

## 'Tis The Season



### Mr Julian Noad - Head of College



The Christmas tree is up and lit in front of School House and, as I write, we have just welcomed 500 local primary pupils with carolling from a choir to the Queen's Hall Theatre and the first performance of A Christmas Carol is underway (with shows also tonight, Saturday and Sunday - do be sure to [bag a ticket](#)). Advent is upon us, most definitely. I share again our [end of term programme](#), which is an extract of the calendar on [MSP](#).

There are very many Christmas social

opportunities for pupils and parents in the final nine school days, with a Year 9 social this evening. Parents' coffee and mince pies on Wednesday 6 December, at 8.15am and then parent drinks in the Wyvern Hall on Friday 8 December, from 7pm, which will be supported by the first performance - by Quorus, our community choir.

In the Senior School, we look forward to Super Saturday tomorrow, from 12.30pm, with its house competitions in hockey and touch rugby - there will be lunch for pupils and festive refreshments for parents provided.

On Sunday, there will be what looks set to be a fabulous Christmas Market. This is entirely pupil-led which will fund raise for our Edukid charity partner. We have more than thirty external stallholders coming our way. Please do pop into the Wyvern Hall anytime between 11am and 3pm, perhaps to cross a few Christmas gifts off your list. You could then move straight into the Queen's Hall Theatre for the final showing of A Christmas Carol.

Last week's Bulletin focus was High Performance Learning (HPL). This week's is literacy, with our launching in

# 'Tis The Season

Mr Julian Noad - Head of College



Pre-Prep decorating the tree

January of [Accelerated Reader](#) for all pupils in years 5-8. This is a highly successful programme which joins up pupils, families and teachers to foster a culture of reading and help develop their skills as independent readers. More detail is to be found later in this Bulletin.

There are those in my family who will always accuse me of being Mr Scrooge, mostly through my insistence that Advent is not infinite. But we are here now; I will 'ho ho' aplenty. I borrow our main character's words. "I will honour Christmas in my heart..."

I hope that you also enjoy the busyness of this Christmas run-in. "God bless us every one!"

*Julian*

Join Mr Mann Next Friday

Queen's Hosts Fun Adult

# Christmas Cookery

Class with Mr Mann

Friday 8 December  
7:00pm  
Book via our website

Book here

Join us for a jolly Christmas Cookery Class on the last Friday for families and friends of Queen's in our school kitchen classroom. On the menu will be Christmas Cake Breads together with fruity Mince Pies (with homemade mincemeat!) It promises to be an evening of delicious pastries, with sweet, juicy seasonal fillings, and rich sweet bakes, with each person taking home a large box of beautiful bakes.



# Prep School

Mr Henry Matthews - Head of Prep



Year 5 decorating the tree



As we reach the end of another busy week and the start of the festive season, I want to take a moment to reflect on the warmth and excitement that has filled our Prep School this week. Yesterday, I had the opportunity to tour Governors around the school and it was incredible to walk through each classroom which was filled with purpose, excitement and challenge. There has been a huge amount of work happening in lessons this term and the progress the children have made in their work has been fantastic. As we head into December, this week has brought a wonderful blend of Christmas cheer, sporting camaraderie, and academic achievements, and I am incredibly proud of all that our children and staff have accomplished.

The spirit of Christmas is beginning to take hold, and the children are eager to embrace the festivities. Many have enjoyed decorating trees around the school, including the grand tree in Wyvern Hall, which now stands proudly adorned with twinkling lights and festive ornaments. I am sure the Christmas tree will be a topic of conversation

as cars pass it on the main drive at collection.

I am delighted to share some exciting news from our English department. Mrs Litton, Head of Faculty for English, and Mrs Kelly, Prep School English Lead, are proud to announce the launch of our Accelerated Reader programme, a new initiative designed to boost engagement in reading and help give further purpose to reading practice in Years 5-8. This programme will provide personalised reading recommendations and track students' progress. There is more detail within this bulletin and if you have any further questions about the programme, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Despite the chilly weather, our students have continued to shine on the sporting fields this week. They have braved the elements to compete in a range of fixtures, showcasing their teamwork and collaboration. As ever, the matches have been highly competitive and, although some more challenging than in previous weeks, there are many lessons to be learnt. The hot match teas were certainly welcomed by children,

staff and parents alike on Wednesday afternoon.

Next week promises to be an action-packed affair, filled with Christmas celebrations and performances. We kick off on Monday with House Singing, where our talented students will take to the stage to showcase their musical prowess to each other. On Friday, Year 6s will present their inventions to a panel of judges at the Prep Dragon's Den - watch out for snippets of these events on social media.

