



We started this term celebrating the success of our students in their GCSE and A-levels at the Senior School Presentation Evening. It was wonderful to see so many of our Year 13 students return to Queens' with such positive experiences of university life and that of the world of work. We were very much inspired by our guest speaker and former student Dr Matt Springham, Research Lead in the Centre for Applied Performance Science at St Mary's University, London. He spoke of the importance of tenacity as a key to success.

The first set of mock examinations have now been completed and many of our students will be encouraged by their performance and reviewing next steps. Year 11 should now be preparing for their second mock. In considering career choices and options, students should be aware of [Unifrog](#), an online universal destinations

platform free to Queens' students and all the latest local careers updates from [Herts Opportunities Portal](#). In addition, our successful [Apprenticeship Week](#), signposted a wealth of vocations.

We continue to be very fortunate to have a huge range of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities available to our students. Sixth Form business and geography students have now departed for Berlin and Iceland respectively and our annual ski trip is about to leave for Italy. Year 10 students have just returned from Auschwitz, Poland. These excursions and many like them form an integral part of the wider *Queens' Experience* and we are delighted to have such a dedicated staff willing to lead such trips.

You will be interested to know that the board of trustees have approved funding for the redevelopment of our Sixth Form facilities and consultation with staff and students will result in a first-class learning environment. Building work will commence in the summer term.

Our parental surgeries will continue to take place on Tuesday from 5.30 - 6.30. These are an opportunity to discuss Queens' in general, rather than individual students and are by appointment only: office@queens.herts.sch.uk. I will look forward to hearing from you soon.

I would like to wish you a restful and happy and enjoyable half-term break.

Jonathan Morrell
Headteacher



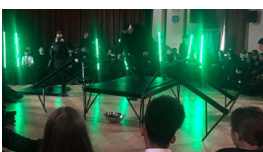
Reaching for the stars!

Read [here](#) about the Drama department.



Humanities!

Find out [here](#) what the departments get up to!



All About English!

Read [here](#) about the busy time in English.



Computing!

Read all the news [here](#)!



It's all in the mind!

Read [here](#) about the Social science department.



Queens' Teams Shoot for Victory!

The year's just got started and we are seeing success for Sport. Read all about it [here](#)!



Maths Whizzes and Quizzes!

You can read [here](#) how our Mathematicians rose to a challenge.



House Music

Queens' School - 29th February 2024




Music to our ears!
Read the Music news [here](#)!

Celebrating Student Achievement: STARS

This half-term, we applaud the following students, who have gained the most **STAR** achievement points for **Scholarship, Tenacity, Altruism and Respect**:

Nicole P. 7SN Nikash B. 8SN
Immogen G. 9AE Iqra A. 10AB
Blake B. 11TM Oscar H. 12TC



Other highest STAR point achievers:

Aarna K. 7AB Sergio K. 7FD Mia H. 7TC
Giulia S. 8AB Arsalan Y. 8FD Anaiah F. 8TA
Eunice B. 9FD Matteo E. 9SN Annabel S. 9TC
Toby A-H. 10FX Izzy B. 10SN Dev V. 10TC
Isabella F. 11AE Lexie B. 11FX Yoana Z. 11SN
Hasan N. 12AE Theodoros P. 12FX Dhruva T. 12SW



News from the Queens' Parents Association

It's hard to believe it is February already and the first half-term of 2024 is completed. On **Thursday 29th February** we will be selling refreshments at the brilliant House Music, so please come and buy a glass of wine, beer, soft drink or tea/ coffee from us along with a snack either before the event from 6.30 pm or during the interval. We will be in Room 52.

On **Friday 1st March**, we have another cash for clothes collection, so please remember to bag up your unwanted, clean, good quality clothing, paired shoes, hats, bags, jewellery and soft toys over half-term and put in a bag marked for the QPA and leave in either school office by Thursday 29th February or bring with you to House Music. Please do not put any school uniform in these bags as the charity **does not accept school uniform**.

We will also be selling refreshments at the Gym and Dance Show on **Tuesday 26th March** so if you are coming to the show, please stop and buy a drink and snack.

We launched the QPA 2024 Challenge in January where we challenge ALL students to raise £20.24 (or more) by the end of May 2024 by; making and selling a craft; washing your neighbour's cars; babysitting; walking a neighbour's dog; doing household chores or holding a garage sale. We would love to hear about the exciting ways you are raising the money.

This term we have awarded money to Science to purchase a new freezer to store items for the increasing number of practicals'; books for the History Department; games for French Club and Scarlett Gen Interfaces for the Music Department.



