the school nurse is based, where lunch is eaten and much more. The boys worked well in their groups to collect all the answers.

The pupils then got straight into their academic lessons followed by a hearty lunch provided by our new catering team 'Holroyd Howe'. Our Y13 prefects were on hand to help navigate the boys around school and after lunch they were taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hall to take part in their first House Quiz. The boys enjoyed working in their houses and with boys that were not just in their form. The overall winners of the Y7 quiz event were 'Cave'.

I was impressed the boys made it to their period 5 and 6 lessons on time and their confident approach. There were lots of smiles as the boys left the school site with one boy saying "I have had a fantastic day!" Overall a promising start to the year!

Mrs S Roberts - Cave **Head of Year 7** 





Academic Year 2022-23 brings the return of the world famous QEGS Buddy Breakfast! This is an initiative which has been used for many years where the new pupils in Year 7 are appointed and 'buddied' with a Year 8 pupil.

Mrs. Roberts (Head of Year 7) delivered an assembly to the pupils outlining how the buddy system works. It is essentially a mentor who can assist and be a friendly face for the Year 7 pupils as they embark on their journey in the senior section. They met this week with their buddy to get to know each other over a breakfast sandwich. The Year 7 pupils were encouraged to find out 3 things they didn't already know about school. We then plan to have one event a term where they will meet up and check in on each other's progress.

The Year 8 pupils will be committed to their role as a mentor and we have found many friendships have blossomed through this process.

We will keep you posted on future events and get some insight from the pupils on their experiences in both Year 7 and 8.

Mr C Head - Freeston Head of Year 8







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# The Watersports Trip to Spain

The 20th August kicked off the most bizarre, stressful and changeable 24 hours of any trip I've had the privilege to run. It saw our group turning up at the airport to be eventually told that, despite our booking being on the system, everyone being present and knowing where on the plane they were meant to sit, they could not be checked in and board their flight - which left only half full. After exploring all options, coming up empty handed, and telling parents the trip was cancelled, we then got home to find a flight had been created for us! This led to a late night scramble to resurrect the trip.

It was with some trepidation that we arrived back at terminal 3 in Manchester Airport on the Sunday morning to see what fate had in store for us. Thankfully, due to a lot of behind the scenes work our journey through the airport went off without a hitch and we boarded a bump flight through the Pyrenean storms to arrive in Barcelona 24 hours late, tired but delighted that the boys were going to get the trip they had spent over a year looking forward to.

Cala Llevado is an ideal base for a trip; self contained accommodation on the edge of a pine forest that leads down to the blue waters of the Mediterranean. A crystal clear pool that would put a high class hotel to shame and baking heat under cloudless skies. After the trials of the journey out, the group enjoyed a day that started with an early morning walk to the beach, various games around the pool and an afternoon walk into and around Tossa de Mar.





We were then into the activities proper; a day on the beach where the boys (and staff) enjoyed banana boating and paddle boarding, interspersed with swimming and sunbathing alongside the locals.



Lloret de Mar aqua park was once again the highlight of the trip, a day in the sun with your friends will never fail to be a great experience and it didn't disappoint with the foolhardy braving thrilling freefall waterfall slides such as Speed Furious and Hurricanes.

A second beach day where boys got to snorkel from kayaks ahead of a final evening session around the pool with the chance to try our scuba diving alongside the obligatory games of football and basketball on the centre courts.





A far less eventful flight back from Barcelona, the highlight of which was bumping into Olympic medal winning boxer Amir Khan on his way home after his holiday, saw us safely back to Manchester and home for a final week of the holidays ahead of the return to school.

My thanks go out to my colleagues for their fortitude at the airport and efforts with the boys during the week, as well as parents for their infinite patience with the start of the trip. Most of all I would like to thank the boys for their steadfast cheeriness and exemplary conduct that reflected so well on them and the school during their time away in Spain.

#### **Andrew Pesterfield - Freeston**



Thankfully, after a two year absence due to covid, the Summer Fishing Trip was able to return to Westlake.

