

## Summer Memories



Year 7 Familiarisation

### Mr Julian Noad - Head of College

Another week of glorious sunshine - not so glorious, I know, if you are farming or, perhaps, stuck in an examination hall as are, of course, Years 11 and 13 with public examinations, and also this week, Years 7 & 8 with internal end-of-year assessments. It'll be the turn of Years 9 and 10 to sit examinations next week, with Year 12 enjoying a 'careers and employability' week and Year 8 off on their adventure challenge.

Aside from and in spite of examinations, there is much going on and in this bulletin you will find exciting reports.

On Tuesday, we welcomed current Year 6, from our own Prep and many other schools to our Into Year 7 day. It was terrific to see next year's new recruits enjoying their day in the senior

school, including a barbecue with family to finish. With numbers such that an additional class is required next year in Year 7, this was a busy day.

One of our pupils, Tom Nash (Year 8), is out of school today at the Royal Cornwall showing his sheep. He's now a celebrity; he was on Radio Cornwall this morning, sharing his successes with their presenter.

Mrs Noad asks me to share two reminders. Next Wednesday (14 June), 7.30pm in the Dining Pavilion, there will be a short QCC meeting to discuss and finalise events for next year followed by summer drinks on the decking. Please do come along; this is a fabulous way to meet other families, any help (however ad hoc) would be much appreciated so that QCC events can run, they are a brilliant way of bringing our community together. And

then Next Friday (16 June), 8.15-9.30am, we have our next parents' coffee in the Dining Hall. Do come along if you are free; all parents, Highgrove through to Year 13, are very welcome.

Looking further ahead, to the end of term events. Monday 26 June marks the start of 'For Life...' week and its broad range of activities for all years. Monday brings us 'Grease in a day' and Tuesday is 'Earth Day'. You should have been sent separate details for your children; all [here](#) as a reminder. On 28 June, we look forward to our Art exhibition - a chance for particularly examination candidates to show off their work. This is always an annual highlight - do pop it in your diary.

With many new families and those of longer standing kept away with covid

# Summer Memories

## Mr Julian Noad - Head of College

disruptions in the past two years it is not surprising that I have heard the occasional 'what is Speech Day all about?' from some parents. I thought it useful to give a little detail on what to expect for our Speech Days – yes, there are two: one for Prep and one for the Senior School – and to explain their importance to Queen's and its community.

Firstly, the when. Prep Speech Day will be on Wednesday 5 July, from 10.30am, whilst the Senior School Speech Day is booked for Thursday 6 July, from 10.30am. Please pop the relevant date (s) in your diary. And the where. This all takes place in and around a fabulous marquee erected on the Lower, actually the 1st XV rugby pitch.

Speech Days are opportunities to bring our communities together, celebrate our successes, and also to look forward to what comes next. Most importantly, these occasions serve to say farewell to leaving pupils of Year 13 and those in Year 6 moving up to the Senior School. Each will have, as the titles suggest, a few speeches but also the awarding of prizes for pupil endeavour and achievement.

After each will be an opportunity to socialise, hopefully outside in sunshine, with strawberries and a glass of something in hand. The senior school event will also include various exhibitions and an invitation to join us for a picnic event beside the cricket pavilion: bring your own hamper and rug and we shall enjoy a wonderful time. Year 13 Leavers and their parents will also have a special invitation to lunch for a final farewell.

Attendance at Speech days is an expectation for all pupils. Parents and limited numbers of family members of each child are warmly encouraged to join us also. These traditional 'showpiece' events are very much part of the School's calendar and tradition. I hope that you and your children will be here with us on these most important days. You will need to [book your tickets](#), but they are free!

Later in the evening after the Senior School speech day, the marquee will be transformed for a wonderful summer ball. This event is being organised by a committee of staff and senior pupils.

It promises to be something fabulous and a most fitting way to send off our Year 13 leavers. [Tickets for the Summer Ball](#) are selling fast. We have increased capacity for this year but we have only six remaining tables. As a reminder, all parents, family, friends and OQ's of the College are more than welcome to join us. Please note that the deadline is 18 June. You may also wish to pre-order your wine for the table from [The Fizzy Pheasant](#) using [this link](#).

