



QUEEN'S
COLLEGE
TAUNTON

BULLETIN



Queen's College Whole School Newsletter 12 November 2021

Lest We Forget



Mr Julian Noad - Head of College

In this week of remembrance, those who gave their lives for our freedoms have been recognised superbly by Queen's College. I am so very proud of our pupils and staff for, in particular, our act of remembrance out in front of School House, gathered around and then laying wreaths at the College's own memorial to the Old Queenians who fell; their names recorded in School House entrance. Oscar Webb, president of the OQs, laid a wreath and read in a service led by Rev Deborah Kirk. My especial thanks to Archie Wade for his excellent last post and reveille.

We look forward to seeing more of our Old Queenians this weekend with an OQ drinks reception at Castle House on Saturday and then for the AGM, service, hockey fixtures versus the School, and lunch on Sunday.

I am very excited about this weekend since the AGM should, if all goes to plan, launch a huge revision of alumni and development activity at Queen's - watch this space.

As we are now into the second half of term, there are many other initiatives on the go. In particular and responding to pupil and parental feedback, developments in catering and IT are very much moving forwards. I hope to share news soon.

I am also pleased to share that we are very busy with visits from prospective families at present. There is much enthusiasm for what is on offer here at present as well as anticipation of what lies ahead. We enjoyed an afternoon with current Year 6 parents yesterday, from our own Prep and elsewhere.

We look forward to welcoming a host of strong recruits to the Senior School next year.



And now, to the weekend - it's another busy one. In addition to the aforementioned OQ events, to my immediate knowledge, we have an under-10 rugby festival for fourteen visiting schools, hockey and rugby fixtures aplenty, climbing outings, a whitewater kayaking trip, and a bronze Duke of Edinburgh sortie. I hope to see you or your children enjoying or supporting these rich opportunities.

Have a great weekend.
Best wishes, Julian.

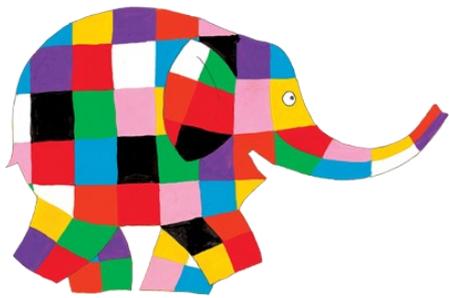
Nursery Roundup

Highgrove Nursery News From Mrs Donna Kershaw - Nursery Manager

It's been a busy week at the Highgrove Nursery!

Puddleducks Room have been learning about the meaning of a poppy, creating their own wreaths and decorating remembrance soldiers as well as practising their marching skills during music times.

Tiggywinkles have been using their book of the week 'Elmer' to discuss and use colours to a variety of different arts and crafts activities. They have also been practising their use of quantity language whilst filling and emptying containers in the sensory tray.



Cottontails have enjoyed listening to firework sounds and looking at bonfires. They had lots of messy fun making their own 'marshmallows' which they have been playing with in their campfire role-play, including canvas tent, cushion logs and a fabric wooden fire.



Nursery School News From Miss Elizabeth Hayes - Head of Nursery

The Nursery School children have been keen to share their own experiences and ideas from Bonfire Night, in their Forest School sustained shared-thinking session this week, as well as making firework fruit kebab sticks in Kitchen Club.

They were also treated to a gymnastics session by visiting Early Years gymnastics instructors, Joe and Sam, from Premier Education.



Prep School

Mr Henry Matthews - Head of Prep

Welcome back after another busy and exciting week in the Prep School.

It has been fantastic to see that everyone has returned after a well-deserved rest with such enthusiasm and enjoyment. The children have started this half term with a real sense of purpose and the first week back has been full of opportunity.

Our younger children have attended historical workshops, there have been many sports fixtures and tournaments which have showcased the progress our children have made, and I was hugely impressed with the mature and sensitive approach pupils showed during the College Remembrance Service.