We look forward to seeing parents on Wednesday when Year 3 will present their much-anticipated Christmas play at 2:45pm, and on Thursday, our Pre-Prep students will delight us with their festive production at 2:30pm. If you haven't yet booked your tickets, you can do so here.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the various events in the final part of this term, do keep an eye on MSP for all the information. I wish you all a happy weekend.

*Henry*



# Nursery Round-up

Nursery News From Mrs Donna Kershaw - Highgrove Nursery Manager



Christmas has started at Highgrove! The trees are up, the role play areas are full of wrapping paper and boxes and cosy fireplaces areas to enjoy many Christmas stories and song times. Sensory trays have been full of tinsel and snowflakes for the youngest children to explore whilst the older children have Christmas characters to discover in the snow. Puddleducks children have already written a letter to Father Christmas in the hope we may get a reply back to the nursery soon!

Christmas is always such a magical time for children in their early years and we as staff are always reminded at this time of year as we get swooped up into the magical conversations and questions that children bring into nursery each day. Their learning of the awe and wonder of the world across the next few weeks is always a very special time at the nursery. We have so many exciting activities and events planned over the next few weeks and we look forward to each and everyone of them!





# Queen's Minis

Queen's Minis News From Miss Lizzie Hayes



The sparkle and Christmas magic is continuing to spread through Queen's Minis as the children filled the nursery with festive decorations alongside the Christmas tree, Christmas role play, daily singing rehearsals and costume fittings for their Mini Nativity in just over a week's time. Lots of weighing, stirring, mixing, rolling and cutting experience took place in this week's Kitchen club when the children learnt how to make Christmas star biscuits to take home and discussions were had about where the ingredients used came from and with the use of a recipe card we could learn how to cook. This week also saw the first 'step up to Reception' session where the children who will be moving on into school next September got to meet the Reception teachers through a selection of festive activities which included decorating Christmas trees and making a jolly reindeer face out of cardboard cup.





# Accelerated Reader

Years 5-8

## Accelerated Reader

January will see the launch of Accelerated Reader for all pupils in years 5-8. This is a highly successful programme which joins up pupils, families and teachers to foster a culture of reading and help develop their skills as independent readers. There are four main aims of AR:

1

**To Guide** - A low-stakes test called a 'Star' test will begin the process, and with younger pupils we will encourage them to think of it as a quiz. This enables us to gauge where their independent reading skills are sitting, and guide them towards appropriate choices from the selection in both Prep school and Senior school. These are coded accordingly.

2

**To Engage** - The platform gives individual reading recommendations based on students' interests (gauged by their choices) and reading levels to suggest "just-right" titles. In addition, students can self-select from over 220,000 choices registered on the site, and Mrs Litton has personally sent a letter to Father Christmas to deliver books to Queen's Year 5-8 pupils this year as a way to get the buzz started.

3

**To Practise** - "Just reading" becomes a thing of the past as the platform provides clear outcomes: reading quizzes monitor comprehension, while literacy skills and vocabulary quizzes extend student learning and build skills mastery. This builds comprehension and wider Literacy; and as the OECD noted, 'Reading for pleasure is the single most important indicator of a child's future success.' (Research is [here](#))

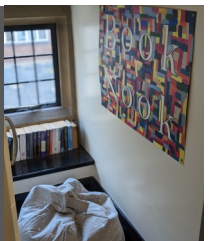
There are 41,000 quizzes on the platform and more are being added every day; we know that children are driven by the competitive nature of online portals (e.g. 'TT Rockstars') and AR will have similar incentives (and glory).

4

**To Grow** - Pupils can retake the STAR test when it is clear that they are ready for more ambitious texts; we will be able to see whose reading is growing, and also who is not independently reading (and thus enable us to step in and support those pupils).

Mrs Litton and Mrs Kelly will be hosting a Parental Engagement Evening on January 24th at 7pm to give details on how the platform works and how best to support your child in becoming an autonomous, keen reader. Details will be sent by Mrs McAlonan. Further information about AR can be found [here](#).

We would like to make more reading nooks/spaces like the one we currently have outside the Senior English classrooms. If any parents have any unwanted and in good condition, beanbags or large floor cushions, they would be greatly received by the English department to help create these spaces.





# Prep School

## Prep Sports Round-up



Our week started with some lovely U8 and U9 matches with King's College. The U8 girls went across to King's and enjoyed some intense matches and worked hard. The rest of the children were at home and managed to dodge most of the rain to play in some even matches which was great to see.

