

Pupils “Bond” Together For House Singing



Mr Julian Noad - Head of College



We end the term on a bit of a buzz, with singing currently emanating from all quarters of the senior school. I look forward to the House Singing finals, my next stop. In the meantime, let us look back at a busy final week of the half term, Performing Arts Festival week.

I begin by giving praise to our four Heads of Houses who have worked tirelessly in driving their Houses to deliver such magnificent pieces, in drama, poetry recital, dance, and music. Wednesday evening's Drama and Dance competition show was a triumph. I have no doubt that this afternoon's singing will match this,

although the bar has been set high.

There has been a theme of moving up this week as Year 6 from our own Prep as well as other schools joined us for a discovery day on Tuesday. They were all excited about their move to senior school and terrific company. Then, in the evening, it was Year 11's turn to look ahead, to Sixth form. Mrs Chanter put together a great programme showcasing the life of a sixth former and allowing valuable conversations about subject choice. It was a busy and buzzy evening.

Having made the step to senior only this term, it was a delight to welcome Year 7 parents to Wyvern House yesterday. It was a fun evening awash

with positivity. Under Miss Spall's superb care, Year 7 have settled superbly.

In order to improve boarding communications, we have created a Facebook page, where we can share stories and photos from within our boarding community. In order to join this closed group, please follow [this link](#) and request to join the group. I remind boarding parents to please continue to communicate with the Houseparents in the normal way via email and using the house phone numbers.

Whilst half term will be welcomed to draw breath, I share that it will not be restful for all. There are trips aplenty, many heading for Spain. We have an

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outdoor education climbing trip heading close to Alicante, a Modern Language trip to Madrid, and a hockey to to Barcelona. In addition, we head to France for a netball tour to Disneyland, Paris - yes, they will play some netball. We look forward to hearing all about these exciting

adventures. It is great to see our horizons being expanded again.

Fully rested and ready to go after half term, be sure not to miss the [Friends of Queen's College Barn Dance](#) on the first Friday back after half term (10 November) and

also our Old Queenians weekend, including a remembrance service and school versus old boys and girls hockey matches on Sunday morning.

For now, I wish you a terrific break.

Julian

Prep School

Mr Henry Matthews - Head of Prep



Welcome to the final Bulletin of this half term. What a brilliant half term we have had! The children have made so much progress, not only academically, but we are also very proud of how they are demonstrating and developing in terms of our school values of kindness, perseverance, fun and hard work. There is much to be proud of already this year and I am sure a great deal more to come.

We kicked off the week with visits from grandparents to Queen's Minis, our pre-school year group. It was wonderful to see the grandparents experiencing the children's learning environment and to see the joy on the children's faces as they shared their work. I am also excited to announce that Grandparent's Day will be returning in Prep School next term, the date will be finalised shortly and published on My School Portal. This day will include a chance for children to show their

grandparents their work in class, tour the school and most importantly enjoy some cake!

On Tuesday, Year 6 pupils took part in the first of their transition sessions for Senior School. They had a brilliant day taking part in lessons, meeting teachers and getting a feel for what it is like to be a Senior School student. There were many positive comments from pupils on their return to Prep School and I know that their hard work and excellent behaviour impressed the teachers

Prep School

Mr Henry Matthews - Head of Prep

and staff.

On Tuesday and Thursday, we hosted two busy and positive parents evenings. It was great to see so many parents there and I know the staff appreciated the chance to give feedback on the learning taking place in school. I also very much enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with many of you. As ever, if you do have any questions about your child's learning and wellbeing please do get in touch with the teachers directly.

This week, Pre-Prep and Year 3 children have had much excitement learning about their upcoming Christmas performances - sorry to mention Christmas so early in the year! Children have been given their parts for the play and scripts, any support in learning lines and songs at home would be greatly appreciated. Again apologies for the earworms that will follow!

Today we will also be writing to potential scholars for Year 7 next year, inviting those nominated to put forward an application for a scholarship award; the assessment for which will take place next half term. Further details on scholarships can be found in Julian's earlier letter which is linked here. If you would like to discuss scholarships further please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

We end the term today with our Harvest Festival, the first in the Temple Methodist Church and the first for our new chaplain Reverend Richard Kelley. I look forward to seeing many parents, grandparents and friends at the church and I am sure it will be a fantastic way to end the term. Thank you for your kind donations to the harvest appeal, which will be shared with the Rowbarton Pantry.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their hard work and dedication this half term. They have worked tirelessly to ensure that all of the children have had a happy and successful half term.

I would also like to thank all of the parents and the wider community for your continued support. We are so lucky to have such a wonderful community here at Queen's College.

