



Thursday 20th June 2024

E-BULLETIN

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

Inside this issue...



Team Maths Challenge!



HMC Athletics!



Make HIS Story!



Angus goes International!

Welcome from the Academic Team

Welcome to the penultimate eBulletin of the year and the last one that I will have the pleasure of writing. The last few weeks have been really busy in both sections with all the extra curricular activities that the boys have been doing and it is fitting that much of this eBulletin focuses on this element of school life. At the end of May, the boys from all years in the senior section sat exams, either external or internal but by the end (at least for the boys in Y7-10) they were able to let off some steam on our annual trips day and you can read all about what they got up to later in this edition.

Sport always takes a front seat at this time of year with our athletics, cricket and tennis teams travelling around West Yorkshire; many of these boys will be looking forward to representing their house at the respective Sports Days and we are very much hoping for a sunny day this year, particularly in the senior section, as rain stopped play in 2023.



We have also seen the Arts come to the fore; the seniors' drama production of 'Frozen' was a huge success with a plethora of mini Elsas sitting in the audience singing along to 'Let It Go' and the English department promenaded through the school before the boys recited a selection of their own and celebrated poets' works. The junior section are preparing for their own production of 'Robin Hood' which is promised to be an extravaganza!

Perhaps one of the most impressive events was held in the Cathedral when our Y12 A level musicians performed a lunchtime recital to a very appreciative crowd; Mr Jarvis and Mr Jones should be very proud of what they have achieved during their first year and, if you have the opportunity to attend either the annual Christmas or Spring concerts, an evening of music to a very high standard is guaranteed.

This half term has also seen an invasion of Y5 students into school attending the inaugural 'Make Hi(S)tory Day' and also SPLATS. Their enthusiasm and excitement is always lovely to behold and I am always amazed by how well the Y10 students from both senior sections teach the younger ones and interest them in all things science. Candle dipping is always a popular activity and the children also loved the friction and gravity event where they were trying to make their marble go the slowest through a series of slopes.

At this time of year, there are also lots of excited students preparing for a range of residential trips; Y7 will be popping across the Channel tomorrow to visit the sights of Paris; Mr Benn and Mr Palin are looking forward to the Angling Society Residential; the DofE team have a number of assessment days taking place before and during the holidays; the Music department are travelling up north to Scotland; Mr Lawson is running the senior cricket tour to Malta and last but not least, Mr Pesterfield is taking a number of boys to Greece in August on the watersports trip. I am sure they will all have a wonderful time.

After 20 years, it is, of course, sad to say goodbye to QEGS and I will always look back on my time here with great fondness; it is not just the boys, the buildings and the staff that make it such a special place - it has an undefined quality that is hard to define. Maybe it is the proud history, the beauty of the grounds, and its heritage which means that all who pass through its doors are privileged to be a part of a grammar school that has been a cornerstone of Wakefield since 1591. Whilst it is true that all endings have an element of sadness, this quotation from Elizabeth Isaacs shows there is also the excitement of what comes next:

"Time makes up the pages that will be your story. Every time your life changes, you start a new chapter. To me, there's nothing more depressing than someone getting to the end of their days and realising they've only written one long, boring passage."

I am not quite sure what is going to be in my next chapter, but one thing I am certain of is that my spaniels, Ned, Frank and Woody will be playing a huge part.

Junior Section News

Summer Term Key Events

It is at this time of year that we traditionally inform parents of the events that are taking place during the summer term. Please look out for the 'parents welcome' tag and we would love it if you could join us at these events.