We look forward to making the most of this fine weekend with sport (cricket versus West Buckland, Exeter, and King's or Somerset Schools athletics at Yeovil). Elsewhere there are pony treks and beach trips for boarders and sailing and kayaking for all)

I close with a reminder invitation to next week's parent forum - Wednesday after drop off, 8.15am, just come to main reception with any of your questions or observations.

*Have a great weekend.*

*Julian*

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GUIDE

*"The quality of equipment, inspirational teaching and levels of enthusiasm from pupils were fabulous"*

- The Good Schools Guide

Read the full review on our [Website](#)

# Prep School

Mr Henry Matthews - Head of Prep



Outdoor Education Day

Welcome back, everyone! I hope you all managed to enjoy the good weather over the half term break - we are ready to dive into the final four weeks of the school year. We certainly hit the ground running this week, with lots of exciting events and activities taking place. I am also pleased to say that everyone has settled back in brilliantly after the half term break. As ever, the children have returned with enthusiasm and a positive attitude towards school. I hope you enjoy reading about the many successes this week in the following pages.

Our Year 3-5 pupils had a fantastic outdoor education day, developing teamwork skills, resilience and leadership, participating in various adventurous activities. The theme of the day was to find the hidden jewels which had been buried within the school for many years and all children worked collaboratively to complete a series of challenging activities. The highlight of the day was the final assault course, where Year 2 students also joined in with the fun. It was wonderful to see our students engaged and working collaboratively across the different year groups. A big thank you to the Outdoor Ed team for such a great day!

In preparation for their transition to Year 7, our Year 6 pupils had a Step Up Day allowing an opportunity to meet their future teachers, explore their new classrooms, and familiarise themselves with the Senior School environment. This day provided valuable insight and

reassurance as they prepare to embark on the next stage of their academic journey, and culminated with a BBQ enjoyed by both pupils and parents.

Cricket fixtures have kicked off to an exciting start with a number of matches going right to the wire and being decided in the final over. Our talented cricketers have been showcasing their skills on the field of play and have made an incredible amount of progress since the start of the term. It's great to see them representing our school with such pride.

We also hosted our first-ever Speech Showcase with Mrs Sewell in the Drama Studio yesterday, which was a resounding success! Children from Year 1 to Year 12 took to the stage to display their talents and recite their speeches before upcoming exams next week. It was an inspiring event, highlighting the confidence and hard work of the children and I am sure they will do brilliantly in their exams next week.

Boarding parents will already have met the latest addition to our Cotlake team but I would like to formally welcome Mr Nick Thayre to Queen's, who joins us as Assistant House Parent in Cotlake House. Mr Thayre will also be supporting children around the school and will be at many of the upcoming events so please feel free to say hello.

Looking ahead to next week, we have more exciting events lined up. On Tuesday, we will be hosting our annual Swim Gala for local primary schools. This is always a busy event and I know our swimmers are keen to show off what they can do in the pool.

On Thursday, our Year 2 students will embark on an exciting trip to Knightshayes, providing them with a chance to take learning outside of the classroom. During the week there are also many exams; music, speech and ballet to name a few - best of luck to all who are taking an exam next week, I am sure you will be brilliant!

Finally a couple of reminders. We invite parents to join us for a Parent Coffee morning next Friday at 8:15am in the dining room. This is a great opportunity to connect with other parents and catch up informally. Also, a reminder to book your tickets for the [Summer Ball](#) if you haven't done so already. Tickets are selling fast, and it promises to be an unforgettable evening celebrating the successes of the year. Please do join us.

*I wish you all a fantastic weekend.*

*Henry*

# Nursery Round-up

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



The Nursery School children's self confidence and language skills have grown so much over the year so much so that they are now able to stand up in front of their friends to share their half-term holiday news this week with increasing detail.

The ongoing sunshine has enabled the children to continue to practise their sports day games, have a go at playing a game of cricket and enjoy team games such as "duck-duck goose" in the Nursery School garden.

This week's Forest School trip to Fyne Court was a great success with the opportunity for the children to practise their gross motor skills and challenge their nerve and approach to risky activities as they negotiated themselves across on the fallen tree. This was followed by an adult-led game of hide and seek called "1,2,3, where are you?" which encourages the children to develop their listening skills to attempt to locate where the "1,2,3 I am over here!" responses are coming from.