On Wednesday, the boys hosted West Buckland and had quite a tough afternoon against some great opposition.

The girls went on their longest trip of the season to Leweston. After over an hour on the bus the U10 girls started well, passing the ball effectively and running the ball out of defence, using Gracie-Jean on the left wing effectively. The B team also had a great game, with a lot of possession, Elspeth was quick onto the ball as a striker, and good performances at the back especially from Elizabeth and Megan saw a well-deserved draw. The U11 matches were equally as exciting. The B team had a good goal-scoring half, going ahead early, Leweston fought back but a late goal sealed the win for the team. The A team game was well-matched. Penny yet again was outstanding in goal, meeting the ball and kicking out strongly. Two great goals for Juno, a lovely set up from her and a cross from Moiya led to the final Queen's goal- good days work all around!

Today our U11B are travelling to Exeter for a lovely festival event where the girls mix up with other schools!

## Sports Notices

### Notices

- House Matches for Year 5 and 6- Friday 8th December from 3.15pm
- Off PE/ games notes: Please can you send an email to the office, form tutor or Mrs Gardner if your child needs to be off games or PE. If we are outside an injured pupil will come and watch, but those who are ill will be reading in a classroom or school office.
- Swimming hats for boys and girls are now compulsory.
- Earrings should be removed for PE and Games lessons.

## Pre-Prep is Buzzing - Mrs Buttress



This week the Pre-Prep has certainly been buzzing with anticipation about our Christmas play.

It is clear that the children have worked really hard at home to learn their lines (Thank you parents!) and they have loved stepping up onto the stage in the Birchall Hall this week, putting it all together. We have some fantastic Year 2 narrators on the microphones, some weary Year 1 travellers looking for an upmarket hotel, some unscrupulous stall

holders who would sell their Grannies if they could, an angelic host of Reception angels and some starstruck Kings. There is definitely something going on in downtown Bethlehem next week so make sure you 'roll up' to the Birchall Hall next Thursday at 2.30pm BST (Bethlehem Standard Time) to find out all about it.





# Prep School

## Prep Lunchtime Concert

The Prep School celebrated its musicians' achievement last Friday with a vibrant Lunchtime Concert, including performances from children from all age groups. It was good to see an excited audience beforehand and many parents were able to join us.

Amy began the concert with a confident performance of Open String Boogie on the violin, playing with her teacher, Mrs Ennis. A varied selection of pieces followed, including solo pieces for recorder, flute, saxophone, violin, cello, French horn, guitar and piano. Harry concluded the concert with a fluent rendition of Prelude in C.

Thank you for such an exciting event everyone, we look forward to the next one! **More photos** [here](#).



It's not too late to apply for Music Scholarships, available in Years 6,7,9&12

More information [here](#)

## Year 3 Christmas Play - Mrs Wade

Year 3 are 'flying high' as they prepare for their charming Christmas musical, 'The Mouse in Santa's House'. It is only one more week until our performance to their parents and the Prep school. Tip, our heroic little mouse, and all of his friends are learning all their words and actions beautifully. Elves have started to wrap presents and Christmas crackers are telling some splendid jokes! We are all looking forward to performing for you on Tuesday or Wednesday next week! **Tickets are free! Please book on the Queen's Booking portal.**





# Prep School

## A Visit From Mavis The Puppy

Mr and Mrs Matthew's new puppy, Mavis, had a trip to Pre-Prep this week to meet the Pre-Prep children. The children loved seeing her. Mavis will be visiting the rest of the school over the coming weeks.



## Step Up to Reception - Miss Penny

What a wonderfully festive morning we had on Wednesday for our reception step-up session! Festive spirits were definitely in full flow. The children chose from a range of activities to partake in, these included: decorating our class Christmas trees with all sorts of sparkly baubles, beads, and tinsel and creating their own Rudolph faces with decorative antlers. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to play in our reception class' provision and to spend time with the adults from the reception team. We are already looking forward to seeing the children again in the spring.





# Prep School

## Climbing Competition at South Molton



Last Saturday a team of 16 pupils from Years 3 - 6 competed in the South West Inter-schools Climbing Competition at South Molton. This involved pupils completing five 'boulder problems', four roped climbs and a speed climb. It was wonderful to see our climbers compete confidently against some of the best climbers in the area. Queen's climbers achieved podium finishes in three of the four categories and Queen's won the overall School Team Award. The event generated some fierce competition but the atmosphere was very positive and enthusiastic supporters from all schools ensured that successful climbs were greeted with cheers and applause. It was a thoroughly enjoyable event. Well done to all!

