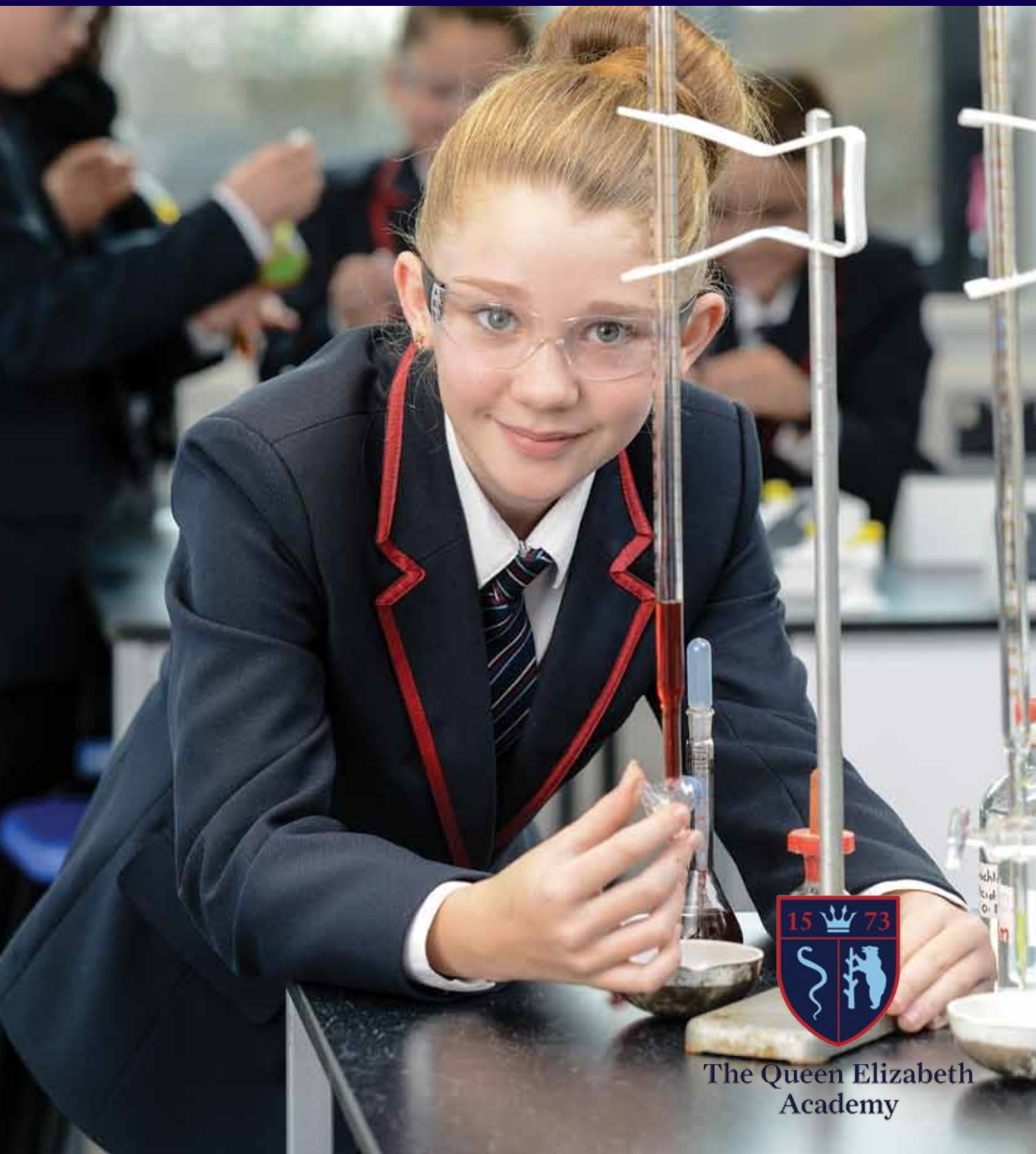


Summer 2017 edition

QUEEN ELIZABETH NEWS



The Queen Elizabeth
Academy



Principal's Welcome

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What a year in the 444 year history of our school!

- ***Best ever examination results***
- ***Said good bye to the old school with students past and present visiting and sharing their stories***
- ***Moved into a stunning new building which will benefit students and the community for years to come***
- ***Achieved Ofsted 'Good' with 'Outstanding' features!***

i am very proud to lead a school with such fantastic students and staff. our reputation locally is good and growing fast. We have said, on many an occasion, that this is a special place to learn and teach. the community spirit surrounding

those directly involved with the school and those who take a keen interest in the school is second to none.

