



Christmas is upon us and with it that sense of excitement and anticipation. It is so nice to see how the festivities cross cultures here at Queens' with a shared sense of togetherness at this time of the year. This term our school production of Alice in Wonderland was a sell-out. It clearly demonstrated the immense talent of our students whose collective and individual performances impressed and wowed the audiences. For our Year 13 students, it will sadly be their last show. Our annual Carol Service, normally held at St Luke's Church switched to The Mick Swift Hall, also highlighted our student's great musical aptitude. It's always uplifting to see the future stars from the younger years. We of course look forward to House Music in March.

Extra-curricular and enrichment activities continue to flourish and over the last term students have benefitted from having access to over 100 clubs and societies, many run by our student ambassadors. There is something for everyone at Queens'.

Queens' students remain committed to raising money for charity and our annual Christmas Jumper Day in support of Save the Children and Watford Foodbank raised over £700. We will be holding a non-uniform event on the last day of term with funds being divided between the QPA and House charities.

As we finish the term, I would like to acknowledge the commitment, hard work and dedication of Queens' staff who go the extra mile to give students a broad and enriching learning experience, both inside and outside of the classroom. We celebrate some fantastic milestones this year in our long-service awards. Mrs Estell celebrates 30 years and Mr Hopwood, Mr Wenham and Mrs Campbell, 20 years. Their collective services extend to almost 100 years and we would very much like to thank them for their brilliant support of Queens' School. Please join in thanking our staff directly using the [Thank a Teacher](#) or '[Unsung Hero](#)' Award for support staff. We sadly say goodbye to Mr Lo and Mr Ellis who are leaving the area and we wish them all the very best of luck.

Finally, please keep a watchful eye on the Queens' X feed (formerly known as Twitter), [@queensSch](#). We are continuously updating our social media with news about our school community. We also now have [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year and look forward to working with you all again in 2025. We start back on Monday 6 January.

Jonathan Morrell  
Headteacher



### All About English!

It's been a busy term in English. Read all about it [here](#).



### A Foreign affair!

Find [here](#) the MFL news!



### Funding our future!

Read the Funding news [here](#)!



### Careers!

Read all the Careers news [here](#)!



### Maths Whizzes and Quizzes!

You can read [here](#) what our Mathematicians got up to!



### Queens' stole the show!

Find out [here](#) how 'Matilda' went down a storm!



### House News!

Read all the House news [here](#)!



### Humanities!

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



### Picture perfect!

Find [here](#) the Art news!



### Computing!

Read all the news [here](#)!



### Social Science Faculty!

Read about Business studies [here](#)!



### Queens' Teams Shoot for Victory!

We are seeing success in Sport. Read about it [here](#)!



### Booking the trend!

Read [here](#) the library news!



### Back to the future!

Read the Alumni newsletter [here](#)!



### Support each other!

Read the SEND News [here](#)!



### Read all about it!

Read the Student Voice news [here](#)!



### Music to our ears!

Read the Music 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:



Reyansh V. 7SN Izzy S. 8FR  
Chanakya K. 9AE  
Divyansh G. 10SH Toby A-H. 11FX  
Yoana Z. 12SN



### Other highest STAR point achievers:

Elena M. 7AE Gabriela C. 7FD Krish P. 7TM  
Matthew M. 8AE Issy C. 8SN Matteo R. 8TC  
SÚ S. 9FX Georgia G. 9SN Nia M. 9TA  
Aljon G. 10AB Naiya P. 10FX Maria B. 10TM  
Iqra A. 11AB Ryan P. 11SN Gemma D. 11TM  
Aashni V. 12AB MorganS. 12FD Toby A. 12TC

[Here](#) are the Roll of Honour students chosen by departments as the best students in the Autumn term.

## News from the Queens' Parents Association

As we reach end of another calendar year and looking forward for a great Christmas and New Year, the QPA had a very busy and successful term, hosting a Year 7 Disco on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November. We had the Year 7 joining the Disco and what a lovely group it was!

We sold refreshments over the 4 nights of the brilliant school production of Alice in Wonderland, with the mulled wine, Prosecco and Beer as well as Soft Drinks, Tea/Coffee, Crisps, Cookies and Sweets. So, thank you to everyone who came and purchased a drink and/or snack from us.

