



It has been immensely pleasing to welcome all students back to Queens' following the summer holidays. I would like to extend a particular warm welcome to our new Year 7 and 12 students and their families who have been absolutely fantastic. We were extremely proud of the successes of our students at GCSE and A-level this summer and their outcomes are richly deserved. Provisional data released by the DfE confirms Queens' School as one where students not only achieve well but progress well. At A-level, we averaged a Grade B, compared to the national average of a Grade C. We were once again delighted with our Oxbridge success. Overall, 27% of grades were A\*/A. At GCSE, 80% of students achieved a 9-4 in English and Maths, a standard pass.

Extra-curricular and enrichment activities are a real strength of Queens' and it is wonderful to see so many of our students benefiting from the huge range of opportunities available. We currently have over 60 clubs and societies: There is something for everyone at Queens'. In sport we have a large range of clubs contributing to many early wins at District, County and National level for most teams, boys and girls alike.

Over the summer, extensive work was undertaken by our fantastic Estates Team to improve the quality of the learning environment. In just over six weeks the following projects were completed: Silent Sixth Form Study Centre; Sixth Form Café; Library; Four new English classrooms; Music Centre and Computing Suite.

As we finish the term, I would like to acknowledge the commitment, hard work and dedication of the staff who go the extra mile to give students a broad and enriching learning experience. Our staff, teachers and support alike are truly wonderful. Please join in thanking them directly using the [National Thank a Teacher initiative](#).

I would also like to thank our amazing Queens' Parents Association for their ongoing support of the school. Students have benefitted enormously from their fantastic fundraising efforts. In the last few years we have benefitted from several outdoor canopies, a new minibus as well as additional resources for all departments. Contributions to the QPA can be made directly through the Development Fund found on [WisePay](#). Donations can also occur indirectly through Easyfundraising. We are currently raising funds for Interactive Whiteboards for every classroom.

We very much enjoy sharing exciting news on our social media platforms (X (Twitter); Facebook and Instagram) and warmly encourage all parents/carers to sign up to each account.

Thank you for your continued support and kindness. I do hope you enjoy the October Half-term.

Jonathan Morrell  
Headteacher



**A tour de force!**  
Read [here](#) about MFL.



**Reaching for the stars!**  
Read about Drama [here](#).



**Book reviews & news!**  
Find out [here](#) what the English department have been up to.



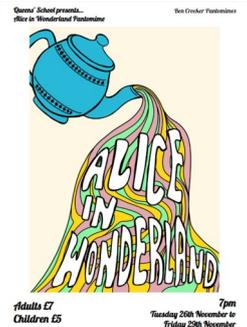
**Humanities!**  
Find out [here](#) what the department got up to!



**Maths Whizzes and Quizzes!**  
You can read [here](#) about the Maths department.



**Social Science!**  
Find out [here](#) what Sociology got up to!



**Read all about it!**  
Read the Student Voice news [here!](#)



**Picture perfect!**  
Find out [here](#) what the Art students are up to.



**Funding our future!**  
Read the Funding news [here!](#)



**Welcome to Queens'!**  
Read about the Year 6 open evening [here!](#)



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



**Computing!**  
Read all the news [here!](#)

**Daring to be Great by pursuing our values of Scholarship, Tenacity, Altruism and Respect**

## 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:**



Zareenah P. 7FD Dorothea C. 8FR Riley H. 9SW Divyansh G. 10SH



Nilan P. 11SW Eloise K. 12FX

**Other highest STAR point achievers:**



Emily L. 7AE Savannah J. 7SN Zara P. 7TM Isla S. 8AE Brooke G. 8SW Mia H. 8TC



Chanakya K. 9AE Sé S. 9FX Otto B. 9TA Neriah G. 10AE Alexandria S. 10FD Thaghin T. 10TM

Iqra A. 11AB Nancy W. 11FX Omobajesu I. 11TC Isabella F. 12AE Charlotte C. 12SN Ewan B. 12TC

## News from the Queens' Parents Association

Welcome to another academic year and a warm welcome to the new cohort of Year 7s!

We would like to thank everyone for supporting the QPA last year with our various school events and donations - the funds raised have helped purchase items to enhance the school life at Queens'. Thanks to all the guests at Comedy Evening hosted on 21st of September, an evening of fun and laughter.