After filling the van with tents, tackle and a full kitchen suite, we set off on our journey to Wales. When we arrived, the first task was to erect the tents and set up the campsite in an orderly fashion. After a signature Palin dinner, the boys took to the lake to fish. Expectations were high given the training we had put in during the QED Angling sessions. Mr Palin had set the standard with a specimen carp around the 20lbs mark.



However, the Year 7 QED anglers showed that they were learning quickly and if they continue to show interest next year, I am confident we can find a place on the 2023 Fishing Trip...





Back to the Fishing Trip 2022.

Plenty of silver fish were caught during that first session on the main lake but the high hopes of record breaking carp were not fulfilled on that first evening.

After our first night in the Welsh wilderness, we were greeted by a hearty breakfast feast as well as a feeding frenzy from the local buzzards and red kites; the local farmer had just finished cutting the hay in the next field - mice and voles were on the menu. To read more about the Fishing Trip you will need to wait for the Savilian Magazine!

Mr D Benn - Cave





## Jersey Music Tour

Mid-morning on Tuesday, 5th July, members of the WGSF Brass Band and String Quartet departed for Leeds Bradford Airport on the first post-Covid music tour. Despite some getting separated from luggage and being dropped off at several different locations around the airport, we eventually regrouped and departed for Jersey.

The flight was short, the landing somewhat bumpy, but we did arrive more or less on time and we made our way to Chateau Vermont on a couple of small Jersey buses (the buses have to be small in order to negotiate the narrow roads). By student accommodation standards, our rooms were excellent and we were given access to most of the Jersey Academy of Music building. We had a quick rehearsal and after tea made our way to a local playing field for a game of rounders and football. It was great to be able to just chill out and chat late into the evening.

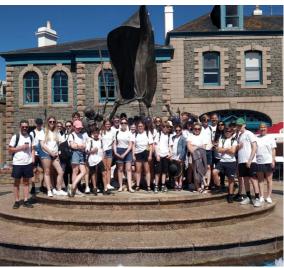
We were rudely awoken on Wednesday morning by early morning fanfare played by Mr Stig. Little did we know that this was to become a regular occurrence for the rest of the trip!

After a quick breakfast we got stuck into a long rehearsal, getting the concert pieces up to the required standard for performance. We then travelled to St. Brelade's Bay on the coach. Our afternoon involved sitting on the beach, playing cricket and swimming in the clear Jersey waters. We made our way back to Chateau for tea and had an outdoor ceilidh practice! The rest of the evening was really relaxed.

On Thursday, we were awoken to the sounds of another fanfare, this time played by Mrs Bentham. After breakfast we had another rehearsal before departing for Mont Orgueil Castle. The view from the top of the castle was stunning and we could see well into the distance towards France (some phones were registering with French networks!). After lunch in the castle we set up our first concert in a very windswept part of the castle grounds. The band and string quartet alternated performances in front of a small, but appreciative audience, including another visiting school. It was hard work playing in the bright sunshine, but the band and quartet sounded great. After the concert we walked down to Gorey Pier and had relaxation time on the beach eating ice creams and chips, courtesy of Mrs Bentham. Back at the Chateau we sampled some Jersey food and had a first attempt at a real ceilidh, led by the flamboyant Miss Batra.

The early morning fanfare on Friday was provided by Mr Lewis. After breakfast we had our final rehearsal, followed by a visit to the town of St Helier for some souvenir shopping. We walked to the Howard Davis Bandstand, set up, rehearsed and ate lunch before performing our second concert to another select audience. rehearsed and ate lunch before performing our second concert to another select audience. The bandstand was shaped like a cave, which allowed for great acoustics and the sound spread throughout the park with ease. Our soloists Davey, James, Eleanor and Leina played with real gusto!









