



15 November 2024

QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 10

Dear all

This week we celebrated positive noticing day in the high school. Students and staff were encouraged to notice what people do well. I wanted to highlight some of the positive things that I have noticed at QE this week:

- The outstanding organisation and commitment of staff to delivering our sixth form open evening on Thursday night and the brilliant sixth formers who supported.
- The success of our students in a range of activities from debating to cross country.
- The thoughtful, poignant assembly that Mrs Hodgson delivered on remembrance and the positive way all students engaged.
- The tangible benefits that we see from the fundraising by our PTFA – the gym equipment, funding for trips and youth theatre.
- The sensible, practical suggestions that the student council made when they attended SLT this week.
- The joy of seeing staff and students entertained by the staff netball match on Thursday in aid of Children in Need.

Respect

Attendance

We believe that attendance at school helps students to progress socially, emotionally and academically. Being in school, meeting people and doing activities helps social development and positive mental health. When we review outcomes data there is a clear correlation between attendance and performance. Students make better progress and achieve higher outcomes when they attend. In the newsletter each week I will show you our current attendance data for each year group. Our school target is 95%. We know that some students will struggle to attend school so please speak to their form tutor, Head of Year or Mrs Curry if you have any concerns. We work with families to help students overcome barriers to attending school.

Attendance week ending 25 October

Year group	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	All years
Percentage	95.3%	92.3%	92.4%	93.7%

Queen Elizabeth High School

Whetstone Bridge Road, Hexham, NE46 3JB

T: 01434 610300 E: admin@qehs.net

www.qehs.net

Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Neil Seaton**

Engage

Cross Country success

On Monday we travelled to Ovingham for the first round of the English Schools Cross Country. The weather was fantastic compared to the torrential conditions of last year.

We had some fantastic results across both schools with 37 out of 50 students attending going into the next round. All of our students represented the school very well, ran hard and should be proud of themselves – we are! We look forward to seeing how they all perform in the next round. Well done to all involved. You can find further information on our website: [here](#)



Chess tournament

Well done to Philip B, Harvey T, Ben S, Alfie B, Isaac V and Dominic C who attended the English Chess Federation's National Championship regional heat on Wednesday 13 November at Bede Academy in Blyth. The students performed extremely well against some tough opposition, winning eleven matches and drawing one, and now progress to the next stage of this national competition. Two other teams from QE take part in a second regional heat next week, at St Mary's High School in Newcastle. Good luck to all!

Also, well done to Kris R, Sam C, Noah C and William D who have reached the semi-finals of the in-school year 9 chess competition. Good luck to each of them.

Emotion Coaching – Support with parenting your teens

Mrs Curry is now an accredited Emotion Coach as part of the Emotion Coaching UK network: <https://www.emotioncoachinguk.com/>

To complement the staff CPD program this year we would like to invite parents/carers to attend a session delivered by Mrs Curry at school on

- Monday 2nd December at 5.30-6.30pm.

The session will explore what emotion coaching is as well as some of the benefits and some practical ways to make use of it at home. If you would like to attend this session please email dgradwell@qehs.net to register your interest by 25th November.

ESU Mace Debate Competition

Congratulations to Lola S, Adam R and Sophie J who have made it through to the second round of the ESU debating competition. The team successfully debated against a four day school week in the first round at Dame Allan's School on Monday.

Staff Netball for Children in Need

The annual staff Robson v Jesper netball match took place on Thursday in the Sports Hall. There was a decisive challenge from Jesper's team but the Robsons triumphed again. Thank you to the staff for their participation and to thst students for their donations to Children in Need.



Aspire

Refugee Education UK

Working in collaboration with Northumberland Inclusive Education Services (LINT), QEHS welcomed Refugee Education UK this week as they met with Ukrainian pupils and their families living in Northumberland. Ukrainian pupils across the county were invited with their families to attend an individual careers session with an education consultant from Refugee Education UK, exploring their future education plans and possible routes and support in the UK.



The evening also saw Refugee Education UK lead a parent and carer information session about the UK education system and pupils' options for post-16 study.

Career of the week

This week's Career of the Week was 'Osteopath'.

The following link will take you to further information and a video regarding this career on 'Unifrog'

[Osteopath - Unifrog](#)

This includes Labour Market Information (LMI). It is important both parents and students are aware of this as it includes current and predicted figures relating to this 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 'QEHHparent' on this page: unifrog.org/code.

QEHS Parent Teacher & Friends Association news

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 qehsprizedraw@gmail.com.



Online Safety Update

Fortnite Updated Controls

With the Fortnite game as popular as it ever was, it's important that parents of children who play the game are updated on parental controls which will assist. There are quite a few features within Fortnite which may appear overwhelming so Internet Matters have put together a fantastic web page to guide parents through all the controls/settings.