I wish you all a very happy break and hope that you have the chance to spend some time with friends and family. We look forward to seeing you all back on Monday 6th November.

With best wishes

Henry

Christmas Sparkle Appeal



You may already be familiar with [Christmas Sparkle](#), a local charity that supports families in need. This fabulous project aims to give a Christmas gift to every child aged 0-18 years living in difficult circumstances in the Taunton and Wellington communities. 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.

Last year, 2,153 children and young people received gifts from Christmas Sparkle. This represents a 45% increase on last year's figures. Queen's has been a strong supporter of this project for several years and we would like to continue to support it again this year. We would be extremely grateful for any help with contributions. Ideas for gifts are as listed below:

Craft sets, Lego, games, puzzles, toiletry and cosmetic sets, beanie hats, gloves, footballs (there is often a shortage of toys for boys of all ages). We only ask that gifts are brand new and unused. Collection boxes can be found in Pre-Prep, Prep, the Senior School main office and the Sixth Form Centre. We are able to receive donations until the end of November.

Thank you so much for supporting this wonderful community project.

-Mrs Candice Thompson-Gardiner

Nursery Round-up

Nursery News From Mrs Donna Kershaw - Highgrove Nursery Manager



The wet weather hasn't stopped us from having fun this week! Children across all rooms enjoyed splashing in the puddles around the garden and collecting water in various containers enjoying the ability to get as wet as they wanted to in their puddle suits. Inside there has been a wide variety of arts and crafts and sensory experiences for the children to explore. There has been lots of fun with rainbow rice, moon sand, cloud dough, collages, sensory wall creations and sensory walks, as well as the usual paints, chalks and crayons. Next week the nursery will be full of pumpkins as we head towards children sharing their trick and treat experiences, no doubt we will also have a few children dress up in their lovely themed costumes.

Thank you to all the families who have donated items towards our harvest collection for the Taunton Homeless Association, we will be arranging collection over the next week. Thank you for your support.



Queen's Minis

Queen's Minis News From Miss Lizzie Hayes



Wow! What a busy term the children in Queen's Minis have had. They have thoroughly enjoyed exploring an array of new and interesting resources which has sparked their imaginations and creativity. They have participated in a variety of curriculum activities where they have developed their core physical skills, worked on supporting their dexterity in their fine manipulative skills and built their emotional resilience and communication skills. The focus of 'All about me' this term has enabled them to talk about themselves and their home life through craft and adult led activities and interactions, whilst the onset of autumn has brought further opportunities to learn about the world around us. This week the children were also invited to their first 'step up' session in Reception to meet Mrs Baker and Miss Penny who led an autumn focused activity session where they made wonderful 'nature star wands' using twigs and leaves and investigated a lentil and pumpkin tuff tray activity. To conclude the term the children held their own 'Mini Harvest Festival', in the nursery which was led by the College's Chaplin, Rev. Kelly, who talked to them about the farmers and fishermen who work hard to provide us with food to eat and then read the children the bible story about the fishermen on Lake Galilee. The children then gave Rev. Kelly some food donations for the College's Harvest Festival later this week and finished with a prayer.



Prep School

Harvest Festival - Rev Kelley



Every journey I've gone on for the past few weeks has been punctuated by the sight of tractors working the fields and travelling the roads laden with the fruits' of months of labour. It's a sight so familiar here in Somerset but it never ceases to lose its magic - the picture of people collecting food which has, almost miraculously, built itself from the ground. It's so normal and yet so special. So impressive and yet so humbling. This annual event occurring in autumn, as it does, couldn't be more laden with symbolism - we harvest as we prepare for the dark lean months of winter; the natural world supporting us as it prepares for its time of rest.

The story we will be re-telling at Temple Methodist this afternoon will echo this symbol - the story of Joseph, a young man whose life happens in two halves. The first was a time of abundance, the summertime of his youth, where he had all the riches of the world given to him. But he failed to prepare for the winter created for him by his brothers. But winters, as they always do, come to an end and his second summertime as prime minister of Egypt is defined by his careful and generous use of the Harvest. When the winter of famine falls he has not only enough for Egypt but for the whole region and for the family which hurt him. Joseph's story is one we can all hold on to this harvest - we have much now but the winter is coming and we must prepare. But, so long as we do, our lives need not be defined by the winter or by self-interest. Instead we can live a summertime life through the winter, showing generosity and kindness to those who have hurt us and those who have less no matter what season the world finds itself in. There are wars and rumours of wars. There are diseases and economic crises. But, as the winter comes know that it will end, so do not be defined by it - instead prepare for a time of abundant kindness, generosity and love. **More photos on [Flickr](#).**



Prep School

Prep Sports Round-up



Well done to all the children who competed in the House biathlon last week. It was amazing to see so many children really pushing themselves out of their comfort zones for their Houses, we were all so proud of the children with over three quarters of Year 3 to 6 taking part in at least one part of the event. More photos [here](#).

