



# Queen Elizabeth High School

*spes durat avorum*

11 April 2025



## **QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 28**

We have reached the end of term and the start of the Easter holidays. One of the highlights of this week was the Spring Concert that took place on Wednesday evening in the Winter Gardens. The full range of musical talent was showcased from a flamenco guitar to a beautiful rendition of 'Diamonds and Rust'. It was also the inaugural performance of the soul band who sang 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough'. The evening was joyful, celebrating the talent of the students here at QE.



At the end of the show, Ms Tindall thanked our Y11 and Y13 leavers for their contributions to QE music over the years. Her message to all the students was an excellent reminder of friendships that students make through their involvement in clubs and activities. The benefit of being in the high school is the richness of choices available in sport, art, drama etc and the opportunity this gives students to 'find their tribe' and make positive friendships.

The holiday is also the time when Y11 and Y13 students begin the countdown to their exams and use their time for exam preparation. As Mr Maughan mentioned in his Y11 assembly, it is important to do your best, work hard and have no regrets in August when collecting the results. We wish them all the best for their revision over the next two weeks.

### **Staffing**

Jill Wood, SENDCo, leaves QE to take up a post at Ashington Academy. We thank Jill for her contributions to the school and support of our SEND students over the last three years. Jill will be replaced by Laura Warland who is currently the Assistant Head Teacher SENDCo at St Thomas More School in North Shields. Laura will start with us on 2 June. In the interim, Lucy Mackenzie and Di Cunningham will lead the SEND team. Please email [SEND@qehs.net](mailto:SEND@qehs.net) if you have any queries.

### **Respect**

#### **Attendance**

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.

### **Queen Elizabeth High School**

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

Executive Headteacher: **Graeme Atkins**

Head of School: **Neil Seaton**

Attendance week (week ending 4 April)				
Year group	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	All years
Percentage	93%	90%	88%	90.3%

## Engage

### London Mini Marathon

Arthur D L and Arthur D have been selected to represent the North East at the London Mini Marathon ahead of the main event. This is a great achievement and we wish them well.

### Football

Rose B in 10LDB won the Northumberland Football League U15 League Cup on Saturday with her team Wallsend Boys Club U15 Girls.

### House Easter Egg Hunt

Congratulations to Beech house who won the Easter Egg hunt competition and accrued 100 P points for their house. Well done to Harry J and Will P for leading the Beech house efforts.

## Aspire

### Career of the week

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

The following link will take you to further information on 'Unifrog':

[Solicitor: 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 the profession, particular attention should be paid to the expected growth figure. All students have received a 'Welcome' email from Unifrog. This can be found in 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](http://unifrog.org/code).

## Sixth Form

### Work experience week

Year 12 students undertake a compulsory week of work experience to give a greater understanding of the world of work in their chosen area and help build links for future employment opportunities.

The school will help where possible, but ultimately it is down to students themselves to organise their placement. Work experience week takes place from Monday 9 June to Friday 13 June.

Students who haven't already found a placement are encouraged to use:  
<https://www.unifrog.org/placement/guides>.

### Sixth form noticeboard

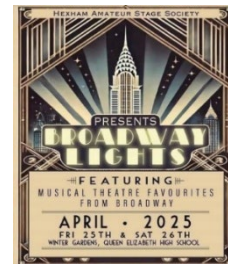
Opportunities and advice for employment, volunteering and university are regularly promoted via the website, within the [Sixth Form Noticeboard](#).

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@qehs.net](mailto:sixthform@qehs.net). Equally, if you would like to advertise local job opportunities (paid or voluntary) please send the details.

## QEHS Parent Teacher & Friends Association news

### Helpers needed!

The Hexham Amateur Stage Society will be performing favourite songs from Broadway musicals in the Winter Gardens during the Easter holidays. The PTFA will be serving refreshments. It's a great fundraiser, but we could do with some extra pairs of hands! If you can help for a couple of hours on the evening of Friday 25th April or the afternoon of Saturday 26th April, please email [qehs.ptfa@gmail.com](mailto:qehs.ptfa@gmail.com).



### Go Green with a Spring Clean

If you're planning a clear-out over the holidays, the PTFA welcomes donations of used children's or adults' clothing (no branded uniform please), shoes and accessories in the recycling bins at the foot of the driveway. The PTFA receives funds for every kilogram collected.