Year 3 Play - Thursday 20th June, 6pm, Elizabeth Theatre (Parents Welcome)

All parents are very welcome to this event

The PTA will provide refreshments and have items for sale

Year 6 Play - Wednesday 26th June, 6pm, QE Hall (Parents Welcome)

All parents are very welcome to this event

The PTA will provide refreshments and have items for sale

JS Sports Day - Thursday 27th June, JS Fields (Parents Welcome from 2.15pm)

Please look out for a separate letter regarding the JS Sports Day

JS Speech Day - Monday 1st July, 2.15pm, QE Hall (Parents Welcome)

Please look out for a separate letter regarding the JS Speech Day

Year 6 BBQ - Monday 1st July, 6pm, Junior Section Fields and 6th Form Centre (Y6 Parents Welcome)

Please look out for a separate letter regarding the Year 6 BBQ

Foundation Charity Fair - Wednesday 3rd July, 2pm, Senior Section Playing Fields

Please look out for a separate letter regarding the Foundation Charity Fair

WhatsApp Update



A WhatsApp safety "how to" guide for parents.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/#whatsapp-safety-tips>



<https://www.mynametags.com/>

A reminder that we have an association with *My Name Tags* through which the PTA receives a donation of 24% of every order. Please just enter the school ID on checkout: **11649**

Key Dates

Upcoming events in the Junior Section.

Week 17A

- 17 June Form Assembly, Importance of physical activity for our wellbeing (3RP)
- 17 June WP KS1 Sports Day, Y5 all helping in the afternoon
- 17 June Outdoor Education, Mountain Biking on Site, 6CMC
- 18 June Foundation Welcome Day
- 18 June Pop up uniform shop in Elizabeth Theatre, 3.30pm - 5.30pm (Parents welcome)
- 19 June Team Photographs (morning)
- 19 June Prefect Lunch, Owls Den
- 19 June Poetry Promenade 2024 5.30pm - 7.30pm
- 20 June QJ Y3 Play, performance to school, Elizabeth Theatre , 1.30pm - 2.30pm
- 20 June QJ Y3 Play, Elizabeth Theatre, 6pm - 7.30pm (Parents welcome)
- 21 June 'Look what we have done' - Student Council Assembly - JS Hall
- 21 June Inter House Chess, JS Hall, 11.15pm - 1pm
- 21 June Cricket v Birkdale, U11A @ QEGS 2.15pm start (Parents welcome, see SOCS for further details)

Week 17B

- 24 June Form Assembly, How do I build friendships? (4ABS)
- 26 June QJ Y6 Production, Robin Hood, Performance to school, QE Hall, 10.00am - 12.05am
- 26 June QJ Y6 Production, Robin Hood QE Hall, 6pm - 8.30pm (Parents welcome)
- 26 June Forest School 3RP
- 27 June QJ Sports Day (Parents welcome from 2pm)
- 28 June Celebration Assembly, 8.55am - 9.10am

Week 18A

- 1 July QJ Speech Day, QE Hall, 2.15pm - 3.55pm (Parents welcome)
- 1 July Y6 BBQ 6pm - 8.30pm (Y6 Parents welcome)
- 3 July Foundation Charity Fair Y3/Y4/Y5/Y6 (QS Fields)
- 4 July PTA Lunch
- 5 July Term Ends 12pm



Senior Section

DEPARTMENTAL SPOTLIGHT *Maths*

UK Team Maths Challenge

This year saw the return of the Team maths challenge. Noah Affleck, Mathew Chen, Harry Varvell and Arthur Young represented the school in a day of problem solving and mathematical challenges. After a fiercely competitive competition with 21 schools from across the area, our boys gained the bronze medal spot. Huge congratulations to the boys and well done for representing the school so admirably.

Mr Lister - Bentley



Sparx Maths Superstars

Congratulations to the following boys who have topped their respective year groups in terms of XP on the Sparx Maths platform this year. XP is accumulated when a student gets a question correct so the huge numbers below represent a phenomenal amount of work from these individuals!

Year 8 - Oliver Jackson [Cave] 8CAL - 35532 XP
Year 9 - Krish Daru [Bentley] 9MJE - 48343 XP
Year 10 - Samuel Story [Savile] 10ROW 19215 XP

Honourable mentions to Remy Beaumont, Ben Wale, Oleka Ntima, Shiriyan Sundar, Luke White and Fraser Roebuck who all attained enough XP to be in the top 10 for the whole school.

All boys named here have chocolate heading their way.

And last but by no means least...