# Prep School

## Prep Sports Round-up

A beautiful week of sunshine, it was lovely to be out on the fields again this week for lots of cricket. On Monday, we hosted King's Hall for our next round of the cup. Some great cricket ensued and we showed how much improvement we have made since we last played this strong team. They set us a reasonable total to chase, but their spinners in particular did some damage, which left us short of runs and therefore we will unfortunately not progress to the next round.

On Wednesday, we had a raft of matches against Wellington. The girls all travelled across to play, and some very close matches ensued.

The U11/10C team played some encouraging cricket, batting and fielding confidently, whilst the B team played some of their best cricket yet, fielding brilliantly, and limiting runs. The A team had a very tight game where, thanks to quite a short boundary, the girls on both teams enjoyed hitting fours and sixes! It came down to the last over and although we took two wickets at the end, Wellington sneaked through with just a one run win. At home, the U11A boys had a match which was just as tight and some great play was had by Oliver with the bat, the score line for this match went the other way. The U10 boys had a great game of cricket and dominated throughout, particular mention to Harry for some fabulous bowling. The B teams fielded well and continued to make excellent progress with their cricket skills.



# Prep School

## Outdoor Education Day



On Tuesday, Years 3 - 5 had a wonderful day exploring the College site and local countryside looking for buried treasure!

This involved completing a number of team based physical and mental challenges to gain clues to the treasure's whereabouts. The pupils were fantastic! They worked really well in their teams, involving pupils from all Year groups, listening carefully to each other and supporting each other's ideas. The day culminated with an obstacle course where we were joined by a super enthusiastic Year 2.

Well done to all pupils and staff who together made this a very memorable day!

## Celebrating 'Farming Fortnight'

This week we have been celebrating ['Farming Fortnight'](#) a national campaign to promote farming and food production. We were absolutely delighted to welcome NFU (National Farmers Union) representative, 'Farmers for Schools Ambassador', local Taunton farmer and ex-student Old Queenian, Peter Venn back to Queen's.

He delivered lessons to three different Prep classes about how he produces the food on his farm in Taunton, how the crops grow from seed and the day-to-day life on their farm. Peter delivered a series of engaging and exciting presentations that prompted lots of thought-provoking discussions with our pupils about food and farming.



"It was a lovely opportunity to be back at Queen's College and to be able to pass on my knowledge and expertise to the next generation as well as a chance to showcase the value of British farming", said Peter.

Mr Mann, Head of the Faculty of Art, Design, and Food added, "this is an exciting and inspiring opportunity to educate and connect young people with where their food comes from. It is vital to enable them to make more informed food choices while capturing their enthusiasm to connect with topical issues around climate change, sustainable diets and well-being and at the same time showcasing the range of future career opportunities available in the agricultural sector".

# Whole School

## Speech Showcase



Yesterday the speech showcase took place where over 70 children (from Year 1-Year 10) performed their poetry, prose and drama monologues in front of an audience; this was in preparation for the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art exams, which will happen on Monday.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to share the work they have been preparing for over the last few months. We are thrilled to say that this first LAMDA event was a real success

and we wish all pupils that are taking the LAMDA exams next week the very best of luck. "Break a leg!"



## Introducing Mr Tom Bell - Director Sport



This September, Mr Tom Bell will be joining us as the new Director of Sport. Mr Bell started his teaching career in Dorset, then later became Head of PE in Doha, Qatar, shortly after the State was awarded the World Cup in 2022. He spent 6 great years in the country with his wife and two daughters and become Director of Sport of a large International School. After leaving Qatar, Mr Bell moved to Bangkok, Thailand, to work at a large international school with 'world-class' status where he was appointed as Director of Sport. More recently, Mr Bell has been working at a school in North Devon. He is very excited for the "opportunity to work at Queen's College and provide the pupils with a unique and exciting prospect to shape school sport, evolve the brilliant work already in place, and work at a school with stunning grounds and forward thinking ambition".

