



With public examinations now in full swing, our students should be reassured by their commitment to studying and determination to achieve throughout the year. We wish all of our students the best of luck at this time and can assure them that teachers will continue to provide their time and additional support and resources. Students should also be aware of the support on offer in school and are encouraged to talk about managing time and anxiety.

As one group of students leave, we of course welcome a new cohort. Our new entrants, having just completed their SATS will be joining us after half-term for their Induction Evening and their Transfer Day, before they begin in September. The QPA are looking for donations of good quality second-hand uniforms. Please feel free to drop clothes at the North or South office. We will also be welcoming our new Sixth Form students with an induction day planned for the end of June.

We are delighted to share with you the outcome from our recent Ofsted Inspection which grades Queens' as Outstanding in every category. The inspectors were also hugely impressed with staff and students alike praising pupil conduct, attendance and outcomes as well as staff ambition, subject knowledge and teaching.

We sadly say goodbye to Dr Austin who is leaving teaching to support his family. We wish him the very best of luck.

Once again Queens' is celebrating considerable success in sport. Many congratulations to all of our sporting superstars. We are very much looking forward to the athletics season with some notable wins. Competition for the Robert Brown Trophy has intensified in recent weeks and students can look forward to the fantastic Sports Day held at the Woodside Stadium in July.

I would like to thank you all for your on-going support of the school and wish you a restful and happy May half-term.

Jonathan Morrell  
Headteacher



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



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



**Queens' Teams Shoot for Victory!**  
We are seeing success in Sport. Read about it [here!](#)



**Fundraising and Marketing!**  
Read [here](#) what we have been up to.

**Maths Whizzes and Quizzes!**  
You can read [here](#) how our Mathematicians love a challenge!



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



**Books to savour!**  
English Departments recommended reads [here!](#)



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

Queens' Drama Department presents  
*A Midsummer Night's*  
**DRAMA**  
**24**  
**JUNE**  
**6 P M**  
**KS3 Drama Festival**  
Admission free - donations welcome.  
This is an outdoor performance (weather permitting)  
Reserve your place - email [washbrca@queens.herts.sch.uk](mailto:washbrca@queens.herts.sch.uk)

## *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 Mia H. 8TC  
Anna C. 9AE Maya J. 10TM  
Rhys T. 12AE



**Other highest STAR point achievers:**



Insiya A. 7AB Yusuf S. 7FD Ralph B. 7TM  
Isla S. 8AE Joseph N. 8FX Issy C. 8SN  
Sé S. 9FX Nikash B. 9SN Dennie C. 9TA  
Alex V. 10AE Naiya P. 10FX Beth H. 10SW  
Ian L. 12FX Yaseen U. 12SN Mia B. 12TC



## **News from the Queens' Parents Association**

Firstly, QPA would like to congratulate all the Queens' school staff, parents and students in achieving an **Outstanding Ofsted** rating.

**"Sunshine and fresh air are hard to beat. The weather had been wonderful the last few weeks letting us out of our houses. Welcome to Summer! "**

QPA has had a great few weeks. We had our QPA meeting on 28 April.

We sold drinks and refreshments at the **Gym and Dance show** on **1 April**. Our ever-supporting Kandy Cafe team has helped at the **Model Railway exhibition on 10 May** selling SoftDrinks, Tea/Coffee, Crisps and food. Thank you to everyone who came and purchased a drink and/or snack.

With the contributions received so far, QPA has made donations to the **eco clubs request for plants**, and to the **music department** to support the instruments amplification, extracurricular rehearsals, GCSE lessons and performances. Thanks to all of your continued support in making Queens' school the best.

The upcoming event for QPA is the **second-hand uniform sale**

The QPA are looking for donations of good quality second-hand school uniform particularly skirts, ties, PE kit, PE house coloured tops and aprons but would also welcome good quality school blazers with house badges and school jumpers with the Queens' logo for their second-hand uniform sale on **Thursday 10 July**.

Offering affordable school uniform continues to be very important, so if you have any outgrown school uniform or your child is leaving the school, please bring it to either school office in a bag marked for the attention of the QPA.

If you need any items of uniform, the sale will be in **Sports Hall on South Side from 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm on Thursday 10 July**.

Please note that we are **no longer collecting clothes for charity**, so please only donate school uniforms.

Our next QPA meeting will be on **9 June**. If you are unable to attend meetings, but could volunteer your help at events such as serving refreshments, please email us your name as we would like to put together a list of helpers we can call upon for specific events or if there is a specific event you would like to help us arrange, we would welcome new ideas.

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) and putting them in the box in North Side Reception in September.

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>

Happy holidays!



QUEENS' SCHOOL  
Dare to be Great

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





## 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/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 2% of parents and carers are currently contributing to the Fund which means we are far from our target of purchasing another **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)



# Miss Westgarth's Wellbeing Words

## Mental Health Awareness Week – 12 to 18 May 2025

Since 2001, the **Mental Health Foundation** has led **Mental Health Awareness Week**, bringing the UK together to focus on good mental health.

This year's theme was **"Community"**, and we took the opportunity to celebrate the power and importance of connection. Being part of a safe, positive community is vital to our mental wellbeing.

We thrive when we have strong relationships and feel supported. Communities provide belonging, safety, and a sense of purpose — reminding us that **we're never alone**. At school, our house teams, clubs, and peer mentoring all help build this supportive environment.



## Exams - The Power of Routine

As exam season continues, it's easy to feel overwhelmed — but a steady routine helps reduce stress. Regular sleep, balanced meals, breaks, and planned study time all support your brain and body.