House winners will be announced at the end of term, but congratulations to our overall section winners Poppy N, Ben, Tom C and Imogen S and the year group top scorers Year 3: Jonah and Amandine Year 4: Thomas C and Imogen S Year 5 : Ernest and Poppy Year 6 : Juno and Ben

On Wednesday, only the girls managed to keep their matches, and for once the forecast was accurate with rain starting at 1.00pm and by 2.00pm it was incredibly heavy. The U11 girls at home played some great hockey and were working really well, most of the possession was ours, but sadly two soft goals were handed to Kings which we struggled to get back from. The U10's went across to Kings and had a great match despite the rain- well done, they scored just after the time had been blown! The B's played some cross pitch smaller games but need to have a little more vision and ensure they pass accurately to each other.

Save the Date

Friday 17 November. Whole Prep School Movie Night.

More information will be shared after half term.



Prep School

Year 6 into Year 7 Discovery Day

Year 6 into Year 7 Discovery Day

Year 6 pupils had a fantastic time on their recent Discovery Day in Senior School. The day was designed to give the children a taste of what life is like in Senior School and to help them get to know some of the children who will be joining the cohort in Year 7.

The children had the opportunity to try out a range of activities in different subject areas, including Humanities, Science, PE, English and Maths.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and were full of enthusiasm for their transition to Senior School.

Eco Club

Prep discovered more about food provenance and sustainable food as the Eco Team came across to Mr Mann's Kitchen Garden in Senior School, planting out the first new seedlings of the academic year! The pupils planted a variety of their own crops to harvest later in the year. The foods going into the ground included bean seedlings, lettuce, spinach, and even edible flowers.

"It is important for all children to know where their food comes from and how to grow their own. We also want them to experience the natural world within the grounds of Queen's College and to learn about the importance of providing a habitat for wild creatures that pollinate the food we grow" said Mrs Wade who teaches the Eco Team in Prep.

"There's nothing more satisfying than harvesting your own crops at school but it all starts with seeds and seedlings" said Mr Mann, Head of Faculty of Art, Design, and Food.



Prep School Concert

More fabulous photographs from last week's concert can be found [here](#).



Prep School

Year 3

3AW have loved designing and creating their open rainforest creatures. After investigating levers and pulleys, the children really rose to the challenge of creating flying toucans with moving beaks and leaping legs for their poisoned dart frogs.

Mr Higgs was very impressed with their DT skills and we looked at how we could further develop them in the future.



Introducing Mr Burlingham



Before qualifying as a teacher I worked in Bristol as a Chartered Surveyor for 13 years. However, in my 30's I retrained as a teacher! During my training year I secured a job at an independent boys school in Bristol, where I worked for 12 years until the move to Queen's this summer.

In my previous role I was a Year 6 Form Tutor, taught a range of subjects, coached games and ran the Outdoor Education program. I also coached rugby at a local rugby club for 16 years and in the Bristol Bears Academy - just to make sure I wasn't bored in my time off!

Taking on the running of Cotlake House has certainly been a steep learning curve for me and my wife Ali, but we are enjoying the challenge! We're hoping that the experience of raising our own 3 boys, now 20, 19 and 16, is transferable to Cotlake. Although nothing could have prepared us for trying to get 24 sets of games kit and PE kit ready every day!

Having only ever been involved in boarding as a pupil during my prep school days, it has been fascinating experiencing a different side to a school and being able to support pupils in a more holistic way.

Senior School

Sports Report



Queen's v King's Rugby

To conclude what has been a successful half-term of rugby, we welcomed King's College U18 2nd XV to face our U16 boys in what was the biggest test for the Queen's players yet. The Queen's boys started a little nervous, making un-characteristic errors but soon got into their game plan. Defence was solid, attack clinical and we contested the breakdown to allow a steady base to attack from. A well-worked try in the first half put Queen's ahead. The second half saw Queen's starting to take control of the game, Caspar next to score with a bull-dozing converted try. A bit of magic from Henry, selling the dummy and sneaking under the posts meant the boys were able to hold off the opposition for an outstanding victory - 17-15. The boys should be very proud of their achievement and they certainly deserve their half-term rest!