A special mention needs to go to our Science Quiz Team as they attended the regional heats at Badminton School, on Tuesday, and performed brilliantly, scoring well over a thousand points and finishing in second place. We eagerly await news of progress to the next stage and, in the meantime, a big well done to Felix, Holly, Thomas and Aurelia.

We were very pleased to welcome some of our youngest members into the Prep School this morning with the first of our 'Step Up' sessions for Nursery-aged pupils. It was wonderful to welcome many children from both our Nursery School, and further afield, as they begin to make their transition into Reception Class and start getting to know the rest of the school.

Places are filling up fast and if you know anyone who may be interested in a place at Queen's for their child for September '22 please ask them to get in touch with Vanessa at

vmm@queenscollege.org.uk or telephone 01823 278928.

Next week is Anti-Bullying Week and there will be many activities in lessons and assemblies to support this. We are also asking everyone to wear odd socks on Monday as a way of celebrating our differences. If you would like to support this at home, or find out more about Anti-Bullying Week, you can visit the website [here](#).

As we look ahead to next week, I wish everyone taking part in the Taunton Speech and Drama Festival the very best of luck. A final reminder that parents are welcome to visit our Creative Day Gallery on Friday 19th November in the Birchall Hall from 3.30 to 4.30 pm. Please do drop in if you have a chance to enjoy a cup of tea and a cake.

With both hockey and rugby festivals planned for tomorrow I look forward to seeing some of you on the touchline.

Have a great weekend!



Prep S

Prep Sports Report, Mr Dick Wilde - Deputy Head of Prep

The Prep children have returned from the half term break refreshed and eager to get back out on the sports field.

Some exciting matches were played against Perrott Hill on Tuesday. The U9 and U8 boys played with plenty of enthusiasm. They have shown real progress in their attacking skills, and are now running far more directly at pace.

The U9 girls played their first full-sided match and were impressive. They can only get better as they learn to use the space on a larger pitch.

The U8 girls played lots of hockey mixed up with the Perrott Hill girls and by all accounts had a very sociable time. The children were a credit to the school and showed great sportsmanship throughout the afternoon.

The U11 boys went across to Sherborne School, on Wednesday, to play in the IAPS regional festival.

It was encouraging for Mr Baker to see the progress that they made throughout the day.

This was highlighted in their final group game when they gave the eventual festival finalists a very competitive match.

Also on Wednesday, there were girls' fixtures against St Peter's. The U11As battled hard in their match but a lack of stamina let them down towards the end.

Meanwhile the U11Bs had a very even game, which should boost their confidence, and the U10As played exceptionally well throughout their match, narrowly missing several attempts on goal.

Finally, the U10Bs worked hard and defended really well, though they had few scoring opportunities themselves.



School

National Science Quiz

On Tuesday morning, Thomas, Holly, Aurelia and Felix took part in the area heats of the National Science Quiz Club competition hosted by Badminton School, Bristol. In a tense and exciting event, the Prep pupils held their nerve to answer challenging questions, eventually finishing in second place. The result means that they will face a nervous wait to see if they qualify for the National Finals or as one of the highest scoring runners up. Well done to all involved!



Year 2 Guy Fawkes Session

Year 2 had a fantastic session this morning learning why we celebrate Bonfire Night.

They took part in a range of fun and interactive activities including, explosive art, a pass-the-bomb quiz, sequencing events on a time line, and the use of a feather quill and ink to write a letter to Lord Montecagle.



Year 4 Woodlouse House

The Year 4 pupils have recently been developing their scientific investigation skills. They designed and created an investigation that sought to establish the preferred habitat for a number of woodlouse.

The children carefully observed the woodlouse behaviour before safely returning them back to their natural habitats.



Year 1 Turning Water to Steam

Year 1 children have been finding out about the water cycle in their topic work.

They were amazed to see how water evaporates into steam and then it becomes water droplets when the steam condenses on a freezing cold tray.



