

KEB/cl

8th April 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of the Spring term I would like to thank parents, staff and students for their ongoing support. As predicted the term has not been without challenges of Covid yet as a community we have worked together to ensure that school continues to operate as close to normal as possible.

Staff and students have been incredibly busy this term with departments running after school revision sessions for exam years together with a huge number of extracurricular events. I hope that you enjoy reading about just some of the events that have taken place at the end of this letter.

Teaching Awards

We are delighted to announce that both Mrs Leach and Mr Kirby were nominated and shortlisted in the Daily Echo Teaching Awards for Secondary Teacher of the Year and Higher Education Teacher of the Year respectively. They were shortlisted from over 700 nominations across the county for their work which is a fantastic achievement. Last week we learnt that Mrs Leach won her category as Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Access Arrangements

The new fence has been completed and the new access arrangements are now in place across the school site. The school opens for students at 8.30am and registration begins at 8.40am. Students must have their ID card with them at all times to gain access to the site and school buildings. If your child needs a new card these can be purchased using ParentPay.

Thank you to parents who have provided feedback during this trial week of the new arrangements. In response to this I can confirm that after Easter a bookable supervised study room will be available from 8am for students. Booking information will be sent to all parents for the new term.

Year 11 / 13 End of Year Plans

Year 11 and Year 13 students worked exceptionally hard for the recent PPE period and have received their results for these this week. Students have feedback from the PPE exams which will support their ongoing revision over the Easter Break.

I can confirm that the last day of the normal school timetable for Year 11 students is Thursday 12th May. Following this we will move to the revision timetable and further information will be sent to parents about this by Mrs Dean.

Year 13 students will have their last normal day of timetable on Friday 13th May. Further information will be sent to parents by Miss Dean.

The Year 11 and Year 13 Proms will run on the following dates;

Year 11 - Mercure Hotel - Thursday 7th July 2022

Year 13 - Hilton Hotel - Tuesday 5th July 2022

Further information will be sent out after the Easter holidays.

Year 11 and Year 13 Parents Evenings

There will be a Year 11 Parents Evening on Thursday 28th April 2022. The online booking system for the Year 11 Parents Evening opens on Friday 8th April at 17:00. Appointments can be made between 16:00 and 19:00.

Appointments are 5 minutes long with 1 minute gaps between appointments. The evening will be held virtually using the parents evening system which has video call capability.

There will be a Year 13 Parents Evening on Thursday 5th May 2022. The online booking system for the Year 13 Parents Evening opens on Monday 25th April at 17:00. Appointments can be made between 16:00 and 19:00.

The link for booking and for both evenings is: <https://queenelizabeths.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Year 9 Careers Trip

On 25th May 2022 all Year 9 students will be visiting Bournemouth University as part of our programme of raising aspirations and building career awareness. The visit will include a tour of the campus, a talk from BU staff and the opportunity to speak to current students studying at Bournemouth University about university life in general.

Thank you once again for all of your support over the last term and I wish you all a happy and restful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming back all students on Monday 25th April.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KBoyes'.

Katie Boyes
Headteacher

Celebrating QE Events and Success

Maths challenge results

As part of our higher performance faculty provision the Maths department entered 24 students in the UKMT (United Kingdom Mathematics Trust) Intermediate Maths Challenge. The challenge involves answering 25 multiple choice questions in one hour and is sat in school under normal exam conditions. This year the challenge was done online in school. Top 40% students nationally receive gold, silver and bronze certificates.

Three QE students received Gold certificates:

Jake Churchill (Year 10)	Best in school
Oliver Foster (Year 11)	Best in year group
Zoe Richardson (Year 11)	

Silver certificates were awarded to Elwood Hardy and Emily Barrett (Year 10 students).

Bronze certificates were awarded to Year 10 students Jack Herrington, Jodie Teo, Jack Jones, Toby Dodd, Sam Farrar, Emily Lamb, Benjamin Franklin and Amy Stevens and Year 11 student Alfie Greenfield.

All students received a certificate of participation.

Well done to everyone who participated. The results were Amazing!!

Dance

Contact Improvisation workshop

On Monday 21st March the Year 12 Performance Academy students were treated to a wonderful workshop led by AUB's Jane White and Lawrence James. The students followed a contemporary dance warm-up before being introduced to some impressive lifts. The session concluded with students performing their own choreography involving their brand new contact skills.

QuniquE students will certainly be able to extend their own creations, choreography work and devised pieces with the inclusion of their newly developed skills. Congratulations to all involved.



