



Monday 14th March 2022

E-BULLETIN

From Junior Section to Sixth Form, keeping you up to date with everything at QEGS.

Inside this issue...



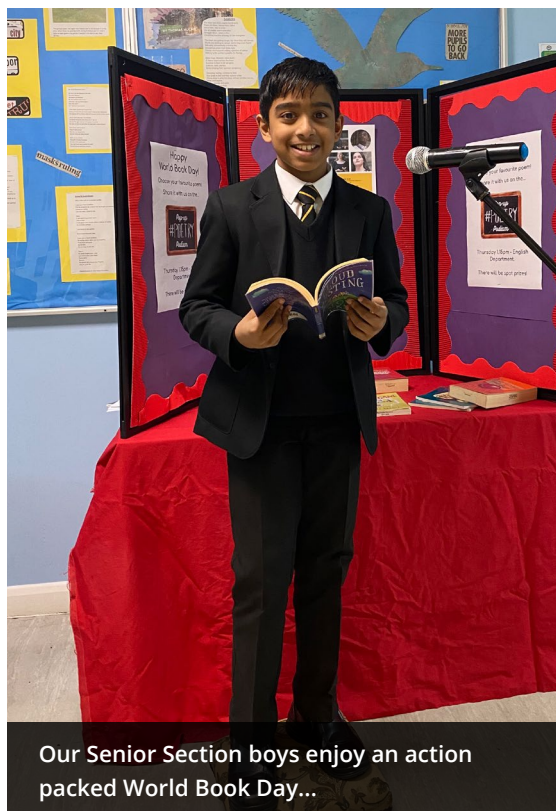
We welcome author Tom Palmer to our Junior Section for World Book Day!



Year 5 and Year 6 football stars compete in the HMC Football competition...



U15 rugby stars reach Twickenham Final after neryv clash against Ipswich School!



Our Senior Section boys enjoy an action packed World Book Day...

Welcome from our Admissions and Marketing Team

Welcome to this week's issue of the E-Bulletin from the Admissions and Marketing team. Before we tell you about all the exciting things that have been happening in our department, we thought that we would take a moment to introduce ourselves and tell you a little more about our roles.

Meet Anna...



Some of you may already know me. If your sons joined QEGS from other schools, then I will almost certainly have spoken to you on the phone, shown you around the school and definitely bombarded you with emails and paperwork to complete!

It's me that looks after prospective parents and boys from their initial phone call or email through school visits, entrance exams, transition days and new parents' evenings until the boys actually arrive on their first day at QEGS.

I love to watch the progress of the boys, who are often only small and nervous when I first meet them, from their first day at school through to their days in the Sixth Form wearing their smart suits as young men. It was only last year that my own son left QEGS to go off to uni and those years from junior section shorts through to checked slim-legged suit trousers really did fly by.

I have also recently taken over looking after Admissions in the Junior Section so am definitely enjoying the variety that brings.

Meet Niall...



Hi, my name is Niall and I'm Head of Marketing here at QEGS.

As I walk around school, often with my camera in hand, boys sometimes ask me about my role here at QEGS. "So, sir are you the school photographer?" or "Sir, are you in charge of the school's website?" Sometimes I'm asked, "Sir, are you the person who designs the school newsletter?" At home my daughters also quiz me about my role, "Daddy, Mummy said that you work in a school but that your job is just to write things on Facebook all day, is that true?" "Erm, yes." Is my typical response to all of the above.

As Head of Marketing at QEGS, my role entails all of those things. Essentially, marketing is the process of understanding your audience and building and maintaining relationships with them, albeit from behind the scenes, and I do this on behalf of the school with our new and existing families across our offline and online platforms of communication.

We both wear many hats on a daily basis and this means that there is never a dull day in the Admissions and Marketing office. Our team is one of great camaraderie and plenty of laughter, but also one of great industry, and we have been busier than ever this academic year!

Following a summer of what felt like never ending technical tests, tiny tweaks, tedious tutorials and team training sessions, the Autumn term saw the introduction of our brand-new admissions system 'Open Apply'; as well as the launch of our eagerly anticipated new school website.

The easing of COVID restrictions brought with it a welcome return to our usual Open Morning format and it was wonderful to be able to open our doors again and invite parents into school to see and feel the true #MadeInQEGS experience live in action.

There was a palpable buzz as you moved through the buildings at both our October Open Morning and Sixth Form Open Evening the following month. With entrance examinations, assessments and interviews having recently taken place across our junior and senior sections, it's been a very busy start to 2022, but incredibly rewarding to witness in-person the smiles on boys and parents' faces with the offer of places to join our school.

Looking ahead to the summer term, we're busy planning our transition events for new starters as well as our feeder partner school outreach activities for September 2023 starters, so watch this space for updates.

**Anna Stuart-Brown (Bentley)
& Niall Williams (Freeston)**



A Word from the Head

Dear Parents,

Ever since I arrived in September, Governors and Staff had been asking me when the Inspectors would be calling. In the normal non-COVID world we could have expected them to visit in Autumn term 2021, but with inspections being postponed I was quietly confident that ours would be pushed back into Autumn 2022. But I'm not a betting man and so we started preparing for them to visit rather sooner than that. It turns out my confidence was misplaced, but my determination that we should be ready for them to come sooner was not.

So it was, that on Monday morning before half-term I got the call that all Heads dread - well, perhaps not dread, but certainly don't look forward to with any eagerness because they know how much work is involved. It turned the last week before half-term into a busy week. But a week when the people of QEGS were at their best, all pulling together to show the best version of the school to the inspectors. Many thanks to all the staff and pupils who met with the inspectors in various guises, and to the staff, pupils and parents who submitted responses - honest and candid responses, as I would have expected - to the questionnaires.

At the end of their visit, inspectors provided me and Governors with a verbal report. We now await their written findings, which should be with us in the next couple of weeks.



The final report is expected in time for the Easter holidays, or shortly afterwards, and I will be able to provide more detailed commentary then. And afterwards, I intend to take their feedback, together with feedback I have already received from staff, pupils and parents, and use it to shape QEGS' strategy for the coming years, which I anticipate publishing in the Autumn - watch this space. In that sense, the inspection was well-timed; and in the sense that half-term allowed a chance to recharge afterwards, it was also well-timed!