Girls' 1st Team will progress to the quarter finals to face Kingswood

Girls Hockey—Queen's Vs Exeter School Senior 1st Team

NATIONAL PLATE ROUND 3 - The team put in a fantastic performance against Exeter School, battling hard for 20 minutes before falling behind to counter attack. Shortly after, a well-worked corner was finished by El Stevenson after great composure from Pippa Drummond. After that, Queen's controlled large sections of the game, with Pippa and Lena Von Engelbretchen Urena finding the net, and Millie Lusk making two key saves. The defensive line controlled the tempo with some brilliant transfer work, in particular Louisa Wills and Edie Hepburn, and there was time for a further goal apiece to finish 4-2. The girls' now progress to the quarter finals and will meet Kingswood.



Girls Hockey- Queen's vs Blundells Team U15A

In the second round of the National Plate, Queen's came up against a strong Blundell's team who set a high tempo and held a comfortable lead at half time. Izzy Mantyk House was the stand out performer, making countless saves and proving invaluable to the team.



Girls Hockey- Queen's vs St.Peter's Prep U12B

A very close game for the U12/13B team. Lara Fourie (goalie) made lots of great saves throughout the match. Ellen Leech was strong in defence and created lots of turnovers. Kiera Rigler had a great game as striker and had lots of shots on target. The team narrowly lost 1-0 with a last minute goal from St. Peter's. Lara Fourie was named oppositions player of the match.



School

Sports Report

Boys Rugby- Queen's vs Exeter Cathedral U13A

The U13 started slowly with Exeter having the upper hand in the first half. After some words of encouragement from Mrs Perry the boys responded well and won the second half.

Tom Nash, on his return, led the team well and encouraged boys. This team is a side showing development across the year. With a long way to go this season the college looks forward to what this side can achieve in the weeks ahead.

Queen's Equestrian Team

Our team competed at the NSEA Arena Eventing Challenge held at Pontispool at the weekend. Our riders were, Ruby Russo, Ella Tytler, Francesca Lawrence and Georgie Ambler.

In the 80cm we came Individual (Ruby) 8th and in the Teams we were 7th.

In the 90cm we came individually 1st (Ruby) and 5th (Ella) out of 61 riders and in the team we came 7th.

Ella achieved 11th place in the 1 metre class.



Boys Rugby- Queen's vs Exeter Cathedral U12A

The Queen's boys started strongly playing free-flowing rugby which saw them score a few unanswered tries in the first half. It was clear that this side had been working hard on their passing into space which Oliver, Arthur and Thomas benefited from having space out wide. Sam carried the ball well to help the team go forward. Player of the match was Ibrahima Diallo in his first game for the College, making lots of tackles and passing the ball well to his team mates. Well done to the U12s, a performance to be proud of.



Boys Hockey-U16A Indoor County Hockey Tournament

The team competed fantastically well throughout the tournament and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of fast-paced indoor hockey against some strong schools.

The highlight was a close 2-0 to Taunton School, with an excellent defensive display and opportunities to cause an upset against the eventual runners-up.



Senior

Sustainable Poppies, Mr Nick Hart - Head of Design Technology



The Year 10 Design and Technology GCSE group have recently been learning about sustainability and the environment. As part of this, we look at how products can be reused and recycled.

To put this principle into practice the group took some old CDs (donated by the Maths department). We adapted a design commissioned for the RAF Museum for a Remembrance Poppy and produced a template to use. The class then refashioned the CDs, using both scroll saws and handsaws to create the shape of a poppy. The batch produced were then painted and assembled into a wreath by Charis and Charlotte in one of the Design & Technology clubs.

We also reused plastic water bottles, shaping and forming them into poppies and using their tops in a decorative finish.



Bristol Bears, Mr James Vecchio - Head of Rugby

Over the break many of our rugby players have been out applying their trade in different colours. A massive congratulation to Louis Reynolds and Max Johnson who represented Bristol Bears.

Louis scoring a couple of tries from finishing well, using his pace in space his side has created for him.

In the middle of the pitch Max controlled the game well demonstrating some excellent kicking and ability, which impressed the coaches on the day.

