

Lots To Look Forward To!



Mr Julian Noad - Head of College



Last week it was a welcome back. This week we look forward. And there is a lot to look forward to.

However, I begin with a well done to all of our Year 11 and 13 pupils who have been sitting mock examinations. These have been tough, especially with the uncertainty of TAGs still hanging. A letter has been shared with all the families to explain the backup plans that remain in place in the increasingly unlikely event that formal public examinations are not possible in the summer.

It was terrific to see so many parents, in person and online, for this week's Year 7 parent consultations. I hope that all enjoyed some great feedback on interviews or parent visits to the senior school and another half dozen in the Prep in this week

alone. A fabulous visit to St Peter's School in Lymptone this morning will hopefully open up even further interest.

You may well have seen [news](#) this week of the appointment of our new Head of Cricket, Mrs Caroline Foster. This is a wonderfully exciting appointment: this completes our cast of head coaches for Queen's and also makes clear, I hope, our determination to support sport at Queen's: sport for all, elite athletes and novices alike, and with a great big smile on one's face. You will see later in this bulletin that we have new county and national representative success.

This week's fixtures in hockey and netball have shown all of our pupils to be committed and well-prepared, such that they have enjoyed their deserved share of success. Let us look forward to much more of the same. This weekend we have nine hockey

matches, seven for netball, and a rugby sevens tournament. In addition, I am looking forward to taking a cross-country team to the county championships at Barcroft Hall. All details are on [SOCS](#) and [MSP](#), as usual.

I thank all those who responded to my [survey](#) about a revival of the parents' association. If you have not managed to do so yet, it is still open but I will close it this weekend. I look forward to sharing a fuller proposal soon.

For now, enjoy the following pages and its taste of all the great stuff that is going on at Queen's.

Yours ever,
Julian

Nursery Round-up

Nursery News From Mrs Donna Kershaw - Highgrove Nursery Manager



The Highgrove Nursery team were delighted to welcome all the new families who started with us in January. The busy Cottontails team have been busy settling in a number of new babies as well. The children have been painting using animals to explore the footprints they could make and they enjoyed discovering the animals and sounds in the 'Dear Zoo' book. The babies have also enjoyed music time where they have been singing some animal songs: 'I have a Tiny Turtle', 'Old McDonald' and 'Incy Wincy Spider'.

Tiggywinkles' book this week has been 'Going on a Bear Hunt'. The children have enjoyed yoga-themed bear adventures in the garden, painting with sticks and dancing to a number of different animal songs during music time. Tiggywinkles also took advantage of the cold weather to explore the ice in the garden. The children had fun trying to get the conkers out of the ice in the sensory tray which had frozen overnight.

Puddleducks have been exploring hibernation this week. They have been busy looking at hedgehogs as well as making clay hedgehogs of their own. The role play has allowed them to create safe hibernation places for the small animals. Their Focus book has been 'Owl Babies' and they enjoyed using the feathers to decorate owls and a small walk around the gardens allowed them to collect enough sticks and leaves to create a bug hotel. walk around the gardens allowed them to collect enough sticks and leaves to create a bug hotel.



Nursery School News From Miss Lizzie Hayes - Head of Nursery School

The Nursery School children enjoyed their first Forest School session of the term with a sustained shared thinking activity based around the story of 'Room on the Broom' as part of this term's topic on traditional stories. Wonderful discussions ensued about what to put in the witch's cauldron as they acted out the story and the theme developed onto making birthday cakes.



Prep School

Mr Henry Matthews - Head of Prep



Cotlake boarders at Weston-Super-Mare



It is great to be writing the first Bulletin of the new year and on the back of a fun-filled week in the Prep School.

The new year always brings a sense of hope and looking ahead to future plans, and to echo Mr Noad's comments, there certainly is much to look forward to. The children have returned to school with a real sense of purpose and drive to succeed and develop, not only in their academic work but also in their wider curriculum endeavours.