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We changed clothes and made our way towards another beach, this time setting up camp on 'The Lido'. Everyone lathered up in sun cream and jumped in. We then walked back to Howard Davis Park for more ice cream and played cricket. Back at the Chateau, after our final evening meal of pizza and brownies, we had a very chaotic ceilidh and quiz, whilst Mia Sedgwick and Mrs Bentham enjoyed a late night trip to A & E!

Our Saturday fanfare was an interesting experience and played in three different keys all the same time. A trip to the zoo rounded off our tour before we departed for the airport. Many thanks to:

The music staff for taking us, Chateau Vermont for hosting us, and the PTA for providing the funds to purchase tour T-shirts.

Mr Lewis (Freeston) and Charlotte McKinlay

# Changes to Individual Music Lessons at School

At the start of this term, the music departments across the Foundation began trialling a new system for organising individual music lessons. The hope is that this will improve communication between all parties - learners, parents, VIMs and Heads of Music. If your son has instrumental lessons in school, you will have received an email from Practice Pal asking you to sign up for an account. When you have set up your account, you will see an individual code which can be used to set up an account in an app on his own device (if you choose). You will then receive notifications of lesson times and eventually weekly feedback from your son's teacher via the account.





I come from Newcastle and, like most Geordies, I am passionate about football. I have been teaching Mathematics and Economics for the last 15 years and have held a number of pastoral positions throughout this period. I absolutely love my profession and can think of no better purpose than supporting young people as they strive to fulfill their potential.

Outside of work I have a range of hobbies which include playing football, skiing, playing the piano and cooking (ideally on a barbecue with a cold beer). I have 2 young children who constantly keep me on my toes and a young Labrador named Otis who ensures I always get my daily steps in.

I am incredibly excited about joining the QEGS community and look forward to the vast array of experiences which will undoubtedly come my way.

Mr J Omran - Maths Teacher



Hi! I'm Mr Ellard and I'm the new Head of Classics here at QEGS in Wakefield. Having gone to Newcastle University to read Classics, specialising in Plato's philosophy and the role that music played in it, started my teaching career in the South East, where I grew up, but saw sense and have landed in Yorkshire! I'm a big cricket fan, whether it be watching at Headingley or playing casually on a weekend. I also enjoy going to watch live music, particularly in the Jazz and Folk scene, and hope to be able to get involved where I can. When I'm not reading fiction set in the ancient world, I'm a big fan of Sci-Fi, particularly Terry Pratchett, Ursula Le Guinn, and Frank Herbert's 'Dune'. I'm a big believer that everyone has something to learn from the Classical world, whether it is simply the interesting stories that used to be (and in many ways still are) told, or the deeper natures of civilizations that came before us and the lessons we can learn.

I'm very excited to be working here at QEGS, and can't wait to get more involved with such a wonderful community!

After spending many happy holidays in Yorkshire, my family and I took the decision to relocate here, from the coastline of the south, in the summer and are thoroughly enjoying it so far.

I have been an English teacher for many years and held a variety of roles in schools, including Head of Department, Head of 6th Form and Assistant Headteacher, all of which I have enjoyed immensely but my favourite place in school has always been in my classroom working

Outside of school I like nothing better than being outside and exploring the great outdoors, particularly with my dog, Hamish - who just happens to love it as much as me! We have spent many holidays walking the moors and dales of Yorkshire and, as a family, are loving it now being a part of our everyday life. My two young sons are especially enjoying our adventures in the countryside and keeping our weekends

action packed. When I have some free time I love to bake and read, and often find myself wistfully dreaming of being a Booker Prize novelist! Perhaps the moors of Yorkshire will provide me with the inspiration needed to grab a pen and write the next timeless classic...

Mr M Ellard - Head of Classics



Mrs S Donald - Learning Support Teacher

## **Reading in Form Time**

Last year, we celebrated World Book Day with an array of activities, competitions and performances. It was a highlight of our year and saw us welcome a new addition to the QEGS family. Their name was ERIQ. ERIQ, also known as Everyone Reading In QEGS, immediately became very popular amongst staff and students.