## Rowbarton Pantry



On Tuesday Rev. Kelley, Mrs Foster and some of Year 6 visited Rowbarton Methodist church to go and see how the Prep School's Harvest donations were being used in their pantry. It was great to meet the volunteers who run the pantry every week and to see how the entire project works. Rowbarton Pantry feeds its 45 member families every week (around 70 people in total) by providing around £30 worth of food for a

small weekly membership fee of £3.50. Fresh food is provided by FareShare (the cost of the membership fee) and ambient food through donations, including from our Prep School. Our students got to experience the entire shopping experience, to visit the storerooms, and even to help with unloading the fresh supplies from FareShare as they arrived. It was both incredible to see what a difference our donations had made to local people's lives but also hugely humbling as we got back on the bus to return to the abundance of our school lunch.

Rowbarton pantry, like all pantry projects, always has more demand for its services than it has food supply and so the volunteers wanted to pass on their heartfelt thanks to all of you who donated at Harvest. We are sure they would be equally grateful for any additional donations people would like to make to them this Christmas.



# Senior School

## Sports Report



### U14 Boys Rugby

Plymouth College were again the opposition for the U14s on Saturday. The boys resilience and courage were commendable against a much stronger team. They showed glimpses of brilliance and sound defence but the Plymouth team were relentless in their attack. Despite the result, the boys left the pitch with heads held high and with reflections of positivity about their performance.

### 2nd Team Hockey

Saturday was a super day for Queen's, winning 2-1 at home to Mount Kelly. The first half saw all the action with Liv scoring a cracking goal from a short corner, lifting the ball slightly to deceive the keeper and get the ball in the corner! The second goal came from Tabby. Stood in front of the keeper she had great composure on the ball before sneaking a reverse stick shot past the keeper. The excitement didn't stop there, with Tabby - she had a shot denied by the post and Alicia had a close 1-1 encounter with the keeper. The second half saw Mount Kelly build the pressure and score from a short corner. The team battled it out to the end with multiple shots and some fantastic effort from all the girls. They deserved their rest!

Players of the match was Sarah, Grace and Alicia.

### 1st Team Hockey

A thriller of a match took place at Queen's on Saturday! Mount Kelly started fast, going 1-0 up within minutes. Queen's held them for a further 10 minutes and then went 2-0 down. We got a bit of momentum back, scoring a couple of goals but going into halftime with a 2 goal deficit (4-2). Queen's came out in the 2nd half and played the best they have all season, defending with pride and committing to every attack. Inspiring performances from Meg and Claire to name a couple leading to 3 goals for Queen's. Final score 5:4 win. Well done to Hattie on her 1st xl debut making some great saves too.

### U15 Boys Rugby

Queen's U15 boys were on the end of a heavy defeat this weekend to Plymouth College. While the result was short of recent weeks' scoreline, the performance and resilience was certainly one to be proud of. Theo was awarded man of the match for his driving runs, brave jackals and hold-up play during turnovers. Despite chasing the game, U15's refused to give in and the rallying cry at half time was one of winning key moments and having something to talk about on our long return home. Mr Bell spoke in the huddle after the game and said how immensely proud he was of each and every player. Queen's go again next week!

Read the full report [here](#) .



# Senior School

Super Saturday - Mr Bell



We are excitedly looking forward to the first of several big inter-school Senior House events starting this coming weekend, on Saturday, 2nd December. We kick off with House Hockey and House Touch Rugby. Our House Captains have been working hard to finalise the plans for the occasion, organising groups, and from what I've heard, even coming up with house mascots, however, we'll just have to wait and see!

It is an expectation that all students are available to participate in House events. While our high performance teams' competitive outcomes and others' sporting growth may be the main focus of our traditional Saturday sports programme, our House activities are a group celebration of involvement, House togetherness, and support. Every member of the House will contribute to the final total at the end of the year to see who is crowned House champions.

Students should arrive at school in games kit, ready for the team to warm up. They are also encouraged to add any other additional accessories in house colours to make their house stand out from the rest!

There will be food running from 12:30 - 15:00 that is open to all parents (in the Cricket Pavilion), with students and staff on a schedule depending on year group (in the Dining Pavilion).