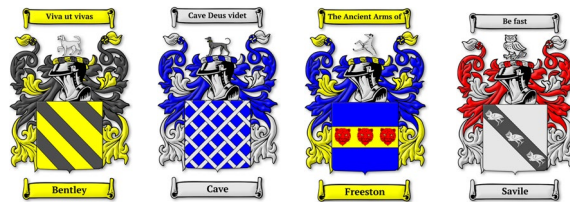
Thanks once again to all involved.

Best wishes,

Richard Brookes
Head



House Matters



As we begin the second half of the spring term, we are looking forward to the spring equinox and all that brings; sunshine, blue skies, spring flowers and that great feeling that summer is on its way. Summer means even more activities with house leaders and captains looking for every single boy to take part in an event.

The BIG FAT quizzes have been enormously popular with the lecture theatre full to capacity with boys and staff eager to earn house points. The next couple of cycles will see Science and Maths causing the usual healthy rivalry and the sixth form will see Mastermind launched very soon. The football competitions are also well under way, again proving very popular with all boys across the foundation. All houses have had a mix of results therefore it is still 'all to play for', have a look at the table so far:

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	GD +/-	Pts
Bentley	10	6	1	3	13	5	+8	19
Cave	7	3	0	4	6	9	-3	9
Freeston	5	2	0	3	8	10	-2	6
Savile	8	3	1	4	10	13	-3	10

We saw the very first cross foundation House event with the Junior sections taking part in a cross country event and combining their efforts for each of the houses. It was great to see everyone in the Junior section competing and have a chance to cheer on their fellow House siblings.

The final standings were as follows:

4th place, Blue - Freeston, and Lee
 3rd place, Red - Savile, and Mackie
 2nd place, Yellow - Bentley, and Heywood
And the 2022 champions were Green - Cave, and Clayton



As we pass the halfway point of the year, it's still close across all four houses and every House point and Merit counts. Over the last 2 weeks here are our top points scorers:

Junior Section

1st	Hector Inglis	Bentley	22
2nd	Toby Rigby	Cave	21
3rd	Edward Clarke	Freeston	20

Senior Section

1st	Joseph Shephard	Savile	19
2nd	Ellis Bingham Oliver Thornhill Joshua Timmons	Freeston Savile Cave	13
3rd	Guy Bailey Ayan Sinha	Freeston	12

Well done to these boys, that's a great effort and keep it up, especially Joseph, Oliver and Ayan...

This week sees the introduction of House form time which will take place every Friday Week B and is a great opportunity to develop the House identity even further; House Captains have a big leadership role in standing up in front of their House peers to deliver some all important messages and organise their House for the next couple of weeks (it's going to be a busy time with so many competitions coming to a close and new ones starting up!). Good luck Captains, I'm sure you will do a fantastic job.

Finally; we wish everyone in every house the very best as we approach the next phase in the push to gain those all important house points - boys should be checking Firefly weekly to find out what is going on and where they stand in the leadership board.

Mr Cook
Savile House Leader

Junior Section News

Dear Parents,

We've had a great start to the half term and we now have the excitement of the Twickenham trip on the horizon! You should have received (or very soon will receive) the letter to confirm the final details for the trip. This will be a memorable experience for the boys and we wish the U15s the very best of luck for their preparations and, of course, on the day itself.

Competitions and events are coming thick and fast now and it has been wonderful to get back to these events since the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. Last week saw World Book Day, HMC Football, Warwick 7s and Hockey vs Cundall Manor all take place and this week has, of course, been our amazing Science Week!

Alongside the science-based trips, visitors and activities, we have had the HMC 7s and HMC Hockey competitions... with the HMC Chess coming up next week. Busy times and plenty to keep the boys interested and motivated.

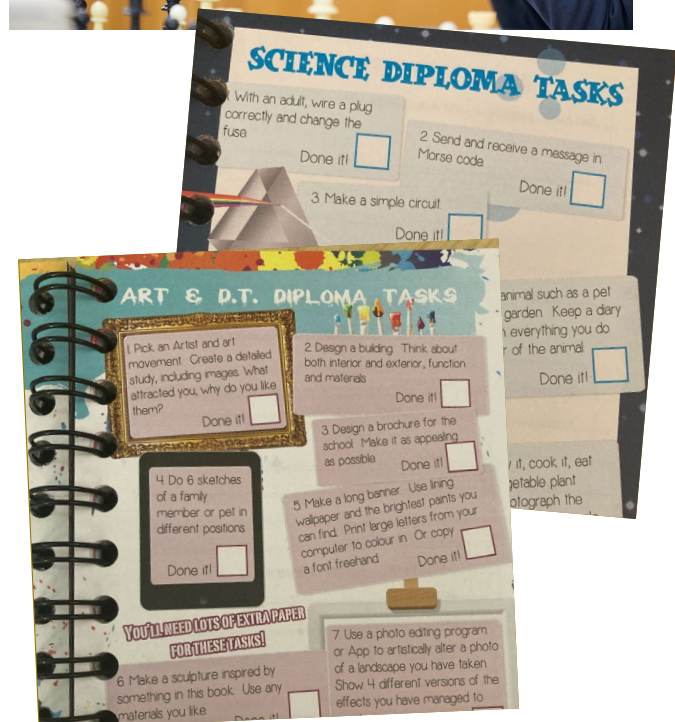
For further enrichment, we also have the QEGS JS Diploma available for any boys who would like to challenge themselves. Further details are below:

QEGS JS Diploma

Many of you will already be aware of the QEGS Diploma but I would like to take this opportunity to either remind you of how it works or introduce it for the first time!