We held our Annual General Meeting of QPA on 21st October - A warm welcome to the new QPA members and best wishes to Wendy and Linda - who made QPA what it is today we will really miss them hereafter.

The Halloween Cake sale held on 24th October got a great number of entries which once again show cased the talented bakers we have here at Queens'. It is lovely to see enthusiasm and innovative ideas from the participants. Thanks too to those students who bought a cake. The funds raised from these cake sales will be divided between the QPA and Noah's Ark Peace Hospice.



Our next QPA meeting will be on 18th November. If you are unable to attend meetings but could volunteer your help at the upcoming Year 7 Disco on Friday 8th November or sponsor a prize at the Christmas Raffle, please email us. We have just launched the Christmas Raffle ticket sales so please buy your tickets using the following link:

<https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/queensschoolchristmasraffle2024>

We also have glorious, rich and fruity Christmas puddings available to order via Wisepay after the half-term.

During the holidays please continue to support the QPA by doing your online shopping via Easy Fundraising, making Queens' School Parents' Association - Bushey your cause. Please see the Queens' website for details Parents & Carers > Parents Association (QPA) > Easy fundraising or [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/qpa/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/qpa/)

We are looking forward to the school show Alice in Wonderland and will be in Room 51 selling refreshments including the popular mulled wine so please pop in and purchase some refreshments before the show or during the interval.

If you have any ideas or questions, please contact us on [gpa@queens.herts.sch.uk](mailto:gpa@queens.herts.sch.uk). We are on twitter @queenssch\_qpa and facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/730227757885485/?ref+share>

I would like to thank all the QPA members for their time and energy in making these events a great success.

Happy holidays!

**withYouth**  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S Digital Wellbeing Services

**Groups**

7 - 12 year olds Group (Tuesdays at 6pm)  
13+ Group (Wednesdays at 7pm)

**Topics**

- Understanding emotions
- Friendships & Relationships
- Coping strategies
- Self-harm & 5 Ways to Wellbeing
- Abuse & exploitation
- Changes
- Bullying
- How to cope at school
- Homelife
- Identity
- Building confidence & self-esteem

The groups will be running on an 8 week block basis with a capacity of 10/15 young people.

For more information, please email [withyouth@hertsmindnetwork.org](mailto:withyouth@hertsmindnetwork.org) or call us on 0208 189 8400

### The Peer Education Project

The Peer Education Project is an educational programme by The Mental Health Foundation that aims to give young people the skills and knowledge they need to safeguard their mental health and the mental health of their peers.

This half-term Year 12 students completed their training to qualify as Peer Educators, they have completed training on safeguarding, how to be an effective facilitator and how to deliver engaging lessons.

Our Peer Educators will be delivering Lifelong Learning mental health lessons to Key Stage 3 students Having Year 12 delivering these lessons will encourage open conversation surrounding mental health. Well done to all our Peer Educators! Miss Alaaldin and I look forward to your lessons after half-term.

**FREE WEBINARS**  
FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO NEED SUPPORT WITH...

- ANXIETY
- SELF-HARM
- LGBTQ+ AND GENDER
- SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

FIND OUT MORE

NHS Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board  
Hertfordshire

### Online group for parents/carers from Hertfordshire Mind Network's With Youth Digital Wellbeing Service

These free groups are running on an eight-week block basis with a capacity of 10/15 Hertfordshire parents/carers each.

Topics will be tailored to each group's needs but will include: understanding emotions and anxiety; relationships; coping strategies; bullying; school-based anxiety and how to cope at school; identity; signposting and additional support; understanding self-harm; understanding neurodiversity; anger/challenging behaviours; how to cope as a parent and more.

To find out more E:[withyouth@hertsmindnetwork.org](mailto:withyouth@hertsmindnetwork.org)

### Autumn Self-Care

Rest and allow yourself breaks  
Enjoy your favorite tea  
Write down what you want to let go of  
Focus on warmth  
SelfLoveRainbow

Try out a new hobby  
Get creative with pumpkins  
Embrace hygge  
Curl up with a good book  
Take a nature walk

Wear socks & warm pjs  
Drink apple cider  
Go to a Farmer's Market  
Take a nature walk

Free online workshops for parents, carers and older siblings of young people struggling with body image and/or their relationship with food.