Our assemblies this week have focused on kindness, which is a key pillar of the Queen's community. Our children have embraced the challenge I set, which is to think about how they can be kind to others each day, and there have been compliments, notes and smiles aplenty. Parents may have even noticed some extra helping out at home! Whilst this is a specific focus for this week, it is something I know will continue throughout this

academic year and beyond.

A big well done to 50S in their super assembly this week, when we were joined by parents and grandparents in the Birchall Hall to share their thoughts on what kindness means. They gave us much to think about including the important message that we must remember to be kind to ourselves.

Fixtures resumed this week and our children all performed with much spirit and determination in their first hockey and netball matches this year. I know the Games staff are very proud of the teams and that there is some great potential for success over the course of the term.

I have been fortunate to spend more time working with our Cotlake boarders this term and very much enjoyed the chance to join them on a trip to sunny Weston-Super-Mare! A traditional seaside trip with amusements, fairground rides and fish and chips made for a very successful weekend and our children were

commended by members of the public for their politeness and excellent behaviour.

As we look ahead to the coming weeks the theme of growth and purpose continues. Our General Knowledge Quiz teams will soon take part in the regional heats, Year 6 are making excellent progress on their John Muir Outdoor Education award, Dazzle rehearsals are well underway in the Queen's Hall, Pre-Prep children are enjoying off-site Forest School visits and trips and we are beginning the development of learning spaces starting with the Library renovation, which we hope will be open for use after half term.

With so much happening, Queen's is the place to be!

I wish you all a very good weekend and look forward to seeing our under 10s and 11s take on Exeter in hockey matches tomorrow.

With best wishes,

Henry

Prep School

Prep Sports Round-up

Some great action has taken place, both at home and away, in Prep School sports this week.

Read the full sports report [here](#). You can also visit our new [Flickr](#) account to view all our photographs from the matches.



Blue Peter Badges

Year 3 were so delighted that all of the children who applied for their first Blue Peter badges, using the stories they wrote last term, have been awarded them!



Oceans and Seas

As part of their 'Oceans and Seas' topic, Year 2 have been learning about how waves are formed. They worked collaboratively to build a long wave using wooden blocks and started a domino effect to show how waves build in the oceans.



Year 4 Faux Snow

The pupils have been working hard on various STEM-based investigations. In Year 4 they have been learning about endothermic and exothermic reactions by making their own artificial snow.



Prep School

Forest School Club

The children at Forest School club had a look at various different native birds this week. They were really good at identifying the birds. They also made them little nests.



February Half Term

QUEEN'S COLLEGE TAUNTON

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FEB HALF TERM 2022

What's on?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Curious Coders	Ingenious Inventors	Virtual Reality	Expert Engineers	Media Madness

Example schedule only, activities at each camp may differ

Movie Making | Video Game Design | Robot Coding | STEM Experiments | Engineering

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C. French (Parent)

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Senior School

Sports Round-up

It's been a wonderful week of sporting action and success for Queen's teams, with Swimming, Netball, Hockey and Basketball fixtures, all well supported despite the chilly weather. QC teams have enjoyed fixtures this week against Exeter, Wellington, Clifton, Millfield, Sherborne, Downside and Kings, with strong displays of sportsmanship and teamwork on all sides. Queen's teams worked hard and there were some outstanding individual performances too but most importantly, there were lots of smiles and fun was had!

Get the results, with match summaries [here](#). You can also visit our new [Flickr](#) account to view all our photographs from the matches.



Ten Tors Training



The Ten Tors teams were out again last weekend. Distances are now increasing and this was the first time pupils have been left to navigate a route on their own (tracked closely by staff). The 35-mile teams walked from Okehampton to Postbridge with the 45-mile team walking the route in reverse and adding a few additional tors on to the end for good measure! The teams are making great progress and coping really well with the increasing level of challenge. The next training session will involve an overnight camp and pupils carrying full packs for the first time.

Cross Country

On Tuesday 14 December a team of Cross-Country runners from Years 9-13 took part in the Taunton Area Schools Cross-Country selection at Taunton Racecourse.