Post 16 Theatre Trip

The end of March was a busy time for the A Level Dance students as the Year 13s had their final practical exam in which the Year 12s were performing in. To celebrate, the students were given the opportunity to visit the Mayflower Theatre to see Matthew Bourne's remastered version of the Nutcracker! The performance was inspiring and equally entertaining as we watched dancers become gobstoppers, marshmallows and more!

Not only was it lovely to be out watching live dance at a theatre but the dance piece is also one which the students study for their written exam. So, not only a brilliant celebration but a valuable experience also.



Year 9 Junior Dance Company

On a chilly April morning the Year 9 Junior Dance Company set off to The Forum, Bath to compete in the South West final of the Great Big Dance Off.

By the time the minibus had pulled up in the park and ride coach park the sun was shining and the students looked ready to represent QE to the highest standard.

As we walked into The Forum we were wowed by the energy and enthusiasm of 34 other school performances. Having not being able to perform at a live theatre setting for over two years it seemed as though everyone was out to impress with their costumes, creativity and technique. QE dancers did not disappoint. Performing a dance inspired by Remembrance day and the importance of hope the Year 9 dancers performed beautifully.

After much deliberation the results were announced and QE placed third.

Mrs Miller and Mrs Clark-Nation are extremely proud of what the dancers achieved.

Huge congratulations to Amy, Caitlin, Ella, Isabelle, Maria, Mary, Maddie and Skye.



English

For World Book Day 2022, the English Faculty ran a variety of competitions to engage students in reading and exploring books.

The winners were:

[Literary Cluedo](#) - Ava Sheridan W-ASM

[Book Shelves tutor competition](#) - joint winners 9T-NLC and 11T-NLK

[Photo Challenge](#) - Dan Lee Y-HCS

Runners up - Isabelle Insull-Burden, Hannah Churchill and Izzy Stonestreet

Special Prize for the Tutor Group photo for HCS who submitted:



The Secret Garden:

Humanities - Geography

Year 12 Geography field trip to Lulworth Cove and Durdle Door

A sunny but cold day spent down at the coast with Year 12 Geographers in early March, the first field trip many of the students had been on since Year 10. The students had great fun trailling out many different geographical data collection techniques comparing a high energy coastline with the low energy coastline. Collecting data from beach profiles, wave types, sediment types and the formation of these remarkable landscapes. All of which have helped prepare the students for their NEAs later in the year whilst applying their classroom knowledge to the real world. We are so lucky to have such beautiful coastal landscapes on our doorstep.



Science

Science and STEM Event

Students from Queen Elizabeth's were invited to take part in the annual Rotary in Poole STEM event in March. This event attracts students from a wide range of schools across the area. There were approximately forty teams in total.

Teams of four students are presented with a challenge. This year, they had to design and build a vehicle powered by a 200g mass that could travel up an inclined slope and under a bridge that restricted the height. Marks were awarded for the design process, teamwork, how far up the slope the vehicle travelled, how straight it travelled and the actual vehicle design. Students had approximately three hours to design, build and test the machines before putting through their paces. Modifying and testing became frantic as the time for assessment approached, with some ingenious last-minute modifications carried out, including making it short enough to pass under the bridge.

QE entered four teams in the Year 9 category. Two of the teams created a vehicle that managed to complete the whole 3 metre course, which was a great achievement. Each team took a slightly different approach. Photos of the vehicles show this.



One QE team won first prize in their age group category. Students involved were:

Ella Hardy
Isla O' Connor
Hafsa Karim
Nicole Paine
Charlotte Bedford
Amy Ayling
Jensen Davis
Giles Groeger



Charlotte and Amy's team won the prize for students competing in Year 9, it covered the course easily and their teamwork was outstanding.



Art



Queen Elizabeth's Schools collaboration with Walford Mill to create some 'Giant Georgian Heads!'

Wimborne History Festival was the lead partner for the East Dorset Magnificent Mills project. This popular Living History Festival was rescheduled from 2020 to September 2021. The education programme theme was Wimborne during the Georgian and Regency period. Hence there was a Georgian theme running through the arts and crafts activities of the whole project.

The Festival commissioned Walford Mill artists Sarah Redmond-Fareham and Caroline Parrott to organise and deliver two day workshops with students at Queen Elizabeth's School.

A selection of Year 9 students were invited to take part in a fantastic sculpture workshop with Walford Mill to create some Giant Georgian Heads. The opportunity to work three-dimensionally on this scale has been limited within the curriculum over the last couple of years so this was a fantastic opportunity for the students to learn some new skills whilst working with new materials.