Why was he quite so popular, you might ask?

Dago 10

ERIQ showed our boys, or simply reminded them of, the joys of reading. He provided them with a calm and focused environment in which they could enjoy and explore the stories and worlds laid out before them on paper. Not quite satisfied with his short tenure here, he has returned and would like to stay.

So, why does he want to join our school on a permanent basis?

ERIQ would like to further promote reading for pleasure and begin to shift the reading habits of his peers. He is acutely aware of how intrinsically linked the act of reading regularly is to success in all subjects.

With this in mind, we have incorporated reading into boys' weekly routine. Each week, there will be a dedicated morning with his form tutor, during which they will be expected to read a book they have brought in from home.

Watch this space for updates on ERIQ's endeavours.

Mr B Konopinski - Freeston Head of Modern Foreign Languages and Literacy Lead





# In My Own Words... A Review of





Maisie loves running following the most devastating event that happens as she is running one morning, a tree after being struck by lightning crashes on her face, and resulting in burns that kill the tissue in her cheeks, nose, and chin. Maisie is described as a pretty athlete but now she thinks of herself as nothing more than faceless as all she contemplates is how others would react - such as Chirag. Luckily (although Maisie won't understand how lucky she is to qualify because lucky girls don't get their faces burned off), Maisie qualifies for a face transplant rather than skin grafting surgery that may not work. The recovery was harder than it seemed: she has to deal with the physical healing of her body, but she also has to take about twenty pills three times a day and go back to school, where everyone remembers how looked before the accident. Asking herself...is it all worth it?

Sixteen-year-old Maisie follows a journey of recovering herself physically and mentally due to her face being destroyed in an electrical fire which she thinks has made her lose herself as she is in the process of being like her donor.

Through reading this book I learnt many different scientific jargon words such as psychiatric, prosthetics, physiotherapy, immunosuppressive, craniofacial specialist, immunologist, microsurgery, anaesthesia and prophylactic.

Made me realise how much people are affected by things such as these, something which doesn't just help them survive physically but mentally makes them stronger.

Many of the aspects of Maisie's life are not something which she just discovered but also made me think wider about this book and realise what she is realising.

With a world of Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat and Tinder depicting a world only of happiness and beauty, everyone needs to read and understand the real meaning of beauty and what life is actually about. Especially after a pandemic which has changed everyone mentally and physically, not only is it important to speak up about these problems but it is important to come to the realisation that perfect/ beautiful/ normal is different for everybody. This is what Maisie has to experience as she joins a group of people who have had similar people which allows Maisie to understand herself better - going on an adventure of self-discovery. While she has to come into her own and have her independence for herself, especially with the divorce of parents at the end of the book, ultimately moving from her past self and acknowledging she is now different from all the experiences she has been through, Everyone has their own beauty and assuming how people feel from how they look can give a significant mental impact on them.

Being a coming of age and with all the peer pressure and other effects this stage in our life has on us Maisie realises that 'you have to learn to love yourself before you can love someone else. Because it's only when we love ourselves that we feel worthy of someone else's love' which puts into perspective that we should be grateful for what we have. She also learns the meaning of luck and how fortunate she is to have succeeded in the surgery allowing us to learn with her as she matures.

Change isn't easy but we can get through it eventually.

People would enjoy this book because of curiosity due to its unusual subject matter. Although, this interpretation follows Maisie is surrounded by her family and friends such as Chirag (her boyfriend) and Serena (best friend) but the most ethical and personally best aspect of the book is how comprehensively it explores Maisie's feelings and emotions as she adapts to her new face along with the implications of medication (etc). It's impossible for any of us to imagine what a cataclysm like that would actually be like, but the author gives us a chance to hit a little closer to the truth than we might otherwise need.

Faceless has very little action and drama although with a very strong emotional impact as she finds herself once again in the world of hidden beauty - the pace of the book is gradual, just like her recovery similar to how the fog (depicted throughout many scenes of the book) is a form of pathetic fallacy shows the uncertainty of the future as you can't see the other side.