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December, we drew the Christmas raffle so congratulations to the 27 winners. You should now have all received your prizes. A list of winners is available on request. We sold a fantastic 2294 tickets so thank you to everyone who bought tickets and a massive thank you to all the people and businesses who donated a prize making the raffle possible - Mercer & Hole, Watford FC, Rejuva-Skin, Powerleague, The Snow Centre, The Loading Bay Pizzeria, Kandy Café, QU Fitness, The Metropolitan, Sorella Hair, LE Crammer, Bushey Grove, Asda, Café de Lisboa, Koop, Nails by Becky, Haute Dolci, L'Artista, JABXing, La Casa, Sadie's Massage and some wonderful parents within our school. All money raised from the raffle will be spent on enhancing the learning environment for the students at Queens' School.



Back by popular demand, we launched the sale of Queens' Logo Christmas Puddings with the popular Sticky Toffee Puds, Lemon Sponge and Traditional Christmas Puds. We hope you enjoy them.

At the AGM on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November, we signed off a healthy bank balance having awarded £9524 (almost double the amount than last year) of bids during 2023/2024 to a variety of departments including PE, PRE, Maths, Houses and Year Groups, Geography, Science, MFL and English. There are many bids being included in the year to come.

QPA will also be serving refreshments at the Carol service on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

So, on behalf of the QPA team, thank you for supporting the QPA by attending events, buying refreshments, puddings and raffle tickets. You can continue to support the QPA by shopping online via EasyFundraising, 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/)

Keep bringing in your used branded ink and toner cartridges for us to re-cycle via [www.emptiesplease.com](http://www.emptiesplease.com)

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

Our next meeting is on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January.

Wishing you all a Lovely Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2025



QUEENS' SCHOOL  
Dare to be Great

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



Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been a very busy term with lots of events taking place to support students' wellbeing and mental health at Queens'. During November, our mental health prefects put together resources and form-time activities to raise awareness of Men's Mental Health Day. This month, our mental health ambassadors have been designing posters signposting mental health support – we are looking forward to seeing them displayed around the school.

Our Year 12 Peer Educators taught their first Life Long Learning lesson on mental health to Year 7 and 8 forms. A huge well done to them all! The response and feedback from students and staff have been incredible. Miss Alaaldin and I are very proud of all the students involved, and we are looking forward to the next lesson after Christmas.



Students in all year groups have just completed the Hertfordshire Wellbeing Survey. We will receive the results in the new year, this will allow us to identify any areas we can strengthen to improve our mental health support.

In addition to this, Safe Space, Services for Young People and the Mental Health Support Team continue to offer interventions to support our students.

I wish you all a restful break and look forward to seeing everyone back in January!

Miss Westgarth (Mental Health Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Lead)



### Supporting Mental Health over the Holidays

Below is a list of some insightful and meaningful resources that can help students and parents over the holidays.

[Christmas and Mental Health - Mind, the mental health charity - help for mental health problems](#)

[Looking after your mental health at Christmas - Mental Health Foundation](#)

[Top tips for staying mentally well during Christmas and New Year \(charliewaller.org\)](#)

[5 steps to mental wellbeing - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

[Mental Health at Christmas - Health Assured](#)

[Coping at Christmas - Looking After Your Mental Health - Priory group](#)

[Looking after your mental health at Christmas - YoungMinds](#)

[Tips for Looking After Yourself at Christmas - YoungMinds](#)

[Cost of Living Support – Hertfordshire Council](#)



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 are the 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 6 <sup>th</sup> January:	First day of term
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> January:	Year 12 BTEC Business Exam
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	<b>Senior Presentation Evening</b>
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January:	Year 9 Oxford University Maths trip
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January:	Year 12 BTEC Sport exam
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> January:	Year 13 Mock exams
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January:</b>	<b>QPA 7pm Meeting in the Music block</b>
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January:</b>	<b>Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening 4.30-7.30pm</b>
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> February:	Technology Trip to Paris
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February:	Year 12 Classics trip to see Oedipus 7.30-10.30pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> February:	Year 10 Holocaust trip to Poland
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February:</b>	<b>Year 11 Revision Evening North Hall 6-7pm</b>
<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February:</b>	<b>Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening 4.30-7.30pm</b>
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February:	A-level English trip to see Performance of Frogs
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> February:	A-level Geography trip to Iceland
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> February:	HALF-TERM Ski Trip
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February:	INSET day school closed to students
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February:	Duke of Edingburgh Award Training
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February:	Students return after Half-term