

Newsletter

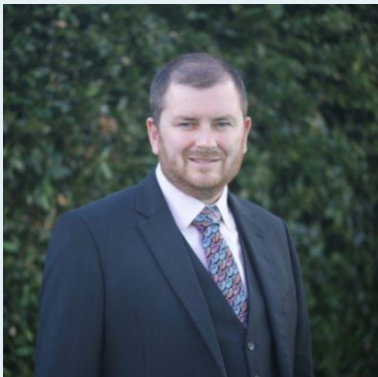


Headteacher's Note

It is the end of another busy few weeks and it always amazes me how much goes on in the Spring term at school This year is no exception.

This term’s newsletter is packed with information about all the wonderful activities students and staff have been involved with across the school. We have had three major events: the school musical—Grease, our Dance evenings and the Carlisle Music and Drama Festival at which so many students performed.

It is always fantastic to see the sheer number of students who get involved with these activities—in addition to the high numbers who regularly take part in sporting fixtures. None of these events would take place without the support of our dedicated staff and volunteers and I am extremely grateful for their commitment to running them.



I hope you have a wonderful Easter break and manage to make the most of the (hopefully) improving weather.

David Marchant, Headteacher

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School Events

The Art of Brilliance

February: Our Year 11s and Year 13s attended a workshop on “The Art of Being Brilliant” which is designed to help students develop practical skills to bolster their mental wellbeing and motivation.

The workshop covered concepts from positive psychology and the science of wellbeing and introduced them to some of the foundational behaviours that allow humans to flourish, including:

- Taking a positive perspective.
- Gratitude.
- Growth mind set
- Goal setting



Skills Day



January: A huge thank you to all the local employers who gave up their time to come and be involved with our Interview Skills Day with our Year 11 and Sixth Form students.

The event had a real impact on the students and it was fantastic to hear them talking so passionately about their

futures and how grateful they were for the opportunity.

We were also incredibly proud of the students for the wonderful feedback we were given about how polite, articulate and confident they came across!



School Events



Preparing for Zambia

February: A successful training weekend in Garrigill for the Y12s going to Zambia this summer: hill-walking, map skills, emergency rescue techniques, cooking on gas and fantastic teamwork!



National School Attendance Award

2023/24 Autumn Term



Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Penrith

Top 10% of all FFT Secondary Schools in England

QEGS won an award for attendance in autumn term. Great achievement and team effort. Well done.

School Events



QUEEN ELIZABETH
GRAMMAR SCHOOL
PENRITH

Sixth Form Open Evening

Tuesday 30th January
5:00pm - 7:30pm



Aiming High | Thinking Beyond | Striving Together



March: Thank you very much to the Penrith Fire Service for coming in to speak to the Sixth Formers about road safety and for bringing their new VR headsets for them to try!

History

February: A fantastic day out in York for the Year 8 Historians learning all about the Minster and the history of the city.

It was lovely to get such positive feedback from some of the other visitors on the behaviour and respect shown by our students.

A huge thanks to the History Department and all the staff involved in running such a wonderful trip!



A-Level Awards Evening

On Thursday night, the 4th January, we welcomed back last year's Year 13 for their A-Level awards evening.

It was fantastic to see them all and hear about everything they are up to now, from their adventures on gap years to their first few months in their new jobs and their experiences of learning in different environments in apprenticeships and at university.

Thank you to everyone who came to the evening, those who performed and all the local businesses and individuals who continue to support the awards.

It was also fantastic to see this long standing QEGS tradition celebrated in the Herald this week from 25 years ago! I am sure one or two of you will recognise some faces in there! A fantastic start to the new term!



Food Technology

February: Congratulations to our talented Year 10 food preparation and nutrition students: Max, Ross, Kezia, Brooke, Anna and Caterina who took part in the local heat of the Rotary Young Chef competition.

They all impressed the judges with their focus, organisation, skill and flair and all produced a high-quality main course and dessert. Special congratulations to Caterina who was judged the winner and to Kezia who was runner up. They now progress to the district final.



A very successful trip down to Windermere on the 29th February for our students competing in the district round (Cumbria and North Lancs) of the Rotary Young Chef Competition.

Kezia's dishes were highly praised by the three judges who were all very successful chefs with experience of working alongside some of the country's top chefs in high calibre restaurants.

Caterina had a victorious evening and was named the winner on the night and goes on to take part in the regional round! Congratulations!!