The open-ended closing of this novel is one of my favourite things. Maisie is a character with lots of charisma due to her strength from getting back down when fallen - through regaining her sense of passion and possibility for change - being a very important characteristic. For so long after leaving the hospital she challenged herself whether her presence was something she was committed to. The novel closes with the realisation that she will still be herself even if she is still with or without the same people and relationships she was before the accident. A slow-paced but rewarding read.

My rating for this book





Click or tap the image to read Ayan's collection of Summer Reading Challenge book reviews!











Before we broke up for the summer, the Art and DT department held an exhibition of the work of our GCSE and A-Level Art and DT students, and our GCSE Photography students. There was a short announcement about the exhibition in a previous bulletin, but we were not in a position to share images of the wonderful work that our boys had done. In this bulletin, we are delighted to be able to present some of the exceptional outcomes that our highly talented students produced, and which paved the way for one of the departments' most successful set of results ever. We are incredibly proud of our boys' achievements, and would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents and carers out there who offered us their support over the last two years. The boys really did us, you and themselves proud!









## **ARTiculation**





I have recently completed the application for our school to enter the esteemed ARTiculation competition, 2023. The competition is a public speaking initiative. Students complete internal heats within schools, and then compete at a regional level to win a place in the grand final. Last year, Hannah Sutton, one of our current Year 13 A-Level Art students, won the regional final and represented the school at national level. The event was publicised well at the time, and it was a real pleasure to see how Hannah grew in confidence from the first delivery of her speech here at QEGS, through to winning the regional at Baltic Mill in Gateshead, and then speaking to an audience of over 200 people at the National Gallery, London. I look forward to taking another student through to the regional final.

Having looked at our current Year 12 and 13 cohort, I know there are so many potential winners here at QEGS. If any Year 12 or 13 students wish to enter the competition, please see Mrs Caines for details. It really is a remarkable experience, and one which will demonstrate the breadth of your employability and academic study skills, should you wish to mention it on an application for employment or study in the future. All of the presentations from 2022 can now be viewed on the National Gallery website via the link below.



<u>England finalists | Articulation Prize England | National Gallery, London</u>

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The Art Department is a place where students can enjoy learning about the work of others, exploring materials, techniques and processes, express themselves, and make a mess! Academic Year 2022-23 has got off to a brilliant start with Year 11 students investigating the work of the Boyle Family, as part of their DETAILS project. The Boyle family are probably best known for their replica studies of large sections of groundworks, meticulously reproduced in resin, fibreglass and other mixed materials, and then presented vertically on a gallery wall. This week we have been replicating sections of the QEGS yard and grounds, using clay to make moulds, and plaster for casting. The pieces will then be painted to match the colours and textures of the ground. Watch this space for images of the finished outcomes!







Year 13 students have come back from the summer with some stunning artworks that they have completed over the break. It is great to see that many students have taken the opportunity to photograph the landscapes that they have visited, and plan to incorporate some of this new source material into their Personal Investigation project. Our KS3 students have also made an excellent start, with a baseline assessment underway. With a number of trips and experiences already planned for the year, including darkroom photography workshops, after school clubs, a London visit and plenty of Photography QED outings, the year promises to be another exciting one for the art department.

# **Competition Time!**

• Last year's 'Design a Christmas Card' and 'Design an Eid Card' competitions were really successful, and we had lots of beautiful, handmade cards to judge when it came to choosing winners. We were particularly pleased that boys from the Junior and Senior sites entered both competitions, and are hoping for even more entries when we run the competitions again, this year. Look out for the launch of the next Christmas card competition, later this half term. Entries will need to be submitted to Mrs Caines before Friday 14th October, because this year we plan to have the winning design printed and sold in packs, for you to order and share with your friends and family this Christmas. Entries can be in any form (e.g. painted, collage, digital, photography), just as long as they can be photographed for printing.