Over two days students worked incredibly hard with the Walford Mills artists. In groups the students created ten giant papier-mâché heads to depict famous Georgian people: these were Jane Austen, King George III, First Duke of Wellington Arthur Wellesly, Nelson, Mary Wollstonecraft, James Cook and William Wilberforce.

The workshops were really successful and the students expressed a high level of enjoyment and satisfaction.

You may have been lucky enough to have seen the recent exhibition at Walford Mill in January. We are delighted to have them back on display at Queen Elizabeth's School.



Many thanks to everyone involved.

Social Sciences

Students from Health and Social Care in Years 10 and 12 went out on successful work experiences. They had a great time - not only introducing many of them to the world of work but they were able to gain valuable experiences that they will now be able to apply to their assignment work. The feedback we had from the placements was very encouraging and positive - they would have them back in a flash.

Business and IT

Masterchef Battle of the Cooks Event

As part of our BTEC Business course, we had to plan and organise an event. As a group, we decided to run a food competition of a similar style to a Masterchef setup involving different rounds and heats. We had 24 students from Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 compete against each other. To participate in the event we asked for a contribution of £5, with all profits from the event going to Mosaic bereavement charity.

The different rounds included the students making Stir Fry, Curry, Pizza, Bread Rolls, Pancakes, Decorated Cupcakes as well as a mystery Pasta dish for the final three. The pasta dishes included

making carbonara, bolognese and roasted pepper and chicken. After each round the judges, Bowan Ternent and Will Homer, decided who would go straight to the semi final, as well as deciding who would be eliminated from the following rounds.



A selection of the chicken curries made during our semi-final heat.

All participants were given a time frame to cook their dishes as well as presenting them. With all of our finalists proving their cooking skills were of a good standard from the previous heats, the final's round gave the participants the opportunity to develop their presentational skills whilst also focusing on the importance of the overall taste of their dish.

After completing a number of rounds, Bella Mason was our winner with Paige Paterson in second place and Jude Feltham and Olli Johnson coming third.



The Finalists dishes with the mystery ingredient of Pasta
(Bolognese - Jude and Olli, Chicken and Roasted Pepper - Bella, Carbonara - Paige)



Our Finalists from Left to Right (Jude Feltham, Olli Johnson, Bella Mason, Paige Paterson)

We were really pleased with the level of attraction for the event, with more people wanting to take part than there were available places. Everyone involved in the event showed enthusiasm, took on feedback given whilst cooking and delivered some really high quality dishes which brought in the crowds with our business teachers enjoying the food as much as our judges. Overall we are grateful to everyone who took part and hope you had a fun day putting your cooking skills to the test, in a range of dishes which were designed to test the skills of a great chef from creating a dish which not only looks good but tastes amazing.

Drama

West-End Workshop

On Friday 18th March, students from QuniquE Performance Academy and aspiring Year 11 Students undertook a workshop with West End Musical Theatre Performer - Dan Partridge. Dan is an actor who has performed on stages all over the world, including London's West End. He has worked on productions of Grease (UK Tour), Starlight Express (Germany), Hairspray (UK Tour) and Mamma Mia! (Novello Theatre, London). Dan starts rehearsals to play 'Danny Zuko' in the West End revival of 'Grease'. The show returns to London for the first time in over 10 years.

Students undertook a high intensity workshop in which they were taught the choreography from *Shakin' At The Highschool Hop* - the number that opens the second act in the musical. Students were taught the professional standard choreography and certainly rose to the challenge. By the end of the day they were exhausted but managed to learn the entire choreography! Dan was really impressed that our students learnt the choreography in such a short amount of time and to a high standard.



Year 12 QuniquE Students with Dan Partridge



Aspiring Year 11 Students

Sixth Form

On Friday 11th March we had a group of 18 Sixth Form students and 6 staff participate in an event called Sleep Easy. Sleep Easy is a national initiative with YMCA to help raise awareness of homelessness.

Students slept outside in the school grounds overnight, using cardboard boxes as shelter in wet and windy conditions. In total the group raised £2,443 for YMCA



Support for Ukraine (expertly organised by our Sixth Form students)

We were delighted with the response from the QE community. We were able to fill 2 minibuses with the donations received.



Languages

Superb performances from GCSE French and Spanish students!



Over the last few weeks, nearly 200 Year 10 and Year 11 MFL students have taken part in GCSE style speaking assessments.

All had to complete a role play, a photo card and two conversations in the target language.