We look forward to more Queen's players such as Tycho Simmonds representing the Bears across the course of the season. Another special mention must go to Ali Zomorrodian, Daryl Sigobodhla, Simon Sage and Max Johnson who have made it through to the second assessment Somerset Under 18's squad."



School

Hutton House to Dance for Charity , Mrs Joanna Elliot - Hutton House Parent

The Hutton boarders are dancing for a full two hours on Friday 3rd December from 19.30 - 21.30pm to raise money for Love Musgrove. (This is a change of date from the original one scheduled.)

Musgrove Park Hospital has provided Hutton House with crucial support for those physically or mentally ill this year and so the girls would like to raise money to say a huge thank you to all of the staff there.

If you feel you would like to donate, please visit the link to our just giving page [here](#). If you would like to dance and join in the fun then please let us know!



#AskTheAwkward—Resource for Parents

We are excited to announce the recent launch of #AskTheAwkward, our brand-new resource for parents and carers of secondary-aged children.

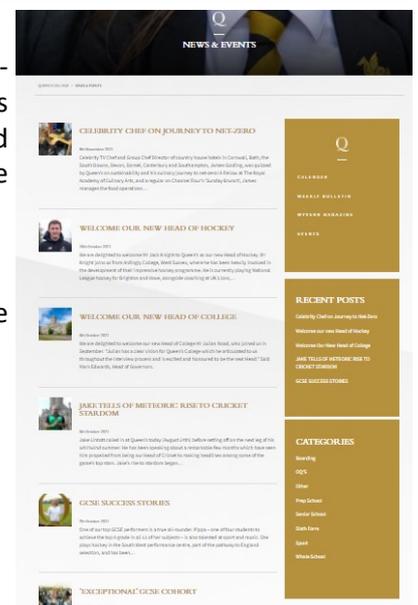
#AskTheAwkward aims to help parents and carers have regular conversations with their children about online relationships and more. The resource includes three short films created in a social experiment style, with real parents and their children to capture their reactions to a range of questions. Find out more [here](#).



Website Feature

Look out for more in-depth news stories which will be uploaded regularly to the website news page.

Link to the news page [here](#).



Scholars

Spotlight, Mr Steve Green - Deputy Head (Academic)

The Queen's scholars' programme is in full swing, with pupils from all year groups participating in some very varied and interesting workshops. Over the past few weeks, there have been sessions run by the academic departments throughout the College.

To give you a flavour of the sort of things that our pupils have been challenged with, our Year 11 pupils in the biology session investigated the effect of temperature on cell membranes by measuring the loss of betalains from beetroot. They collected quantitative data using a colorimeter and then mind-mapped the potential components of a cell membrane to explain the results collected.

The Year 9 pupils in the REP session considered the arguments for and against euthanasia and the Year 7 pupils looked at what makes human beings special. The debates were very lively, particularly when they looked at the power of our brains.

In PE, the pupils looked at learning from failure: understanding attribution theory and using growth mindset to boost both sports performance and learning. The pupils were involved in some fantastic discussions about their experiences of failure, debates about the learning opportunities from them and what they could do to help themselves and others to develop a growth mindset.

The Sixth Form pupils in maths looked at the difference between correlation and causation. Correlation is a relationship, in which A moves with B. Causation is a cause-and-effect relationship, in which A causes B. For example, there is a 94.7% correlation rate between the amount of cheese consumed per capita in the US and the number of people that died by getting tangled up in their bed sheets. Of course one of these does not cause the other, but there is a correlation between the two (as there is with so many things if you look at the right data). From this the pupils looked at spurious data, how we can interpret whether something is genuine and how we can be sure that we are not having the wool pulled over our eyes which can happen quite a lot with data shared in the news.

In chemistry, the pupils investigated the nature of indicators and ran an experimental investigation into how plant extracts are blended to give the perfect colour change for a variety of pH.