You can find the web page [HERE](#). (by Alan McKenzie, online safety advisor)

Sixth Form

Work Experience Placements

Since the pandemic it has become increasingly difficult for students to secure work experience. If you are able to offer a work experience placement during week commencing 9th June 2025, please contact sixthform@qehs.net. The year 12 students would welcome the opportunity to spend anywhere from one day to a week in a different work environment. Across the year group of 200 students there are a wide range of skills and interests, so all sectors welcome.

Kenya Fund Raising

The Kenya 2025 team are running a raffle that is to be drawn in December. There are LOADS of prizes to be won including; Amazon vouchers, zoo passes, restaurant vouchers, gift sets, go karting passes, shopping vouchers and much more! £2 per strip. Cash and card accepted.

Students – we will be coming round in form time over the next couple of weeks and will be sold at the tuck shop next Friday (22/11)!

Paint a decoration

Feeling festive? Remember to book your place to paint a Christmas decoration with iPots on Thursday 28 November! Click [here](#) for more information.

The session will be held in the Winter Gardens during P2. Places can be booked on the MCAS app.

Sixth form noticeboard

Opportunities and advice for employment, volunteering and university are regularly promoted via the website, within the [Sixth Form Noticeboard](#).

We rely on parents 'feeding' opportunities into the students, so if an organisation you are involved with is doing something in the future that a young person may find inspiring please email sixthform@gehs.net. Equally, if you would like to advertise local job opportunities (paid or voluntary) please send the details.

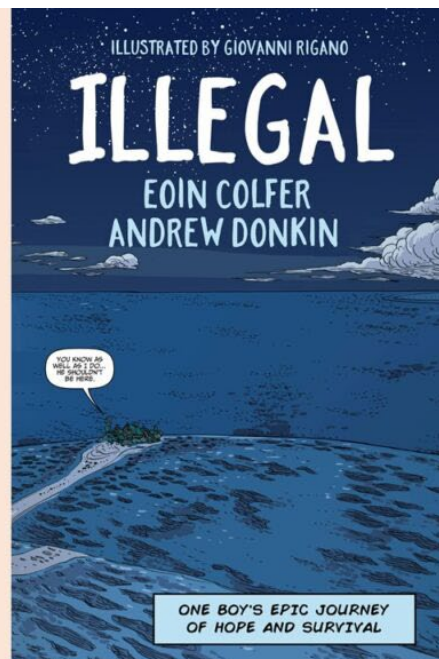
LRC Recommended Read

Illegal by Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin is a graphic novel telling one boy's epic journey to Europe.

Ebo: alone.

His sister left months ago. Now his brother has disappeared too, and Ebo knows it can only be to make the hazardous journey to Europe.

Ebo's epic journey takes him across the Sahara Desert to the dangerous streets of Tripoli, and finally out to the merciless sea. But with every step he holds on to his hope for a new life, and a reunion with his sister.



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.

News from the community

Tynedale Cricket

If your U13 or U15 girl would like to join Tynedale Cricket club sign up or contact lead coach Ella Martin-Dobson for more information: ella.martin-dobson@hotmail.com or 07376490095.



U13 AND U15 GIRLS CRICKET

U13 YEAR 7 & 8 U15 YEAR 9 & 10

U13 AND U15 TEAMS WILL ENTER THE GIRLS HARBALL LEAGUES FOR THE 2025 SEASON

WINTER INDOOR TRAINING LOCATION AND TIME TBC



SIGN UP OR MORE INFO CONTACT LEAD COACH

ELLA MARTIN-DOBSON
ella.martin-dobson@hotmail.com
OR
07376490095

Hexham Squash Club Open Day

Hexham Squash Club is hosting its Open Day on Sat November 23rd. For more details click [here](#).

Help Shape the Future of North East Transport: Local Transport Plan Consultation Now Open

Kim McGuinness, North East Mayor has announced that her consultation for our North East Local Transport Plan is now open and she's inviting us all to be part of shaping the future of transport in our region. This consultation is our chance to help create a vision for a transport network that works for everyone in the North East.

North East Mayor, Kim McGuinness, said, 'This consultation focuses on getting the big picture right. We want to know if our direction aligns with your vision: safer journeys, better connections, and sustainable travel as the first choice. Do you feel these priorities reflect what the North East needs? Your feedback will be vital in helping us refine and improve the plan to meet the needs of our communities and I encourage everyone to take part'.

The consultation will run until Sunday, 26 January 2025. You can share your views through an online survey [here](#) by post or phone, or by attending one of our community events across the region.

Year 9 Photos

Gillman & Soame took Year 9 portrait and class group photographs earlier in the autumn term. If you haven't already, please order these photographs as soon as possible (especially if you would like them for Christmas). If details have been mislaid, please contact Gillman & Soame directly at

action@gillmanandsoame.co.uk or on 01869 328200 with your child's name and quoting the security password **queenelizabethhigh495rxp2024** and they can assist.

Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
25-29 November	GCSE Geography field trips (student groups go out for half a day)	Y11
Thursday 28 November	A Christmas Carol performance	Y10/Y11 students
Wednesday 11 December	Winter Concert – 7pm	All year groups

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

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