

Autumn 2018 Edition

# THE QUEEN ELIZABETH ACADEMY NEWS



The Queen Elizabeth  
Academy





## Principal's Welcome

### *Welcome to the latest edition of The Queen Elizabeth Academy newsletter.*

As the new school year is well underway and the long summer days are becoming just a memory, it is important that we take time to look back at the achievements of the past year, whilst keeping focus squarely on the year ahead and the students in our care.

this summer, our amazing students, achieved a stunning set of results that will put our academy right up there with some of the highest performing schools. this excellent examination performance could not have been achieved without the fantastic support received from our dedicated staff

and wonderful parents. thank you one and all. You have all played a part and deserve to be proud of our young people's achievements. We wish them all well in the next leg of their educational journey and look forward to welcoming them back to our GCSE certificate evening later this term.

our 'open Evening' was a huge success and it was great to have the opportunity to talk with our potential new intake. the academy was a hive of activity and it was great to see parents and their children fully engaged in the activities available.

We are an innovative and forward-thinking school in Atherstone, Warwickshire; providing high quality education for the young people in the surrounding area and further afield.

At the Queen Elizabeth Academy we are committed to:

*'Securing the highest academic standards through the provision of:  
outstanding **learning** and **teaching** and student **welfare**'*

Dan Watts  
**Principal**

## We have two new College Achievement Co-ordinators

### **Adders**

Mrs Ford has been employed at tQEA for nearly three years in an administrative capacity, and with a background in business coaching and life skills, has risen to the challenge of her new role as Achievement Co-ordinator. "I am passionate about the pastoral care of pupils in school and can't stress enough the importance of a child's social, emotional and academic welfare in school". She has recently taken on the responsibility of championing Young Carers in school and liaises with a number of other agencies on community issues.

### **Bears**

Ms Parsons has worked at tQEA for 12 years, she shares Mrs Ford's passion for pastoral care in schools. "Some parents will already know me as the Attendance manager at school, I wholeheartedly believe outstanding attendance is key to academic success and am delighted to tie that into my new pastoral role to help our students develop their emotional intelligence alongside their academic endeavour." Ms Parsons is always positive and likes to create solutions, not problems. Her motto is Be more Kind.



# Local Police Update

Every year we receive complaints from parents and residents in relation to the atrocious parking by those dropping off and collecting children from school. dealing with these issues takes a huge amount of valuable police time.

it is not the responsibility of the school, police, or the council to find safe and lawful parking; it is the responsibility of the driver and the driver alone. officers have been challenged, **in front of children**, by drivers when offences are pointed out to them – officers are acting purely in the interest of safety. We fully appreciate only a small number of drivers are committing offences but they are putting the safety of other children at risk. Please ensure you are not one of these drivers.

A selection of the offences being committed are:

- Parking on, or within, 10 meters of a junction
- Unnecessary obstruction of the pavement
- Blocking driveways
- Parking on the restricted zone outside of a school
- Parking on double yellow lines
- Parking on a verge

in the interest of the children's, and the general public's safety, proportionate action will be considered

against individuals who continue to park their vehicles in this manner. it is appreciated that parents need to drive to the school but in most cases problems could be easily avoided. Police officers and PCSOs are now able to prosecute without physically placing a ticket on the vehicle – this could result in a substantial cumulative fine for a number of offences.

if you have any questions regarding these matters our contact details are below. thank you for your co-operation.

Atherstone Safer neighbourhoods team.

north Warwickshire East – Safer neighbourhood team

**01827 719297**

or email: [nwe.snt@warwickshire.police.uk](mailto:nwe.snt@warwickshire.police.uk)



## History Trip to the Globe Theatre, Summer Term 2018.

Back in July the History department took our Year 10 Historians to London to see the recreated Globe theatre. this was part of their investigation into the significance of the original building to Elizabethan England. they were keen to gather as much information as they could about the structure of the Globe, the events, design and location of this building as well as about people connected with the site. they began with a short tour of the building itself, looking at the different parts of the theatre. once the tour was completed they were given a very interesting presentation about the history of the building and its significance in Elizabethan England. it was a fascinating and informative day which granted our students the opportunity to appreciate this building and they all came away keen to learn more about it as part of their Year 11 GCSE course this Autumn term.





# Calum Foad

We had the pleasure of offering a wonderful opportunity to students in Years 7, 8 and 9 in listening to one of the UK's rising music stars live at tQEA on Thursday 27th September 2018.

this was a great opportunity for our school. upcoming singer, "@CalumFoad," is on a mental Health, online Safety & Cyber Bullying themed school tour. Calum travelled to various areas around the country, visiting 25 schools in September. He didn't only perform for the pupils, he also delivered a mental Health, online Safety, & Cyber Bullying message.