Register at: [Skills for Carers - First Steps ED](#)

### Queens' School Peer Mentoring Programme

Following a selections process, 35 year 10 students have completed training to become peer mentors to Year 7 students. We have allocated Peer Mentors to each form group and they will be visiting after half-term to get to know the Year 7s. The Year team and form tutors will be identifying students who might benefit from the support of a peer mentor. Year 7 students can also self-refer and parents can request a Peer Mentor for their child by completing the attached form.

<https://forms.gle/P4N3f2ZSoCSqv9rNA>

**Benefits for Mentors:**

- Improved academic attainment
- Improved attitudes towards learning
- Improved levels of resilience and perseverance
- Improved leadership skills
- An ability to empathise with, and a desire to help those around them

**Benefits for mentees:**

- A relatable and dedicated role model and a safe space to talk
- Improved academic attainment
- Improved attitudes towards learning
- Improved levels of focus in class, and behaviour around school
- Improved levels of confidence and self-esteem

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.**



## Queens' School Dare to Donate

As I am sure you are aware, the government gives us the majority of what we need in order to provide the basics of education to your children, but parents and carers giving that little more enables us to provide that bit extra. Without your generous support, our school will not be able to maintain the current state of our excellent facilities or continue to provide the existing level of exciting educational opportunities.

Disappointingly less than 1% of parents and carers are currently contributing to the Fund which means we are far from our target of purchasing **10 interactive screens** for our classrooms for this academic year. These screens have countless benefits to your children's classroom experience and if you are not yet contributing to the Development Fund I ask that you do so as soon as possible.

**From 1 September 2024, our suggested voluntary donation amount is  
£30 per month, £120 per term or £360 per year, per child.**

If you are unable to make the suggested donation above, please give whatever you are able to donate. Every donation counts and we are grateful to everyone that pays.

### Ways to Pay

There are different methods of making payments to the Fund

- Make a regular contribution by setting up a Standing Order – this can be set up online

Bank: Lloyds Bank

Sort code: 30 99 21

Account number: 79798168

Name: Queens' School (Bushey) – Child's name as reference.

- Make a one-off or multiple ad hoc contributions through Wise Pay – select **The Development Fund and Project contributions.**

### Gift Aid Declaration Form

As a registered charity, the school can benefit from additional funds via Gift Aid. If you are a UK taxpayer and do not already have a gift aid declaration in place for Queens' School, please complete and return the form on the website [here](#).

**We thank parents for their continuing support**

Please contact our Fundraising & Marketing Co-Ordinator on [dresnefr@queens.herts.sch.uk](mailto:dresnefr@queens.herts.sch.uk)



## 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 4<sup>th</sup> November:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> November:

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November:

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November:

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November:

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November:

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> November:

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November:

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November:

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November:

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November:

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November:

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November:

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November:

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> November:

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November:

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November:

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December:

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December:

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December:

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December:

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> December:

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> December:

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December:

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December:

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December:

### All students

Year 11 MFL Mock Speaking Exams

Year 8 Careers trip to Sky Up Elstree

Sixth Form Options Evening 4.30-7.30pm

Year 7 Hallowe'en Disco (North Hall)

Key Stage 4 & 5 Model European Parliament (at WBGS)

Year 9 Anne Frank Trust "Voices for Equality" Workshops

Year 12 & 13 D & T Stylo Graphics trip

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

Year 12 Geography trip to Sussex & Brighton University

QPA Meeting

Year 11 Food trip to WHC

Year 12 & 13 Careers trip to Warner Brothers

Year 9 Parents' Consultation Evening 4.30-7.30pm

School show 'Alice in Wonderland' 7pm

Year 11 Food trip to WHC

Year 11 GCSE Art all day Mock Exam

Year 12 Psychology trip to Freud Museum

Year 7 Parents' Consultation Evening 4.30-7.30pm

Year 10 Drama trip to see 'The Play that Goes Wrong'

Year 10-12 Most Able Evening 5-6pm

Year 8 & 9 MFL Lille Christmas Markets trip

Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 7 Pantomime trip to Watford Palace Theatre

All Years Flu Vaccinations catch up

Last Day of Term, school closes 12.15pm