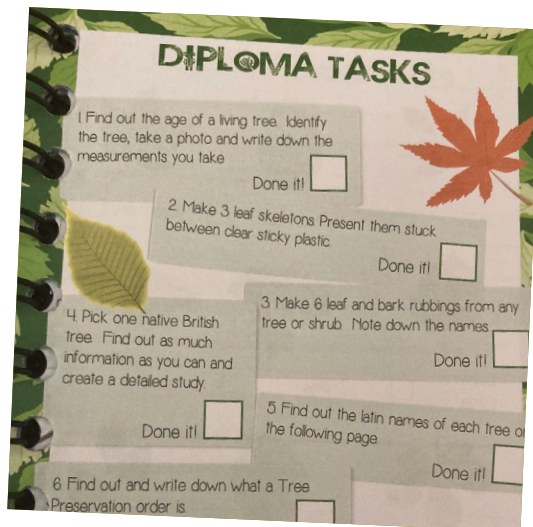
The QEGS Diploma is a challenge which brings together a large number of varied tasks in order to develop children's skills and enthusiasm in a wide range of areas. Tasks are organised into different 'themes' with completed tasks building towards the presentation of some rather fetching badges.

We see the Diploma as a step towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and, as such, have applied a bronze, silver and gold standard related to your son's achievements. The challenges are in place to provide the boys with the opportunity to extend themselves in a particular area if they so wish.



Keep an eye out for a letter which will be shared soon, giving more information and the opportunity to sign-up. I would like to stress that completing the Diploma is not a compulsory expectation - it is simply an initiative we have designed to further support the already wide ranging educational experiences the boys receive, both in and out of school.

R Thompson - Cave
 Director of Junior Section



Junior Section Housepoints

Housepoints for w/e 4th March

1st	Savile - 73
2nd	Cave - 71
3rd	Bentley - 67
4th	Freeston - 65

Most House Points for their Year group

Year 2	AJ Hayer
Year 3	Nathan Hudson
Year 4	Muhammad Aamir
Year 5	Hector Inglis
Year 6	Elliot Smith

Extracurricular Activities

There is a wide array of extracurricular activities in the Junior School which boys can get involved in. These activities are designed to broaden children's experiences, develop their talents and ignite passions which they can continue as they progress further through school. All staff contribute to the extra curricular programme within the section.

Activities include such things as Swimming Squad, Drum Club, Spanish club, Robotics/ Coding Club,, Football, Golf, Orchestra, Choir, Chess, Story Club and many many more. We encourage all boys to take full advantage of the activities available.

For further information regarding available clubs please see the following [here](#) to see the current time table.



HMC Football

A combined team of 15 boys from Year 5 and Year 6 set off to Hymers in Hull to compete in the HMC Football competition that is held annually. As reigning Bowl champions, expectations were high and the boys were in buoyant mood from the start. Upon arrival, the boys demonstrated their organisation skills, their manners and their independence.

The football soon started and both teams played some great football. As the games were ten minutes long, they decided to deploy the tactic of getting the ball forward as quickly as possible! Route One! This worked well and the chances came thick and fast. The goals were free flowing and the teamwork was apparent from the start. After 5 games each, the table determined that the QEGS A and QEGS B had reached the knockout stages of the Bowl competition.

Into the knockout stages! Our Yorkshire grit and determination shone through in true QEGS style. We were determined to play football in the opponent's half, defending admirably and playing long balls into the channels for our lightning quick wingers. They regularly delivered crosses for our attackers who duly slotted the ball into the back of the net.

We often find that our fitness is one of our strongest attributes when we compete against other schools and the latter stages of the competition provided us with a platform to demonstrate this. The QEGS A team and the QEGS B team both reached a final.



Although the day ended with two disappointing losses on penalties in their respective finals, the boys can be incredibly proud of what they achieved. They showed fantastic teamwork, which was highlighted with some spectacular goals scored.

A special thank you to Mr & Mrs Eastwood-Hickson, Mrs Helm and Mr Nanthakumar for travelling across to Hull to support the boys throughout the day.

Mr Drury - Bentley

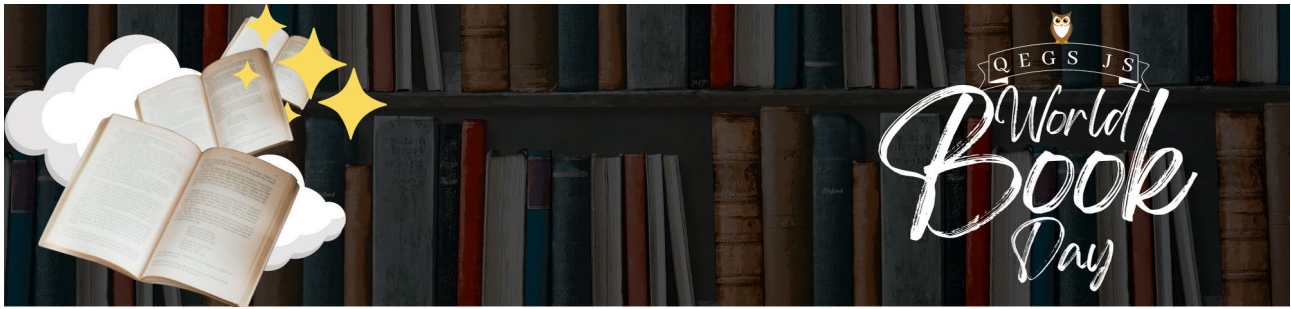
Honestly, we are not cold! 🥶

[Right] U11s 7s Squad after finishing playing a tournament hosted by Warwick School!

The boys performed well throughout the day, Zac Hildyard was presented as one of the 'Player of the Day' trophies for his performances on the pitch. Well done boys and thank you to parents for their support.

Mr J Tiffany - Freeston





This week we celebrated World Book Day.

On Tuesday we welcomed the Award-winning children's author, Tom Palmer into school. He spent a working session with each year group focusing on one of his novels about war.

Year Three looked at 'Spitfire', an inspiring story where a young boy who is building an Airfix model, suddenly finds himself in the cockpit of a Spitfire.

Year Four looked at 'Over the line' which was inspired by the real-life story of a football match played on Christmas day.

Year Five looked at the story 'Arctic Star' which is a naval story outlining an Arctic convoy.