Some of our Prep School pupils took the opportunity to interview Mr Bell at his recent visit to the school, to learn a bit more about him:

**What is your Favourite biscuit?-** *"Something chocolatey - Actually, if it doesn't have to be a biscuit - I love Ferrero Roche"*

**Where have you worked ? -** *"I've been teaching for 15 years in 3 different countries, including England, Qatar and Thailand"*

**Are you good at sports?** *"I am the best," he said with a broad smile. "I'm actually very competitive and have a lot of love for sport, whether that's Chess or Cricket I like to put my all into it - I have a give it a go attitude, but am gracious in defeat too."*

**If you could have a Super Power, what would it be? ?** *"To stop time, so I can really stop and appreciate the people around me, or beautiful surroundings "*

# Senior School

## Year 7 Familiarisation Day



58 Year 6 pupils attended our Familiarisation Day on Tuesday, with the weather staying warm and pleasant. The new Year 7's were welcomed into the Wyvern Hall by Miss Spall, the new Year 7 Lead and Mrs Bloxham, the current Year 7 Lead.

The children were divided into three groups and sent them off to enjoy a sample of Senior School lessons from Samba drumming in Music, to detective style 'Whodunit' logic puzzles in Maths. Pupils experimented with kinetic energy transformation based on rollercoasters in Science and they got the chance to send their worst nightmares to Room 101 in English.

At break the children decorated biscuits, kindly organised by Chef Jordan from our catering team: Holroyd Howe, and pupils also enjoyed lunch with some of the current Year 7's who gladly shared some of their own experiences.

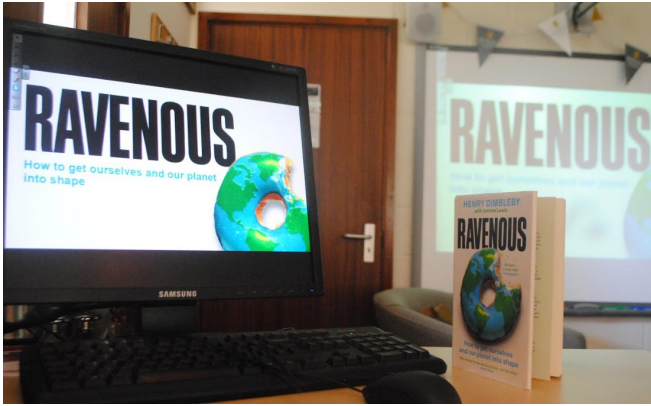
In the afternoon, the children played "capture the flag" in sports and then attended a presentation in Queen's Hall with Mr Noad, Mrs McAlonan, Mrs Bloxham and Miss Spall. They ran through some key points and useful tips, including how and where to find information next year. The pupils, staff and parents then enjoyed a delicious BBQ in the Dining Pavilion.

The whole day was a huge success and everyone enjoyed themselves immensely. It was lovely to see Queen's Year 6 pupils swapping numbers with new friends from other schools, a testament to how friendly we are as a school.

Miss Spall is very much looking forward to welcoming the Year 6's into Year 7 in September 2023 and wishes everyone a wonderful summer in the meantime!

# Senior School

## Food for Thought: Future of our Food System



This week our scholar pupils had a lively and timely debate on the future of our food system and what's really needed to get ourselves and our planet into shape.

The way we produce food is putting at risk future food production, "the success of the food system goes hand in hand with its destructive power" concluded the UK's top food strategist, former lead board member at DEFRA, author of the National Food Strategy and co-founder of the restaurant chain, Leon, Henry Dimbleby MBE, in his new book called, RAVENOUS that the pupils reviewed.

In class, they critiqued the key issues from this book about the future of our food system and also critically reviewed current alarming headlines on the climate change impact of food production, ultra-processed foods, obesity figures, Covid, Brexit, the war in Ukraine, the soaring cost of energy-disrupted supply chains, and empty supermarket shelves. Pupils engaged directly with practical ideas of how to overcome key barriers including of affordability; environment; distribution and socio-economics when it came to our national food systems.

The key conclusion of the discussions was that considering diet and food sustainability as separate issues is no longer credible. and that there is now an undeniable connection between choices about what we eat and the impact and increasing pace of biodiversity loss.

Journalist Jemima Lewis of The Telegraph, who co-wrote Henry Dimbleby's Sunday Times best-selling book RAVENOUS said what the pupils at Queen's College had been discussing was, "fantastic" and that she was "so pleased" with the debates being had by the pupils.

## Athletic Development

With exams meaning that access to the gym is limited, pupils from Year 7 and 8 have been making the most of the outdoor gym this week as part of their athletic development programme.





