



Queens' Alumni News

QUEENS' SCHOOL

Dare to be Great

Issue 6 March 2023

Welcome to the sixth edition of the **Queens' Alumni newsletter**, where you can learn how our past students have got involved with helping our students. Please contact Careers@queens.herts.sch.uk if you would like to get involved with events at Queens' next term.



The Senior School Presentation Evening was held on Thursday 5th January after an absence of three years due to the pandemic. There were over 160 prizes to be handed out to past Year 11, 12 and 13 students where exams had been held in the Summer of 2022. Music was provided by Lewis during the evening and guest speaker was Oyin Olukotun. After an introduction by Mr Morrell, Oyin gave an excellent speech about the importance of role models. Prizes were handed out in turn by Mr Morrell, Ms Olukotun and our Chair of Trustees, Mrs Raybould. It was a great evening celebrating everyone's achievements.

Written by Gillian Gray





Panel Talks and Assemblies, our students have been delighted with guest speakers from different careers.

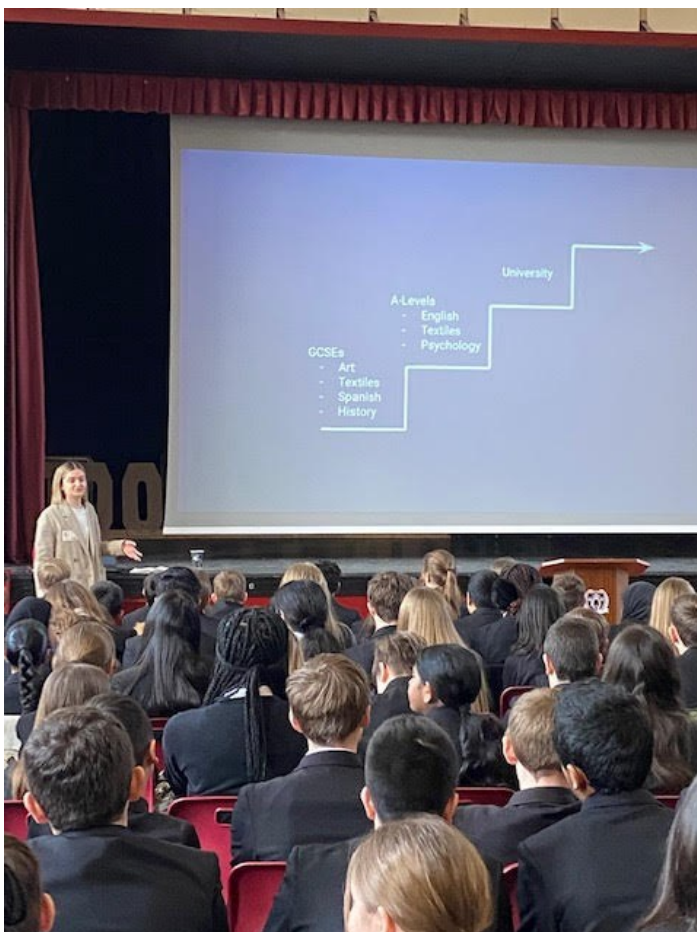


Sophie Grant

Auden/Attenborough House

Studied Psychology at the University of Sheffield and a Masters in Mental Health Studies at Kings College London. Now working with a research group at the University of Oxford looking at cognitive therapy for anxiety disorders and trauma.

Thank you for being part of our Panel Talk to our Year 8 students.