A very special mention to Ebenezer Dada [Bentley] 7CRW who has attained an astonishing 182775 XP at the time of writing this! He will be awarded some Maths goodies including a top of the range Casio ClassWiz fx991 calculator.

Mr Becker - Freeston

DEPARTMENTAL SPOTLIGHT

Sport

Hockey Update

As the academic year draws to a close, it has been fantastic to see progress with QEGS Hockey since January. The U12s competed in their first In2Hockey competition, which QEGS hosted for many of the top hockey schools in Yorkshire and gained some valuable experience.

The U13s had a good cup run in the Independent Schools Hockey Championship (ISHC) and competed well in block fixtures which should give them confidence moving up to the 11-a-side version of the game next year.

The U14s narrowly missed out on getting to the Tier 1 National Cup quarter final, having beaten MGS and Yarm. However, Kings Chester were a worthy winner and progressed in our place. The future is bright for this group who have come on in leaps and bounds since September and they will be hoping to go further in the competition in future seasons.



The U15s have seen the size of their squad grow, with many new boys joining the sport this year and plenty representing the U16 squad.

The U16 boys progressed to the England Hockey Plate National Final held at Lee Valley in the Olympic Park against a strong opposition in Sir Joseph Williamson School. Starting well, we scored to go 1-0 up, but the goal was disallowed. Starting the second half 1-0 down, we then pushed for an equaliser, however we were unable to create enough big chances and unfortunately could not claw the result back. This was still a fantastic achievement for the boys, competing on a national stage at the home of GB and England Hockey.

The 1st XI were unfortunate to be knocked out of both of their cups, with one of the games going down to a penalty shootout. However, the future is bright with the Y12s moving up already playing at a high level in their club hockey, and the Y11s moving up a strong group off the back of their own season.

Mr Anderson - Teacher i/c of Hockey - Savile

Rugby Update

Rugby 7's and 10's after Christmas:

After a successful 15-a-side season where 337 pupils represented the school in over 200 fixtures, we moved onto the 7's and 10's season. Tournaments at Ampleforth, Dame Allens, Woodhouse Grove, Sedbergh, Hymers, Scarborough and St Peters allowed our boys to show the more expensive side to their rugby and once again have numerous successes against our local Yorkshire rivals. This all culminated in three age groups going down south to represent the school at the world biggest Sports competition (of any kind!).

The Rosslyn Park 7's Tournament, renowned for its prestige in the rugby sevens world, saw the participation of hundreds of teams, including our U18s, U16s and U14s squads compete over a highly competitive two days.

Our U18s team demonstrated commendable resilience and teamwork throughout the tournament. Despite facing formidable opponents, they exhibited skillful gameplay and determination, receiving admiration from spectators and competitors alike.

The team's cohesion was evident on the field as they communicated effectively. Notable individual performances contributed significantly to the team's success, drawing attention from scouts and rugby enthusiasts.

U14s and U16s Team Achievement:

The U14s team surpassed expectations with their impressive performance in the Rosslyn Park 7's Tournament. They showcased remarkable talent and determination, advancing to the final group stages through a series of impressive victories.

Although narrowly missing out on a spot in the final, their journey was a testament to their potential and dedication. Participating in such a prestigious tournament provided invaluable learning experiences for the U14s players, exposing them to high-level competition and fostering their growth in rugby.

The U16s team delivered an outstanding performance, advancing to day two of the competition and emerging victorious in their group. Their impressive display of talent and determination propelled them through the tournament, setting a high standard for future competitions. The U16s team's success highlights the depth of talent within our rugby program and serves as a testament to their hard work and dedication.

Conclusion:

Our U18s, U16s and U14s teams left a significant mark on the Rosslyn Park 7's Tournament, showcasing their skills, sportsmanship, and determination. The U18s team's skillful gameplay and teamwork, coupled with the promising talent displayed by the U16s and U14s teams, reflect the strength and potential of our rugby program.

As we look to the future, we remain committed to nurturing and developing the talents of our young players, ensuring they continue to excel both on and off the rugby field. The experiences gained from participating in tournaments like the Rosslyn Park 7's serve as invaluable stepping stones in their rugby journeys.