Friends of QEGS

Easter 2024

It has been a pretty good couple of terms for FQEGS. The Sponsored Walk was great fun as usual and then both the Christmas Shopping Evening and the February Quiz Night also went well. Our Numbers Club is ongoing and so the money mounts up! We are currently fundraising towards providing outdoor canopies for around the school – something the children all seem VERY keen on, unsurprisingly! We have two appeals!!

Firstly, as always, we would welcome anyone who'd like to come along and join us. We are a small group but we have a good laugh and the only slight strain is that we could always just do with a few more people to call on to help out. The final event for us this year will be the Year 5 BBQ on Tuesday 28th June when we serve burgers and sausages to all those prospective QEGS pupils who are considering sitting the 11+ in September. The BBQ goes on all evening and we would be delighted if anyone new fancied offering to come and join in – just email us on friendsofqegs@gmail.com

And secondly, in past years, Kingmoor Consulting in Carlisle have been extremely generous in offering a fabulous prize for our raffle in July, an end of year Whirlwind Raffle. We have been able to offer an iPad and an iPhone in two very popular and very profitable raffles and we are SO GRATEFUL for what has been such fantastic support from Emma and Colin Aimers. We would very much like to be in a position to run the Raffle again this summer so if anyone out there feels they are a position to take over from the wonderful Kingmoor Consulting we would be absolutely delighted. Again, the above email address is the one to use if you feel this might be something you could help with.

In the meantime – Happy Easter!



Mathematical Challenge success

This January pupils in Year 9, 10 and 11 were given the opportunity to take part in the Intermediate Maths challenge, a 60 minute, 25 multiple choice Challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to make students think. The problems on the Intermediate Maths Challenge are designed to make students think, most are accessible yet still challenge those with more experience. Pupils in each year achieved excellent scores with most who entered in each year group achieving bronze, silver and gold certificates.

The standout performers were Jay Palmer, Cameron Fletcher, Callum Westwell and Tamsin Crook from year 11, Sonny Arora, Thea Ilett, Owen Alban, Aditya Manemi and Cai Morgan from year 10 and Luke Evans, Fiona Gaunt and Emily Hawes from year 9 who have all qualified for the next round, the Kangaroo, which will take place on the 21st of March.

Mr Conor,
Joint head of Maths

Intermediate Maths Challenge February 2024

Year 9 Congratulations

Gold

Luke Evans
Emily Hawes

Silver

Fiona Gaunt
Aditi Aravind
Monty Ruddick
Emma Dawson
Chloe Horsley
Ellen Kidd

Bronze

Oliver Huddart
Jamie Polard
Emily Stackhouse
Dara Leach
Emmie Hayward
Kathryn Hopkinson
Rosie Murray
Rowan Penhallurick
Innes Frizzel
Zack Taylor
Tom Mander
Livia Bacon
Alex Gill
Maria Lukose
Jemima Evans
Charlotte McLachlan

Intermediate Maths Challenge February 2024 Congratulations

Year 10

Gold

Sonny Arora
Thea Ilett
Owen Alban
Cai Morgan
Aditya Manemi
Callum Simpson
Harry Ledington
Liam Hawes
Laura Per
James Heron

Silver

John Evans
Connor Fitzpatrick
Mustafa Ijaz
Eddie Lin
Honey Barker
Aamna Mannan
Nathan Howcroft
Logan Iverson
Alfie Mellor
Lucus Bui
Anshal Hashimi
Alexander McCormick
Jasmine Crowther
Ronnie Hodgson
Matthew Smith

Bronze

Eliza Hudson
Harry Hunter
Kritin Mukherjee
Lucas Bailie
Eleanor Tebbutt

Year 11

Gold

Jay Palmer
Cameron Fletcher
Callum Westwell
Tamsin Crook
Lucy Reay
Christian Muirhead
Hannah Saudek
Sarah Davies

Silver

Matthew Heron
Joe Sealby
Alyssa Saha
Ryan Moukarram
Maneesh Pai
Merry White
Pranjal Bhat
James Cooper
Freya Taylor
Aishwara Sankar
Peter Stewart
Aser Mohamed
Isaac Price-Walter

Bronze

Olivia Blenkarn
Alice Mascia
Sameer Shahul-Hameed
Carrie Fox
Ania Stalker
Thea Burrows
Carys McDonough
Tamsin Melling

QEGS News

Congratulations to Isabel who represented QEGS at Greenlands Equestrian Centre on Saturday (9th March) in Show Jumping. Isabel won the 70cm class, came 7th in the 80cm class and 2nd in the 90cm class.



Carlisle and District Music and Drama Festival

Last week saw the return of the Carlisle and District Music and Drama Festival. Several pupils from QEGS took part throughout the week in a variety of classes and performances. We are exceptionally proud of every QEGS pupil who took part in the festival. QEGS pupils delivered some spellbinding performances and secured first or second place in many classes.