Year Six looked at 'D-D Dog' which explores the role of animals in war, and particularly the role of the dogs that parachuted into France on D-Day.

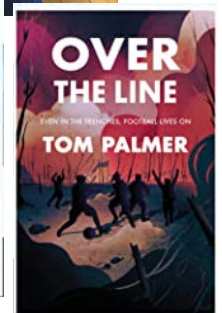
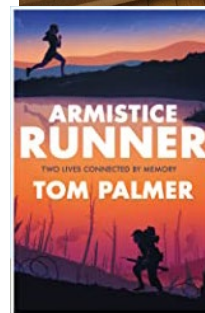
Tom showed the boys some of the artefacts that he uses for inspiration and explained the importance of research in writing an extended story. He talked about when and why he became a writer of children's books and answered all the boys' questions, of which there were many.

Many of the boys had purchased a Tom Palmer book, which he personally signed for each boy.

All in all, the boys really enjoyed meeting a real life author and having the opportunity to talk with him about the stories and his career.

Tom too, really enjoyed his day here and was very impressed with the level of interest shown by the boys, both in learning about the past and in reading.

**Mrs Lindley
Bentley**



School Council

Mrs Hossain runs the Junior Section student council and it is made up of one member of each form, who has been voted in by the other members of their form. The council meets on a fortnightly basis to discuss issues which are important to the boys. This information is then fed back to both the staff and the Junior Sections Leadership team. So far they have contributed to charity selections, greater choice on portion sizes at lunch time, giving ideas for wet play games, resources for the library, asking Mr Oliver (Estates Manager) to speak to the school regarding how the school minimises its environmental impact and opportunities for going forward and developing a reading area in the Millennium Garden. The student council gives the pupils a voice and input into areas they want to develop within school.

ZEST

Years 3-7
SPORTS & ARTS
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14th of April
8.30-4.00 £35.00
8.30-5.00 (inc Wrap around) £40.00

Specialist training & Coaching
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The Yorkshire Ladies Lunch 2022

Friday 16th September 2022

Venue:

Capri @ The Vine, Wakefield

Tickets:

£50 + VAT per guest, to include a glass of fizz / G&T

Tables seat maximum 8 guests

SPECIAL GUEST TBA

Timings:

Drinks reception - 11am

Lunch - 12noon

Event to conclude - 4pm *(bars will remain open)*

To book, contact: hello@yorkshirechildrenscharity.org



Senior Section News

Extracurricular activities at QEGS are nothing short of extraordinary!

This issue is dedicated to one of the most impressive components of school life: the breadth of extracurricular activities that we offer - as an English teacher I like to think of it as the jewel in the QEGS crown. Where many other schools in the state sector have seen this provision diminish over the last twenty years, we have seen it grow and become one of the most loved parts of our school. Boys can, not only, engage in sports, music and drama, go on day trips, attend fixtures and enjoy residential, but we also run diverse activities after school such as Climbing, Squash and, the incredibly popular, Tuesday Night Culinary Club.



During the school day, external providers come into school, such as the Bridge and Golf coach, as well as the huge range of activities that staff run 'in-house'. Probably one of the most obvious ways that we have incorporated extra-curricular activities into the lives of the staff and students is through the Wednesday afternoon QED which opens up an array of opportunities that takes boys well out of their comfort zone. This also gives the older students the opportunity to volunteer, both at school and in the local community.

We also run the successful Duke of Edinburgh programme at bronze, silver and gold level (which leads to a ceremony at Buckingham Palace); the Enterprise initiative incorporates earning profit with raising money and the number of charitable events that our boys - and you as parents - get involved with is the most impressive in any school that I have visited.

Alongside all this is the community work that we get involved with and this is an area that we intend to focus on very much over the next few years. All this is closely intertwined with the incipient House system which is now starting to gain momentum and is giving boys across the two sections even more events to get involved with outside of their academic lessons.



No matter what your son is interested in, there will be some sort of extracurricular activity for him - and if there is genuinely something that we do not run, boys can come and talk to me about it, or raise it at the student voice meetings. The majority of articles in this issue are dedicated to - what we consider to be 'the norm' - I hope you agree they are not just extra curricular but offer an extraordinary opportunity for your sons.

Cathy Palin - Freeston
Assistant Headteacher

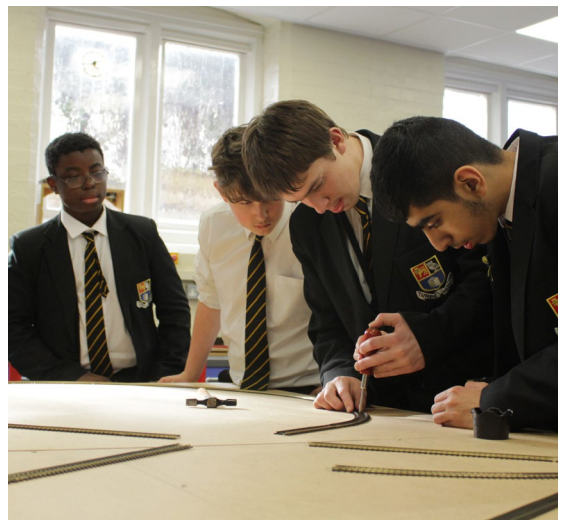
Model Railway QED

This QED is the first of its kind in school that encompasses both D.T and modelling. The aim of the QED is to introduce the concept of the hobby so that people can carry on with this hobby past school. You never know if you'll find it interesting?

The advantages of doing this QED is that it improves a person's D.T skills as well as working on teambuilding and patience. Model railway building QED is open to anybody and in the end I hope it becomes a full time QED for others to enjoy.

With this in mind, I hope that those who do it can enjoy making something that they can call their own and that those people can continue to expand their modelling career. As a group we aim to achieve a functional layout that can hopefully be displayed at open morning for members of the public to view.