Sedbergh 10s

The 6th form rugby team proudly represented our school at the highly competitive Sedbergh 10s Rugby Tournament. With determination and skill, they showcased their talent, leaving a mark on the field.

The tournament kicked off with an electrifying opening game against the formidable Sedbergh team. In a display of great rugby our boys nearly clinched victory, setting the tone for an intense and thrilling competition ahead.

Throughout the group matches, our team exhibited attacking flair and defensive grit. They demonstrated exceptional teamwork, communicating seamlessly on the field to outplay their opponents. A victory against RGS High Wycombe highlighted their strength and determination, solidifying their position as serious contenders in the tournament.

As the tournament progressed into its second day, our boys continued to raise the bar, delivering stellar performances match after match. Their dedication and passion for the game were evident as they took the field for the last time in the unmistakable Black, White and Gold hoops of QEGS Rugby.

In a fitting climax to their journey, our team secured an impressive joint 1st place finish in the group narrowly missing out on a spot in the final by 2 points. This achievement is a testament to their hard work, skill, and sportsmanship throughout the tournament.

As representatives of our school, the 6th form rugby team has made us proud, embodying the spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie. Their success at the Sedbergh 10s Rugby Tournament is not only a reflection of their talent but also of their commitment to excellence. We congratulate them on their remarkable performance and look forward to witnessing their continued success on and off the field.

Mr Cook - Teacher i/c of Rugby - Savile



Year Group Trips Day

Year 7 visit York!

The History and Classics Department organised a day trip for the Year 7s to find out more about the layers of History in the ancient city of York. They delved into the Roman, Viking and medieval periods of York's History through visits to the Yorkshire Museum, the Jorvik Centre and Clifford's Tower. This provided a great opportunity to experience ancient Roman artefacts and architecture, a journey through the Viking settlement of York and the remains of a Norman Motte and Bailey Castle; all aspects the Year 7 course. Many of those involved particularly enjoyed the chance to practise their Viking musical skills through the purchasing of Norse pan pipes, which the staff on the trip very much enjoyed!



Year 8 Wildlife Park

Recently, along with the rest of Year 8, I went to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park. It was an amazing experience, as I got to see many animals and creatures I had never seen before, from lions and tigers to lemurs and monkeys. It was also a very new activity to some people, as lots of my friends and classmates over there had never been to a zoo or even seen anything like the animals and attractions here. One thing everyone loved was the gift shop. People were going crazy over little capybara toys. It was brilliant. Thank you Heads for organising such a great and inclusive trip!

Sikandar Hayat - Year 8



Flamingo Land - Year 9!

As is traditional Year 9 and the Form Tutor team took the opportunity for a well deserved dose of rollercoastering at Flamingoland following an intense week of assessments. Like previous years we had the place almost to ourselves, and those wishing to spend the whole day upside down and with dislodged organs had ample opportunity to take on each ride multiple times. Those wishing to take on the delights of the zoo were in for a treat. For the first time in many years I actually managed to see numerous tigers and lions rather than just an enclosure full of shrubbery. The weather was kind to us and all the boys and staff appeared to have an excellent time. The boys were in buoyant form as we returned home tired and for the half term break.

Mr Thomas - Head of Year 9 - Savile

Year 10 see Garfield!

On Friday the 24th of May, year 10 finished their summer exams.

Their final paper was Maths, in the Sports Hall. I went to see them finish up and was met with row upon row of tired faces. They had made it!

To celebrate completing their exam season, we had organised a celebratory brunch in the dining room. Warm rolls not long finished, those attending the trip gathered on the yard, with their staff, in anticipation...

We walked to our closest cinema, Reel, in The Ridings. Part of a smaller chain that prides themselves on 'bring the best cinematic entertainment to communities across the UK'. The students queued politely for their snacks then settled in for the film.

We saw The Garfield Movie, released that day, and it was exactly what I'd hoped for: something relaxing, fun and silly, perfect for helping year 10 wind down after the intensity of their assessments.

