



QUEENS' SCHOOL
Dare to be Humanitarian

Humanities Faculty newsletter
Summer 2025

A round up from our departments from this year

Geography

Well done to our fantastic Year 11 and Year 13 students who have now completed their exams! We are incredibly proud of all your hard work, resilience, and determination.

At Key Stage 3, students have spent the final half-term exploring the *Outdoor World*. Year 7 have been busy researching the tropical rainforest, working collaboratively to understand this unique biome. They have also enjoyed a brilliant trip to Brighton to see geography in action at the coast. Year 8 have investigated their



local area of Watford, developing a sense of place and community geography. Meanwhile, Year 9 have taken their learning outside by carrying out microclimate fieldwork around the school grounds and on a trip to Amersham.

Year 10 have also been working hard, completing their second round of GCSE fieldwork on the River Chess. A huge well done for your excellent groupwork, curiosity, and tenacity in the field.

Have a great summer! We look forward to more geographical adventures next year!

History

Well done to all our Year 11 and 13 students who have completed their exams after two years of hard work. We look forward to seeing some of our Year 11 students in both History and Politics next year. To Year 13 we want to wish them all the best for whatever the future holds!

Key Stage 3 students enjoyed two trips this half-term. Firstly, a group of Year 9 students attended a workshop at the Imperial War Museum, focussing on the Holocaust. It was an insightful and thought provoking day in which all our students showed great maturity. Year 7 went on their annual walking tour of Watford to better understand some of the history of the local area. A very rainy day did not dampen any spirits though!

Year 9 students taking History for GCSE should look out for the upcoming Berlin trip, now available on Wisepay.

Well done to all Historians for their hard work this year! Have a great summer!



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Politics

Congratulations to our Year 13 students for completing their exams. A huge well done for your hard work and dedication to the subject. Mr Brothwood and I are incredibly proud of you, it has been an absolute pleasure teaching you all and we wish you the best of luck on results day!



Year 12 have also been revising hard for their mock examinations, they have all made a great start to the course and we look forward to the next academic year when we begin US Politics - there will be plenty to discuss!

Philosophy Religion Ethics

Well done to Year 11 and 13 students who have completed their summer exams. We hope to see some of the Year 11 students in the Sixth Form in September, hopefully taking A-level Philosophy, Religion, Ethics. The A-level has helped our current Year 13 students in deciding on their university courses. Of particular interest are degrees in Law and Criminology based on what we cover as part of the A-level. On that note, wishing Year 13 the best of success during their next steps and life choices.

Year 7 and 8 have been working on their end of year PRE exams. Great focus was shown during the revision sessions in class. Spirited Arts is an annual competition run by NATRE, the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education. Groups in Year 7 and 8 have produced thoughtful pieces based on one of the six themes. Meanwhile, Year 9 have been working on CORE PRE, a more in depth understanding of each of the Dharmic and Abrahamic faiths in preparation for Year 10 and 11 CORE PRE.

Humanities on their travels!

We have had another year of successful travel as a faculty.

In 2024/5, we have been to:

Iceland

Poland

York

BhaktiVedanta Manor

Amersham

Imperial War Museum

Houses of Parliament

Brighton

University visits to Sussex, Hertfordshire and Reading

Six the Musical

A-level Politics Conference

Watford walking tour



Next year, we look forward to more exciting trips and visits!



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Summer reading

Have a read of some of these Humanities recommendations over the summer.

'The boy who cycled the world' Alastair Humphreys

'I am Malala' Malala Yousafzai

'Bear Grylls' Adventures' Bear Grylls

'Annexed' Sharon Dogar

'Lies we tell ourselves' Robin Talley

'Ruby in the Smoke' Philip Pullman

'Private Peaceful' Michael Morpurgo

'A young person's guide to philosophy – I think therefore I am' Jeremy Weate

'All about Politics' Andrew Marr

Humanities summer competitions

Humanities Year 12 Summer Competition

Choose one of these questions

1. The study of History gives you a greater understanding of the world around you. Do you agree?
2. Are we doing enough to reduce the impacts of climate change?
3. God does not exist. Do you agree?
4. Our political leaders do not represent the modern world. Do you agree?

Research the question and video record yourself answering it

Your video should be:

- Your own work
- No more than 10 minutes long
- Include examples of wider reading and research

You can do this individually or in groups of no more than 4.

There will be awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

Deadline: 20th August 6pm via email charlitta@queens.hert.sch.uk

Y7 Humanities Summer Challenge

Over the summer holiday, see how many of these you can complete. Every time you complete one, record it on this form. You must also create a simple Powerpoint with photos as evidence of your challenges.

CHALLENGE	DATE COMPLETED
Read a newspaper every day for a week	
Walk in the countryside for a least one hour	
Watch/listen to the news every day for a week	
Visit a museum	
Visit your local library	
Watch a historical movie /documentary	
Visited a place of religious significance e.g. a local place of worship	
Pick up 20 pieces of litter every day for a week	
Do two nature scavenger hunts. Use GeoCatch to support this.	
Visit a local historical site.	

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED POWERPOINT BY 21ST AUGUST TO MRS CHARLTON VIA EMAIL. THE FORM WITH THE MOST COMPLETIONS WILL WIN A PRIZE! GOOD LUCK!

Humanities staff updates

We say a very fond farewell to Miss Butkute and Miss Hambleton this term.

Miss Butkute joined us just over two years ago. She has made a huge contribution to the teaching of Geography across all year groups and has been on numerous trips including to Iceland. We wish her the best of luck in her new school.

Miss Hambleton joined us at the start of the year in the History department. She has been a true champion of the History department.

They will both be sorely missed and we wish them both the best for their future.

Finally.....we wish all our Year 11 and 13 students the best of luck for their results in the summer.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer.

The Humanities faculty

Hello



Summer