Christopher Barnett - Year 9
Savile



Clay Shooting QED

Clay shooting, also called clay pigeon shooting, is a popular and rapidly growing sport which involves shooting flying clay targets with a shotgun. It's safe, exciting, challenging and fun. Hitting the target requires skill, timing and hand-eye coordination, but there's nothing quite like that feeling when you pull the trigger and see the clay explode into a million pieces! I have sometimes heard people express concerns about the safety of guns but statistically, clay grounds are one of the safest places to be in terms of hobbies and the risk of injury is far greater playing normal contact sports. All QED sessions begin with a comprehensive safety briefing by the coaches and there is great emphasis placed on responsibility and the ability to dynamically assess risk - skills that are really important for all children in the real world.



You can enjoy clay shooting at any level, from local club shoots all the way through to national and international competitions and the Olympics. Clay shooting is a great leveller - it's a sport that can be enjoyed by everyone, regardless of age and physical ability. Men, women and youngsters compete together on equal terms and this makes it particularly attractive to us here at QEGS as typically, the best clay pigeon shooters are often not those boys who are skilled in other sporting areas of school life. Over the years, many boys have taken up Clay Shooting as a hobby and have continued at university, where there are many clubs, and into adult life. This emphasises one of the core values of QED - the idea of helping young boys to find activities that may become hobbies for life.

Clay shooting is also ideal as a family activity. Parents and youngsters can go shooting together, spending time outdoors, enjoying a shared challenge and a bit of friendly rivalry and many of the local clubs, including Park Lodge, where I take the boys, offer one to one coaching and introductory sessions for individual children or families. In terms of costs, initially it is possible to borrow or hire equipment and if you decide to take up clay shooting as a hobby, the overall costs are typically significantly lower than other outdoor hobbies requiring equipment, for example, golf.





You'll also find that clay shooting is a friendly and welcoming sport, as outdoor pursuits often are. I have found fishing to be the same. Beginners are always welcome at shooting clubs up and down the country and you'll get plenty of friendly advice and encouragement from the regulars and staff. There is no elitism in clay shooting, we're all in it together and newcomers are always welcome. You might find yourself shooting alongside a complete beginner or even an Olympic champion, as the QEGS boys found out some years ago when they were shooting alongside Peter Wilson at Park Lodge. Peter was a gold medal winner in the 2012 Olympics in the Double Trap discipline.

For more information on clay shooting, visit this website: <https://www.cpsa.co.uk/>

And for information on Park Lodge, the venue we have used for many years, near Snaith, visit: <https://parklodgeshootingschool.co.uk/>

If you do decide to visit Park Lodge, mention that you heard about them via your son at QEGS and you will be given a warm welcome and often an initial discount on a 1:1 family or student introductory session.

The pictures show boys in action from the most recent QED session - my personal thanks go to Will France in Year 11 who accompanied us and took some superb action shots.

**Jim Palin
Savile
Deputy Head and Master i/c Clay Shooting**



Bouldering at City Bloc



Every Thursday, after school, a small but daring group of seasoned climbers descend on the City Bloc facility in Leeds, to test their bouldering skills against the rock and each other. For those that don't know, Bouldering is rock climbing without ropes, but over crash mats, to a height of about 15 feet. Routes are referred to as "Problems", and consist of specially shaped hand and foot holds bolted onto plywood walls, which are graded by colour and a numerical system. This allows boys to practise routes at their level appropriately but also gives clear indication of suitable challenges. Boys that take part enjoy not only the physical demand of completing a route, but also the mental challenge of working out how to coordinate their hands and feet to "solve the problem". It's also a very social sport and a great way of relieving stress whilst keeping very fit.

Most boys that take part in bouldering have acquired a taste for climbing during QED. There are currently some spaces on the minibus so if there are any potential climbers that like the sound of bouldering and want to get "Bloc Strong" then they should speak to Mr McWilliam.

Duke of Edinburgh

Preparations are underway for a return to actual real in person outdoor walking and camping expeditions! Everyone is very excited about getting back to the Yorkshire Dales for some fresh air, beautiful scenery and some quality walking, particularly the staff! It's been a while but hopefully the countryside won't have changed much and we can still find our way about...

Boys in Y10 have been attending regular planning sessions after school on Tuesday (or online) to prepare their practice routes for their training and assessment expeditions. The first training expeditions to Dalesbridge will happen during the Easter holidays so obviously there will be wall-to-wall sunshine, and I can wear shorts and t-shirts all week! Assuming training is successful, those boys will progress to a locally assessed expedition in May that will be centred on Silkstone, near Barnsley. That expedition should be the icing on the proverbial cake that completes the Bronze Award, so I look forward to seeing lots of boys being presented with their badges and certificates in due course.

This year, boys working towards Silver and Gold have the choice of completing their expedition section using either the DIY Alternative expedition or choosing a more conventional expedition experience, consisting of Silver/Gold level training at Dalesbridge with a follow up assessment expedition during summer at either Kettlewell (Silver) or the North Yorkshire Moors (Gold). Several boys have chosen the latter which will please Mr Pesterfield greatly, as Kettlewell is his favourite expedition to assess.

Boys are reminded to ensure that they update their eDofE accounts regularly with evidence of their activities towards Skill, Physical and Volunteering.

Mr McWilliam - Savile



Culinary Skills Club

The Culinary Skills Club has gone from strength to strength. This term sees the second block of attendees honing their culinary skills, with many surprising themselves with their natural ability and others enhancing some skills they already have. Recipes have ranged from the tricky art of a bechamel sauce to working with yeast based dough for pitta bread and not to forget the all important choc chip cookies. A key skill the boys are developing is the ability to follow recipes.

Thank you to Year 13, Year 12 volunteers and a special thank you to Ms Loftus for her continued support and unbounding enthusiasm.

Ms Allen - Cave



Year 7 students take on the 250 Challenge for Charity

Year 7 students recently received an assembly on the '250 Challenge' for the Royal National Institute of Blind People. Following the 'Guide Dogs' talk from Barry Wood in the Autumn term, we challenged the boys to take on the '250 Challenge'.

The '250 Challenge' involved boys choosing a new challenge, or taking on something they love and completing 250 of whatever they decided throughout the month of February.