We returned to school and parted ways, with many good wishes for the holidays exchanged. For my part, I simply said:

Well done year 10, rest-up after all your hard work. You deserve it.

Miss Bracewell - Head of Year 10

Merit Reward Trip



Earlier this month, it was my pleasure to organise a visit to the Retro Station in Halifax. This trip was planned as a reward for the top merit earners in Years 5 - 10 as their effort and enthusiasm, throughout the year, has been nothing short of incredible.

Despite the rain, we all enjoyed our time shooting giant water pistols and playing a huge range of arcade games. It was lovely to see the boys from both junior and senior sections playing together. Even the staff seemed to get back in touch with their 'inner child'!

Mrs Ramsden



Design Technology Go Karting Trip 2024

The top performing DT students from each Yr8 form were invited to put theory into practice at the F1 karting race track. The Yr8 Speed Machine is an iconic project here at QEGS and the competition to produce the fastest design is always keenly contested.

During the first half of this academic year, the Yr 8s have been working on their speed machine project. This has required many key design and manufacturing skills. At the end of the project all the students in each class raced their vehicles in an attempt to reach the fastest time. The top three from each form were rewarded with the opportunity to accept a place GoKarting!

I was one of the 'lucky' qualifiers along with 14 others. We were challenged to apply our knowledge gained from the speed machine project to the track. For many this was their first time in a gokart, but others had some previous experience. We went head to head to see who could produce the fastest lap time. I managed to claim the title in a tightly fought competition followed very closely by RTE and DTB.

All the students returned to school with a much better grasp of the key concepts associated with this Yr8 design and make project: Speed & Torque, Weight & Downforce, Aerodynamics & Stability, Friction & Traction,

Yr8 Students who qualified for the trip:

8CAL: FALK Harry, JACKSON Oliver, SHAKIR Aayan

8DNG: CHEN Kiven, COOKE-THOMAS Reuben, ROSE Oliver

8FES: BUCK Charlie, FASAE Ayo, HAYAT Sikandar

8MSA: FEARNLEY Aaron, FERNANDEZ Aidan, SPALDING Archie

8PM: INESON Connor, MACINNES Alexander, MASSEY Alex



Higher Education Evening

After spending the year researching their Post 18 options the process of applying for life after QEGS has now started in earnest. On Wednesday 5th June Year 12 spent the afternoon starting to put together their university applications via the UCAS website. All the boys have made considerable progress with this and are in a great position as we head into the summer break.

On Thursday 6th we welcomed year 12 parents for our annual Higher Education evening. Parents heard about the range of options available to students after A level and the extensive support that is offered to their sons by the staff at QEGS.

Mr Pesterfield - Head of Careers

Make HIS Story

The inaugural Y5 Make Hi(S)tory Day took place on the 7th June when over 50 boys from around West Yorkshire came to QEGS for the day. T

hey had a carousel of entrepreneurial events which were loosely based around the theme of 'Food fit for an Olympian'. This involved Food Technology (creating a worthy snack to keep athletes' hunger at bay) Media and Marketing (making a jingle to advertise the goods), Design Technology(designing a speedy vehicle to deliver the food and finally Entrepreneurial Skills (ensuring that the finances were kept within a budget).

All the boys were assigned to one of the school Houses (which neatly match four colours of the Olympic rings) : Bentley, Cave, Freeston or Saville and were lucky enough to have a member of our alumni, alongside the very talented Y12 Enterprise students advising them along the way. Each of the Y5 boys had a journal to jot down their thoughts as each one made 'Hi(S)tory' and then parents were invited at the end of the day to see their children's presentations. Everyone - whether they were the Y5 boys - right up to the ex QEGS 'boys' - had a great time with a healthy dollop of competitiveness thrown into the mix.

A couple of quotes from the visiting Y5 boys about the day include:

I enjoyed making the pizza with my friends
Racing at the end was the best bit
Lunch. One word. Awesome.
This school is the definition of heaven

Mrs Palin



SPLATS 2024

SPLATS is students presenting, learning through science.