The publication of our Ofsted report marks a significant step in our journey. Following on from the school's best ever GCSe examination results in the summer of 2016, the report demonstrates the commitment we have to ensuring that we provide the best educational opportunities for the students in our care.

the Queen Elizabeth Academy was inspected on Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th of May 2017. To read the full report, which i recommend you do, please visit: <http://tqea.atrust.org.uk/parents/ofsted/>

We are very proud of our achievements to date and would like to thank all those involved for their tireless efforts in ensuring that our goals are achieved.

our students are fantastic and deserve to be recognised for their efforts and positive attitudes to learning. They really buy into our 'We Can and We Will' ethos, where effort and engagement really matters. Our job is to drive student aspirations, motivate them to be the best they can be and to help them leave us with the best possible future ahead. The lead inspector noted that "pupils' behaviour is outstanding. They have positive attitudes to learning. They work hard and the great majority take pride in their work".

thank you also to our parents and carers; without your ongoing support and encouragement our work would be much more difficult. In the final report, the lead inspector stated that "The school is well led and managed. Parents, pupils and staff are overwhelmingly positive about the impact of school leaders and the Principal".

Whilst i recommend that you take the time to look at our ofsted report in full, i wanted to take this opportunity to pick out just a small number of things that we should all be very proud of:

- ***"Pupils enjoy coming to school."***
- ***"Pupils' behaviour is outstanding."***
- ***"Teaching overall is good."***
- ***"The school is well led and managed."***

We should be proud of our achievements to date, however, the journey is not complete. We look forward to the next exciting developments and hope that you will be part of the continuing story.

Opportunities to develop at this school are ever present. I am a firm believer in growing talent and consequently we reap the rewards of being innovative and enthusiastic. We invest heavily in professional development internally and externally to ensure we are constantly improving our skills and abilities at all levels for the benefit of our community as a whole.

As a student or teacher, there is no better place to be.

Dan Watts
Principal

Adders and Bears Celebration Event

our College Leaders rewarded pupils with an easter party at the end of the Spring term. Pupils were invited if they had displayed exemplary behaviour, superb attendance and punctuality to school. Pupils were treated to cakes, biscuits and drinks, along with having the opportunity to take part in inflatable sumo wrestling, as well as an inflatable Human Demolition Wrecking Ball elimination game.



Year 7 Fire Event

Some of our year 7s had a practical demonstration of their latest science topic. The fire brigade came in and showed them how the fire triangle works in practise, spending time demonstrating the different ways that fires can be extinguished by depriving them of oxygen, heat or fuel.

the highlight of the visit was a barbecue full of burning diesel which then had water thrown on it, causing an explosion and a very satisfying amount of black smoke which drifted over the school. the pupils were interested and attentive, and the fire fighters went out of their way to be engaging and helpful. An excellent example of learning outside the classroom.



Advance – Newsletter

A carefully selected group of Year 7 students have been benefiting from attending Advance sessions with Miss Burns and Mr Howes. Advance is a numeracy and Literacy intervention programme which is being thoroughly enjoyed by all. "I really enjoy doing times tables rockstars in maths and miss Burns makes her literacy sessions lots of fun too. I'm learning a lot!" said River Hands. The students have been making great progress and their teachers are incredibly proud of them. **Well done to all Advance students!**



COMMUNITY MUSIC EVENT

We were recently visited by local grandparents of performing students along with residents and carers from Merevale House, Bracebridge Court and Friary Road Care Homes for a music event put on by our students. Refreshments and chat were enjoyed in between performances. our visitors left saying they had really enjoyed the afternoon and look forward to the next one.



RHS – Malvern Show

Phil Eves, one of the Judges at the RHS Green Plan-IT event held at the Botanical Gardens in december 2016, recommended that tQeA receive an invitation to the Spring Malvern Show following the Gardening Team's Highly Commended for our Model Garden and winning the prize for the RHS Gardening Quiz. Mark Harwood Browne, the Education Executive, kindly arranged for the tickets to be sent to us.

on the 11th of may eight pupils: Andrew Knight , mackenzie needham, Luke Summers, Kaitlyn Addison, Destiny Harris, Conor Jones, Cameron Masters and Lorna Hughes, all accompanied by the school Principal, attended the show.

they set off at 9am and returned late afternoon after getting plenty of exercise exploring the showground. They particularly enjoyed the TV show, meeting Chris Collins, former Blue Peter gardener, catching up with Phil eves, the Space gardens and the ice creams. they learnt a great deal about teamwork, planting skills and discovered new art techniques. they have all been inspired to join in the Green-Plan IT event for 2017 and are making plans for the school garden as part of our Gardening Club.



Farewell Year 11

Last day at TQEA and TQEA Prom 2017

Our Year 11 students celebrated at school together for the final time on Friday 23rd June 2017.