I have done the 250 challenge by doing 250 minutes of karate straight, and on that day I also passed my 2nd degree (dan) black belt grading which is one of my biggest achievements! I got my sensei (teacher) to take some nice photos of me while I was doing the 250 challenge. I went to a course on that day in Nottingham that I went to complete the 250 challenge. Lots of people came to train as well.

As well as being really tired at the end of the 250 minutes I also had a lot of fun as well! I did two forms of karate continuously; kumite and kata! Kumite means fighting, credit to my partner John who was fighting me for over an hour continuously. After, I did kata (where you do sequences/patterns of different moves) I did the higher grade katas. They all have Japanese names such as: Kankudai, Gojushiho Sho, Jion, Bassai Dai, Hangetsu, and Enpi!

Mayon - Bentley



After hearing about the 250 Challenge for the Royal National Institute for the Blind, I really wanted to make a difference and raise lots of money for the charity. I worked out that it's 25km from my local rugby club (Huddersfield RUFC) to QEGS and if 10 of us walked the route, that's 250km in total. So where would I find another 9 willing, fit, motivated and slightly crazy volunteers . . . the Year 7 rugby team - Edward Beeley, Alex Taylor, Joshua Timmons, Theo Lewis, Hugo Colver, Sam Ilsley, Oscar Giles, Ben Smith, Harry Taylor and me!



On the 26th February, we set off at 8am from Lockwood Park. We started off with 3 adults walking with us but by the end, 12 parents and 5 dogs had joined in!

We had planned a number of pit stops along the route and it was great to see our parents cheering us on, beeping their car horns and providing loads of chocolate to keep our energy levels up.



It was a long trek but we finally reached QEGS at 2.40pm - we completed the walk in 6 hours and 40 minutes. We were all relieved to cross the finish line and tuck into bacon butties in the school playground.

I don't think we had realised how far it was but it was loads of fun doing it together and in the end we raised £1500.00. Thank you to everyone who supported us and donated.

**William Priest (with very sore feet!)
Bentley**



As part of the Y9 Young Enterprise (Tenner) challenge one of the teams, Ukreation (Oscar Smith, Thomas Rose and Nathanael Illingworth) are devoting their efforts to raising funds in support of those fleeing the ongoing crisis in Ukraine.

They have used their start up loan to produce a range of blue & yellow ribbons which can be worn on lapels.

Based on the initial success of their efforts the boys want to allow all members of the Foundation to show their support and are making them available in all of the schools.

The ribbons will be available from school offices as well as the pop-up Blue & Yellow Bake sale stalls that the team will be running around QEGS over the next 3 weeks.

Mrs Mackay - Bentley

Student Voices



Since the start of the academic year, the school has been systematically organising "Student Voices" meetings, where representatives from each form discuss current school matters and propose ideas for the future. This successful rebranding of the Student Council has allowed for an effective representation of the student body, fruitful discussions and useful suggestions - that turn into action!

During these meetings, pupils discuss not only areas for improvement, but also what is working well so that the 'good' things can be kept. Moreover, these meetings act as a bridge from the pupil to the SLT given that all proposals are discussed and carefully considered. For example, some of the most recent changes include among others, more engageable form time and fixed door locks in the toilets.



Furthermore, new and original ideas for house competitions for next year are currently being discussed. On the other hand, a positive response from the pupils regarding this year's change in the timetable times means that it will be kept this way.

More specifically, this week's meeting focused on the upcoming summer term - and it seems like an exciting one too! To begin with, the Queen's Jubilee gives the school the perfect opportunity for novel and exciting events and celebrations. What is currently being discussed is the theme of "70 years through the reign", which shall combine key retro as well as recent aspects of life that have made their mark on this period, the main focus being music. In addition to this, many exciting events are being considered and planned for the summer term in general. It shall remind us of a typical QEGS summer term with trips and charity fairs.

A diverting and eventful summer term is certainly awaiting us!

Christopher Poullos - Freeston

En el campamento - A Student Review

Last week, years 9 & 10 took part in a trip to WGHS to watch a full play in Spanish. The play was about a man and a woman going camping in the woods. It showed the lesson on never to argue with your friends, especially when camping alone! The play allowed the audience to interact with the actors. Overall, it was very entertaining and a great activity for students to do in Spanish whilst in the time of learning!

Max Worrall
Cave



Horoskop - A Student Review

Last week I had the pleasure of going to watch a German production of the play Horoskop (Horoscope). This production was tastefully put together and the two actors that partook in the play provided a sensational performance. One of the actors was constantly changing character as this was only a two person play, yet this did not detract from the magnificent performance. To summarise the play detailed how the female character followed her Horoscope quite literally. The play took the audience through the different aspects of the woman's day, before she read her Horoscope and after. Once the woman had read her Horoscope the play rewound and the audience got to see how the woman reacted to the same events, following her Horoscope. This provided a humorous and preposterous aspect to the play which led to an uproar of laughter from the audience. I can wholeheartedly say that the entire audience enjoyed the superb performance as everyone left the theatre with a smile on their faces, showing their exuberance and contentment that they received from the play.

Thank you for reading

Harry Slarke
Bentley

Meet our New School Nurse...

Hello, my name is Claire Gratrack. I have now started at QEGS as matron/ School nurse. I am an experienced children's nurse who trained at Leeds Children's Hospital and qualified nearly 30 years ago. I then worked at Pinderfields on the Children's ward for nine years. I moved into school nursing, overseeing a few secondary and primary schools in the Wakefield area for the next ten years. This role was very varied and ranged from giving immunisations, delivering health promotion and PSHE lessons to supporting the children and young people with medical needs in school. For the last ten years I have worked as a Specialist Children's Nurse based at Pinderfields Hospital supporting children and their families in hospital as well as in the community including School support for these children.



I enjoy reading and making Lego, walking and in a normal year, travelling. I also love Maths (Mr Gratrack made me say that).

I strongly believe in working in partnership with children and their families to help the child or young person to fulfil their potential. I am looking forward to this new opportunity to work together with school staff to support the students and their families.

Mrs Gratrack
School Nurse

Cambridge Chemistry Race

An early start was needed to travel down to Cambridge university for the Cambridge Chemistry Race.