On Monday it was the turn of the string players- Phoebe Evans took first place in the Violin Solo 11-12 years, Joe Alban in Violin Solo 13-14 years and Anna Cunningham for her performance in the Viola Solo 13-14 years. On Tuesday, we also had one competitor in the Woodwind Solo 13-14 years, Peter Wayman, who performed on saxophone in this class. Well done Peter.

Excitingly, later in the week, Joe Alban was awarded the Ethel Hogarth Memorial Cup for Most Promising competitor for all solo string performances of the week! This was a complete surprise to Joe on the day – though thoroughly deserved. Well done to all our string players!



Wednesday was a day for the pianists! The first win of the day went to Joshua Towner who was placed first in Piano Solo 10-12 years. Bella Briggs performed in four classes and took home 1st or 2nd place in them all! Bella came second in Organ Solo Open and Piano Solo Open and won both the Piano Solo 15-18 years and Solo Jazz Piano categories. This was a long and testing day for Bella but she rose to the occasion and performed beautifully. A particular highlight was her perfect performance of Chopin in the Piano Solo Open. Several other pupils took part in the piano classes and did themselves, and QEGS, proud including: Anya Curran, Mylo Tsang, Theo Young, Christian Muirhead, Han Fei Wang and Kezia Nittala. Later that evening we returned to St Cuthbert's church where Tamsin Crook's performance of her composition "Leaves" secured first place in this category and received very positive comments from the adjudicator.

Well done to all our Wednesday competitors.



We returned to the festival on Friday for vocal and ensemble classes. Elspeth Green competed in three classes; she won the Junior Vocal Solo 13 years and Under and came second in both the Songs from the Shows and Girls' Vocal Solo 13 years and Under categories. Rowan Penhallurick secured a very worthy second place in the Girls' Vocal Solo 15 years and Under class with a fantastic performance—only competitor to sing in a different language! Ahana George and Rowen placed second in the Vocal Duets 11-18 years class with a beautiful performance of the Flower Duet. There were some other fantastic solo and duet performances on this day by Rowen, Ahana and Naoise O'Dea and both Naoise and Ahana placed 3rd in their respective vocal solo categories too. We had some other fantastic QEGS pupils performing in the Songs from the Shows class including: Isabella Norman, Lucy Holt, Izzy Notman and Hannah Mead.

A huge congratulations to all pupils who took part.

QEGS News

Carlisle and District Music and Drama Festival

On Friday afternoon it was time for our first large ensemble performance of the festival with the choir competing in the Senior Schools Choir Class. QEGS Choir performed wonderfully and gave a rousing rendition of Karl Jenkins' Adiemus! It was a great experience for pupils and lots of fun was had by all. QEGS placed a well-deserved 3rd with 86, just one point behind second place!

Later that evening we returned to the church for our final classes of the festival: Senior School Instrument Ensemble and Senior School's Instrumental Duets. It was a very successful end to the week with two first place performances and two more trophies! First up we had our string ensemble consisting of Phoebe Evans, Joe Alban, Tiegan Lowthian and Emily Stackhouse—who performed Pachelbel's Canon and were highly commended for their musicianship and work as an ensemble. Finally, Phoebe Evans and Tiegan Lowthian performed the first movement of Bach's Double Violin Concerto and were praised for their calm and controlled demeanour whilst playing such a technically skilful piece. Both performances were truly wonderful with many comments from the audience, too.



In Drama, James Cooper took the first place award for his Dramatic Monologue of an actor preparing for his 'Big Break'.

Adam Marchant also took first place for his Shakespeare Monologue of Puck from A Midsummer Night's Dream.

Isabella Walby won the 14 yrs and under Solo Verse Speaking and the 14yrs and under Prose Reading on her 12th birthday!

QEGS News

Well done to the Year 9 Dance Club performing to Riptide at UDance on the 19th March.

Fantastic performances - thanks to Izzy, Sophie and Gracie for their time and effort.



Carlisle on Tuesday the 19th, in Halifax the next day!

QEGS Dancers are on Tour!!! We have done our rehearsals, had lunch and are now preparing to dance for the final time in the Great Big Dance Off at The Victoria Theatre.



Environmental Science



Geology

February: A huge thanks to Dr Rob Chapman from the University of Leeds who visited our geologists to discuss careers in geoscience with Year 12 and run an economic geology workshop for Year 13.