County Cup Cross-Country

On Monday, 27 Queen's student athletes travelled to King's College to represent the college at the first round of the County Cup, team event. Each athlete pushed themselves to the limit in their races and saw some outstanding personal achievements. Queen's



battled through finishing in 5th and 6th place in the Junior age category, 7th for the Intermediate Boys, 5th place for the Intermediate Girls and a 5th place finish for the Senior Boys. A brilliant afternoon of running and a collective team triumph.



Hockey

On Saturday hockey had a block of fixtures Vs Plymouth College. The U13/12's played first. The A team drew with Plymouth College back in September at the Blundells tournament, so this was a rematch. Queen's came out wanting the win. There were several top performances from the squad, helping Queen's score an abundance of goals. A similar pattern to what happened in the B team fixture. Both teams ended up with resounding victories.

There were also two senior matches. These were very closely contested and both 1st and 2nd XI were drawing at the half time interval. In the 3rd quarter the 1st XI pulled away scoring some of our plentiful opportunities and went 3-1 up. However fitness played a part in the final quarter, with Plymouth coming back to draw 3-3. The 2nd XI finished their match with a 2-2 draw.

A big well done to all the squads this weekend, but also well done to Emily and Evvie who made their 1st XI debuts as Year 9 pupils. A great achievement, and thoroughly deserved.



Read the full sports report
on our website

[Click here](#)

Senior School

Performing Arts Festival 2023



The final week of this half term has seen Queen's sharing its energy, talent and teamwork in the Performing Arts Festival. Conceived by our artistic director, Mr Trafford, the festival has been designed to promote artistic endeavours from all areas of the Senior School!

The week of activities began with the incredible West End Workshop. Four top West End stars visited Queen's on Sunday: Fletcher Dobinson from *MOULIN ROUGE*, Harriet Caplan Dean and Tsumaye Bob-Egbe from *SIX* and Sioned Jones from the Royal National Theatre all offered insights and practical exercises in singing, acting and dancing for over 50 of our students aged 8 to 17. The atmosphere was fantastic, with everyone getting autographs and selfies as well as all the great performance tips! Fletcher described the Queen's students as "nothing but an absolute delight" while Sioned praised their creativity and storytelling. Incidentally, all four West End artists were astonished by the amazing facilities at Queen's.



Senior School

Performing Arts Festival 2023



Following this day-long experience, the Heads of Houses then got to work making final preparations for House Dance and House Drama, polishing their performances which involved over 120 senior students!

And what can we say about the final performances? It's fair to say that everyone was astonished by the quality and talent on display! Each House produced a brand new play lasting up to 15 minutes, plus two dances: a solo or duet and a group performance. Every House gathered over 20 performers for the group dances, making for some utterly spectacular choreography. It was especially impressive to see students joining in with the performing arts for the first time, to support their Houses in this competition. Our Heads of Houses can feel really proud of having organised a highly entertaining show; indeed, our guest judges, professional actors and dancers Kate Jones and Chris Jones, supported by Mrs Sewell, had a very tricky task choosing the winners! Kate commented, *"the standard of performances was incredible- I loved it!"* The results were as follows: **House Drama: 1: Ray 2: French 3: Woolmer (tie) 3: Barnicott (tie). House Dance: 1: Woolmer 2: Ray 3: French 4: Barnicott.**

After that spectacular evening, the Festival week continued with some moving and entertaining poetry recitals on Thursday lunchtime. Poems had been selected from teachers across the school in a range of styles and students from Year 7 to 13 offered diverse interpretations. Our chaplain, Rev Kelly, had the unenviable task of choosing the winners for this House competition and we were especially pleased to see entries from our international anthology of French, German and Spanish poems, too. The winners were: 1st Claudiu (Ray) & Cora (Woolmer), 2nd Finn (French) & Ella (Barnicott), 3rd Miela (French), Award for House with most contributors: French

The grand finale of the Arts Festival was the ever-popular House Singing, involving the whole of the senior school. More details of that full day of teamwork and melody from Mr Jenkins ([see page 13 and 14](#))

Overall, our students proved once again that what Queen's does, it does to the very best of its ability! The depth of talent on display across the week was breath-taking and the teamwork, camaraderie and leadership were both touching and impressive to behold. **More photos from this week can be found [here](#).**



House Singing

An Event Truly Worthy of Bond Himself



The end of the first half of the Autumn term heralds one of the most exciting events of the year, the House Singing Competition; a whole day of rehearsals culminating in a massed concert with each House showing what it has achieved with its two songs, one drawn from a selection chosen by the Prefects, the other from a prescribed genres which this year, to tie in with the Performing Arts Week theme was Bond songs! After a brief introduction from Blofeld (or was it Mr Jenkins...), French took to the stage and opened strongly with their first song, Viva La Vida before their Bond song, the very popular and well performed 'Skyfall'. A hard act to follow but Barnicott rose to the challenge with a rousing rendition of 'Life Is A Highway'. This was then followed by an interesting choice - 'Nobody Does It Better' which they did very well. Next up was Ray with a great performance of 'I Will Do Anything For Love' - a good draw for them. They moved onto 'Writings' On The Wall' with its rather obligatory falsetto which they managed well.