They did fantastically well with 17 qualifying for the Taunton Area team that are now eligible to compete on the 22 January at Barcroft Hall in South Petherton.

Well done to everyone who took part!



Senior School

Year 7 Design Technology



This term the Year 7 Design and Technology students will be designing and making a pop-up book with an eco theme. As part of their first lesson, the pupils learnt about different types of cuts and folding techniques and some ways to manipulate paper, including how to make a pop out bird's mouth card using an A5 sheet of paper. As you can see, the results were pretty impressive. Well done 7A for setting the standards.

Park Run

On Saturday morning many of our staff and pupils volunteered and took part in the [Longrun Meadow Parkrun](#). Although cold, both the volunteers and participants had a great time! One of our Spanish boarders, Andres, has enjoyed the longrun meadow parkruns so much since his arrival in September that he looked up parkruns whilst back home in Spain for Christmas, but was disappointed to find there weren't any! Perhaps the first Spanish parkrun may become tribute to the Longrun parkrun!



Food and Nutrition Report

So much has happened in our food and nutrition department this week, from a video call with Great British Bake Off Winner, to sampling the world's first "tearless onions" ahead of its supermarket launch, to being nominated for a national food award. It has certainly been an action packed week! You can read all about it [here!](#)



Year 9 Science

The Year 9 pupils have been studying communicable disease and learning about methods of transmission. 9V used microbe powder to simulate bacterial cells. This powder is invisible to the naked eye but shines under UV light. They researched how easy it is for pathogens to be transmitted from person to person by simple activities such as shaking hands and also how long you have to wash your hands to ensure they are really clean.



Sixth Form

Sixth Form Round-Up

We have welcomed Sixth Form students back to a flurry of testing, interviews, revision, mocks and a full-on co-curricular programme including auditions for 'The Tempest' and netball and hockey fixtures. The SFC has been buzzing with students and staff chatting, excited to be back and CCs have seen the SFC pretty much empty as students have embraced the excellent co-curricular provision.

We have warmly welcomed Mr Rob Cooling as the new Sixth Form Manager- his experience in boarding and teaching has prepared him well for the role. To the delight of students, he is keen on the idea of a regular doughnut run for a break time snack!



In what has been a very good month for universities, Sam Pugh's great news of an offer to study PPE at

Keble College, Oxford we have also received a number of the elusive and much sought unconditional offers that recognise strong applications. Read all about it on our [news](#) page!

The College Rugby team would like to celebrate Simon Sage's efforts when he represented



Somerset U18s. They won 35-15 against Oxfordshire. Simon played a

key role, stealing the ball at the break down and from this broke and scored a try under the posts!

Nine Year 12 History A-level students enjoyed the Historical Association talk in the Birchall Hall on Churchill's views on Russia and Communism. The speaker was Professor Richard Toye of Exeter University, a last-minute stand-in for the original speaker who was forced to withdraw at short notice. This turned out to be great news for the Year 12 historians who are just coming onto the topic of Churchill and international relations in their Paper 1 studies. It was very useful for their exam studies and offered great insights into the study of History at university level.

This term we say a very sad goodbye to Vince Jeffery, our Sixth Form Manager. A former member of the police force, Vince retrained as a specialist teaching assistant and has worked throughout Queen's from Pre-Prep to Sixth Form, from 2013. He has been heavily involved in the Sixth Form, helping students through exam pressure, putting on social events for the students, and generally making sure everything runs smoothly.

His involvement in the school began as the parent of a Queen's student - he said that of all the independent schools in Taunton, Queen's was the only one who really showed what they could do to accommodate his children's needs. It's this willingness to support students that Vince has shown throughout his time at the College.

One of Vince's highlights from working at Queen's has been helping out with our many school productions, something he has been doing since before becoming a staff member. He said his favourite of these to work on was 'For Queen's and Country', where, as well as being involved backstage, he was able to meet relatives of the Hosegood family.

As for his plans for the future, Vince was keen to point out that he isn't retiring but rather 'redirecting his effort'. At home, he plans to rear sheep and grow trees while still coming in to help out where he can. We wish him the best of luck for all his future endeavours and he will be missed dearly.