Have a look at the previous winning Senior Section entry, from Roman in Year 12. The judges were particularly impressed with how Roman had created a card that was clearly 'QEGS'!

#### We can't wait to see what you come up with this time!





Finally, we would like to congratulate Felix on being our first 'Artist of the Week' 2022-23, with this stunning red-blue animal skull study in pastel pencil. It's great to see students being creative in their approach to learning how to use materials and techniques, and we have been really impressed with Felix's use of digital media to manipulate a photograph, inspired by contemporary pop art. Well done, Felix!

Mrs M Caines - Freeston

## The DT Hall of Fame

The QEGS D&T department is delighted to announce the inductees into this year's D&T Hall of Fame, in recognition of students who achieved a grade 8 or 9 at GCSE level and A or A\* at A Level. Congratulations to all involved!

#### **GCSE**

George Bailey Esa Butt Rahul Dutta Oliver Gibson Douglas Haigh Timothy Spawforth Finn Stenton Abhinav Vutla

Will Brown Will Fyfe Arsh Gupta **Toby Hobbs** Mohammed Loonat Iamie Nicholls Roman Tempest



#### A Level Matthew Anderson **Toby Calvert**

Oliver McNair Charles Paterson **Daniel Bough** Daniel Preene

# **QEGS hosts RFU Refereeing Course**

QEGS, Central Yorkshire Referees Society and the RFU combined to host an Introduction to Refereeing Training course at the QEGS Sports Pavilion on 1st September - to coincide with the start of the new season. The England Rugby Introduction to Refereeing Course is an introductory qualification to match officiating. It provides the basics to safely facilitate and manage a game of rugby union, with a mix of face to face and e-learning. The oversubscribed course saw a mixed group of 24 boys, girls, ladies and gentlemen aged from 14 to 50 go through the mix of classroom and on field training, with local clubs such as Morley RUFC and



Sandal RUFC supporting the initiative to develop more referees. Safety, Game Management, Communication and laws of the game were all covered on the syllabus – making use of the magnificent facilities and recently added large multimedia screen. Jamie Leahy, the RFU Educator, was supported by local referees from the Yorkshire Central Referee Society.



QEGS provided a fantastic setting for the semi-finals of the U15 MCC Foundation National Hub Competition. The event showcases the most talented participants from the 74 Hubs the foundation supports across the UK - this year's semi-finals saw Bradford, Bolton and Newcastle compete in the boys section, while Bradford, Bolton and York competed in the girls' section. Newcastle Boys and Bolton Girls went on to compete in the final at Lords - renowned



globally as the home of cricket - with both teams claiming dramatic victories to be crowned champions!

#### Mr H Graham - Freeston

Woodsome Hall Ladies Scratch team played in the Yorkshire Ladies Final at the beginning of the school academic year.

Our very own QEGS Chemistry Technician, Anne Taylor, was a member of the team which gained a place by winning all their qualifying matches over the summer.

Unfortunately, they were beaten by Ganton GC, but the day was a great experience playing on a superb course.





# Sixth Form Induction

We have been very proud of the way Year 12 have arrived back in school, looking super smart in their new suits, ready to make the most of all the Sixth Form can offer. Our new starters have fitted right in and we look forward to getting to know them better as the term progresses. Thursday evening was an opportunity for us to meet with both boys and parents and talk through their Sixth Form Journey; form tutors were on hand to meet the parents of their tutees and start that special relationship that we believe sets QEGS apart.

We began by celebrating the success of our Year 13 who have just left us with an impressive set of results between them, ready to explore the world. What better inspiration for our Year 12s than seeing the achievements of their peers and knowing that they too can be opening up their results envelope with a big smile on their faces?

The Sixth Form is hard work - A levels are designed to stretch the students - but they will be supported every step of the way. Regular assessments are built in along with parental touch points so that we can strengthen the triangle of home - school - student and maximise the potential of all our boys.