Finally, in a joint English and history scholars' session for pupils in Years 7 and 8, the pupils interrogated the difference between historical sources and literature. They looked at a primary historical source from WW1 which just happened to be a poem and critiqued it, establishing that whilst it had little poetic merit it was useful as an insight into how soldiers missed their loved ones. They then switched to two poems by Miroslav Holub, 'The Fly' and 'Napoleon', which on the surface are about The Battle of Crecy and Napoleon, but are using them as metaphors to subtextually probe the transience of life (and therefore history) and the philosophy of history itself.

Great credit goes to all those scholars who have attended and participated so actively in the programme this term so far and thanks goes to all of those teachers who have put so much into devising the sessions.



Sixth Form

The latest news and updates from our Sixth Form Centre

Queen's College Sixth Form returned refreshed and smart from a well-deserved half-term break to welcome a new student Carlotta from Hamburg who has joined Year 12. She described her first day as "fantastic"! Fresh fruit, tea and toast was very much the order of the day at morning break as autumn quietly settled in.

Yet both students and staff had to hit the ground running with parents' evenings in person and online, both nationally and internationally, taking place on Wednesday and Thursday. This is as pupils gear up to prepare for A-level examinations with many students undertaking their Extended Project Qualification presentation this term.



Some Sixth Form students also volunteered to help future year 7 pupils get ready to transition from Prep School to Senior School next year.

Furthermore, leaver hoodies went on sale this week for the Year 13. Each hoodie comes in a variety of colours and will have the name of all former classmates. Alongside this, students are preparing to begin work on year books so as to remember their time at Queen's.

Finally, students should be excited for the upcoming highlight of the term, the Christmas Ball! It will be taking place on Tuesday the 7th of December at Oak Manor Golf club!

It's a busy time of year for university applications. Fourteen have already been sent, and nine students have received offers, including two who have got four out of their five possible offers. Two students have received invitations to interviews for veterinary and nutrition courses, others are awaiting notification. All other students are making great progress, finalising choices and personal statements.



OQs in WW1

Mr Geoff Bisson - How the OQs who fought in the WW1 have been memorialised



The memorial board on the first landing of the main staircase of Queen's College lists the names of 541 OQs known to have served in the armed forces in WWI. This is a conservative figure as the actual number was almost certainly higher. The board's centre panel, entitled 'The Glorious Dead', records the names of 67 OQs who died as a consequence of their involvement in the conflict. Four of these men died after the armistice of 11 November 1918. Any serviceman who died before 31 August 1921 from injuries incurred in battle, or illness contracted in service, was regarded as a casualty of the war. In addition, Ernest Shorrocks, the science master at Queen's, was killed during the Battle of the Somme in July 1916. His name was added to the bronze plaque in the lobby at the entrance to the School in 2012.

The commitment of all who served was recognised from the start of the war for, in the autumn 1914 edition of the Wyvern, a Roll of Honour first appeared, which was updated on a regular basis in subsequent issues of the magazine. After the war, a thanksgiving fund was opened, the money from which paid for not only the magnificently carved memorial board, but also the War Memorial Room (now known as the Old Music Room), a laboratory (now the staff room) and the stone cross on the lawn. The latter was unveiled on 4 November 1921 by Brigadier-General Owen Spencer Watkins.

Many OQs volunteered to serve and others were conscripted when service was made compulsory from December 1916.



OQs served in all branches of the armed forces though the majority did so in the Army.

Almost all of them saw action on the Western Front either, in the Ypres Salient, or the battles fought in the region of the Somme. In 2019, a plaque commemorating the OQs who served and died in WWI was placed in Arras

Cathedral, next to the elegant porcelain memorial to the forces of the Empire who rallied to the cause, 1914-18.



Of those who died, 58 were under 30 years old, including 10 teenagers. The youngest was Clifford Andrew who was 18 years and six months old. Many families had more than one son in the armed forces such as the Andrews, Averys, Blampieds, Luffmans, Joneses, Tilley and the Whitamores. Sadly, the parents of the Pinniger brothers suffered the double agony of losing both their sons and the parents of Gilbert Hosegood and his two brothers, who were old boys of the Leys School, lost all three boys.