The students, led by Heads of Sixth Form Centre, Tom Langford and Gracie Wickens-Sweet, said a heartfelt goodbye to Vince last Thursday, presenting him with his own Leavers' hoodie: imprinted with "Legend".



Sixth Form

Eleana Stevenson

This week has brought further sporting success as Eleana in Year 13 has been selected to play in the England Under 18s Girls Hockey Team. This is a tremendous achievement for Eleana who has been playing hockey since she was just six years old. Throughout her time playing, her favourite hockey moment had to be when she played in the Nationals with the Queen's team in February 2020. Read the full story [here!](#)



Prefects POV

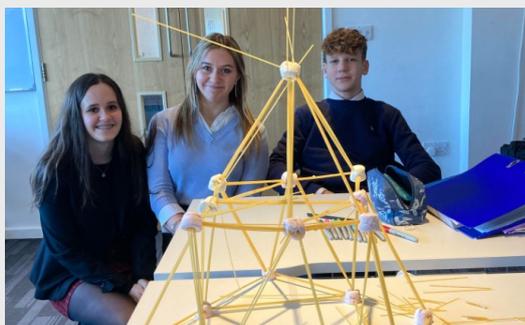
The JWST has just unfurled its mirrors 750,000 miles along its 1,000,000 mile journey, so the first pictures are expected to come in five months as it is going to take a while once it gets to L2 to align its mirrors. This exciting start to 2022 will hopefully set the tone for the rest of the year to be one of progression and discovery, at both a global and personal level for everyone. With this new technology the sky is no longer the limit. To read the whole story click [here](#).



BTEC PE

The Year 12 BTEC PE students have been looking at Group Processes and Team Cohesion.

They were set the challenge of creating a 60cm tower with spaghetti and marshmallows to see whether they went through the four group processes; forming, storming, norming and performing. It transpires they did!



Physics Olympiad

Massive congratulations go to Year 13 Physicist, Hugo Hu, who has achieved a Bronze certificate in the British Physics Olympiad.

This is a prestigious national competition that aims to encourage the study of Physics and to recognise excellence in young physicists. It is an extremely challenging exam that most Physics graduates would struggle with. Questions are reliably hard and this year included deriving an equation to describe a wave travelling down a freely hanging cable, predicting how a box supported by some springs would wobble if hit by a bullet, and calculating how the reaction time of a photoelectric current varies with stopping potential difference. Well done Hugo!



BTEC Marketing

Our BTEC Marketing students had the privilege of meeting with our in-house Marketing Department on Thursday to learn about how an in-house department works as part of their Unit 1 coursework. The students experienced a highly engaging and informative session where they learned about the roles of the team and their routes into marketing. Students were fascinated by the range and variety of media and focused messages and were given a sneak preview of things to come for marketing the College. They had the opportunity to ask questions, drawing on their own experiences of joining the College. Students have also been invited, as young marketers, to share their ideas and thoughts - a super challenge!



Spotlight

Caroline Foster



Former English cricket player Caroline Foster has been appointed as our new head of cricket. Caroline Foster played in nine Test matches, 58 One-Day Internationals, and 19 Twenty20 Internationals for England between 2001 and 2011.

At county level, Caroline primarily played for Sussex, before ending her career with Somerset. She also spent two Women's National Cricket League seasons with South Australia. Caroline later became a "Chance To Shine" coaching ambassador with the Cricket Foundation.

Caroline is ecstatic to be joining Queen's as Head of Cricket, at an exciting time for the school. To read the full story click [here](#).

Sustainability

Introduction

Building on the continuing success of the Prep's Eco-Club, further initiatives are underway across the whole college, in a bid to reduce Queen's carbon footprint and improve our environmental impact. With members from all parts of the College and full support of the QC leadership team, Queen's College Sustainability Group (QCSG) has been established. QCSG have ambitious plans and are reviewing all aspects of:

- Q Energy
- Q Waste
- Q Consumables
- Q Transport
- Q Nature

Watch this space for weekly updates on progress, projects and community collaborations!