## Juniors (Year 7&8) - 12:30 - 14:00

Team warm up: 11.45 (House Captains)

Juniors Presentation - 14:00

Juniors Festive BBQ Lunch - 14:00 - 15:00

## Inters (Year 9&10) & Seniors (Year 11,12&13) - 14:00 - 17:00

Team warm up: 13.45 (House Captains)

Senior Festive BBQ Lunch - 12:30 - 13:30

17:00 - Senior Presentation



# Senior School

## Climbing Competition

Last Sunday, a team of 18 climbers from Years 7 - 13 competed in the South West Inter-schools Climbing Competition at South Molton. This involved pupils completing five 'boulder problems', four roped climbs and a speed climb. With just over 100 climbers spread over the four categories, competition was strong and many of the results came down to incredibly small margins. The competition was very exciting as climbers were only given one attempt at each climb. Our climbers coped really well with this pressure and performed confidently throughout. We achieved podium finishes in three of the four categories and also won the school team competition. Well done to everybody who took part.



## Queen's Enterprise week



In chapel this week, the Enterprise Award CC students launched Queen's Enterprise Week to senior students. They shared an outline of what enterprise skills are, such as problem solving and use of initiative and why they are important even if you are not thinking of running your own business. In their presentation the group outlined how students can develop their enterprise skills whilst in school and highlighted that they are skills that need to be developed as students progress through school rather than as an afterthought when looking for work. Examples were given of activities that students could be involved in, such as being part of or leading a team or persevering on a particularly difficult topic or task and not seeing failure as a reason

to give up. Competitions that each key stage could get involved in were also announced:

**Years 7-9:** Create a poster on either of the following themes:

- Enterprise skills
- Your favourite entrepreneur

**Years 10 - 13:** Essay Competition answering the question: Why is learning from failure sometimes more effective than learning from success? Building upon your own experiences and/or examples of entrepreneurs who were able to learn from failure.

All competition entries should be submitted to Mrs Davey ([ljid@queenscollege.org.uk](mailto:ljid@queenscollege.org.uk)) by **8th December 2023**. All Senior Students: Aim to be awarded the MOST class charts points for demonstrating enterprise skills. Awards will be given to the students in each year group with the most points.



# Senior School

## Christmas Carol

Our Christmas production for 2023 is the classic tale by Charles Dickens and if you miss it you'll be haunted for life! The annual senior musical, [Les Miserables](#), is presently rehearsing for its March debut, so this year our Christmas entertainment is a fabulous Victorian fable!

A cast of nearly 30 actors and dancers combine forces to create a brand new, visually stunning show that is bound to put you in the festive spirit.

Leading the cast is Ellie (Year 12) whose performance as Scrooge takes the audience on a rollercoaster journey from mean miserliness to liberated best friend for the whole of London, thanks to interventions from Jacob Marley-Mollie (Year 12), and the Ghost of Christmas Present- Jack (Year 12). The cast includes members from every year of the senior school to create the world of Dickensian London and the crew is ably managed by Tommy (Year 11) with Ellen (Year 10) and Lucas (Year 8).

From the carol singing in the foyer to the gigantic snowball fight at the end of the show, A CHRISTMAS CAROL is the most joyful, theatrical and Christmassy experience you'll have this year!

**A full account of the show and an array of excellent photographs will be shared next week.**



**There is still time to book to see  
the weekend performances.**

**Click [here](#) to book now**

# Senior School

## Preparing Venison

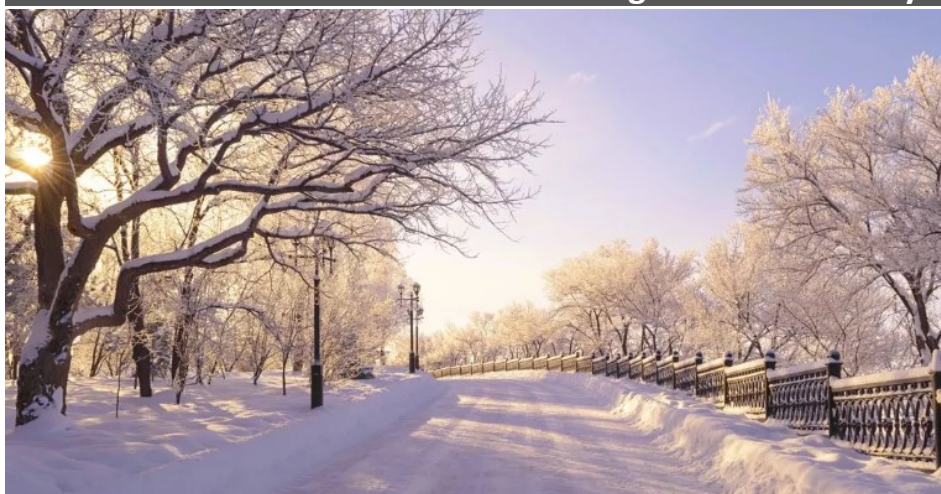
This week pupils in food and nutrition learnt how to prepare a deer fresh from the shoot, skinning it, breaking it down into its primal cuts and were even taught how to debone and prepare a haunch of venison before cooking up some tasty venison steak.

