



27 February 2026

QEHS WEEKLY UPDATE 22

Welcome back after the half-term break. I hope you and your families were able to enjoy some rest, it has certainly been uplifting to return to school with brighter mornings and a hint of better weather on the way. The lighter days always bring renewed energy across our community, and it has been a pleasure to see students settling quickly back into routines.

Year 13 are now in the middle of their mock examinations, and we are incredibly proud of the maturity and focus they have shown so far. These assessments are an important step in preparing them for the summer exam season. We appreciate your continued support in encouraging good study habits, rest, and balance during this busy period.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support of QEHS and everything we do to help our young people thrive.

Respect

Attendance

Welcome back to a new half term. It has been great to see students returning with positive energy, helped along by the brighter mornings and improving weather. As we settle back into routines, I want to take this opportunity to thank families for supporting strong attendance. Every day in school really does make a difference to students' learning, confidence and sense of belonging, and your efforts in ensuring they are with us whenever they are well enough are genuinely appreciated.

We know that good attendance is one of the most important factors in helping young people thrive, and your partnership continues to play a key role in this. Thank you for working with us to give our students the best possible start to the term.

Scotty's Day - Wednesday 4 March (lunch/Period 4 and 5)

On the 2 March this year, it is sadly five years since the sudden passing of our previous Curriculum Leader of PE and Health, Chris Scott. Each year, in his memory, and to raise money for Tynedale Hospice at Home and The British Heart Foundation, the PE department host an afternoon of sporting activities for our 6th form students to participate in. We affectionally call it '**Scotty's Day.**' Our 6th form students don't often get the chance to come together to take part in sporting activities, and we are proud to mark the occasion with an afternoon of sporting events for students to engage with.

Fire and Dough Pizza

Sixth formers can purchase pizza slices from Fire and Dough Pizza. They have very kindly offered to donate money raised from pizza sales. The PE department would like to thank Fire and Dough for their continued support and generosity. This will be cash only.

Queen Elizabeth High School

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Executive Headteacher: Graeme Atkins

Head of School: Neil Seaton

Cake Stall

6th form students can also purchase cakes, using cash only. We would like to ask for as many donations to the cake stall as possible so students can bring in homemade or pre-bought cakes to sell. If any students wish to donate cakes, please bring them to the PE office on Wednesday morning.

Scotty's Day Donations

As all contributions on Scotty's Day will be cash only, we have opened an option on MCAS for parents/students to make online donations to the Scotty's Day fund. Any donations for the named charities would be hugely appreciated.

We look forward to a lovely afternoon of sport next Wednesday and hope for good weather!

The PE Department

Engage

House update

Mr Jesper	Ms Coleman	Ms Buxton-Collins	Mrs Fraser	Miss Snowdon/ Miss Macken
				
Beech	Birch	Ash	Oak	Sycamore
77,631	76,238	70,393	67,782	69,301

Total points as of 27 February 2026

Hexham Bike Bus – volunteers needed!

Following November's successful piloting of a 'Bike Bus' initiative in Hexham, Tynedale's Bicycle Mayor, David Dixon, has secured more funding for bike bus training for volunteer guides. A bike bus is a supervised grouping of cyclists who move together as a unit and therefore have greater protection from traffic than when cycling alone. Our support of this reinforces the message that cycling can have many benefits for individuals – fitness, fun and convenience – and the community, as ever-increasing traffic congestion contributes to higher accident rates, pollution and Climate Change. However, without more adult guides, the scheme won't be sustainable.

If you or someone you know can spare a small amount of time on a morning or afternoon each week to support this initiative, it would be greatly appreciated. Training is available and can take place during the week or on a Saturday or Sunday. For more details, please contact David via daviddixon649@gmail.com.

Aspire

Student Success

After hard work and a successful audition, inspired by participating in our recent Samling Singing Schools project, Christian T (year 10) has beaten off competition and has gained a place in the Samling Academy.

Samling Academy is a year-long programme for classical singers who are at schools and universities in North East England. The 30 singers who are selected by audition each year receive advanced coaching in every aspect of their performance, working with a team of professional singers, pianists and stagecraft specialists, under the direction of Caroline Dowdle from Royal Opera and Ballet.



You can see Christian and his fellow Academy Singers performing in an afternoon concert at The Glasshouse on Sunday 25 October and in a staged production in July 2027.

European Youth Parliament competition

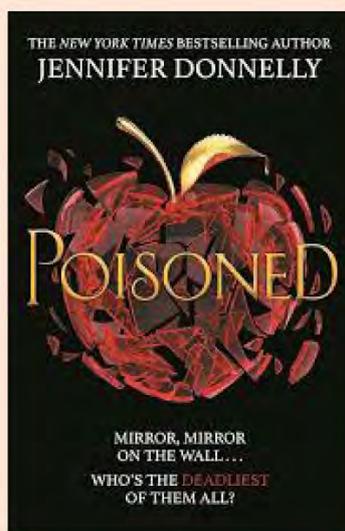
Congratulations to our fantastic year 12 team who impressed the judges in the regional round of the European Youth Parliament competition yesterday and have progressed to the National Final! Students prepared rounds of debates against other schools on the subject of universal free school meals, immigration policies and sustainable tourism. We are so proud of the students for their professionalism and conduct throughout the day.