Mr Rees emphasised the support on offer to all the boys including from the Learning Support department, Mrs Bauman-Milner in the Learning Hub, our crack team of experienced tutors and of course, Lynn, our Sixth Form catering manager. The message of the evening was that we are all united in helping our Year 12s maximise their potential in whatever way we can.



Sixth Form Planner

OCCS SIXTH FORM NODUCTION LYLENG 2022

Extra Support For You

Mrs. Gardner
Learning Support
The Learning Hub

ALE Ballman Miler
The Learning Hub

S. E.S

Mr. Pesterfield
Carevers
Suth Form Centre
Madron

Mr Pesterfield is also on hand in our new Careers Hub to offer advice and inspiration.

Of course the Sixth Form is not all about the academic - there are a wealth of extra and co-curricular activities to experience. Mr Rees encouraged the boys to try new things in QED, volunteer to be subject mentors and show their Senior Prefect potential.

The highlight of the evening, as always, was when we heard from some of our boys. Jack Barrett and Tommy Nyatsanza talked honestly about their Sixth Form experience and how delighted they were that the hard work they put in meant that they had results they were both proud of and that resulted in them easily progressing onto the next phase of their education.

Mrs A Eggleston - Bentley 💸



## **Key Dates**

19 Sept	State Funeral of the Queen -	13-15 Nov	Y7 Residential - Windermere
	school closed	14 Nov	PA mtg - 7.15pm
20/21 Sept	Y13 Interim tests	15 Nov	DofE Launch to Y10 parents (tbc)
22 Sept	Bouldering @ City Bloc	17 Nov	Y11 Study Leave begins at 4pm
23 Sept	Y8 HPV1 vaccination	17 Nov	Joint 6th Form Information Evening
23-25 Sept	DofE @ Silverwood	18 Nov	Founders' Day
24 Sept	Fixtures v St. Peters	18 Nov	Bouldering @ City Bloc
26 Sept	Musical Performance	19 Nov	Fixtures v Woodhouse Grove
	@ Rooks Nest	24 Nov	Bouldering @ City Bloc
29 Sept	Bouldering @ City Bloc	25 Nov	U12 hockey tournament
30 Sept	Non-uniform Day	26 Nov	Fixtures v RGS Newcastle
1 Oct	Open Morning	28 Nov	Spanish play @ WGHS (Y9&10)
w/b 3 Oct	Y8 Lunch @ Capri Vine	28 Nov	1st XI Indoor Hockey Yorkshire Cup
6 Oct	Bouldering @ City Bloc	29 Nov	Nasal flu spray (Y3-9)
8 Oct	Fixtures v Crossley Heath	1 Dec	Y12 Joint Parents' Evening
9 Oct	Y6-9 Ramble for CIN	1 Dec	U16/U14 Indoor hockey
12/13 Oct	Y12 Interim tests		(Yorkshire Cup)
13 Oct	Bouldering @ City Bloc	2 Dec	Bouldering @ City Bloc
13 Oct	Athletics League XCountry	3 Dec	Fixtures v Prince Henry's Otley
14-16 Oct	St Joseph's Festival	5 Dec	Y11 Work Experience Day (tbc)
14 Oct	Green Jumper Day	5 Dec	Senior Citizens' Xmas Party
15 Oct	Antiques Fair	8 Dec	Bouldering @ City Bloc
20 Oct	Y7 Form Tutor Evening	10 Dec	Fixtures v GSAL
21 Oct	Break up 4pm	w/b 12 Dec	Y14 Prizegiving
7 Nov	School reopens		(rearranged from Sept)
8 Nov	Y13 Joint Parents' Evening	12 Dec	Xmas Concert (Part 1)
10 Nov	Y10 Form Tutor Evening	13 Dec	Xmas Lunch
11 Nov	Remembrance Service	13 Dec	Xmas Concert (Part 2)
11 Nov	Y13 Early Applicant Day	15 Dec	Carol Service
12 Nov	Fixtures v BGS	16 Dec	Break up at 12 - non uniform day