Boarders

Weekend Round-Up

The boarders have had a busy week back at school and we were delighted to welcome so many new boarders to our Queen's Community.

During the first week, the pupils had a talk with Sophie Layzell about overcoming adversity.

During the first weekend back Cotlake visited the Grand Pier in Weston. Our senior boarders had a visit to the bowling Alley in Taunton for some good competition between boarders, old and new.



After a busy first week, we had a welcome visit from a Yoga teacher, Katie, on Friday evening who helped some of the staff and pupils relax and unwind.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE

ADVENTURES APPEAL

As part of our continued drive to broaden the opportunities available to our students giving them the chance to challenge themselves and help them embrace the great outdoors, we are launching a major fundraising campaign at Queen's.

The Adventure Appeal aims to enhance our outdoor pursuits' facilities and opportunities for children aged 4 in Reception to 18 in the Sixth Form.

An exciting programme of fundraising events is planned – more details to follow – and we are also looking for people to organise sponsored events and other activities to help us reach our goal.

TO DONATE

Go to our Queen's College Foundation's Just Giving Page:
<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/adventuresappeal>



Prominent OQs

Geoff Bisson - Alumni Officer, continues his look at the outstanding achievements of OQs.



Edwin Savory Herbert (OQ 1911-15) was responsible for the reorganisation of local government in London in the 1960s. Indeed,

in recognition of his work on the Royal Commission, which he chaired, he was made a life peer - Lord Tangle, of Blackheath in the County of Surrey, in 1964. This was the highlight of a distinguished career as a lawyer and public servant.

Born in Egham, Surrey, he was 12 years old when he entered Queen's as a boarder. His main interests were cerebral and musical. He was a keen participant of the Debating Society. Shortly after the outbreak of war in 1914, he was the main speaker on the proposal that 'A statesman was of more value to a nation than a soldier'. The motion was heavily defeated. He was a member of the school choir and he played the piano. Records show that he played Dvorak's piano duet, 'Slavischer Tanz', with C. Shepherd, in the end of year summer concert of July 1915.

Edwin impressed as an academic pupil. He was soon winning 'honours and distinctions' (terms of merit). Following his success in the Oxford Local Examinations in the Autumn term, 1914, the school awarded him a scholarship. In the following Summer term, he passed the London Matriculation Examination. On the strength of these qualifications he left Queen's to pursue a career in the law. However, in mid-1917, Edwin joined the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve as a signalman.

After WWI Edwin resumed his training as a lawyer at the Law Society's Law School, from which he received his LL.B.. He became a senior partner in a thriving law firm. In 1932 he married Gwendoline Judd with whom he had four children. War once again interrupted his career and, in 1939, he was a member of one of the many Aliens' Tribunals tasked with assessing the risk posed by the 73,000 Germans and Austrians in the UK at the start of the war. Edwin's main role during WWII was Director of the Postal and Telegraph Censorship Department, established in April 1943. Previously, from September 1939, responsibility for censorship had been with the Army Council. Edwin's department ceased to operate on 30 September 1945. His services were recognised with a knighthood in 1943. Subsequently, in 1956, he was appointed a KBE.

He achieved national prominence with the Herbert Commission on Local Government in Greater London. By the 1950s the size of London had outstripped the boundaries of the County of London, established in 1889, so that huge swathes of the urban areas of the capital were beyond its jurisdiction. The Commission considered how best to reform the system of local government to include Greater London.

The Commission published its report in October 1960. It proposed the creation of a new Greater London Council (GLC) which would cover the entire London region and would deal with strategic functions like planning and emergency services. It also proposed a second tier of 52 new

London boroughs. In the event, 33 borough authorities were created under the GLC, in 1965.

The number of boroughs was fewer, in part because the government considered boroughs larger than those proposed would be more efficient, and because many outer, commuter suburbs, like Esher and Epsom, opposed being part of the capital. However, the London and Middlesex County Councils and a number of county boroughs disappeared and the areas covered by Essex and Surrey were reduced. If the outcome did not match the ambition of Edwin and his Commissioners, the reform was, nonetheless, the most radical of its kind.

