



Queen Elizabeth High School

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9th February 2024

QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 19

Dear Parent/Carer

Update on school life

This week we started Y11 mocks in the high school and these continue to next Thursday. Well done to the students for their hard work. Preparation for mocks is an important part of the process of getting ready for the final exams and working hard for mock exams is time well spent.

Y12 parents' evening was the first time many of our Y12 parents had the chance to have face to face meetings with teachers and the opportunity was positively welcomed by staff and students.

We really value inclusivity and acceptance in our community. A vital part of the educational offer is to teach our children and young people the importance of operating without discrimination or prejudice. To this end, Y9 students participated in sessions on hate crime, delivered by Northumbria Police. The message about the laws relating to equality and the protected characteristics and how the police respond to hate speech and violence is a vital one for students to hear.

Respect

Year 9 chess tournament final



Many congratulations to Peter M who beat Matthew R in a thrilling final of the Year 9 chess tournament on Thursday in the Hydro Hall.

A great turnout of fellow students witnessed dramatic scenes as Matthew appeared on course for a speedy and comprehensive victory. However, he couldn't quite finish things off and the match ended in stalemate leading to a re-set of the pieces. Some tense early exchanges followed and soon led to Peter moving into a strong position. Further drama ensued when both boys and the enthralled audience thought Peter had established checkmate; however, Matthew then realised he still had a lifeline and the match resumed. Alas for Matthew, it wasn't to be and he reached out to shake Peter's hand as the audience gave an appreciative cheer for what had been an excellent contest. Both boys deserve enormous credit for getting to the final from a very strong Year 9 field.

Thank you to everyone who took part over the past few weeks and to all of those who turned out to watch the final. Attention now turns to Year 10 where Callum H and Philip B compete in the final scheduled for lunchtime on Tuesday the 13th. Good luck to both boys and congratulations again to Peter M, Year 9 chess champion.

Queen Elizabeth High School

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Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Neil Seaton**

Year 9 netball regional tournament

The Year 9 netball girls represented the school at the Regional Netball Tournament on Saturday 3 February. The girls held their own in a very strong field of high quality, well drilled netball teams. They went on to win two games, draw one and ended up finishing 6th out of 8 teams. The effort and attitude displayed by all girls on the day was outstanding.



Behaviour update

The vast majority of students at QEHS demonstrate excellent behaviour. Unfortunately there is a minority of students who struggle to maintain punctuality throughout the school week. Time out of lessons is lost learning time so we need to work to combat this.

From Monday 26th February we are implementing the following changes:

Form time attendance

Form time begins at 8.45am. This is valuable time to support students' personal growth and wellbeing. If students are late into form time, they will receive an S3 detention. This will replace the detentions currently issued for being late into school. If students take a bus to school and it is late, they will receive a slip to hand to their form tutor which means that they will not be sanctioned.

Lesson punctuality

Students will no longer receive a late mark if they are late to a lesson. Staff will instead record the number of minutes a student is late to their lesson. At the end of each week, Year Teams will run a report to total minutes late for each student across the week and students will serve a Leadership Late Detention on Friday after school to the nearest half hour of how many minutes late they have been across the week. Any students who accrue more than two hours of late minutes will serve a day in seclusion plus a one hour detention during the following week. These detentions will be mandatory and failure to attend will result in seclusion. If transport home is an issue, please contact your child's head of year and we will work to support a solution.

Engage

Unifrog - Careers choices/applications

We are delighted to inform you that we have invested in Unifrog for all of our students. Unifrog is a platform that brings together all the available careers and progression information that helps students make the best choices and submit the strongest applications. We will also be using Unifrog for our Y12 Work Experience (8th -12th July).

We have launched Unifrog with all students in assembly and they have received a 'Welcome' email to their school email account. Please encourage them to sign up as soon as possible!

We also have a 'dummy' code for parents. Use 'QEHHparent' on this page: unifrog.org/code. Sign up to a newsletter and have a good look round the site!

Aspire

AP students climbing activity



Mrs Curry and Carol were lucky enough to go climbing with some of our AP students yesterday afternoon – great to see their confidence growing!

Vacancies

We currently have a number of support staff vacancies at HLT. These include a Science Technician, Multimedia/Music technician, Curriculum Administration support as well as other roles. All our positions are on our website and Facebook sites. We would welcome any support with promoting these roles if you have any networks you feel it would be relevant and appropriate to share them with.

News from the community

Online safety updates
Social Media Influencers
The things social media influencers do and say online can be quite impactful. Around a third of children and young people think that, because the influencer is a 'celebrity', what they share is always good. But we know that isn't the case, sometimes it can be advice based on pseudo-science, selling something because they've been paid to and much more.
Internet Matters have a great article where various specialists offer advice and guidance to parents/carers to help them to let their children think critically about social media influencers. You can find the article HERE .

Reminders/ Key Dates

Next week we have teacher training day on Friday 16 February and the following week is half term.

Date	Event	Who
Monday 12 February	Y9 Parents' Evening – options	Year 9
Thursday 15 February	School closes for students at 3.20pm	All year groups
Friday 16 February	Y11 option meetings	Year 11
Monday 26 February	School reopens for students at 8.40am	All year groups
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day	All year groups

Additional information

Please find information attached with the bulletin:

- Be Creative newsletter

Yours faithfully



Neil Seaton
Head of School

Pupil support and Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mrs Hattie Curry
Deputy Safeguarding Leaders: Mr Emerson Brown and Ms Sarah Albert
SENDCo Mrs Jill Wood

Please remember that we are here to support you and your child at any time. You can contact us via the main office (phone) or by email (admin@qehs.net)

For queries regarding attendance or absence, please email attendance@qehs.net