



# Queen Elizabeth High School

*spes durat avorum*

28 June 2024

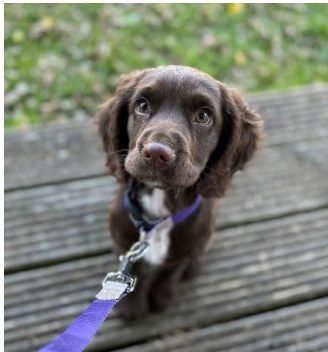
## QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 36

Dear Parent/Carer

This week we welcomed Carers' Northumberland to the high school. They spoke to students about what it means to be a young carer and the support available. Many young people with caring responsibilities do not get the help they need. If your child is a carer for a sibling, a parent or an elderly relative please let school know. One of the comments the Ofsted inspectors made was about how inclusive we are here at QE. We want to make sure that students are supported to overcome the challenges they face. Our Heads of Year and Student Support Co-ordinator, Jen Ballantyne, are contactable if your child requires any additional support.

We were delighted that the work of the student support team and our PSHE programme have been recognised by receiving the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools 'School Mental Health Award'. Well done to Mr Hedley and Jen Ballantyne who have worked on our mental health programme.

### **Pip**



After the successful introduction of Arlo to the Trust, we look forward to welcoming Arlo's little sister Pip to the staff! So many students have benefitted from time with Arlo and it has been lovely to see students interacting so positively with him.

Pip is still very young so won't be properly joining the school until September, but she will be doing a few days here and there this side of the summer. She is looking forward to meeting students soon!

### **Queen Elizabeth High School**

Whetstone Bridge Road, Hexham, NE46 3JB

T: 01434 610300 E: [admin@qehs.net](mailto:admin@qehs.net)

[www.qehs.net](http://www.qehs.net)

Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Neil Seaton**

## Year 13 leavers' assembly

On Monday we said goodbye to year 13 with breakfast before a leavers' assembly from Mr Brown. Various 'Sixth Form Star Awards' were presented to students and good luck messages shared from teachers, along with photographs of their first day at school.

We wish all our year 13 students every success and happiness for the future, hoping they will keep in touch and let us know how they are doing.



## Respect

### Welcome to new staff

On Monday it is the induction day for we will welcome the following teaching staff who are starting in September:

#### *Curriculum Leaders*

- Louisa Hall (Curriculum Leader for Languages) will replace Mrs Bevan who is staying with us but reducing her hours.
- Beth Buxton Collins (Curriculum Leader for RE) who will replace Mr Jones who is retiring.
- Laura Tindall (Curriculum Leader for Music) who will replace Mr Seago who is staying but reducing his hours.
- Mark Brown (Curriculum Leader for Science) who will replace Mrs Fraser who is leaving to take up an Assistant Head post at Ashington Academy.

#### *Teachers*

- Angelika Swatek (Spanish & French)
- Jonny Collins (Mathematics)
- Laura McFaul (Geography)
- Kay Gray (History)
- Emma Pringle (Business)
- Mel Graham (Science)

## Engage

### Paris Residential trip

Students from Year 10 and Year 12 had a great first day in Paris and Versailles, as part of their French languages trip. We visited the town and market of Versailles and the majestic Palace of Versailles. Crêpes for dinner and then an evening cruise on the famous Bateaux Mouches along the Seine, taking in the sites of Paris in the evening sun, all made for a wonderful first day. Magnifique!



### Silver Duke of Edinburgh – 2 DAY TREK

Well done to our Silver D of E students for completing a very warm two-day trek across North Northumberland. The Yellow, Blue and Red teams tackled the hills, woods and sandy terrain. Fellow campers and walkers commented on the students' excellent manners and behaviour. This expedition prepares students for their qualifying expedition in two weeks' time in the Lake District.

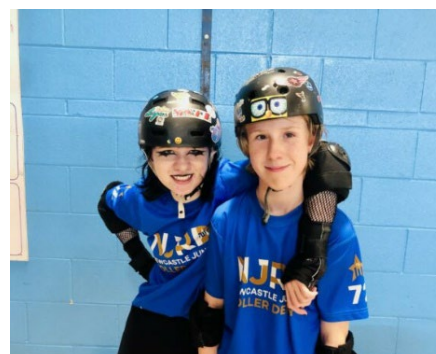
### QEHS Cricket

The new Y11's played St Thomas Moore (Blaydon) last week in the TSSA cricket cup. They were excellent and beat them by 18 runs.

We batted first and made 110 with the openers both scoring well, James Toward 28 and Oscar Foot 36. The game was very close and could have gone either way until Thomas Ross took 5 wickets for just 6 runs in a great spell that turned the game.

### Student success

Rowan and her brother, Cory (from HMS), skated with their team Newcastle Junior Roller Derby at the Northern Juniors Five Nations Roller Derby event in Edinburgh on Saturday. Their team won one game and lost one but have made it through to the final playoffs which will be in Stoke on Trent in September against the winners of the Southern tournament. Cory was awarded best blocker by one of the opposing teams. Well done!



## Student Success



Charlie G began as a volunteer coach as part of his bronze Duke of Edinburgh award last spring. He has continued coaching at the club, showing dedication and commitment to the team, taking them to compete in tournaments, training and supporting them when he can on Saturdays. This commitment was recognised by the team of coaches and he was awarded the prestigious Kevin Piggford trophy at Wark Juniors FC. Well done Charlie.