Our Alchemists team of Tim Rhodes, Robert Tingle, Saifullah Khalid, Rohan Mathew and Luke Ducker were all ready to 'pit their wits' against 60 teams from all around the country.

We arrived in good time for the opening ceremony and after the welcome from the university, the race began. For over two hours we tackled a myriad of challenging chemistry problems ranging from simple organic structures to complex mathematical models. After competing, the team had a celebratory meal and stroll through the beautiful city of Cambridge including a brief tour of Emmanuel college from our special guest guide Mr Tingle.

At the end of the day we returned for the closing ceremony. The standard being extremely high we were happy to achieve a score placing us in the top 50% of competitors, even against upper sixth form teams.

Overall, the day was highly enjoyable and thought provoking, allowing us to delve into interesting fields of chemistry outside the A level specification.

Tim Rhodes (Cave) - Captain of the Chemistry Race Team



UKMT Maths Challenge

Well done to all the boys in year 9-11, who produced another fantastic set of results in the Intermediate Maths Challenge.

The boys achieved 86 certificates of merit, including 7 Golds and 14 qualifications to the second round. Special mention to Joseph Groves who qualified for the Olympiad, which puts him in the top 600 students nationally.

Next term will see the turn of Year 7 and 8, to see if they can match these superb results.

Mr Lister - Bentley

INTERNATIONAL Women's Day

It is not without poignancy that, when reading about the history of International Women's Day, which has its origins in 1908 in America where women campaigned for suffrage and improved working conditions, we learn that Russian women marched on the eve of WW1 campaigning for peace. From 1914 onwards, March 8th was adopted as the day where equal rights for women come to the forefront of the world's minds.

This year's theme is #breakthebias which encourages us to imagine a gender equal world free of bias, stereotypes and discrimination, one in which difference is valued and celebrated.

We were very grateful to Miss Boyes for taking our assembly today and encouraging us to engage with the following 3 questions: Where does bias exist? Can you suggest some positive role models and explain why you admire them? How would you instigate change?

As you would imagine, lively debate ensued throughout QEGS with mums coming out top in the role model category. Other inspirational women like Nicola Adams, Sophie Carrigill and the Queen were suggested by the boys.

Mrs Eggleston - Bentley



World Book Day Charity Raffle

World Book Day 2022 in the Learning Hub at QEGS is always a vibrant and busy day! The Hub provided World Book Day vouchers to all of KS3 to help them celebrate the day, and exchange it for one of three £1 books, published especially for this event. Two online quizzes offered opportunities for the boys to guess which member of staff was hiding behind their books, as well as encouraging the boys to choose their favourite titles in the first ever QEGS Battle of the Books!



The Hub also hosted a charity book raffle to raise money for Book Trust and Book Aid International - with only three days of sales, we raised just over £40 to split between these book charities and help get books to young people across the UK and around the world.

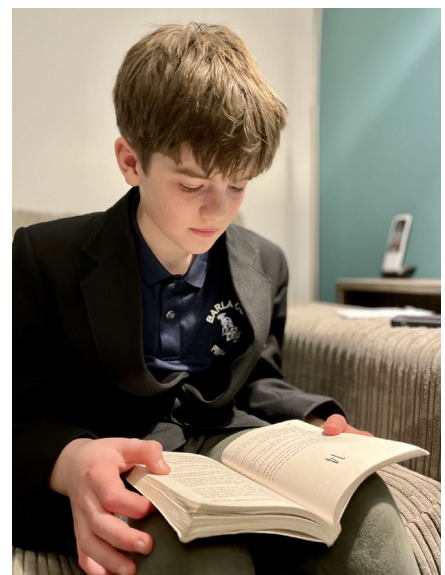
Look out for bigger and better WBD events in the Learning Hub in 2023!

Ms Bauman-Milner
Cave

In My Own Words... *With Lucas*

World Book Day is the perfect day to just try something out. Whether you are an avid, eager reader, or someone who isn't too keen on reading, you can just pick up a book, any book, and just read. The diversity of World Book Day is great; so many stories to choose from! And, if you don't like what you're reading, just pick something else!

I am enthralled with an engaging story called Holes at the moment. It is a great book about friendship, mystery and betrayal. This book is about a character called Stanley Yelnats. He is falsely convicted of theft and is sent to Camp Green Lake, a prison camp in a desert in Texas. It is ironic because there is no lake and there is no greenery anywhere. They are forced to dig holes to 'build character'.



Reading a book is an amazing thing. When I read a book, I feel like I almost become one of the characters in the story. I fall through the pages and into words. And, if it's a really good book I enjoy, my imagination runs wild. The characters come to life in my mind, and I hope they do for you too.

Lucas - Cave

ERIQ and the Poetry Podium

As well as the two periods of ERIQ we all enjoyed, there were competitions, assemblies, a Reading Cafe and a Poetry Podium!

A particularly big thank you to the English department for their efforts. There was a real buzz on the English corridor at lunchtime with a true mixture of boys taking to the podium and having a pop at poetry - fabulous to see.





Spirited QEGS Wakefield hold off Ipswich School to reach Twickenham Final

QEGS Wakefield have reached the Under-15's National Schools Cup Final after a tightly contested 22-19 victory over Ipswich School.

Hosting the National Schools Cup for the first time, Sixways Stadium brought with it a fantastic atmosphere as supporters crammed into the West Stand, greeting both sets of players with loud cheers as they entered the field.

Ipswich School, playing in their first ever National Schools Cup semi-final, withstood some early pressure after a number of explosive carries from QEGS found themselves deep inside their half. Despite a strong start from the Wakefield side it was Ipswich who took the lead through a wonderfully worked set-piece move.

After successive penalty concessions, the Ipswich fly-half, who became an influential character throughout the match, was able to pin QEGS right on their own line. Ipswich, choosing to lift in the line-out, wrapped back around the short side from the resulting throw to carry over from short range. Ipswich up by five.