### Top 10 Tips For A Killer Study Routine

Hacks to get more work done, in less time

- Be **strategic about where** you study. Find a rhythm that works for you and stick with it, so it **becomes automatic**.
- Eliminate distractions for **intense focus**: start by switching the phone off and kept out of sight.
- Try **batching chores** like laundry and email — do more, less often, and save time.
- Or **stack other activities** on top of each other, e.g. turn an essential shopping run into a longer break from work.
- Schedule **guilt-free downtime** each week to recharge your batteries.
- Think about **the fuel** you're putting in to your body - meals, snacks, how you use caffeine.
- Get **plenty of sleep each night**.
- Take **breaks throughout the day**: at least 10 minutes per hour for most tasks.
- Look after your mind and body by **getting some exercise**, and consider meditating to boost your focus and concentration further.

ExamStudyExpert.com/study-routine



**5. SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION**  
Sharing a compliment or showing appreciation can strengthen your relationships.

**6. CONNECT ONLINE**  
Find others who share similar experiences or interests online. Remember, healthy online communities should make you feel safe and valued.

**7. GIVE BACK**  
Helping others is a great way to build community and give you purpose.

**8. CARE FOR YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY**  
Increase your sense of belonging by getting involved in your local community.

**9. WELCOME OTHERS**  
Make new people joining your community feel welcome and included.

**10. FIND PEER SUPPORT IF YOU'RE STRUGGLING**  
Connect with others going through similar experiences through peer support groups.

**MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION**  
**MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK**  
12-18 MAY 2025

**10 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**

From book club to art class, Swifties to gamers, volunteer groups to shooting hoops — community is good for our mental health. They help us to belong, feel supported, and have purpose. Here are ten ways to get involved with your community and boost your mental health.

**1. MAKE IT FUN**  
Choose an activity you enjoy. You could join a club or group centred around your interests.

**2. GET OUTDOORS**  
Get out and moving in nature for more mental health benefits.

**3. FIND LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE**  
Build connections with people who share your interests and values. But try to also meet people who are different from you, too.

**4. SHOW KINDNESS TO OTHERS**  
Connect with your community through small acts of kindness, which will benefit both you and others.

**TOGETHER FOR GOOD MENTAL HEALTH**  
Learn more about community and mental health.  
MENTALHEALTH.ORG.UK/MHAW #THISISMYCOMMUNITY

**10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators**  
**MANAGING EXAM STRESS**

As exam period approaches, children and young people may experience exam stress, which is a common and normal reaction. However, if it becomes more than just a little nervousness and starts affecting their health, it's important to take steps to help them manage their stress and perform well.

- 1. PRACTISE WORKLOAD WISDOM**
- 2. ADVISE CLEARING THE CLUTTER**
- 3. MASTER THE MATERIALS TOGETHER**
- 4. RECOMMEND CREATIVE NOTE-TAKING**
- 5. USE VISUAL AIDS AND MINDMAPS**
- 6. GATHER A TECH TOOLKIT**
- 7. KEEP IT FUN**
- 8. SUGGEST ACTIVE REVISION STRATEGIES**
- 9. ENCOURAGE A POSITIVE MINDSET**
- 10. HELP THEM TO SETLE THE DAY**

WakeUp Wednesday The National College

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 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 2 June:

All students

Monday 2 June:

Year 9 Geography Amersham fieldwork

Tuesday 3 June:

Year 7 History of Watford trip

**Wednesday 4 June:**

**Art & Photography A-level Exhibition North side room 46 5-7pm**

Wednesday 4 June:

Year 12 Futures Evening 5.30-6.30pm

Monday 9 - 11 June:

Year 10 Geography field trip

Monday 9 June:

QPA Meeting

Friday 13 June:

Year 7 MFL Boulogne trip 1

Monday 16 - 26 June:

Year 12 Mock Exams

Wednesday 18 June:

Year 7 Geography trip to Brighton

Friday 20 June:

Year 7 MFL Boulogne trip 2

Monday 23 June:

Year 12 Induction & Transition day

Monday 23, 24 & 25 June:

Year 10 Fish filleting workshop at West Herts College

Tuesday 24 - 27 June:

Year 9 Spanish trip to Barcelona

**Tuesday 24 June:**

**Key Stage 3 Drama Evening 6-7pm North Courtyard**

Wednesday 25 June:

Year 11 Prom

**Wednesday 25 & 26 June:**

**Year 10 GCSE Drama Parent performance evening**

Friday 27 June:

INSET day school closed to students

Friday 27 June:

Year 13 Boat party 6.30-10.30pm

Monday 30 June - 4 July:

Year 10 MFL Speaking Mock

Tuesday 1 July:

Year 6 Entrants 5-6pm

Thursday 3 July:

Early school closure for Year 6 Open Evening, 12.15pm

Monday 7 & 8 July:

DofE Bronze Qualifying Expedition

Monday 7 - 11 July:

Year 7 Isle of White Trip

Year 10 Work Shadowing

Year 12 Work Experience

Wednesday 9 - 11 July:

DofE Silver Qualifying Expedition

Thursday 10 July:

Year 6 Transition Day

Thursday 10 July:

Second-hand uniform sale Sports Hall 2.30-3.30pm

**Monday 14 July:**

**Sports Awards Presentation Evening 6.30-8pm**

**Wednesday 16 July:**

**Junior Presentation Evening 6.30-8pm**

Thursday 17 July:

Sports Day at Woodside

Friday 18 July:

Last Day of Term, school closes 12.15pm