Last but by no means least came Woolmer; their drawn song of 'Top Of The World' by the Carpenters was well prepared and delivered as was their choice of Bond song, 'Diamonds Are Forever'. Then it was the turn of the staff; complete with band, they went modern with their choice of Bond; 'Another Way To Die' (with Blofeld on the drums??). And of course the Sixth Form had their chance to shine with an energetic 'Sweet Caroline'.

As ever the staff vote on the outcome and although close, the overall winner this year was Woolmer who took to the stage to reprise their drawn song. Once again, it was a brilliant occasion with every student in the school playing their part to create some truly memorable performances. Many thanks to the Heads of Houses with their able assistants for pulling it all together with such style. Truly worthy of Bond himself! More photos on [Flickr](#).



House Singing

An Event Truly Worthy of Bond Himself



Senior School

Faculty Extension Sessions



Also any student willing to get involved further or just willing to try out Cryptography can join Mrs Hill's Co-Curricular, which gives students the chance to try the 'National Cipher Challenge' which sets challenging puzzles that get harder week by week (set by Southampton University)"



Saturday saw the second set of Faculty Extension sessions of the year, run for our academic and all-rounder scholars and invited others. Year 7-9 were with the Art, Design and Food Faculty; Years 10 and 11 with the Maths and Computing Faculty; and Years 12 and 13 were with the Humanities faculty. Some pupils have described their sessions:

Years 7-9: "This session, I learnt the basics of debating which I think is a useful life skill. I especially enjoyed debating with another group about the pros and cons of cardboard drones!". "I liked everything".

Years 10 and 11: "I had a lovely time learning about how to properly encrypt messages and the history of encryption. And of course the teachers were amazing and engaged with the class well.", "I liked figuring out how different ciphers work", "After the insightful session about Cryptography, I learnt loads on how to think more abstractly and logically using patterns and methodical steps to help overcome challenging codes. Each brought its own unique challenge helping us better understand how codes can be so simple yet so hard to crack. Mrs Hill helped us use equations and methodical thinking and use it to decipher and encipher codes while Mr Proctor showed us how to use letter frequency to help solve puzzles as well as our improving our mental arithmetic using patterns. The session was most enjoyable, taking each and everyone's knowledge to the test.

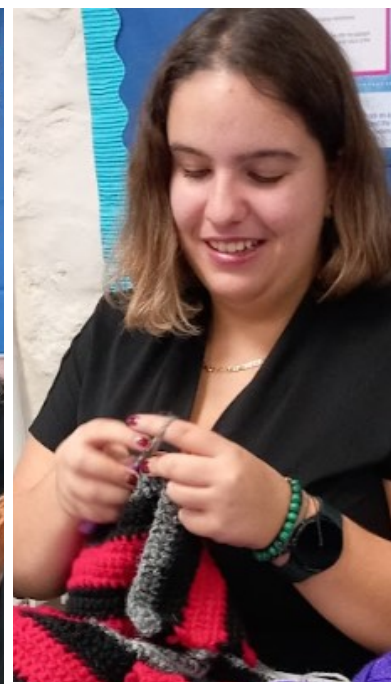
Years 12 and 13: "We began with how happiness is linked to the economic performance of nations. It was really interesting to consider how external factors influence happiness en masse and whether economic growth necessarily improved the "average happiness" of nations. Afterwards, we looked into the diverse nature of relationships, focusing on polygamy and polyamory. I enjoyed learning how these have evolved in different cultures, looking at the economic/practical roots of polygamy and the debate of whether modern-day polyamory is mainly hedonistic in nature or otherwise. Overall, I appreciated the new perspectives in today's scholars' session."



Senior School

Mindful Crochet

This term, in the Mindful Crochet CC, new crocheters have been perfecting their double crochet stitches so that they are all consistent and find their rhythm. Whilst our more experienced crocheters have been enjoying making new projects such as a cosy blanket, a bag, a scarf, and even a plant, whilst quietly listening to music. Crochet is a great activity that our students find helps with taking their minds away from the stresses of every day. They also gain a sense of achievement from finally perfecting their stitches to completing their first project.