The lessons on food provenance and food sustainability were delivered by a local visiting BASC Deer Manager, John Mews, who explained how through deer management he protects local habitats and other associated species, forestry and agricultural crops. Pupils learnt why we should all be eating more wild venison to save Britain's countryside with a record number of deer – more than two million – eating their way through the UK's countryside and crops with more deer roaming the British countryside than any time in history. While deer are an essential part of ecosystems, in current numbers, they threaten the long-term viability.



Read the full story [here](#).

## In Honour of the Coming of Wintertime By Adam Year 11



*Adam in Year 11, has written this fantastic article about Wintertime.*

The time in England when all disagreements and arguments give way to the spirit of giving and the only time of year a person can move on from the past and start afresh.

After a quite dreary interlude between the summer and winter, known commonly as autumn, winter is able to flourish and wreak havoc in full gusto. The mornings grow

ever colder and colder and eventually, sometime just before December, when you wake up freezing even with your duvet fully sheltering you, you come to the realisation that Winter is upon you. Although our bodies may freeze, Winter is the one time of year our hearts collectively thaw: we stop giving one another labels and we all become human, united under the one idea of Christmas. I'm certain you all saw this coming, I'm a child after all. In my eyes, as it is with every child, Christmas and winter are synonymous with one another. Despite the fact Winter runs through January and February both months are second only to autumn in terms of dreariness (you might be getting the sense I don't really like Autumn now). Therefore let's leave dreary February and January to their miserable selves for now and discuss the best month of the year: December.

December is defined by the birth of Christ (and my birthday, you can decide which is more important). However, religion is dying out in England: thus Christmas moves further away from Christianity with every passing year. Instead, it focuses on presents as well as the coming of big, jolly St Nick down the chimney. Even with all the Christmas stories and movies that discuss the importance of giving and the "Christmas spirit" (the best such story of course being the Muppets' Christmas Carol), it feels as though children are becoming entitled and demanding: presents are becoming not a generous offer of kindness but instead an expected, yearly measurement of love.

Read the full article [here](#).



# Sixth Form

## Round-Up

This week we've had an assembly on 'Being safe on a night out'. Students have listen to advice and problem solved various scenarios. We hope students feel prepared to enjoy the Christmas period confidently and safely. If you would like any guidance on hosting a Christmas party for teenagers please read our guidance: [GUIDANCE: Alcohol and Social Occasions](#). Next week's assemblies focus is on mental health. During tutor time Year 13 have continued to develop their study skills, explicitly exploring 'whats my biggest excuse for working' and how they can learn content more effectively. With all things practise makes perfect and trying different revision techniques now will help them in the long run. Meanwhile Year 12 have had a session with Mr Baker on their EPQ to look at good use of research and resources, setting them on course to dig deep into their projects with a solid understanding of the pros and cons of a variety of sources from the press to academic research papers. In Year 13, EPQs are moving fast with several presentations booked for a huge range of topics. Congratulations to Franky for completing his presentation on the topic of how to breed a million pound fish! Next week, presentations will include fashion, a short film, a bionic hand, and some very unusual new research into the treatment of depression!



## Queen's Diploma

We are excited to announce the arrival of the Queen's Diploma early in the Spring term. More information on how this Diploma is going to be transformational to our current and future Year 12s is to come alongside a webinar for parents to join and find out more.

## Futures - Mrs Bebb

We are really excited to get to know local employers and we have been busy organising an Engineering workshop and assembly for those interested in getting into the sector after Christmas. [MBDA](#) have been in touch with us about Work Experience Opportunities for our Sixth Form and Y11 students in February half term.

**For any questions on this opportunity or anything else futures related please do get in touch with Mrs Bebb at [sjb@queenscollege.org.uk](mailto:sjb@queenscollege.org.uk)**

## Interviews



In small rooms, all around the School this week Year 13 students were being put through the motions and emotions of mock university interviews.

The interview season hits its peak in the early weeks of December and we wish our applicants well and send them off with the message of being the best version of themselves. That being said, a number of live interviews have already happened with successful outcomes for Christina with three offers for primary teaching courses, and Sophie and Hayden with offers for physiotherapy.