Pupils congregated in the dance hall to enjoy a buffet and sign each other's shirts with their messages of best wishes for the future before heading into the main hall for their final assembly. After enjoying a show of their year 7-11 photos and videos, and taking part in a how well do you know your teacher quiz, pupils were dismissed for the final time following words from their Head Boy and Girl, their College Leaders and their Principal.

then on the evening of the 29th June 2017, a night most of Year 11 thought would never come, it was time for the Year 11 Leaver's Prom!

dapper suits, sophisticated gowns, stretch limos, and even a couple of supercars!! The traditional trappings expected by students on their prom nights were all to be seen. the grey and drizzly weather of the day didn't stop the excitement as all the students arrived for their event of the year.

the Prom took place at oakridge Golf Club and was attended by students who were all a real credit to the Academy, they looked fabulous and behaved impeccably. it was a wonderful evening of dancing, music, great food and a photo booth which everyone loved. The evening finished with students releasing balloons, filled with messages into the sky.

At the end of the evening the Prom King and Queen were announced, this year the winners were Jack Booker and Jade noyon.

From us all at TQEA, best wishes to the #TQEAClassOf2017





The Women's Cycling Tour

On Friday 9th of June we had another opportunity to experience a professional sporting event passing our school.

The Women's British Cycling Tour, part of the UCI Women's World Tour, hosting some of the best female cyclists from around the world, returned to Atherstone. The tour took place over five days, with the third stage of the event starting in Atherstone and finishing in Royal Leamington Spa. All of our year 7-10 students got to experience the atmosphere and see the professional cyclists at the start of their gruelling 151km stage.



REHEARSALS

As we go to print, 2 weeks before our production of Legally Blonde Jnr, rehearsals are showing great commitment from our students learning scripts, songs and routines, which are all progressing really well. much excitement as the show dates (12th and 13th July 2017) approach at speed and we have seen a recent flurry of props and costumes being collected in Mrs Deeley's office. Well done to the TQEA Cast of 2017, full write up and pictures from the show will be reported in our next newsletter.



Careers

This term year 10 students have been receiving some vital information to help prepare them for the choices they will need to make regarding what they do when they leave school.

All students are being given access to 'Kudos', an online careers advice program that they can access on the internet at school and at home. the program allows them to explore suitable careers that they might be interested in based on their likes and dislikes and specific subjects they have a passion for. Students are also being supported to create an account on the national apprenticeships website. this will allow them to find apprenticeship vacancies next year and apply for any that they are interested in.



to coincide with this training, all year 10 students are being given a 1 hour meeting with a qualified careers guidance adviser. during the meeting students are supported with impartial advice and guidance about what suitable options are available to them when they leave school. they are provided with an action plan as part of the meeting that will help work towards their goals.

ATT Teaching Awards

To celebrate excellence in teaching, 22 teachers have received recognition for their outstanding achievements at Academy Transformation (our) Trust's second annual Teaching Awards held in Birmingham.

Teachers and staff from 13 of The Trust's family of academies were recognised across the spectrum from early years to further education; from academic and vocational subjects to PSHE and welfare.

Congratulations to ms ressel who won the student welfare award and to Mrs Elliott-Kelly and Miss Poole who were both Highly Commended.



LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who are absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

What to do if...

Students have an appointment (doctor, dentist, hospital etc.)

We expect all non-emergency medical, dental or optician appointments to be booked outside of school hours. If this cannot be done, please try to book the appointment so that your child can complete most of their school day as normal. Parents or Guardians **MUST** either: -

- **Write a note (on paper or in the student's planner)**
- **Send in a copy of the appointment letter/card or**
- **Inform attendance of an upcoming appointment.**

ensure that you make it clear what time you are collecting your child, or that they can make their own way to the appointment and what time you expect them to return to school. If school have not been advised of an appointment, reception will call parents/guardian to confirm and children will not be allowed to leave school premises until contact has been made.

School Uniform Sale

From April 1st this year our TQEA Uniform & PE kit has only been available via our online store. Ties are available to buy in school – all other items must be purchased online. Once a year we will host a sales event for our uniform supplier, Anglia Sports and Schoolwear, who will sell uniform in the tQeA dining hall. This summer it will be on Monday 24th July 2017 between 1pm-5pm and everyone is welcome to come along and buy the uniform they need for students.

If you are unable to make it to the sales event in school, here is some useful information about ordering online: -

- Uniform will be available 365 days a year online taking all major credit/debit cards
- Next-day despatch if ordered by noon Mon-Fri
- Free delivery for all orders over £45+VAT (£2.79+VAT for smaller orders with other delivery options available)
- Dedicated customer service department **customersupport@angliasportsandschoolwear.co.uk**
- Comprehensive size charts

Estimated transit times for online orders are as follows;

- 2nd class post - 3-4 working days
- 1st class post - 1-3 working days
- Overnight courier - orders still despatched next working day providing ordered before noon Mon-Fri.

Paste in the following link to go to the store (we advise you use a desktop or laptop PC, remember to accept our cookies especially if you are using a mobile device).

<http://www.yourschoolwear.co.uk/queen-elizabeth-academy-196-c.asp>

Dates for
your diary

‘Key Dates’
can be found on
the school website
under news/calendar.



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