Please keep online shopping via EasyFundraising, making Queens' School Parents' Association – Bushey your cause. Over the years, £8,500.00 has been raised so far by just 399 supporters, so just imagine what we could raise with more people using easyfundraising! We'd really appreciate it if you could sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment. You can find our easyfundraising page at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/qpa>

Please support the Development Fund which is used to fund large school projects as we are currently looking to raise £59,000 to install another covered eating area on North Side. You can set up a regular payment or make a one off payment via <https://www.queens.herts.sch.uk/about-us/development-fund>

Keep bringing in your used branded ink and toner cartridges for us to re-cycle via www.emptiesplease.com

If you have any ideas or questions or need any items of second-hand school uniform please contact us on qpa@queens.herts.sch.uk. We are on twitter [@queenssch_qpa](https://twitter.com/queenssch_qpa) and facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/730227757885485/?ref=share>



Miss Westgarth's Wellbeing Words.....

Mental Health



Children's Mental Health Week took place from 5 - 11 February 2024. The theme this year was 'My Voice Matters'.

My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health.

This year, we want to empower children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing.

Although the week is over, families, parents and carers can still get involved! [Download these resources](#) to use at home.

Schools and Colleges Early Support Service
Anna Freud

Mental Health Support Videos

- Low mood (Pascode: 8u7j)-08
- Anxiety (Pascode: CwA+2K2)
- Exam stress (Pascode: N7dq)-C
- Review to university (Pascode: qH4PEA8)
- Over-achievement (Pascode: 9H7J5A)
- Asperger (Pascode: [redacted])
- Sleep (Pascode: [redacted])
- Overthinking (Pascode: [redacted])
- Negative thoughts (Pascode: [redacted])

Half Term Activities

Please see below the information for free sporting activities for young people taking place during the February half-term in Moatfield Park, Bushey. Activities are being delivered by Watford FC Community Sports and Education Trust and Sporting Inspirations.

All sessions are free with no need to book.

FREE HALF TERM SPORTING ACTIVITIES
MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY
WEDNESDAY 21 FEBRUARY
2 - 4 PM

MOATFIELD PARK, BUSHEY, WD23 3NH

AGES 11 - 17

NO BOOKING REQUIRED

FOOTBALL, TENNIS, DODGEBALL, ROUNDERS AND MORE!

Building Life Chances
HERTSMERE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

WatfordFC community
COMMUNITY SPORTS & EDUCATION TRUST
Premier League Kicks

Kicks
Achieving Through Football

FREE!

When?
Tuesday 20th & Friday 23rd February
2pm to 4pm

Who?
School Years 7-10 (Aged 11-15 year olds)

Where?
Moatfield Recreation Ground (WD23 3FE)*

*Upon arrival please sign up at the Bushey Rangers Club House (on-site)

For more information please contact
Tate Macpherson on 07707 289643
or tate.macpherson@watfordfc.com

Building Life Chances
CSP

A specialist CAMHS crisis clinician is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on **0800 6444 101**, to provide advice to families and professionals about children/young people in a mental health crisis and/or to arrange an assessment if required. **If you, a friend or a family member are experiencing a mental health crisis, call: 0800 6444 101 in the first instance, unless you have a physical health emergency, in which case, call 999 and ask for an ambulance or go to A&E.**

Upcoming Events

Below is just a taste of the exciting events and key dates for your diaries over the next half-term. Those in red are intended for parents to attend. Please keep up to date with all our events by visiting our online calendar.

HALF-TERM:

Monday 26th February:

All students

Monday 26th February:

Year 10 Revision Evening

Thursday 29th February:

House Music Competition

Wednesday 6th March:

Year 8 HPV immunisations

Wednesday 6th March:

Year 12 Parents' Evening 4.30-7.30pm

Thursday 7th March:

A-level Drama Exam in the Drama Studio 7pm

Tuesday 12th March:

Year 10 Classics trip to the British Museum

Tuesday 12th March:

Year 9 GCSE Options Evening

Wednesday 13th March:

Interfaith Ifthar 5-7pm

Thursday 14th March:

Early closure for staff training, 2pm

Friday 15th - 17th March:

PGL Netball tournament trip to Liddington

Tuesday 19th March:

Year 12 UCAS discovery day. London Excel

Thursday 21st March:

Interfaith Ifthar 7pm

Friday 22nd March:

Year 7 Religious Studies trip to Bhakdivedanta Manor

Monday 25th March:

Year 9 Philosophy trip to University of Hertfordshire

Tuesday 26th March:

Gym & Dance Show

Wednesday 27th March:

Year 11 Drama trip to see Ghost story. Afternoon performance

Wednesday 27th March:

Year 12 Drama rehearsals and evening performance

Thursday 28th March:

Last Day of Term, school closes 12.15pm