St John's Concert



On Friday 13th October, some of our leading musicians went to perform at the annual St John's Lunchtime Concert and as always, they put on a magnificent concert.

Opening the event was You You playing the fun but challenging Cat and Mouse Scherzo by Copland, navigating the keys with consummate skill. A hard act to follow but Georgie rose to the challenge magnificently with a Oboe Solo by Charlés Collin, speeding up and down the entire range of the instrument.

The first vocal item was performed by Rosie; a touching rendition of 'If You Loved Me'. Shao Shen then took to the piano to perform the first movement of Beethoven's Piano Sonata in D, Op. 31; he is well known at Queen's for his skill as a pianist and certainly did not disappoint with this lively performance.

Millie took us to the Baroque with Handel's 'O Had I Jubal's Lyre' from 'Joshua'; with its tricky melismatic runs, a challenge to many vocalists but not to Millie,

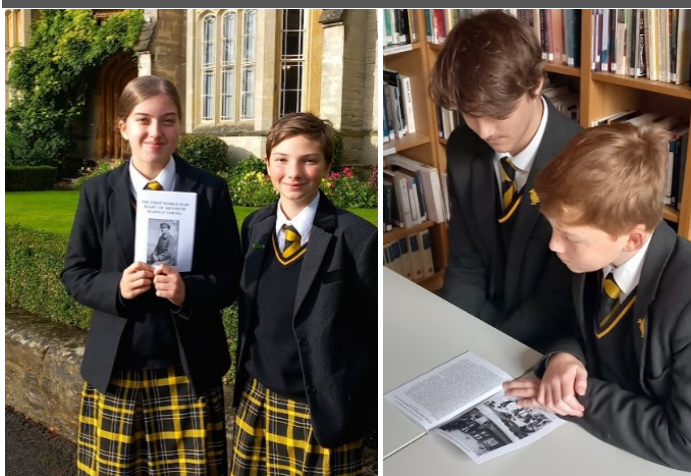
judging by her beautiful rendition of it.

To finish the concert, the Cello Group performed three pieces; led by our cello teacher, Mrs Audrey Gullick, and with Charis Sin joining You You and Shao Shen, A lively Gavotte en rondeau by Boismortire was followed by a moving performance of Equali by Beethoven, and to finish of the concert in style, the lively and uplifting Mairi's Wedding, a traditional Scottish tune.

It was an outstanding event and the audience were unanimous in their praise for the high level of musicianship displayed. The retiring collection raised over £300 for the church and the charity Bibic, a national charity supporting children or young adults with brain injuries, disabilities, neurological or developmental difficulties. Many congratulations and thanks to our musicians for such a splendid concert.

Senior School

Year 9 Read WW1 Diary Entries



Miss Watkins was lucky enough to be gifted with a copy of diary entries written in World War 1 from a dear family friend, Ms Harmen Young. Miss Watkins shared the stories told with her Year 9 students.

Lily said 'It was very interesting to read from the soldier's perspective as in History, we have studied the war from an evacuee's perspective.' Bea also mentioned that 'I was very intrigued to read this diary; my dad would have definitely loved to have seen a copy. I can't wait to share what I learned.' The copy will be kept in the school for any students who wish to read more about the life of a local World War 1 soldier.

Year 7 - "Paw Patrol"

We have some budding correspondents in Year 7 and this week Holly and Chessy have interviewed Mrs Noad about Percy the dog to find out more about him.

Which part of the school does Percy like best?

Percy loves everywhere ! He likes being in reception so he can meet any visitors and he also likes to try and escape through the door and into the Dining Hall for any scraps! He also loves going around the whole school seeing everybody and getting lots of cuddles.

What are Percy's favourite treats?

Any treats! He really like cheese too. When he hears the cheese packet being opened, he dashes to the kitchen in the hope that he can have some too!

What is his favourite toy?

He's got a pink plastic pig that he really likes.

When Percy comes and watches us all play sport do you think he ever wants to chase after the ball?

Yes, sometimes but he's learnt over the years that that wouldn't be a good idea. He likes running after tennis balls, He's not so keen on hockey or rugby balls!

What is your favourite local walk to do with Percy?

I really enjoy Cotlake Hill as this is close by and we go here regularly. Sometimes we go to the beach which we all love.

Does Percy like the beach and swimming in the water?

YES! He loves the beach and going in the sea (or the river). He will only go in the sea if someone throws him a stick and then he will swim out to get it.

Where does Percy like to curl up and snooze?

Anywhere that is warm! He has a bed in the kitchen and also one in the study at home but when no one is at home, he sneaks on to the sofa. He does the same in Mr Noad's office!