Photography Club



Some fantastic photos developed by the Photography Club of the Grease rehearsals in early February. As you can see, final preparations for the show were well underway with tech team joining forces with the cast to set up ahead of the show week.



After School Club

Sculpting club have been having a great time creating sculptures out of different types of clay and have also produced some lovely pictures with the leftover paint.



Music

Lunchtime Concerts

At the start of February we had our third Lunchtime Concert of the series. It was a wonderful concert with a variety of performers ranging from Year 8 Band "The Clefs" to a fantastic rendition of Leonard Cohen's Famous Blue Raincoat to an original song composed by Rowen in Y9. The concert was topped off with a performance of the first movement of Bach's Double Violin Concerto! It was a packed out audience and a truly special concert. Well done to all who performed!



March: Our fourth lunchtime concert of the year was another truly wonderful concert with so much talent on display. First up on the bill we had Theo Y with a wonderful rendition of the 'Wind in the Willows' on piano. Following this we saw fellow pianist Willow P performing a truly stunning performance of 'A Distance Star in the Stillness'. Year 7 violinist Phoebe E was up next with a fantastic performance of 'Giga' by Mascitti. Our penultimate performance was by Kezia N who performed 'Sweet Dreams' by Tchaikovsky. This was another wonderfully heartfelt performance. Our closing performer was our Lunchtime Concert host Jonty H. As well as hosting the concert, Jonty performed a superb rendition of Andy Scott's 'Respectfully Yours'.



Music/Drama

Grease is the word!

What a phenomenal start to this years school musical! We have been blown away by the talent and enthusiasm of all the students involved!

Grease was the word on everybody's lips, as you joined us on Danny and Sandy's turbulent high school romance. Singing along with the cast as they dodged obstacles, navigated the challenges of teenage expectations and the social cliques of Rydell High.

With a mix of musical numbers and lively dance sequences: you must have found yourself hand-jiving along as QEGS presented their blue spin on the 1950s American High School, timeless celebration of love, youth and self-discovery. Cast and crew was hopelessly devoted to the rockin` and rollin` Grease.

We all loved doing Grease as a production this year, but the production credits don't end with us, the tech crew, stage hands, backstage team, sixth form directors and Miss Wilkinson, Mr Judge and Mr Masci-Gore have all had an impact on the quality of this show, and we appreciate every single one of them for what they have done to bring this show to life.

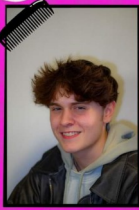
This year's cast was a very talented bunch from across all the year groups, who brought an enormous amount of energy and talent with them. Not only have they been a great group to direct, but they have also shown the ability to bring their own creative ideas to the rehearsal process and the dances, in particular, are very much the creation and hard work of students.



Music/Drama

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Sam Murray
CHARACTER:
Danny Zuko
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
There are worse things
I could do
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"So, okay, cats, throw your mittens around
your kittens ... and AWAY WE GO!"
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Being forced out of my comfort
zone in the dance scenes

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Honor Lavery
CHARACTER:
Sandy
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Summer nights
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"Tell me about it stud."
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Having fun with my friends
doing something I enjoy



GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Hannah Mead
CHARACTER:
Patty Simcox
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Those Magic Changes
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"Hey Kids!"
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
It's been great to perform with amazing
people and fun doing something we all
love

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Francis Laidlaw
CHARACTER:
Roger
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Mooning
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"I'm the king of the
mooners!"
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Rehearsing and
finding the character

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Ben Ellis
CHARACTER:
Sonny
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Greased Lightning
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"You oughtta know, foam
domes!"
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Working together as a group
and the funny side of singing
and dancing together

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
James Laidlaw
CHARACTER:
Doody
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Greased Lightning
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"Don't talk, I'm trying to
dance."
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Seeing everyone put their
spin on their characters

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Nancy Ord
CHARACTER:
Kenikie
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Mooning
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
Any of Eugene's lines
#star
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Performing alongside such
talented individuals

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Jess Smyllie
CHARACTER:
Frenchy
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Freddie my love
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"I was just looking at
Shelly Farberays jugs!"
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Practising and reading
scenes, and the people

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Hazel Harrison
CHARACTER:
Marty
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Mooning
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"I was just lookin' at
Shelly Farberays jugs!"
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Getting to hear people singing and
finding out how amazing they are at it.