18 boys and 18 girls were taught how to teach 6 lessons involving science and technology. They were then teaching classes of up to 30 year 5 boys and girls over two days. The students were excellent and flourished as educators, improving in confidence and organisation.

The following are two testimonials about their experiences:

I aspire to have a career in education, so SPLATS was a great opportunity to learn some teaching skills. We spent the first day learning how to teach each activity and organising our groups. Despite this, our first real session was a struggle, and we had to improvise. We got the hang of it after that, though, and the first day was a success, despite being a bit stressful. The second day saw us leading two more activities, which both went far more smoothly. By the end of the day, we had found a good rhythm as a group and significantly improved as teachers. Overall, SPLATS was a fun and enlightening, though tiring, experience. Kaleb Peters 10PMC

I feel like SPLATS was a memorable experience as it put me in a teacher's perspective, and I found it really fun to be teaching kids new things as it gave me a sense of contentment. However, it also showed me how tiring it can be as a teacher, making me aware of how much hard work teachers put into teaching us. However tiring it was though, I do not regret a single moment of it. Moreover, it helped me strengthen my leadership and teamworking skills, along with more confidence when speaking to people. Even more, I taught myself things I didn't know! Overall, it was an amazing time and I enjoyed it a lot! Rayan Shahzad 10ROW.

I'd like to congratulate all of the following on their efforts with SPLATS:

Aryan Sinha, Aston Ineson, Om Mani, Edison Field, Oliver Eldridge, Timilehin Kayode, Lucas Milburn, Buba Sanyang, Daniel Scott, Felix Bowles, Shalom Fabiyi, Kaleb Peters, Noah Tordoff, Henry Wareham, Sammy Parkin, Rayan Shahzad, Sam Story.



Jodrell Bank Visit

On Friday 14th June, 30 Physics club top attenders visited the Jodrell Bank observatory near Manchester. Most famous for the large Lovell Telescope, Jodrell Bank is a working site that detects radio signals from the depths of space. Staff and students had to switch off mobile phones to avoid interfering with experiments!

While on site, students explored the history of Jodrell Bank, toured the telescopes and enjoyed interactive displays detailing the research carried out on site. The trip finished with a Planetarium show, and some top quality questions from the students!



We look forward to making the Physics Club Outing an annual event.

Ms Loftus - Head of Savile

D-Day Assembly



Battle of the Barristers

Battle of the Barristers - Kindly organised by an associate of one of our parents

A group of prospective Year 12 law students from QEGS and WGHS attended a workshop on Monday to find out more about using forensic evidence in investigating criminal cases. As well as taking a survey on how far they displayed sociopathic tendencies (luckily none did!) they investigated a US murder case, *The People versus Chris Coleman*. For this they analysed in depth the case evidence in order to develop lines of argument to be used by the defence and prosecution lawyers. Xander Beere, who participated, wrote the following,

“The Law Workshop was incredibly helpful when it comes to learning what the law is like. During the workshop, we covered an actual case and debated over what the verdict should be. The workshop ultimately gave us a chance to study and analyse evidence that would be seen in a courtroom and present the information we’d discovered in a coherent manner.”

An excellent opportunity to experience the cut and thrust of a courtroom, using real evidence, thank you to all involved.

House Matters

Ms Loftus
House Leader of Savile

As we approach the end of the Summer term, house points have rarely been so close. With the final major event of sports day looming, it’s all to play for!

With Saville just leading the House totals, Freeston and Bentley are keen to stop a third consecutive Cave victory. Behind the scenes, House Leaders have been busy constructing a calendar for next year’s events. Expect to see termly competitions, even more sports and the introduction of music events!

That just leaves one question- which house will win the Calvert Cup this year?

Mrs Williams - House Leader of Freeston

This is the time of year that we are waving goodbye to our current House Captains and looking forward to introducing our new Captains for next year. They really get involved over the year and have grown into their roles. They should all be proud of their achievements and it has been a pleasure to work with them. It certainly makes our job a little easier.

I thought it would be nice to hear from a few of them who are reflecting on their time in the role.