# Senior School

## Sports Report

Yet another glorious week of weather to welcome us all back from our half-term break. The sporting activity began on Tuesday with fixtures for the girls U15 A and B teams, who travelled to Wellington for what were two very exciting and close games of cricket. The U14/15 boys remained at school to compete in their annual cricket house matches. Using the 'Street 20' rules, there were six enthralling games of big-hitting cricket played in great spirit, with French emerging victorious overall.



On Wednesday afternoon, the U12/13 boys had the chance to prepare for their house competition with an intra-school tournament, whilst the U12/13 girls teams were in action against Wellington. With two out of three wins for our away teams and one win from two in the home games - a successful and enjoyable afternoon of cricket was had by all.

We wish the boys U15A cricket team the best of luck for their semi-final of the County Cup against Taunton School on Friday and look forward to seeing our seventeen athletes compete for the Taunton Area Schools team on Saturday at Yeovil in the County Championships.

Cricket fixtures on Saturday will see us face opposition from West Buckland School, Exeter School and King's College - best of luck to all involved.

## Equestrian Update



Harriet and Pegasus had a wonderful time at the NSEA Hickstead .

They came away with an 8th and then 37th in the 70cm Eventers Challenge Class. Fantastic clear rounds over the courses.

Congratulations Harriet!

## Hattie Year 8 School House Drawing - By Hattie

I became inspired to do drawings of this style after noticing that whenever a watercolour painting is completed, there was so much leftover water.

I decided to make use of this by pouring it on the page, creating a random shape. Within this shape, I then draw the details of my illustration.



# Senior School

## Taunton Festival of Arts

During the half term, a few of our dancers competed in the Taunton Festival of the Arts. This was held at our very own Queen's Hall and I was extremely proud of everyone who competed for the school.

Their dances had grown and developed in artistry, technique and performance since the students had last performed them at Exeter festival during February half term and they received some lovely comments and constructive feedback from the adjudicator.

Millie in Year 12 managed to make it back from London to compete and came 1st with her Lyrical solo choreographed by Miss Bryony. The dance festival competitions are open to anyone who takes dance lessons at school; look out for an email soon to enter for the competitions being held in the next academic year.



## Celebrating World Environmental Day



This 'World Environment Day' the pupils constructed a new homes for invertebrates to provide safe hidey-hole habitats for pollinators and putting up shelters for future nesting birds to encourage more wildlife and increase the biodiversity at Queen's.

Pupils began by creating a new wildlife 'hotel' that can shelter anything from hedgehogs to toads, solitary bees to bumblebees, and ladybirds to woodlice. **To read the full story click [here](#).**

# Sixth Form

## A Trip To France



Edie in Year 13 and Madame Webber enjoyed an outing along with the Taunton French Circle to Wellhayes Vineyard during half term.

They learned about the process of making sparkling wine from the owners, had a tour of the vineyard and were able to sample the wine along with home made chocolates as part of a cream tea.

Taunton French Circle is made up of French natives, French teachers or former teachers as well as those who have property in France or just a love of all things French. As such, the day provided ample opportunity for lots of French conversation.

## West End Visitors



Millie in Year 12 had a wonderful surprise over the weekend when Mr Trafford and friends from school arrived to watch her perform in "[Aspects of Love](#)".

Millie made her West End debut last month, she plays "young Jennie" in the new production of Aspects of Love, produced by Nica Burns. The show will run for 26 weeks, during which Queen's College will fully support Millie remotely with her A Level studies.

# OQ News

It's great to see our OQs doing so well on the world sporting stage!



Congratulations to Tim Nurse (OQ) for scoring his 1st goal for the GB hockey team against India. Also congratulations to Fionn Hand for making his test debut for the Irish cricket team against England at Lord's last week.

## News and Announcements

### Upcoming Parent Social Events



Next Wednesday (14 June), 7.30pm in the Dining Pavilion there will be a short QCC meeting to discuss and finalise events for next year followed by summer drinks on the decking. Please do come along; this is a fabulous way to meet other families, any help (however ad-hoc) would be much appreciated so that QCC events can run, they are a brilliant way of bringing our community together.

Next Friday (16 June), 8.15-9.30am, parents' coffee in the Dining Hall. Do come along if you are free, all parents, Highgrove through to Y13 are more than welcome.

