



January 2019

NEWSLETTER

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A Level Awards Evening



Last year's A Level students gathered at Penrith Methodist Church on 9th January to celebrate their successes and receive their examination certificates as part of the school's annual Year 13 Awards Evening. Most of our students are now studying at some of the UK's top universities, with many making a special trip to be with us for the evening.

In his introduction, Mr Buckland reflected on the importance of the soft skills the students had acquired through the range of opportunities beyond the academic provided by the school. He used the example of a study of Google employees, which found the top seven characteristics of success to be soft skills such as critical thinking, good communication and empathy. He spoke about the rapid changes that technology brings to life and how students are now being prepared for roles that don't currently exist, using technologies not currently invented to solve problems that we don't even know are problems yet.

Students were presented with their A Level certificates by our Chair of Governors, Dr Castles, and over forty special awards celebrating individual achievement were also presented. Many of these prizes are kindly sponsored by former staff members, past students and local businesses.

Dr Castles, who is a local hotelier, has been Chair of Governors for two years. Previously, he was a teacher and Headteacher, and worked as a consultant for the Department for Education under the New Labour government. In his well-received address, Dr Castles spoke of his experiences of the Starehe Boys' School in Nairobi, which he visited during his time as a Headteacher. Starehe is a selective school, founded in 1959 as a charitable school for orphaned boys, and still educates at least 70% of its students for free. Competition for its 250 places is fierce, and students have to perform housekeeping duties as well as their schoolwork. Dr Castles told us that by the time students left the school, there was no difference in achievement between those who had paid to attend and those who were subsidised and that students went on to excel in their chosen fields.

Musical entertainment was provided by current Sixth Form students Evie Logue, Martha Hudson and Tanya Darling who sang 'A Clare Benediction' by John Rutter, accompanied on the piano by our Head of Music, Mr Roberts.

The evening closed with a vote of thanks by Toby Collard, who was Head Boy from 2017-18. As well as expressing thanks on behalf of his whole year group, Toby extended his personal gratitude to staff for their encouragement and support during his time at QEGS; support ,he said, he did not think he would have received anywhere else.

Thank you to the Friends of QEGS who provided refreshments to finish the evening.



Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Penrith



QUEEN ELIZABETH GRAMMAR SCHOOL PENRITH

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 5th February, 5pm-7:30pm

**Talks will be given by our Heads of Sixth Form at:
5:30pm, 6pm & 6:30pm in the main hall**

Judged outstanding in all categories at our last Ofsted inspection.

100% pass rate at A Level.

90% of our sixth formers move on to top universities.



QUEEN ELIZABETH GRAMMAR SCHOOL PENRITH

YEAR 5 SCHOOL TOURS for September 2020 entry

Year 5 pupils and their families are warmly invited to tour our school between Monday 25th February - Tuesday 5th March.

School tour request forms are available on our website. Forms must be returned **no later than 12noon, Friday 8th February**.

Ofsted rated Outstanding.

98% pass rate at GCSE.

Extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities.

QEGS Praised by The Good Schools' Guide

QEGS has been selected for review by the prestigious 'The Good Schools Guide'.

The Good Schools Guide has provided unbiased and candid school reviews for over 30 years. Its reviewers currently visit about one quarter of UK state secondary schools. QEGS is one of only three Cumbrian secondary schools to appear in the Guide.

In a detailed report, QEGS is praised for its inclusivity and family atmosphere. It points out that, whilst QEGS is the only selective school in Cumbria, it is not a 'hothouse', and that education for its own sake is valued. The school's pastoral care, careers guidance and special needs support are all commended and staff are complimented on their enthusiasm and commitment. The range of sports, quality of art and breadth of careers guidance on offer at QEGS are also amongst the aspects of school life which impressed the reviewer.

Mr Buckland said, "This is a really positive report, and it is a credit to staff, students and governors that their hard work has been acknowledged in this way. In particular, we are very proud of the comments from students and the emphasis on our inclusive and caring ethos. To me, it feels like a good reflection of what we are about at QEGS and it is great to be included in The Good Schools Guide again."



Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Penrith

Library News

Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported the Scholastic Book Fair, which was held in school during the second half of last term.

Students had the opportunity to browse and buy from over 200 books ranging from 8+ to Young Adult titles, as well as choose from a good selection of stationery and posters. It was also present at the QEGS Christmas Fayre, which proved to be a great opportunity for parents and families to buy some books for Christmas!

We managed to sell over £1,200 worth of books, and with 50% commission the library earned around £600, 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 thank you again – we really do appreciate your continued support. We may organise another fair for next year, and details of the next Scholastic Teen Book Club leaflet will be distributed in school very soon.

Calling all skiers.....



If you have any ski clothing that you do not wear or have grown out of, would you be kind enough to donate it to the school so that we can keep a ski store for anyone who would like to borrow items for our ski trips.

Thank you. Mrs Johnston



Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Penrith

Student Commendations

Commendations were awarded this month to the following students:

Headteacher's Commendations

Carys Illett	8RP
Morgan Macaulay	7AGM
Samad Khan	7AGM
Jessica Wharton	7AGM
Jessica Liu	7AGM
Evie Baldwin	7AGM
Akshay Dharmrajan	7SC
Rama Moukarram	8RP
Amber Beaty	7AGM
Josh Willis	7AGM
Alexandra Brook	7AGM
Summer Davidson	7SC
Finn Smith	7PCR

Deputy Headteacher's Commendations

Amber Beaty	7AGM
Lucy Stark	7AGM
Ellen Watson	8SLC
Summer Davidson	7SC
Zoe Nelson	7SC
Charlotte Harnwell	7AGM
Molly Morton	7AGM
Madison Barker	7AGM
Hannah Rushton	7AGM
Cory Liddle	7AGM
Josephine Wong	7KJD
Jessica Graham	7KJD
Katie Smith	7KJD
Shazia Hassan	7AGM
Annam Joseph	7AGM



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Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Penrith

Friends of QEGS NEWS

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 26th February at 7pm

Dates for your diary

Quiz Night
Friday 1st March



Further information to follow...

100 Club Winners for January

- 1st £40 Joanna Kociubinska
- 2nd £25 Tracey Billington
- 3rd £20 Alison Rawle
- 4th £20 Tracey Billington
- 5th £20 DJ Blackie

Friends of QEGS Committee

Chair

Alison Almond

Secretary

Lucinda Weymouth

Treasurers

Clare Glassford
David White

Numbers Club

Sarah Thomas
Claire McKeown

Recycled Uniform

Kimberley Lawson

Diary Dates

January/February 2019

Wednesday 30th January	Y11 Exam Success Evening
Tuesday 5th February	Sixth Form Open Evening
Monday 18th - Friday 22nd Feb	Half Term
Monday 25th February	Y5 School Tours commence

For more events and up-to-date calendar information, visit the homepage of the school website and access the [School Calendar via Google Live](#) which is regularly updated