Sixth Form

Sixth Form Evening



It was a delight to welcome so many people to our Sixth Form Open evening on Tuesday night, the pupils both current Queen's pupils and external pupils looking to join the Sixth Form enjoyed a presentation from Mrs Chanter and current pupils at the Sixth Form. Afterwards pupils and their families had the opportunity to spend time in the Sixth Form Centre and speak to heads of departments about their subject offerings, enjoy the [co-curricular selfie booth](#) and a slice of toast!

UCAS Update

20 Year 13s have already sent their UCAS applications off to their five chosen universities, with seven of them being required early deadline applicants to Oxbridge and medical schools.

Of the 20, ten have already received an offer with Jacob receiving replies from all of his choices and offers from York, Southampton, Leicester and Reading; Amelia receiving an offer within 24 hours from Plymouth; Liv and Rosie received offers from Cardiff; Poppy from Southampton; Toby from; Josh from Birmingham; Harry from Cardiff, Oxford Brookes and Reading; and Franky with Bournemouth, Coventry and Plymouth.

Once students have received replies from all of their choices, they discuss their options with their tutor and then select one to be their "firm" choice and one as their "insurance" and then push on to get the required grades on results day in August. Exciting times!



Sixth Form

Exeter University Talk



Our Sixth formers had a fantastic talk delivered to them by Exeter University. This included all the main facts about applying for HE and for Degree Apprenticeships and a look into the world at Exeter University with all the latest opportunities from this Russell Group University.

Kitchens Behind the Scenes



Sixth Formers studying Food Science and Nutrition with Mr Mann had a taster of what life is like behind the scenes in the Queen's College professional kitchens.

Our lucky sixth formers got an all access work experience in the Queen's College, following ingredients from early morning delivery, to being plated for lunch. The students also had a chance to quiz our Executive Chef Jordan Bradley on all the policies and procedures in place to ensure the food reaches our plates in the safest most hygienic way possible.

Semi Finals of South West Chef of the Year

We had six students in Year 13 entered into this year's South West Junior Chef of the Year from Queen's College.

We are delighted to say that Freya and Frankie both made it through to the next round, the South West Home Cook finals. Freya's chosen winning dishes were a pasta ravioli followed by an Apricot and vanilla pâte sucrée pastry tart, and Frankie's chosen winning dishes were a different pasta ravioli but followed by a Glazed homemade sweet pastry filled with crème pâtissière sauce.

"While we didn't bring home the winning trophy on this occasion taking part in such prestigious culinary competitions as the South West Chef of the Year provides a wonderful opportunity for pupils" said Mr Mann, Head of Faculty of Art, Design, and Food.





Queen's Hosts Fun Adult

Christmas Cookery

Class with Mr Mann

Book
[here](#)

Friday 8 December
7:00pm

Book via our website

Quorus
Queen's Community Choir



Queen's Community Choir

Quorus

Open to all parents, staff and friends of
Queen's.

No previous experience required, just
come along and enjoy singing in a range
of different styles

Rehearsals in the OMR

WED | 7:00PM

Contact Ed Jenkins (eoj@queenscollege) for further details

News and Announcements

Key Reminders

Half Term	Saturday 21 October – Sunday 5 November
Girls U16 and U14 Netball Tour to Disneyland Paris Depart	Monday 23 October
Modern Languages Madrid Trip Depart	Monday 30 October 2023
Hockey tour to Spain (Boys and Girls) Depart	Tuesday 31 October 2023
Year 9 GCHQ languages competition	Monday 6 November
Queen's Mini MUN	Tuesday 7 November
Lower School Ski Trip Parents Meeting	Wednesday 8 November
Years 12 & 13 Parents' meeting (remote)	Thursday 9 November
Remembrance Parade and Service	Friday 10 November
QCC Barn Dance	Friday 10 November
Year 6 Navigation assessment and John Muir Day on the Quantocks	Saturday 11 November
Faculty Extension Sessions (Invitation only)	Saturday 11 November
OQ Remembrance Weekend, Reception at Castle House	Saturday 11 November

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

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



Wreath Making Christmas

Workshop

After the success of last year's workshop we are delighted to welcome back Liz Robertson from Walking with Blooms for her wonderful wreath making workshop. A fun evening where you can enjoy a glass of delicious mulled wine and a mince pie while learning how to make a beautiful festive wreath using natural, sustainable materials from known sources. Due to popular demand we have put on an extra 2 dates this year - with only 15 people per session early booking is advised!

Wed 29 Nov, Mon 4 Dec, Tues 5 Dec

7-9pm

£28pp

Book via our website

**Book
here**

limited availability | Sibling Discounts | Pay a deposit



RESIDENTIAL CAMPS 2024 EASTER & SUMMER MALVERN COLLEGE & QUEENS TAUNTON

Join us for an action-packed Residential Camp in 2024.