This event aimed to give students plenty of practice before the “real thing” and allowed those who have risen to the challenge to show off their foreign language skills.



Mrs Mason, Head of MFL

PE

U14 and U18 Boys' Hockey

The boys had some fantastic success this term through our regular inter school hockey fixtures, but most notably was the achievement of advancing through two county tournaments to be eligible to represent Dorset at the regional hockey finals for both the U14 team and the U18 team. This is the first time we have had two teams competing at this level. Both teams represented QE both on and off the pitch in a manner that made you proud to be part of hockey at QE. Their desire to do well for themselves and the team was a pleasure to see and their ability to take on board coaching tactics was a testament to their willingness to always work harder. The boys were an absolute credit to the school and represented us very well with such great sportsmanship! Special mention should be made to our goal scorers Ashton McCreath (U14), Tom Jobe (U14) and Joe Connock (U18).

U14 Team

- 1 Oliver Newell (GK)
- 2 Luka Bennett
- 3 Joshua Farmer
- 4 Jago Edmond
- 5 James Butt
- 6 Lincoln Habgood
- 7 Cody Collins
- 8 Thomas Jobe (C)
- 9 Alfie Fry
- 10 Ashton McCreath
- 11 Oliver Spreadbury
- 12 Jack Paddon
- 13 Joshua Frost
- 14 Lukas Downing
- 15 Jack Siggers

U18 Team

- 1 Orli Anderson (Year 10)
- 2 Joseph Connock (Year 10)
- 3 Harry Deverill (Year 10)
- 4 Thomas Ayling (Year 11)
- 5 Piers Booker (Year 11)
- 6 Charlie Naish (Year 11)
- 7 Alfie Trigger (Year 11)
- 8 Tommy Butt (Year 12)
- 9 Finlay Callaghan (Year 12)
- 10 Benjamin Daniels (Year 12)
- 11 William Hartin (C) (Year 12)
- 12 Finn Legge (GK) (Year 12)
- 13 Jack Yeoman (Year 12)

QE Cross Country Team

The QE cross country team had a very successful individual and team season. QE did extremely well in the local PEDSSA XC League. The Year 9 and 10 boys' team finished champions and Jack Williams was crowned individual champion with Tom Williams in second place. The Year 11 and 6th form boys' team finished champions and Oliver Rawles was crowned individual champion. And in the Year 11 and 6th form girls' league Sarah Graham finished in second place.

At the County Championships, QE represented very well individually but particular mention must go to Will Rabjohns for winning the U17 County Championship race. The QE boys' team were also crowned Country Champions!

7 athletes were selected to represent Dorset at the South West Championships, they were Sarah Graham (Yr 12), Imogen Rawles (Yr 9), Oliver Rawles (Yr 13), Will Rabjohns (Yr 11) and Jack Williams (Yr 10). Imogen Rawles, Oliver Rawles, Will Rabjohns and Jack Williams went on to represent Dorset in the English Schools Cross Country Championships. They all did incredibly well and should know QE are very proud of their achievements. Again, particular mention must go to Will who powered on to earn himself another top 10 finish in this national event earning him his second England vest. This is a huge achievement and one fully deserved for a very talented and delightful student. Well done Will! Next stop Olympics 2028?

It has been a fantastic season and I would personally like to thank all the parents who have supported their sons and daughters this season and for helping out with transport from QE or picking up at various venues across the county! It really has been very much appreciated.

QE Athletics Club starts on Tuesday after Easter from 3.20 - 4.30pm!

Mrs Adams

Media



Our Media students visited the Harry Potter Studios Tour in January. They were involved in pre-tour lessons on camera shots and looked at props and costumes.

Michael James Bursary Concert

I was so proud of our fabulous musicians at last night's Michael James Bursary Winners' Concert held once again in Wimborne Minster. A packed audience enjoyed a great variety of outstanding performances, and our 2022 joint recipients of the Award - Lydia Hughes and Katie O'Connor - proved once again how special and talented they are. Ably accompanied by Miss Phenix at the piano, our young musicians, orchestra and choir produced a truly memorable and magical evening of music.

Steve Glover

Director of Music



Inter House Easter Egg competition

Students and Staff donated eggs which will be heading to Wimborne Food Bank. 239 were collected - thank you to everyone.



Personal Achievements

Isobel Forward

A karate competition in Wales, Isobel won 2 bronze medals!



Kiera Mitchell

Cheerleading - Second overall at the BCA Summer Showdown - the team are heading off to the World Championships in Orlando.