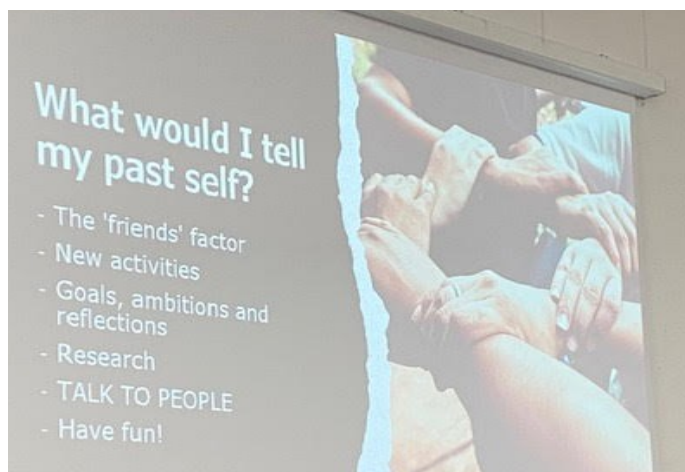
Jennifer Yiadom

Drake/Franklin

Jennifer joined Queens' Sixth Form after attending Watford Girls Grammar. She spoke to the students about taking part in extra curricular activities that they enjoy and not to box themselves into one sport or pastime. She shared her journey that was not straight forward. She had to repeat a year in sixth form but still went to university and now works for KPMG as a Director's Personal Assistant. One question she asked herself was:

What would I tell my past self ? Think about Goals, ambitions, reflections, Try new activities, Research, Talk to people and above all HAVE FUN.

Thank you for being part of our Panel Talk to our Year 7 students.





Sam Harper

Newton/Turing

Sam joined Queens' school in Sixth Form. He started his own fitness business, **QuFitness** and is based in the school gym. He spoke about the importance of food and nutrition along side physical fitness. A day in the life of a personal trainer gave opportunity for Q&A's from the students.

Thank you Sam for taking the Year 8 Assembly.





What Apprenticeship are you doing/ what level?

Level 3 apprenticeship with a company called 'Just IT' which is an Information Communications Technician level 3 standard. It gives me lots of broad information about IT to start me off on my career so it's an entry Level Apprenticeship.

What is your JOB/ ROLE HERE AT QUEENS'?

At Queens' I do first line support which is taking people's problems and fixing them, for example when people can't connect to the Wi-Fi to when laptops are falling apart or frozen. I also manage a few side projects like influencing new software.

How did you find out about the apprenticeship?

Initially I found out on the Government Apprenticeship website.

How long have you been doing this apprenticeship?

As a whole the apprenticeship is just over a year-long and I've been doing it for about six months now.

Why did you choose this over other pathways?

I felt apprenticeships give you the work experience as well as the knowledge which is really valuable in IT as it can be quite hard to get work experience when jobs ask for years of experience when it's an entry level job.

How did you find it to begin with, was it difficult?

It was tricky as I went into it not knowing much, I did it from the ground up. In terms of entering a new profession and a new environment I found that tricky to deal with but I picked it up quite quickly so medium difficulty.

What is the most exciting project that you've worked on?

Re-designing the school website which I'm in the process of so working with lots of different companies and departments within the school and all coming together and working within a budget I find it really interesting.

Who has inspired you and why?

Seeing other people in such high positions who had also followed the apprenticeship route inspired me. I thought if they can do it, so can I.

Why did you choose this over other pathways?

Definitely taking in a lot of knowledge in a short space of time very quickly as there are so many different things around Queens' and lots of different ways of doing things.

Interviewed and Written by Olivia West Year 12

Photographer Olivia Griffiths Year 12

Sarah Thorn

Sutherland/Seacole Head of Geography



1. What has changed most about the school since you were here?

Quite a lot! New headteacher, new house names, new Director of Learning system.

2. What has changed least about the school since you were here?

Mike Taylor's face - just a few more grey hairs

3. What was your favourite school lunch?

Pizza slice

4. Who was your favourite teacher?

It is a close call between Mr Buckland and Mr Taylor. Probably safer to say Mr Taylor now though.

5. Who were your form tutors?

Too many to name. Mr Mckweon was definitely my favourite though.

6. What was the best thing about your Year 7 trip, and where did you go?

France. Beating the teachers at rounders.

7. What was the worst thing about your Year 7 trip?

Watching a bug being rolled into the butter that was then used to make a croissant.

8. Words of wisdom to current students:

Pay attention in Computer Science. I have lost count of the amount of times I have asked Mrs Wassall for help and said 'I wish I had listened to this when I was at school'

9. What was the best thing about going to University?

The freedom and living with friends.

10. What is your favourite new house name?

Attenborough of course!

11. What extra-curricular activities did you do when you were at school?

Netball (when I actually turned up to training)

12. Did you ever get detention and if so what for?

Chewing gum... spent 30 minutes scraping gum off the bottom of the science tables.

Below is the Alumni link found on
the school website :

About us , Alumni, School badge

[Click here](#)

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help build our Alumni at Queens'