Edwin lived a full life (he died in 1973) and found time for pursuits beyond work. He was a serious mountaineer and became President of the Alpine Club from 1953 to 1956. With Thomas Graham Brown, Edwin climbed the Brenva face of Mont Blanc (shown below).



Throughout his life Edwin retained a close interest in Queen's College and its alumni. He was a staunch supporter of the Queen's College Lodge and he was President of the Old Boys Association.

News and Announcements

Christmas Sparkle—THANK YOU!



Christmas Sparkle would like to give a huge thank you to the school community for the wonderful gifts they donated and the generous money collections at the end of last term. The project handed out a record 6,000 gifts to 1,479 children and most definitely brought a smile to all their faces. They couldn't do it without your help!

Spring Term Career Opportunities For Ages 12-18

Students can now register for the spring term career opportunities with INVESTIN, which are available in 20+ cutting-edge industries. **Students will learn directly from some of the UK's best professionals** - doctors, forensic scientists, architects, MPs, filmmakers, engineers and more - through a series of live, interactive simulations which provide a tailor-made, professional experience to ages 12-18. Students can choose to attend either at UCL or live online from the comfort of their own homes. **It is expected that the most popular programmes will be fully booked by 30 January.** For more information click [here](#).



Treasure Island—Tickets Now On Sale

So you think you know the story of 'Treasure Island'? Well, do you know about the mermaids, the custard pies, the queasy shark or the sea-sick granny?

If not, then you'd better set sail with us on a wild, slapstick journey to find Long John's treasure and a whole heap of hilarity along the way!

Click [here](#) to book your ticket. New family ticket rates available.

Suitable for all ages.



Civil Service Training

All hockey training for boys and men happens on Wednesdays in Taunton. The training times are:

Boys U10, U12, U14 - 6:30pm

Men's U16, U18, Senior men 7:45pm. Anyone interested can just turn up or email info@TauntonCS.org

Tea Time Concert

Join us for a short but very enjoyable concert on Wednesday 9 February featuring a range of musical disciplines and styles, accompanied by tea and cake.

Tickets are free but please book in advance.

Trull Tennis Club—Half Term

21 - 25 February -10:30am - 2:30pm
- £20 per day

5-9 & 10+ age groups (No 10+ group Wed 23)

To book please contact Hannah:

07866 393846

News and Announcements

Upcoming Dates

Parents' Webinar - Raising Resilient Teens— Joining Link	24 January 7pm
Prep School PSHME/RSE Parent Session	25 January 4:30pm
Year 10 Parents' meeting (in person)	26 January 4:45pm
Year 10 Parents' meeting (remote)	27 January 5:30pm
Whole School Open Afternoon	11 February 2pm
Next Steps/Starting School Open Morning	10 March 9am

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

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

New: Wellbeing Hub

If you haven't checked out our new online Wellbeing Hub, you are encouraged to do so. Login via My School Portal where there are a wide range of resources for both parents and children. One point of note is a weekly webinar which takes a different topic in supporting families each week. Webinars can be viewed as a live stream and recordings are available for 7 days.

Parents Upcoming Coffee Mornings

All 8.00 - 9.30am in the Dining Pavilion and for all parents, Nursery, Prep and Senior.

These are a chance for parents to catch up with one another and to meet other parents, everyone is very welcome!

- Q Thurs 3 Feb
- Q Fri 18 Feb
- Q Fri 4 March
- Q Thurs 17 March

Civil Service U8 Hockey

Civil Service Hockey Club have restarted their U8 hockey sessions on Queen's pitches and would love to see more of our younger students!

Sessions will run until 5 April every Tuesday 5.30-6.20pm, except in half term. The price is £20.

A reminder that the girl's U11 sessions follow on a Tuesday and boys on a Wednesday.

Anyone interested can contact me Malcolm Pressly-Smith at info@tauntoncs.org