# News and Announcements

Art Exhibition

## Queen's College

Invites you to preview this year's

## Art Exhibition

Wednesday  
28th June 2023  
5-7pm

Showcasing work from  
Queen's College  
Prep School through to  
GCSE and A level Art,  
Textiles and  
Photography

[info@queenscollege.org.uk](mailto:info@queenscollege.org.uk)

Faculty of Art, Design  
and Food



# News and Announcements

## Upcoming Dates

Athletics: Athletics V Somesret Schools' Championships U15,U17,U19	10 June
Tennis: Girls-U15A, Girls-U18A, Girls-U18B, Mixed-U12A, Mixed-U13A, Mixed-U14A V Internal matches	10 June
Year 7 & 8 Kayaking - River Wye	11 June
Year 12 Careers and Employability week	W/c 12 June
Prep School Strings workshop	13 June
Nursery School Forest School Trip	13 June
Welcome and Information Evening for Reception '23 parents	13 June
Year 8 Adventure Challenge	14 June
Parent Forum	14 June
Year 2 Parent Tours	14 June
Scholars Event: Years 12 and 13 in English	14 June
QCC Meeting and Summer drinks	14 June
Year 8 Adventure Challenge	15 June
Discover Queen's: Year 5 Science Day	15 June
Year 2 trip to Knightshayes	15 June
Parents' Coffee	16 June
Prep Lunchtime Concert	16 June

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

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

**My School Portal can be accessed [here](#).**

## Colour Run - 01 July 2023

The Edukid Charity team is hosting a Colour Run on the school site on Saturday 1st July 2023 in order to raise money for EDUKID. This fun event is open to all members of the Queen's community with a run, walk, skip or dance around the Lower (Sports pitches).

We are hoping that all pupils will take part in this whole College fundraising event. Please could you complete this [form](#) to confirm your child's (and yours) participation.

If you wish to donate, the JustGiving page can be found [here](#).

# News and Announcements

Summer at Queen's



## SUMMER AT QUEEN'S

Visit our website to find out more about summer courses and day camp sessions available

[queenscollege.org.uk](http://queenscollege.org.uk)

For more information click [here](#)



### May Half Term & Summer Holiday Camps For Students Aged 7-16

Queen's College is delighted to be partnering with Academic Camp, an experienced team of professionals who are passionate about offering inspiring and challenging academic camps for adventurers, explorers and engagers aged 7-16.

- sports
- debating
- Be a Leader (CPD accredited)
- drama
- adventure
- applied maths
- robotics
- STEM
- environmental impact
- yoga and well-being
- food and nutrition
- arts and design and more

Camps/Masterclasses run at Queen's from Monday to Thursday. On Fridays we run trips (including to London, Thorpe Park and surfing in Devon)

**Dates:**  
29th May to 2nd June 2023  
17th July to 25th August 2023

*Sample Programme and To Book*



**Fees:**  
Day: £40 a day including lunch (£20 half-day)  
Boarding: £125 per night  
Discounts available when booking 12+ days



+44 (0) 20 3959 9370

[info@academiccamp.org](mailto:info@academiccamp.org)

[www.AcademicCamp.org](http://www.AcademicCamp.org)

### ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMPS

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Outstanding holiday camps for 4 to 14 year olds this summer at

**QUEENS COLLEGE IN TAUNTON**

**ULTIMATEACTIVITY.CO.UK**

Book to  
register your  
attendance  
[here](#)




QUEEN'S  
COLLEGE  
TAUNTON

# Speech Days

Prep 5 July 11:00am

Senior 6 July 10:00am





Monday 26 June  
Book to watch the  
show now

**GREASE**

*in a day*



QUEEN'S  
COLLEGE  
TAUNTON



QUEEN'S  
COLLEGE  
TAUNTON

# SUMMER BALL

**THURSDAY 06 JULY 2023  
7:00PM-12:30AM**

**AN EVENING FILLED WITH FOOD, MUSIC AND  
DANCING. BLACK TIE EVENT.  
ADMISSION STRICTLY BY TICKET ONLY  
PRICE: £69**

Tickets for the Summer Ball are selling fast. We have just 6 remaining tables left and this is with the increased capacity we have created for this year. As a reminder, all parents, family, friends and OQ's of the College (Nursery through to Y13) are more than welcome to join us. The link with all details for both Speech Days and the Summer Ball is [here](#). You may also wish to pre order your wine for the table from [The Fizzy Pheasant](#), if you wish to do this, please use [this link](#).