Many OQs distinguished themselves in action. The exploits of OQs were recognised with various distinctions. J.C. Culling was made Commander of the Bath, 18 OQs were awarded the Military Cross, A. Fry won the DCM as well as the Military Medal, with two others also awarded the latter, J.A. Gibbs received the DSO for conspicuously good services, and he was also one of 13 OQs mentioned in despatches, F.H. Holloway was awarded the MBE and F. Moore won the Meritorious Service Medal.

Their exploits were outlined in the memorial booklet, published in April 1919, that includes short biographies of 62 of those who died and the names of most, if not all, those named on the memorial board. Copies of this booklet, together with additional explanatory notes, were published in 2014 to mark the 100th anniversary of the start of the war, and are still available.



QUEEN'S
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SHREK

The
MUSICAL



24 - 29 NOV 2021

QUEEN'S THEATRE
QUEEN'S COLLEGE, TAUNTON

TICKETS: bookings.queenscollege.org.uk

Whole School News

Christmas Sparkle

Just a reminder that our Christmas Sparkle collection is up and running throughout the college.

Many of you will already be familiar with this fabulous project. Since 2015, local schools, businesses and the general public, have collected gifts, which are then wrapped, and distributed to children who otherwise might receive nothing. Queen's has always been a strong supporter of this project and we would love it if you could contribute again this year.



There are collection boxes in Highgrove, Pre-Prep, Prep and Senior school (reception) and we are collecting presents for children aged from 0-18 years. We only ask that gifts are brand new and unused.

Please be aware the deadline for donating gifts is the end of November.

We will let you know the dates for wrapping if you are interested in helping further.

Thank you so much for supporting this wonderful community project.

WWF Wild Wisdom Challenge

As a school we have signed up to take part in the Wild Wisdom Global Challenge set by the WWF to coincide with the COPs 26 Climate Summit. Children from Year 2 to Year 11 are taking part in this Challenge that is led by the world's foremost experts in nature and conservation – the WWF and Sir David Attenborough. Based on the breath-taking content of Sir David's "Our Planet" series and his film "A Life on Our Planet", it provides a hugely fun, engaging and different introduction to climate change for students – presented in a way they can understand. It not only explains climate change, but also sets out the four specific positive actions that Sir David believes can help preserve the planet (and humanity).

The challenge started on Monday 8 November and runs through to 18 November. Our younger children are being guided through the age-appropriate parts with their teachers, but the older children are enthralled by being able to receive the latest information independently via a gaming format.

They are earning online badges and becoming even more fired-up to be the change they want to see to keep our planet wonderful for all of our futures.

If your child would like to take part and are unsure how to get the link and class code please ask your Year Lead for the details



and Announcements

Odd Socks Day—Monday 15th November

To raise awareness of the [National Anti-bullying](#) campaign, children may come to school on Monday 15th November wearing odd socks with their full school uniform.

Donations are not required, just your most interesting socks!



Future Bulletin Contributions

Parents and carers we would love our future Bulletins to have even more content about what our pupils get up to outside of school.

So if your child has done something exciting in their spare time please let us know, we would love to include it in a future issue or on our social media channels! Please email any content to marketing@queenscollege.org.uk

Speech and Drama Festival , Mr Matthew Kirby - Speech & Drama Teacher

Good Luck to all of the children participating in the annual [Taunton Speech & Drama Festival](#) next week. Results and successes will feature soon.

All parents should have received, via e-mail, the date and time that their child is performing at the Temple Methodist. All children will need to be smartly dressed in school uniform and provide a clean, neat copy of their work for the adjudicator.

Any problems, please contact Mr Kirby: mak@queenscollege.org.uk

Key Upcoming Dates

Odd Socks Day	15 November
Shrek the Musical	24-28 November
Christmas Sparkle Donation Deadline	30 November
Speech and Drama Festival	15-19 November

Our online whole school calendar can be found [here](#).

Our sports portal can be accessed [here](#).