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Ella McClure
CHARACTER:
Mrs Lynch
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Look at me I'm Sandra Dee
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"Nah she's got the hots
for ya Sonny."
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Yelling at Ben

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Dorothy Franklin
CHARACTER:
Rizzo
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Look at me, I'm Sandra Dee
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"Yeah! I was just wondering
where you parked your hearse!"
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Performing iconic songs
with lovely people

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Ben Whitfield
CHARACTER:
Vince Fontain
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Greased Lightning
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"Friggen aye."
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Having fun practicing

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Sally Pereira
CHARACTER:
Joan
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Mooning
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"I bought some twinkies,
anyone want some?"
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Learning the songs with
everyone

GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Thomas Chandley
CHARACTER:
Johnny Casino
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Summer Nights
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"Hang loose everybody."
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Every rehearsal has been fun but it's
just so nice to see everyone grow a
bond together throughout

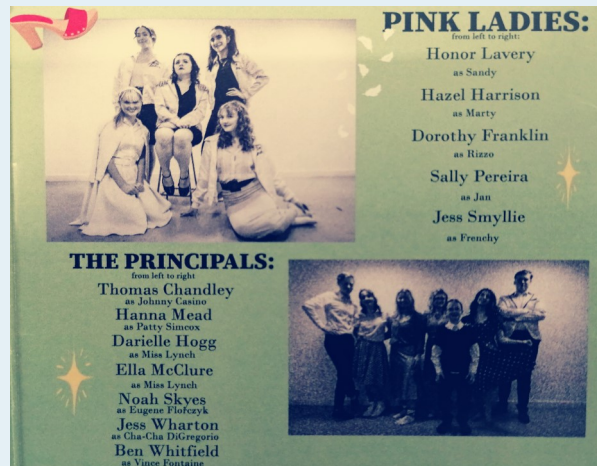
GREASE

**COMING TO QEES
7TH-10TH
FEBRUARY!**



NAME:
Jess Wharton
CHARACTER:
Cha-Cha
FAVOURITE SONG IN THE SHOW:
Greased Lightning
FAVOURITE LINE IN THE SHOW:
"I never knew you were such a fabulous
dancer. Tummy, so gorgeous and firm!"
WHAT HAVE YOU MOST ENJOYED ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN
THE PRODUCTION OF GREASE?
Choreographing and teaching dances to people of
different abilities. It's nice to see people start move
dance before looking more confident and dancing
on stage

Music/Drama



Dance Evening

A week since the first evening of Dance Evening 2024 - what a phenomenal evening!

Congratulations to everyone who was involved in making the evening such a success from the dancers and choreographers to the students who hosted the evening on the 5th and 6th of March and all the staff involved.

A huge thank you to Katie Smith for these beautiful photos. Dance Evening is always such a special evening in the QEGS Calendar and this year was no different, thank you to Charlie Ostle for these wonderful photos.



Dance Evening



Sports

In January the QEGS Year 8 boys hockey team superbly captained by Joe Alban and Thomas Hetherington played Windermere, Sedbergh, Austin Friars, The Lakes School and Keswick at the County Tournament. They kicked off the tournament against Keswick, beating them 2-0. After that, they went on to play Sedbergh, who were their biggest worry, but with a good early goal, they won with a clean sheet at 2-0. Then straight after, on their 3rd match back to back, they played Windermere, who put up a bit of a fight but after they conceded around halfway through they lost 3-0 putting QEGS on 3 for 3. Then after a match off, they came on against the Lakes school, beating them 6-0, then for the last game, to finish it off they beat Austin Friars 2-1, conceding at the last minute. But leaving them as county champions. Well done QEGS! Thanks to Matty Ostle and Miss Wilson for coaching the team and Joe Alban for the match report.



Thanks to Mr Cole at QES for hosting three basketball tournaments U18, U16 and U13. The opportunity for our students to be invited was greatly appreciated. In the most recent tournament our U18's team learnt a great deal, with many opportunities to deal with a variety of emotions. It is fitting that captain Oscar Golding, in his last school game, secured a victory with a superb three point swish. As always the time and commitment of Mr Potter is greatly appreciated.

Sports

February: Many thanks to St. Bees for travelling and providing such a competitive fixture. Some good performances this week with Michael Skelton and Michal Wiglusz controlling the back boards well.



In January the U14 Female Gymnastics Squad competed in the County Competition kindly hosted by UCC.

Well done to everyone who took part in the competition - the biggest turn out for QEGS gymnastics in a long time!



QEGS A won Team Silver and individually Evie Blake was awarded Bronze.

A special thank you to Summer and Alex and Miss Winters - the club wouldn't be what it is without them giving up their personal time.

Sports

Football

January: Some great goals today as the U18s travelled to Kirby Stephen. After trailing to an early goal, Dylan and Acer took control of the engine room. Goals from Alex, Lewis, Noah and Dylan made it a comfortable 4-1 win.