Being a Head of House, from my perspective, requires strong leadership skills; it is crucial to be able to gently nudge people out of their comfort zones and encourage them to partake in activities they may not necessarily have decided to take part in by themselves. Although I don’t consider myself to be a naturally outgoing person, I do feel as though my confidence has grown substantially whilst taking on the role of being the Head of House for Freeston as I now feel comfortable giving weekly presentations to fellow peers in my house and leading my house in competitions, whilst also generating friendly competition between the boys in the school and thus I find my role of Head of House for Freeston has been mutually beneficial to both myself and the school.

One of my proudest achievements which I have made, this year, was being able to lead my team to the Semifinals of the University Challenge and then dominating the 3rd place play-offs (although I like to think we came 2nd because our team would’ve won against the losing finals team if given the chance to test our knowledge against them). The quizzes were fun and I appreciate the teachers and Sixth Form lads for making them. I also enjoyed the ten seconds of the tug of war, before it was called off due to the rain, as well as cheering on the Freeston teams during the football and rugby competitions.

I look forward to being a Head of House, for another year, in Year 13.

Daniel Robinson - Year 12 Head of House

Being a house Captain of Freeston is a beneficial experience for any new joiner of QEGS or a first timer who hasn't yet become a Freeston House Captain. It provides you with skills that will help you through to university and into getting job interviews. For me the best part of being a Freeston House Captain was understanding people and what the pupils at school would prefer to participate in and competitions they wanted to run.

Over this year people have been blessed with many sports house activities like indoor and outdoor football, rugby, cricket and hockey. Also there has been Language house quizzes, Classics quizzes and even the most famous Fortnite competition.

To conclude, being a house Captain of Freeston was one of the greatest achievements I have done since I joined in Y7.

Daniel Robinson - Year 8 House Captain

Angus goes International!

"I have been training on a monthly basis with the Scotland RL team since February attending weekend camps in Edinburgh, Newcastle and Leeds. Warm up games were against the North East development team which we won and morale was high.

We headed for Glasgow and before the game against England we had the squad presentation. This is when each team member received a playing shirt from the head coach and their significant Scottish family member. For me this was my grandfather as he was born in Scotland. It was a proud moment for us both.

It was a tough game from the start with big hits from both sides and whilst we fought hard we made a few too many mistakes that the opponents benefitted on.

Overall a great experience and am looking forward to the next game against Wales at the end of the month."



PTA Uniform Shop

The uniform shop run by QEGS Senior School PTA is now up and running and open for business.

The link to this is below:

<https://pta-qegs-senior-school.sumupstore.com/>

If you order something from this store, the item will be with the school office for your child to collect by the end of that week (excluding school holidays).

PLEASE ALSO BEAR US IN MIND IF YOUR CHILD HAS OUTGROWN UNIFORM OR SPORTS WEAR. Any donated items can be dropped by your child at the School Office. We would ask that you launder these and remove any identifying labels if possible before donation.



Spotlight On: Old Savilians

I look back on my time at QEGS with great fondness and I am extremely grateful for all the opportunities that it afforded me, both during my time there and since leaving. It's too many years ago that I first joined the school in my short trousers and long socks with nothing more than potential and two very heavy sports bags that I used to drag along behind me in Junior School.



My parents always told me that their objective for sending me to QEGS was to give me the ability to walk into any room and have the confidence to speak to anybody; but for me, it delivered so much more than that: a relentless curiosity, a passion for winning, a sense of belonging, the privilege of being able to make choices and some incredible memories, to name a selection of things that spring to mind.

I'll be honest, at the point of leaving school I had absolutely no idea what I wanted to do or who I wanted to be. I don't know if I should admit this, but I chose to do further education in English purely because I enjoyed it and figured that if I was to spend at least three years doubling down on one subject it should be something I enjoy; I'd decided that the question of what to do with that degree was a problem for Future Simon. Loughborough wasn't my first choice of university, Durham and Nottingham were first and second respectively (thanks for reminding me), but I had a big passion for rugby so going to 'the sporty uni' was also very appealing.