We invite players from school years 7-11 to come and develop their knowledge, skills and overall game with us.


Matt and Performance Hockey Coach have supported Dozens of Internationals fulfil their ambition, along with players wanting to achieve County, Club and School honours too.

World-Class coaching from an experienced team, including Olympians and professionals.

You can expect top facilities, provision and food, along with the chance to win prizes and competitions with our innovative and creative coaching approach.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.performancehockeycoaching.co.uk/residentials>

A collage of images showing hockey players in various poses and a coach. The players are wearing different colored jerseys (blue, white, grey) and are holding hockey sticks. The coach is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt with the Performance Hockey Coaching logo and a blue cap.

**Use Code:
RES2024
for 10% off**

October Half-Term Holiday Camp

Join us this half-term for an Autumn adventure at Queen's College, Taunton. Academic Camp promises the perfect blend of outdoor adventures, creative activities and opportunities to make new friends in a safe and nurturing environment. Plus, for boarders who prefer to stay during the half-term break, we offer this relaxing and fun option as a great alternative to host families or flying home

Camps/Masterclasses from Monday to Thursday:

Week one: The Arts Camp or The Adventure Camp

Week two: The Foodie Camp or the Halloween Camp

Friday to Sunday trips: Surfing, North Devon, London, Eden Project, Bristol and Exeter

	Dates	Fees
Day (Age 7-16)	23 to 26 October; 30 October to 2 November	£40 per day
Boarding (Age 12-17)	20 October to 5 November	£125 per day
Trip	27 October (Eden Project) 3 November (London)	£125 per trip

*More information
and to book*





QUEEN'S
COLLEGE
TAUNTON

CHARITY CHRISTMAS MARKET

SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER

Festive food, arts and crafts and festive gift ideas!

11AM - 3PM, FREE ENTRY


In aid of under privileged Cambodian families

events@queenscollege.org.uk



19 November 5-8 pm
~Drama Studio~

TOGETHER AT QUEEN'S


Email Us: cxs@queenscollege.org.uk

We are holding the together at Queen's event this year and so could you advertise in this week's Bulletin with the following notice; after the success of last year's Together at Queen's event, we would like to host it again in 2023.

The aim of the event is to celebrate the diversity we enjoy here at the College through an evening of performances by our pupils as well as stalls displaying the unique talents of our diverse pupil body.

The aim of the event is to raise money for charity 2BU, which supports LGBTQ youth in the local area.

We very much hope to see you there and to further support this event could I ask for donations for our raffle. If you could bring in one luxury item and leave it at the main school reception, we can then raffle these items during the event. Many thanks in advance for your support.



**QUEEN'S
COLLEGE**
TAUNTON

Calling ALL YEAR 9 students

GCHQ

- one of the three UK intelligence agencies -

is hosting an online

National Language Competition

6/11/23-10/11/23

In teams of up to four students you will compete against others nationwide for the NLC 2023 trophy - awarded to the winning team at the GCHQ headquarters in Cheltenham!

Your task will be to solve the NLC's language based puzzles to score as many points as you can over the week.

No prior knowledge or language skills are required. Just have your quick-thinking, code-cracking, puzzle-solving skills at the ready!

If you want to get involved, assemble your team and get in touch with Mrs McGreal in the Languages department.

Have YOU got what it takes?



QUEEN'S
COLLEGE
TAUNTON



Friend's of QC BARN DANCE

A fun night of dancing and socialising with the fabulous Dartmoor Pixie Band. Not a keen dancer? Fear not, just enjoy the music and chat.

FRIDAY | 10 NOVEMBER | 7 - 10PM
WYVERN HALL, QUEEN'S COLLEGE



Adults - £10

Children - £7

Children should be accompanied by their parents

Bar with soft and alcoholic drinks, plus snacks

Book your tickets

[HERE](#)

QC
FRIENDS
OF

OUR OQ'S BORN
BEFORE 1963,
PLEASE
JOIN US FOR THE
ANNUAL

Vintage
LUNCH

FRIDAY

8
DEC

AT 12:00 PM

FOLLOWED BY A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR PASSED OQ'S
LED BY OUR CHAPLAIN, RICHARD KELLEY
WELCOME DRINK, THREE COURSES AND WINE £40

TO RSVP EITHER SCAN
THE QR CODE BELOW



OR CALL OUR EVENTS
TEAM: 01823 340880

It's Christmas time!



QUEEN'S
COLLEGE
TAUNTON