Basketball

January: The 1st team basketball hosted Sedbergh. As the game develops at QEGS so does the size of player, today's game started with a tip off between two players over six feet seven. It was a slow first quarter which saw little movement in the score board. However as the nerves settled the game became more free flowing and so did the points. As much as height can be an advantage some of the shorter players started to demonstrate good levels of skill, hitting 3 pointers as well as driving to the boards. Special mention to Ben Webster who challenged hard and made points from the free throw line. Basketball fixtures and training is a new venture for the school and this opportunity has been made possible thanks to the dedication and commitment of Mr. Potter. His enthusiasm for basketball is contagious and he is allowing others to experience the enjoyment he has from the game.

Rugby

January: Well done to the Y10 rugby team who on this occasion proved too strong for the visiting Caldew side. There were some impressive performances throughout but special mention to Alex Stevens who is becoming a corner stone of the scrum. Also Toby Davies who ran the ball well from full back. They progress to the next round of the county cup where they meet Kirbie Kendal School. Thank you to Archie Harding for refereeing and Mr Jones for his continued support.

Sports

Badminton

January: The badminton fixture produced some great games. With regard to both fixtures it was pleasing to see the competitive spirit along side respect for the opposition. Well done. Courtesy and manners go a long way.

Many thanks to all those teams who made the journey to the county round of the key stage 3 national badminton tournament held at QEGS. There were strong teams from Workington and Cockermouth where their school badminton is supported by a strong club run by Mr. B. Wilkinson at Cockermouth.

Closer to home QEGS and Ullswater fielded teams in both the boys and girls tournaments. On this occasion QEGS were the school to progress to the regional finals. They will join Ullswater Community College who won last weeks key stage four tournament. Special mention to Ben Davidson who coaches pupils at both schools at various clubs. Also the work of Eden Valley juniors and Langwathby juniors.



Sports

March: Well done to the Year 8 Hockey Team who progressed through to the NW Regional Finals hosted by Kings School, Chester. Excellent hockey played and fun had, in some challenging matches. Special mentions to coach Matty and GK Leo who made many excellent saves during a busy afternoon.



Well done to the Year 8 Netball Team who came second at the Eden District Tournament last week(4-8th March), thanks to Coach/Umpire Harper and Caitlin and KSGS for hosting.

Students get a real "taste" of French culture!

On Friday 15th March, Liz Terry travelled with eight students of A Level French to Sheffield for an evening of French culture. Mrs Terry teaches French and German in the Modern Languages Department. This year, Mrs Terry invited colleagues and students from the Modern Languages Department at UCC to join our school on the trip and so QEGS pupils were accompanied by a teacher and student from our neighbouring school in Penrith.

This little band of Penrith French speakers enjoyed a meal in a French restaurant, Chez Lahlou, where a number of pupils tasted "escargots" (snails) for the first time!



Following the meal, they attended a performance of Pierre Corneille's *Le Cid*, written in 1637 and performed for the audience in French. The performers, director, stage hands and technical crew were all either students or lecturers from the University of Sheffield's French Department. French-speaking performances are staged by this Department every year, thanks in recent years to the dedication of Senior Lecturer Dr David McCallam. Mrs Terry participated in these plays as an undergraduate and postgraduate student and has returned with QEGS students to enjoy the performances every year since joining QEGS staff

After the performance, our students had the opportunity to meet the cast and chat informally with lecturers from across the University's French and Dutch Departments. The Dutch lecturers informed us that their Dutch-language play this year will star a QEGS alumna, Katie Thompson. All who came along enjoyed the trip thoroughly, with one Year 13 Pupil telling the others that the trip would be his best memory from QEGS.



From early in the morning of the 5th of March to the late evening of the 12th, the QEGS German learners took part in the annual German exchange in Geretsried, Bavaria. We had a busy schedule: a trip to the beautiful Neuschwanstein castle on Wednesday, a competitive bowling session on Thursday evening, a skiing day trip to Austria on Friday, a weekend with exchange families which was unique for every student, and an excursion to beautiful Munich on Monday. From the flight to the S-Bahn (which was described by

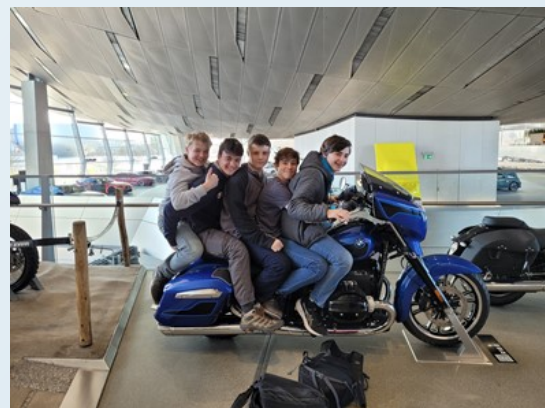


one student as an “extravagant feat of engineering”), you could feel how everyone slowly became more and more excited and then how that turned into a slow bubble of anxiety. Nobody knew what to expect, not even the students who had already been part of the exchange the year before. However, once we had arrived and everyone was with their partners, the excitement came back .