The pattern for which university courses require an interview is not absolute but the most selective universities such as Oxford, Cambridge and Imperial College London, will interview for all courses, and interviews always happen for degrees that involve interacting with the public as part of the programme such as medicine, veterinary, dentistry, nursing, physiotherapy and teaching.

# Boarders' Corner

## Senior Boarders At Longleat



On Sunday, a number of our boarders visited Longleat Safari Park. This is a unique trip, because not only do we get to spend time visiting the safari park and seeing the beautiful Longleat stately home but we also get to experience the famous Festival of Lights.

Each year the lanterns follow a different theme and so once the sun sets we can enjoy the amazing lights all over the grounds. It is also an opportunity to get into the festive spirit with the fantastic Christmas tree light show!

## Hutton House

Hutton house enjoyed a weekend celebrating Germany, they made German Apple crumble cake on Friday evening and then on Saturday had a very competitive Gingerbread house making competition. Our word of the week was 'Unterstützung' which means 'support'.





# News and Announcements

## Upcoming Key Dates

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <a href="#">Senior Play: 'A Christmas Carol'</a>                   | 1 December— 3 December   |
| Edukid Christmas Market  | 3 December 11:00-15:00   |
| <a href="#">The Mouse In Santa's House - Year 3 Christmas Play</a> | 6 December 14:45-15:45   |
| <a href="#">Pre-Prep Christmas Performance</a>                     | 7 December 14:30-15:30   |
| <a href="#">Christmas Concert</a>                                  | 7 December 19:00-21:30   |
| Last day of Prep Co-curriculars                                    | 8 December   |
| <a href="#">Queen's Minis Christmas Party</a>                      | 11 December 13:00  |
| <a href="#">Queen's Minis Nativity</a>                             | 11 December 14:45  |
| Tinsel Tuesday and Christmas Lunch                                 | 12 December  |
| Pre Prep Christmas Party (Reception to Year2)                      | 12 December  |
| Upper Prep Christmas Parties                                       | 12 December (Collection from 15:30. Late care will be available until 18:00)                   |
| Prep Christmas Fayre   | 12 December  |
| Last day of Senior Co-curriculars (CC1 only)                       | 13 December (Buses leave 16:35)  |
| Prep Carol Service   | 13 December 14:00  |
| <b>Prep last of term</b>   | <b>13 December (collection from 15:30, buses leave 16:35, late care available until 18:00)</b> |
| <b>Senior last day of term</b>                                     | <b>14 December (collection from 13:00) (Buses depart 13:00)</b>                                |
| Senior Carol Service at Temple Methodist                           | 14 December 11:30  |
| Heathrow bus departs for Boarders                                  | 15 December (Departs 07:00)  |

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

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

## News and Upcoming Social Events



Please join us at these upcoming parent social events:

Coffee Morning - Wednesday 6 December 08:15- 09:30

Whole College Parents' Christmas Drinks - Friday 8 Dec, 7-9pm

Quiz Night - 23 February 2024

7:30pm

## Further Links

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

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

# News and Announcements

## Unifrog



After Christmas, [Unifrog](#), currently only used in Sixth Form will be rolled out to the rest of Senior School. Unifrog, is the universal destinations platform and is designed to support students in making the most informed decisions about their futures. It has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups.

## Raffle

We are hosting an online raffle in the New Year and are hoping to include some brilliant prizes. If there is anything you can donate, no matter how big or small we would be so grateful.

All the money raised in this event will be going towards the Queen's College Foundation (charity number - 1093852 ). The Foundation provides much needed funds to be able to support children who would otherwise not be able to access education at a place like Queen's. Most recently we have supported both Ukrainian and Syrian refugees as well as local Queen's College pupils. Our hope is to be able to support even more children in the coming years.

[More information here](#)

Please address any prizes to Sarah Hickey, [development@queenscollege.org.uk](mailto:development@queenscollege.org.uk)

## Prep Christmas Fayre

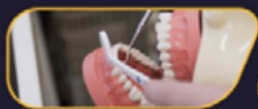
### Prep Christmas Fayre

The Prep children may bring in some spending money in coins (up to a maximum of £5). This event will be run by Senior School pupils at the Prep School and includes stalls and fun activities.

In addition to the Christmas Fayre, Mr Wilde is intending to run his annual second hand 'Bric-a-Brac' stall for the children. Donations of DVDs, CDs, games, books, electronic games and cuddly toys (great presents for pets) will be gratefully received. Please drop these off in the Prep School Reception office.