### Used Uniform Donations and Orders

If you have any used uniform you'd like to donate, including PE boots, or if you would like to order any items of used uniform or make use of the boot bank, please see details on the school website: [School Uniform Recycling – Queen Elizabeth High School](#)

### PTFA Lottery

Tickets for the lottery are £1 per entry with 2 monthly cash prizes. Entry is simple and online. For more information and to sign up complete the [online application](#) or email [qehsprizedraw@gmail.com](mailto:qehsprizedraw@gmail.com).



### LRC Recommended Read

This week's LRC recommended read is: *The Way of the Dog* by Zana Fraillon - written from the perspective of a dog.

*SHUT IT!*

Shoe-legs can be mean.

And in the shadows the Rat kings creep  
cutting claws climbing  
sharp teeth snipping

snapping  
grinning at us  
creeping closer to us

and we howl for Mamma

we waaaaoowl-yowl-yip

*Are you coming? Are you coming? Are you, Mamma?*

*Are*

*you?*

but she doesn't

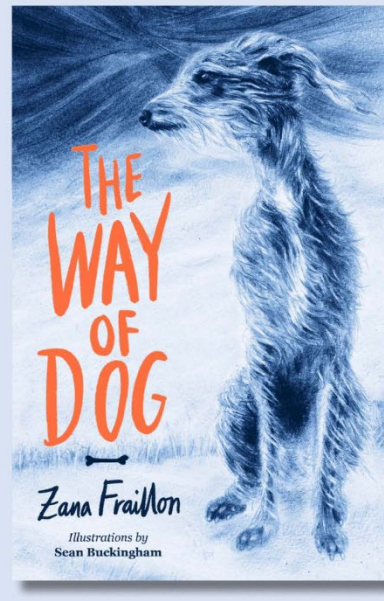
not once

call back.

I guess she's lost her strong

I guess she's lost her fierce

I guess she's learned it's our turn  
to be taken.



### News from the community

#### Participation in research opportunity

A Durham University Master student is wishing to carry out research into online behaviour and online interactions of children and young people aged 12-25.

For parents, participation involves just filling in a short questionnaire. They will be entered into a draw for a £50 gift card.

For the young people, participation involves a video call with a researcher who holds a DBS through Durham University in which they have to answer questions about the approachability of different social media profiles. They will receive a £10 gift card in return.

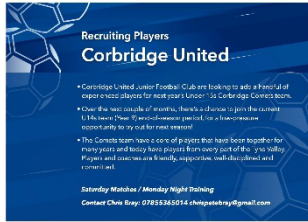
They are currently recruiting for a control group, so the young people should be neurotypical, and should not have attended university at any point.

If you are interested, please contact [grace.e.mccabe@durham.ac.uk](mailto:grace.e.mccabe@durham.ac.uk)

Please see the attached posters for more details.

**Tynedale Cricket Club offers Easter Camp**

For more information contact [edforeman465@icloud.com](mailto:edforeman465@icloud.com) / 07506031578



**Football**

Corbridge United Football club is recruiting players. Saturday matches/Monday night training. For more information contact Christ Bray: [chrismetebay@gmail.com](mailto:chrismetebay@gmail.com) 07855365014.



**Online Safety**

**For Parents - Game Safe Guide**

With the school holidays just around the corner, some children will be looking forward to spending longer online, with their friends, playing online games. There always has to be a balance, but gaming can be a really positive activity for lots of reasons. But as we all know there are lots of risks and issues.

Internet Matters has a brilliant guide for parents which goes into lots of detail in relation to balancing gaming with other activities, setting up consoles correctly, connecting with others and much more.

The full guide can be found [HERE](#). (by Alan McKenzie, online safety advisor)

**Reminders/ Key Dates**

Date	Event	Who
Monday 28 April	School reopens	All year groups

**Free School Meals**

If you feel that your child may be eligible for free school meals, please read the criteria and make an application as soon as you can. Find out more on the [Northumberland County Council website](#). To apply, please [complete this form](#) via Northumberland County Council.

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.

SENDCo: Ms Laura Warland (from 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025). Interim: Ms Lucy Mackenzie and MS Di Cunningham.

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)