I very quickly acclimatised to university life and took full advantage of everything it had to offer, travelling the world playing for various rugby teams, working as a doorman to pay my way and enjoying only having six hours of lectures a week. I completed my BA in English and, with the prospect of entering a very tough job market in 2008, opted to stay on for another year at Loughborough to do my MA in English. To be frank, the biggest driver behind this decision was because I lost a year of rugby due to injury and I wanted that back. Roll on another 12 months and a dissertation exploring to what extent the character of James Bond represented the modern-day Byronic Hero and I was ready for a real job (and to hang up my security licence and professional frown that accompanied it).

I was still unsure of what I wanted to be when I grew up but I found myself on the Aldi Area Manager graduate program looking after a large team of people on the road around Grimsby, Scunthorpe and Hull. This role was a huge awakening for me and, on reflection, not something that I was ready for due to several reasons, but it taught me a lot of lessons that I still carry with me today. After a short period of time, I realised I was only continuing working for the German Discounter to prove that I couldn't be beaten (which is a terrible career choice,) so I took my lessons and joined another graduate scheme in sales for Kellogg's, in hope of meeting Tony the Tiger.

Thankfully, Kellogg gave me a superb foundation into business, FMCG, sales and marketing teaching me fundamentals which have underpinned my whole career. I had some incredible experiences in Manchester selling cereal, such as travelling to Bali and Singapore, hospitality at the Ashes and rekindling the instant buzz that sport once gave me in a commercial environment. The next few years of my life saw me climb the corporate ladder in sales and buying roles within UK food retail learning my craft from a combination of trial, error and book learning. I also took the decision to upskill myself whilst working



completing my MBA in 2017; balancing a day job, studying and home life was exceptionally challenging but something I'm really proud I did.

Eventually my career led me to my current company, Associated British Foods, which is probably one of the biggest businesses in the UK most people have never heard of but a quick Google will show you that we have brands like Primark, Kingsmill, Twinings, Tabasco and Crusha in our stable as well as a plethora of other businesses up and down the supply chain. I have worked here for the last seven years in a variety of sales, marketing, operations and general management roles and now I head up our Emerging Brands business unit which is an incubator for small and growing brands within the portfolio.

Although it took a while to emerge, I realised that my passion in life is actually storytelling born out of my love for English which was nurtured at QEGS. I still write creatively as a hobby but my professional storytelling is focused on building brand stories, solutions and creative marketing; at the end of the day it all comes back to making someone feel differently to influence their decisions and actions.

If there was one message I'd like a current student to take away from this it would be: don't panic if you don't know what you want to be; just enjoy learning and stay curious. I owe a great deal to QEGS for the skills, behaviours and options it gave me so make the most of it.

I'm always happy to help any current or Old Sav so feel free to reach out on LinkedIn. Associated British Foods is always looking for bright and curious graduates so please look at our business profile and consider us when you're setting out on your career journeys.

Floreas Wakefieldia

Simon Greenwood-Haigh - OS 2005



Key Events

20 June - Y12 joint parents' evening @ WGHS

21 June - Y13 Leavers' Lunch

21-24 June - Y7 Paris residential

23 June - Y12 Total Warrior event

23 June - MCC Hub national finals

26 June - QED 5: final session

26 - 30 June - Angling Soc residential

28 June - Y12 University visit to Newcastle

1 July - Sports' Day - tbc

1-4 July - DofE @ Kettlewell (silver)

1-4 July - music tour to Scotland

3 July - KS3 Charity Fair

3 July - Y10 team building event

5 - 10 July - Senior cricket tour

5 July - End of term @ 12pm

9 July - National Careers Final

9-12 July - Dalesbridge 3

8 - 12 Aug - DofE Gold expedition

15 Aug - A Level Results

19-24 Aug - Greece watersports trip

22 Aug - GCSE Results

Parents' Evenings 2023-24

Y12 Joint Parents' Evening (2) - Thursday 20th June 2024

Academic Year 2024-25

School opens to students Mon 2nd Sept

Don't Forget:

The Weekly Digest is published each Thursday which holds important information and letters for your son