## INVESTIIN

**INVESTIIN**  
IMMERSIVE CAREER EXPERIENCES



# STEM & MEDICINE SUMMER EXPERIENCES



[Click for details](#)

We have partnered with world-class professionals across 10 STEM industries to create the most immersive and exclusive career experience opportunities that your students can find this summer.





QUEEN'S  
COLLEGE  
TAUNTON



# A Christmas Carol

1 - 3 DEC 23

QUEEN'S HALL THEATRE

[WWW.QUEENSCOLLEGE.ORG.UK/NEWS-EVENTS/EVENTS](http://WWW.QUEENSCOLLEGE.ORG.UK/NEWS-EVENTS/EVENTS)



FRIENDS  
OF

# QUIZ *Night*

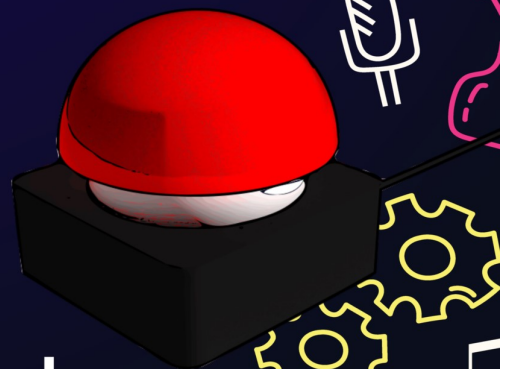
Save the date!  
Details to follow

**FRIDAY 23 Feb**

---

7:30pm for an 8pm start

---







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](mailto:events@queenscollege.org.uk)



QUEEN'S  
COLLEGE  
TAUNTON

# Flexi Boarding

## Prices

From £55 per night

Termly rates available for  
regular flexi boarders

## Why Flexi Board?

- Dinner and breakfast included
- Home from home comfortable boarding houses
- Convenient, fun sleepovers with friends
- Encourages independence
- Qualified, caring and experienced staff



## Contact

Carla Shearman, Head of Boarding  
[cxs@queenscollege.org.uk](mailto:cxs@queenscollege.org.uk)





SOMERSET TENNIS



# TENNIS FESTIVAL

**SUNDAY 3 DEC 2023, 2-4PM**  
INDOORS AT TAUNTON TENNIS CENTRE

**FOR CHILDREN BORN IN 2016/17/18 WITH AN INTEREST IN TENNIS!**

-  **FREE** TO ATTEND!
-  EQUIPMENT PROVIDED
-  RUN BY QUALIFIED COACHES
-  NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
-  REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Click [here](#) for more information

Calling all tennis players in Year 1 to 3!



QUEEN'S  
COLLEGE  
TAUNTON

# Christmas Concert

**A MIX OF MUSIC AND DANCE, SOME WITH A FESTIVAL FEEL!**

**7TH DECEMBER, 7:00PM QUEEN'S HALL, FREE ENTRY**

*Join us for our end of term concert featuring a wide range of hugely enjoyable music (some of it festive!) together with some beautiful dance routines from our talented dancers. Free entry for all but booking requested (and recommended!). Book [here](#).*



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!*



## Drug Sense UK

**Free talk for Parents & Guardians**

**Friday 19th January, 6.30pm - Queen's Hall Theatre**

**Let's talk about drugs and vaping...**

This evening will provide vital information on how to recognise and resolve the early signs of the use of vapes, smoking and drug misuse.



Book  
[here](#)



*Southern Sinfonia*  
The Chamber Orchestra  
of Southern England

  
QUEEN'S  
COLLEGE  
TAUNTON




# Orchestral Festival

Sunday 4th February 2024  
10am-4pm

- A fabulous day for young musicians up to 18 and from Grade 3 upwards
- Featuring sectional rehearsals with professional musicians from the Southern Sinfonia and their Artistic Director, Simon Chalk
- Concert to end the day for all family and friends
- Completely free, including brunch and refreshments



Or click [here](#)



We are delighted that Simon Chalk, a conductor of international standing and Artistic Director of the Southern Sinfonia will again be joining us to lead the orchestra.

Simon has appeared at many of the world's most iconic venues, from the Royal Albert Hall and Sydney Opera House to the O2 in London and Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas to name but a few, working alongside some of the finest soloists.

*"...second to none..."*  
*"...a wonderful event..."*



# MONKEY

JOURNEY TO THE WEST



23 - 26 JAN 24

QUEEN'S HALL THEATRE

[WWW.QUEENSCOLLEGE.ORG.UK/NEWS-EVENTS/EVENTS](http://WWW.QUEENSCOLLEGE.ORG.UK/NEWS-EVENTS/EVENTS)