The first two days were tough: a new country, a new language, a new home. It wasn't easy to get used to how much German there was everywhere, but by speaking German and fully

immersing ourselves in the culture and the plans for the week it slowly became our new normal.

At the end of the week, we were presented with the task of choosing what we had enjoyed the most as well as coming up with tips for future exchange students. For some this was easy, with a single event shining through as the highlight- meeting the exchange partners and their families, for example. However, this was more difficult for others, who described the whole week with a sense of melancholy towards the fact that we were leaving. Despite some of the more poetic accounts, this was written in the airport where we had all arrived early after making sure no one had bottles of orange juice in their bags to make our trip through security as easily as possible. One of the highlights of the trip for everyone was skiing- despite the many falls! For many, this was their first time ever skiing, and by the end of the day, everyone had had a go on the slopes, and everyone had enjoyed themselves. Another thing that many people mentioned was how much they enjoyed the social elements of the trip: including getting to know their exchange partners and their friends. On the Saturday, although there was nothing officially planned by the school, many pupils and their exchange partners arranged trips to Munich at the same time. This led to lots of the exchange partners spending a day together in Munich, travelling in groups and getting to know each other better. This was only made more exciting by the school excursion to Munich on the final day, where visiting the BMW-Welt was extremely cool- especially for motorbike enthusiasts!



Everyone also really enjoyed the opportunity to experience a totally different culture hands-on, especially in such a beautiful region as Bavaria. The final party was a high point of the trip, with lots of people commenting on the tasty food and good atmosphere. Mr Kraus created a video compilation of the skiing falls, which was shown at the party and thoroughly enjoyed by all (even those whose falls were embarrassingly captured).



Thursday was spent in the school and provided a different perspective on how schools can work. Their day started at 8 in the morning, meaning many had to wake up much earlier than normal so they could catch the bus to school. This along with the slight time difference led to many tired faces. The school itself was much bigger than ours and had a lot of “communal spaces”. It felt like a maze, and we were grateful for our exchange partners who acted as guides when we could have easily gotten lost. They had 6 periods which were shorter, making the atmosphere feel relaxed as you attended lessons with your exchange partner. They had a big focus on sports and a large gym that split into three sections. As well as offering a chance to be immersed in a different language, attending the lessons

gave us all some insight into how the school system worked as well as allowing us a chance to see how and what they learn compared to us.

Despite the different foods, everyone took the opportunity to try new things, and to fully experience the Bavarian culture. Some favourites included currywurst, Kaiserschmarrn, schnitzel, and pretzels. All of these are traditional Bavarian dishes, and the simplicity and flavour surprised many who were cautious about the new foods. Another highly commented on food was the bread and baked goods that were readily available in any of the bakeries that could be found on almost every corner. The Krapfen (the Bavarian word for doughnuts) came in endless flavours and varieties and are well worth trying if given the opportunity. However not all the experiences with German food went quite as smoothly: for example, one unlucky student tried to order a kebab and ended up unable to finish it due to saying yes when asked anything by the German server. Overall the food, whilst new, wasn't bad at all and everyone enjoyed getting stuck into the local cuisine.



The students were all asked to give some tips for a student considering going on the exchange next year. Here was some of the advice they came up with:

“Be yourself and confidently try speaking German- mistakes don’t matter!” -Poppy

“Don’t be scared of getting things wrong or not knowing how to say something, and don’t

forget to have fun!” -Hannah

“Do it! Even if you feel it will be scary, it will be worth it, and your experiences will stick with you for life.” -Martha

“Try lots of traditional German foods as some may surprise you and are very nice” -Matty