In a game that turned out to ebb and flow in both sides' favour, QEGS responded to going behind in great fashion. Having cut the deficit to just two points thanks to a penalty kick from captain Lance Barker, the forwards got in on the act too with a more 'traditional' lineout try of their own. A strength all season, QEGS were able to get their rolling maul set from five metres out, driving themselves over the line to allow flanker Rufus Helm to dot down.

Only 15 minutes on the clock and we were in for a cracking semi-final.

Both defences repelled some high quality attacking play for the remainder of the first period before QEGS scored again at a key moment right on the stroke of half-time.

Characteristic of this Under-15 side, their scrum was once again becoming a dominant weapon in their armoury with tactical substitutions keeping the front-row fresh and energetic. Another strong scrum from ten metres out saw No.8 Jack Bailey carry at the Ipswich defence before support from Xander Leighton resulted in another try for the 2015 champions. The half-time score read QEGS 15-5 Ipswich School.

Having conceded at such a vital moment in the contest, it would have been understandable if the Ipswich balloon had been fully burst but they started the second-half the much stronger side.

Two tries including some great team play and individual brilliance meant they not only scored 14 unanswered points, but were now four points ahead.

The semi-final pendulum had swung Ipswich Schools way.

It was obvious, however, that this QEGS side had not lost belief that they could turn the scoreline around once again - a mentality sprung from impressive victories against schools such as Sedbergh and Warwick, to name a few.

Patient probing on the Ipswich line eventually led to Myles Lister, who has grown in stature in every round of the competition, bullying himself over from a metre out. A simple conversion turned it into a seven point try and a three point advantage.

Some ill-discipline in the final moments of the match almost let Ipswich back in again but a misqueued kick for touch meant Jack Ounsley could boot the ball into the crowd and spark jubilant celebrations between players, coaches and supporters.

Both teams deserve a lot of credit for their role in what was a thrilling semi-final, with QEGS running out eventual winners 22-19. They will meet Wellington College in the National Schools Cup Final at the home of English Rugby on Wednesday 16th March.

All the players and coaches would like to thank everyone for their continued support and we hope to see you all for one last effort at Twickenham Stadium. Onto the next!

Mr Graham - Freeston



Spotlight On: Old Savilians

I took a different path to most students post QEGS and, instead of staying in the UK, got on a plane to Fredericksburg, Virginia, USA. Virginia was founded by a Board of Governors, and interestingly enough, a man from QEGS was on this board. So technically, QEGS founded Virginia.

I played rugby for the University of Mary Washington, which gave me incredible experiences like playing both the US Naval Academy at Annapolis and the US Military Academy at West Point. I also played in the 2018 national final in California against Dartmouth. This was the third time lucky for me in a big final, having lost the U15 and U18 finals at Twickenham in 2013 and 2016 respectively.

I did a double major in Economics and International Affairs, and I am currently in the last semester of my MBA. Coming to the U.S. has provided a completely different experience to what I could have had in the UK and given me a global network. I enjoyed my five years in the US, and with it came a few unexpected benefits; living with Zimbabweans showed me the wonders of beer can chicken and how to Braai; an Australian cultured me with kewpie mayo; and the Americans introduced me to country music and better weather, oh and I also secured myself a fiancée. You can do well in the US with a Yorkshire accent, just don't ask for a jacket potato, they have no idea what that is!

If given the opportunity I would highly recommend looking into universities beyond the UK. Places such as the United States, Canada, and Australia offer an incredible education. And, if you are interested in pursuing a sport, university sport facilities are on a higher level in these countries.

Jack Levine

OS 2016

Cave

University of Mary Washington



Key Dates

11-12 Mar	U14 Loughborough GS Tour	4 - 5 May	Summer Concert (7-9.30pm)
15 Mar	Y7/8 Book Trust Livestream Event	6 May	Y13 May Ball @ Royal Armouries
15 Mar	Y12 Art trip to Gateshead	6-7 May	DofE bronze assessment
16 Mar	U15s rugby @ Twickenham	10 May	Y11 Study Leave begins at 4pm (tbc)
17 -18 Mar	Y8 Residential	11 May	QED 5 begins
18 Mar	Rothwell Music Festival	12 May	Intermediate (Y9+10) Music Competition/Concert (7-8.30) tbc
21 Mar	ABRSM exams (tbc)	13 May	Junior and Senior Music Competition/Concert (7-8.30) tbc
21 -24 Mar	Foundation Careers' Week	18-27 May	Y10/12 assessments
21-23 Mar	U18s @ Rosslyn Park	23-27 May	KS3 assessment
22-24 Mar	U16s @ Rosslyn Park	27 May	Y8 Enterprise Day
23-25 Mar	U14s @ Rosslyn Park	27 May	Break up at 4
25 Mar	Radcliffe Scholars Holocaust visit	6 June	School opens
26-28 Mar	Sedbergh 10s	20 Jun	Snr Citizens Jubilee Tea party
26-27 Mar	U13s Caldicott Tournament	20 Jun	New Parents' Evening
28 Mar	Foundation Food Bank Week	21 Jun	Transition Day
29 Mar	Y8 Parents' Evening (online)	23 Jun	Poetry Promenade
2 Apr	Sports' Association Spring Ball	24 Jun	Final external exam day scheduled
5 Apr	Whole School Photograph	27 Jun	Y12 Parents' Evening (online)
5 Apr	Y13 Parents' Evening (online)	28 Jun	Lunchtime recital @ Cathedral
6 Apr	Y13 Business Revision Tutorial (1)	1 -2 Jul	Y6-8 Bushcraft Residential (tbc)
8 Apr	Break up @ 4pm & Non-uniform Day	3-6 Jul	DofE silver assessment
9-16th Apr	Ski Trip to Val Thorens	5-9 Jul	Music Tour to Jersey
10-13 Apr	DofE Training @ Dalesbridge	5 Jul	Trips Day (tbc)
13-16 Apr	DofE Training (2) @ Dalesbridge	6 Ju	House Finale (inc sports' day)
25 Apr	INSET	6-10 Jul	Angling Society residential (tbc)
26 Apr	Summer term starts	7 Jul	Y8 HPV (2)
2 May	May Day - school closed	8 Jul	Break up @ 12
4 May	Last session of QED 4		