LRC recommended read

Once upon a time, a girl named Sophie rode into the forest with the queen's huntsman. Her lips were the color of ripe cherries, her skin as soft as new-fallen snow, her hair as dark as midnight. When they stopped to rest, the huntsman took out his knife ... and took Sophie's heart.

It shouldn't have come as a surprise. Sophie had heard the rumors, the whispers. They said she was too kind and foolish to rule — a waste of a princess. A disaster of a future queen. And Sophie believed them. She believed everything she'd heard about herself, the poisonous words people use to keep girls like Sophie from becoming too powerful, too strong . . .

With the help of seven mysterious strangers, Sophie manages to survive. But when she realizes that the jealous queen might not be to blame, Sophie must find the courage to face an even more terrifying enemy, proving that even the darkest magic can't extinguish the fire burning inside every girl, and that kindness is the ultimate form of strength.



Sixth Form

Sixth form noticeboard

[The sixth form Noticeboard](#) is regularly updated with new opportunities.

RED Engineering visit: Some of our sixth formers were hosted by RED Engineering in Hexham this week. The group enjoyed an introduction to RED, explored different routes into engineering, and got a closer look at four of their live projects. This was an invaluable opportunity for them to gain real insight into the engineering sector.



Get Involved: 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.

Online Safety

Online safety guidance

The government has launched a new [online safety website](#) to support families and encourage regular conversations about what may be seen online. Based on parents' main concerns and needs, it provides:

- tips for parents' conversations with their children
- actions to support each stage of their child's life
- parental controls information

Trusted resources from charities and third parties are signposted where parents can access other forms of support (like speaking to an expert).

The website will continue to grow and be developed this year, supporting the [Online Safety Act](#) and wider government aims around protecting young people from harm.

For Parents - Google Family Link

For children with Android devices, Google Family Link is a great way for parents to set restrictions. Last week Internet Matters released a brand new YouTube video showing how to set up Google Family Link to customise content and screen time restrictions:

Click to [Set Up Google Family Link](#) (By Alan McKenzie – Online Safety Specialist)

QEHS Parent Teacher & Friends Association news

The QEHS Parent Teacher and Friends Association is run by volunteer parents/carers, teachers and friends of the school who work together to raise funds to make QEHS an even better environment for students to learn and thrive, engaging in activities or providing facilities or equipment which support the school community.



Registered Charity 1201950

Did you have a half term clear-out?

Don't forget that you can place bags of unwanted clothes, shoes and accessories in the PTFA recycling bin at the main car park entrance. We welcome new or used donations of the following items in good, undamaged condition, placed in bags tied at the top:

- adults' and children's clothes
- shoes (tied in pairs)
- accessories (bags, belts, jewellery etc)



No branded uniform, damaged items or bulky items such as pillows, duvets or curtains, please. School uniform donations should be handed directly into the school office for the uniform recycling scheme instead.

Tuesday 3rd March - PTFA meeting, 6pm at The County Hotel, Hexham, in the Residents' Lounge to the left of the front door. Come and meet us, hear how much we've raised, what we're spending it on and help us plan what we do next. New faces and fresh ideas are always welcome!

PTFA Lottery - cash prizes every month

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 gehspriedraw@gmail.com



News from the community

Join the **Hexham Wombles** for the next community litter picks:

- Saturday 28 February, 11am – 12:30pm
Meet at Hewson Court Carpark
- Sunday 22 March, 11am – 12:30pm
Meet at the Community Centre Carpark



NEWCASTLE UNITED FOUNDATION

OUTPATIENT MULTI-SPORT SESSIONS

Join free, inclusive multi-sport activities designed for children with medical conditions. Sessions support young people to enjoy physical activity with support from Newcastle United Foundation staff in a safe environment.

Scan the QR code to sign up.

For more information, email: melissa.scott@nufc.co.uk

Newcastle Unit Foundation

Outpatient Multi-Sports Session – Free inclusive activities designed for children with medical conditions. Sessions support young people to enjoy physical activity with support from Newcastle unit Foundation staff in a safe environment.

Reminders/ Key Dates

Date	Event	Who
Monday 2 March – Friday 6 March	National Careers Week	All Year groups
Tuesday 3 March	PTFA meeting (The County Hotel, Hexham – 6pm)	All welcome
Wednesday 4 March	Scotty's Day	Sixth Form
Thursday 5 March	Immunisation Catch Up Session	Year 9
Thursday 5 March	Creative Industries & Content Careers Fair	All year groups
Monday 16 March – Friday 20 March	House Assemblies	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.



Neil Seaton
Head of School

Pupil support and safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Leader: Mrs Anne Lloyd
Deputy Safeguarding Leaders: Mr Emerson Brown
SENDCo: Mrs Laura Warland

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