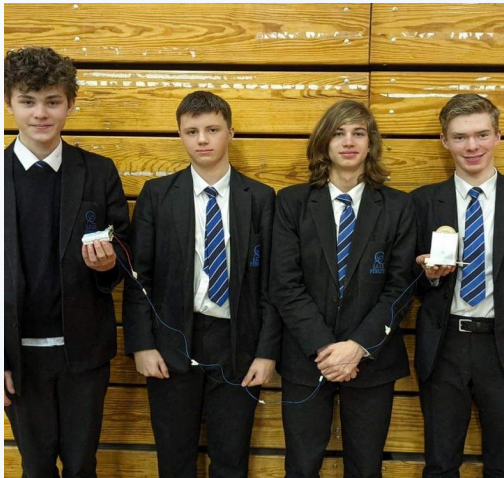
“Try things you aren’t used to, even if it means stepping outside your comfort zone, as it is worth it” -Keian

“Make sure you get to know your partner before going so you can get on better and quicker with them” -Charlie

This year's German exchange was a massive success, with everyone getting involved and overall having a great time. Over time it was obvious how our confidence grew, and we became more comfortable speaking and interacting in German. None of us can wait for July so we can welcome our partners back; we can definitely expect a much more tearful goodbye at the end of that week, despite the tears at the bus stop in Geretsreid as we waved goodbye and started counting the days until we'd all be in the same place again.

QEGS Technology

On Friday the 15th March three groups of Year 8, Year 10 and Sixth Form students took part in the Rotary Technology Tournament at Kendal leisure centre. The challenge involved moving an object across a suspended piece of string, with more difficulty added for the older students, including dropping the object and returning along the string. The students did a fantastic job and we are really proud of them all!



QEGS Library

World Book Day 2024

Another busy World Book Day was celebrated in school this year!

Students were treated to a story relay - each class, when possible, being read a section of Chris Priestley's sinister Cumbrian tale "**The Path**" throughout the day, until the macabre twist was revealed during their final lesson.



As always, our **Guess Who's Reading Competition** generated a lot of lively debate! No forms correctly guessed all 12 mystery readers so congratulations to **12HS** who scored an impressive 11 out of 12 in what turned out to be a tough competition!

The **fancy dress competition** saw a wonderful array of book characters ranging from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Alice in Wonderland to Cat in the Hat, James Bond, Newt Scamander and even a jellyfish, based on one of this year's World Book Day books!

Cartoons and graphic novels were represented and more modern characters ranged from The Hunger Games and Murder Most Unladylike to a large group of Rick Riordan's Percy Jackson characters.

The costumes were all incredibly inventive and creative, making it a difficult job for the judges Mr Croft, Mrs Parker and Mrs Lawson who awarded many prizes!

Fantastic staff costumes ranged from Willy Wonka, Anne of Green Gables, the Mad Hatter, Gangsta Granny and Maleficent to Narnia, Harry Potter, Mr Men and Little Miss characters.

A selection of FREE books published for World Book Day have been on offer in the library and will be available until the end of term.

Author Visit

Also on World Book Day, Year 10 students were treated to a visit from author C.G. Moore, whose new novel, **Trigger**, was published on the day of his visit. He talked about his books and the topic of consent, which forms part of their PSHE curriculum.

Chris was informative, engaging, funny and honest and answered many questions from the group. He was happy to sign bought copies of his book and continue chatting to students in smaller groups at the end of the session.

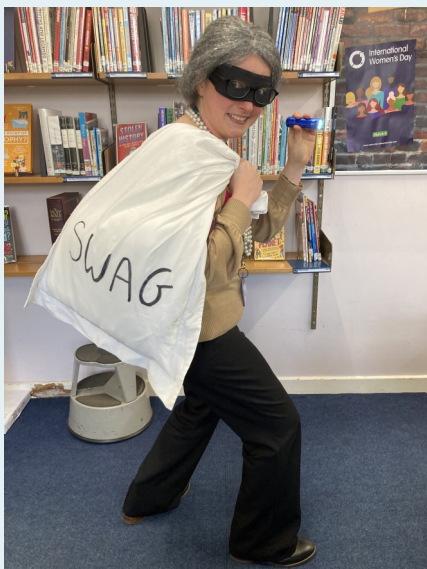
QEGS Library

World Book Day 2024



QEGS Library

World Book
Day 2024



QEGS Library

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported the Scholastic Book Fair which was held in the library during World Book Day week.

Students had the opportunity to browse and buy from over 200 new books ranging from 8+ to Young Adult titles.

We managed to sell £800 worth of books and with 50% commission means that the library has earned around £400 in rewards which can be spent on titles from Scholastic over the next few months – a fantastic amount and a huge boost to our funds for this year.

So many thanks again – we really do appreciate your continued support!

Plea for used stamps

Mrs K Johnston (P.E.) is kindly asking for donation of any used stamps. This helps raising funds towards The Guide Dogs for The Blind Association .

Thank you.