## Aspire

### Career of the week

This week's Career of the Week was 'Oceanographer'. A link to the video shown in tutorial from 'MyPath' is below:

Job of the week: [Oceanographer](https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/keywords/oceanographer)

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/careers/keywords/oceanographer>

Further information can be found on [Unifrog](#):

This includes Labour Market Information (LMI). It is important that both parents and students are aware of this as it includes current and predicted figures relating to the oceanographer profession, particular attention should be paid to the expected growth figure. All students have received a 'Welcome' email to their school email account. Please encourage them to activate their account if they haven't already done so. We also have a 'dummy' code for parents. Use 'QEHSparent' on this page: [unifrog.org/code](https://www.unifrog.org/code)

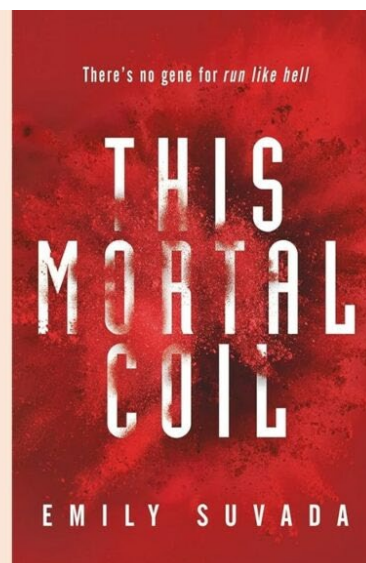
### LRC Recommended Read

The LRC recommended read is *This Mortal Coil* by Emily Suvada. A must read for fans of *The Hunger Games*, *Divergent* and *The Maze Runner*.

When a lone soldier, Cole, arrives with news of Lachlan Agatta's death, all hope seems lost for Catarina. Her father was the world's leading geneticist, and humanity's best hope of beating a devastating virus. Then, hidden beneath Cole's genehacked enhancements she finds a message of hope: Lachlan created a vaccine.

Only she can find and decrypt it, if she can unravel the clues he left for her. The closer she gets, the more she finds herself at risk from Cartaxus, a shadowy organization with a stranglehold on the world's genetic tech. But it's too late to turn back.

There are three billion lives at stake, two people who can save them, and one final secret that Cat must unlock. A secret that will change everything.



## Free School Meals

If you feel that your child may be eligible for free school meals, please have a read of the criteria and make an application as soon as you can. You can find out more [here](#).

To apply, please [complete this form](#) via Northumberland County Council.

## PTFA Lottery



The QEHS Lottery is a simple low cost way of supporting the PTFA and the School. Tickets for the lottery are £1 per entry with 2 monthly cash prizes. Entry is simple and online. More information and the online application can be found [here](#) or email [gehsprizedraw@gmail.com](mailto:gehsprizedraw@gmail.com).

### Online safety updates

#### For Parents - Family Pairing

From all the parents online safety talks I give I'm still surprised that only a minority of parents are aware that some apps allow family pairing which, depending on the app, can do a variety of things such as:

- Manage screen time.
- Apply restricted mode (content restrictions).
- Manage who children are talking to and what's being shared (including images).

Of the more popular apps, here are ones that allow family pairing along with a link which describes what family pairing is, the features available and how to set it up:

TikTok - [HERE](#).

Snapchat - [HERE](#)

YouTube - [HERE](#)

Instagram - [HERE](#)

(For parents by AlanMcKenzie, Online Safety advisor)

## Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	School Mock Election Old Y11 Prom	All
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Y8 Transfer Day Y10 & 11 Trips	New Y10 & 11

Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July - Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Careers Days	New Year 11
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Life Skills Day	New Year 10
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Charities Day & Rewards Afternoon  New Y13 end of term	New Year 13 New Y10&11
Friday 19 July	School closes at 1.30pm New Y13 are not expected in school	

### News from the community

**The Family Hubs are offering FREE online courses for all parents, carers, grandparents and teens in Northumberland**

#### Courses available:

- 1a. Understanding pregnancy, labour, birth and your baby (Antenatal)
- 1b. Understanding pregnancy, labour, birth and your baby: for women couples (Antenatal)
- 2. Understanding your baby (Postnatal)
- 3a. Understanding your child (0-19 years) (Main course)
- 3b. Understanding your child with additional needs (0-19 years) (Main course)
- 4. Understanding your teenager's brain (Short course)
- 5. Understanding your brain (for teenagers only!) (Short course)
- 6. Understanding your feelings (for teenagers only!) (Short course)
- 7. Understanding your child's feelings (A taster course)
- 8. Understanding your child's mental health and wellbeing (Accompanies 3a. and/or 3b.)
- 9. Understanding your relationships

Follow this link to access <https://www.familyhubsnorthumberland.co.uk/free-online-courses>

Also attached:

- Family fun mornings
- Young carers information
- QEHS PTFA Summer update 2024
- Hexham Jobs Fair information

Yours faithfully



Neil Seaton  
Head of School

**Pupil support and safeguarding**

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mrs Hattie Curry

Deputy Safeguarding Leaders: Mr Emerson Brown, Mr Alex Robson & Mrs Jill Wood.

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](mailto:admin@qehs.net)

For queries regarding attendance or absence, please email [attendance@qehs.net](mailto:attendance@qehs.net)