Calum Foad is a 21 year old singer/songwriter from Berkshire. Calum has been tipped by BBC's Radio 1 as the next big British male singer, being compared to Ollie Murs. Calum has been singing and playing guitar for over 10 years, last year he supported McBusted on tour and will soon be heading off to LA to work with some huge songwriters.



## PARLIAMENT TRIP SUMMER TERM 2018

the History department at the Queen Elizabeth Academy organised a visit to the Houses of Parliament to learn about the processes of government and gain insight into how our country is run. 20 students along with Mr Kinvig, Mr Kirby and Mrs Hale were given an amazing opportunity to meet our local MP, Craig Tracey, who gave a historical talk explaining the role of Parliament and its place in British society when he gave us a guided tour of Westminster Palace. As part of the tour we were taken to the galleries of the House of Commons and the House of Lords where we had the privilege of watching live debates by MPs who were contesting the issues of the day. It was a fascinating visit and we all came away far more knowledgeable about the role of Parliament and with a deeper understanding of British politics.





# MTC STEM Careers

Last July, 60 year 10 students took part in an interactive StEm workshop in the school hall all day. the workshop was sponsored by the manufacturing and technology Centre (mtC) which offers a range of high quality engineering apprenticeships to students. Last year we had 5 students apply there and we hope that this will continue to rise next year.

during the day students were tasked with designing and constructing a speaker that can amplify sound produced by a mobile phone or mP3 player. in teams of 5 they were required to build a circuit board and solder the components required onto it. they also had to design a cabinet to house the components of the speaker; being as creative as they like but considering their target audience for the resell of the product, as well as how to retain a good level of sound quality. At the end of the day students then had to promote their working speaker to the rest of the groups explaining the thinking behind their design, stating the production cost and recommended retail price and then pitch why customers should buy it.

the students took to the task with an excellent attitude throughout the day and were commended by the workshop leader for their behaviour, teamwork and creativity. Students definitely left school with a greater understanding and interest in StEm careers.





# MW NHS Careers' Trip

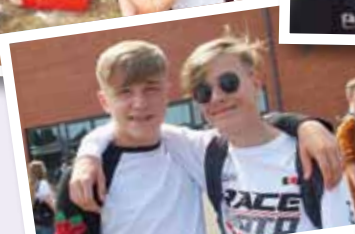
## NHS Careers Taster Day- George Eliot Hospital. Fri

8 lucky Year 10 students were fortunate enough to be granted places on the nHS careers taster day at George Eliot Hospital in July. the students had all expressed a keen interest in a range of careers in healthcare prior to the trip. the event, hosted at the GEtEC Centre, involved 7 interactive workshops that the students made their way around during the course of the day. it was excellent to see them taking full advantage of the opportunity by asking loads of questions and getting involved in all the practical activities. the staff at George Eliot praised the students' attitude and passion on the day and wished them the best in their future. Keep an eye out for the same opportunity this Autumn!



## End of Summer Term Fun

At the end of Summer term we celebrated the year's achievements and recognised the hard work put in by our pupils. the day was non-school uniform (as requested by students) with a £1 donation to charity. our chosen charities were the Birmingham Children's Hospital (in recognition of the 70 year old nHS celebrations) and school projects. in addition, after break time we enjoyed a village fete style event where students could participate in some weird and wonderful activities (including soak the teacher).





Day 6th July





# Men's International Cycling goes past TQEA

Our first day back this term saw the whole school head out to watch the men's oVo energy tour of Britain pass by the school. With world class cyclists such as Chris Froome and recent tour de France winner Geraint Thomas, students were amazed at the speed and skill needed, along with the train of people and resources associated with elite sports stars. From the start in the centre of Nuneaton to the finish on Royal Leamington Spa's newbold terrace, huge crowds lined the route of the stage, with TQEA being amongst thousands of school children celebrating the start of term by watching the world's best race go past.

Lotto Soudal's André Greipel won his second stage on the 4th day of the 2018 oVo Energy tour of Britain, claiming victory in Royal Leamington Spa in Warwickshire's first-ever stage of the modern race. The German rider easily saw off Sacha Modolo and oVo Energy Green Jersey wearer Patrick Bevin, who extended his lead at the top of the standings by virtue of his four-second time bonus on the line.





# Year 11 Geography Fieldwork Trip

After several lessons of preparation and build up this September, the big day of adventure came with 50 Year 11 GCSE Geography students ready and set to embark on their second piece of geography fieldwork. This makes up an important element of their final GCSE Geography qualification.

Setting off from tQEA at 9am, the students and staff boarded the coach and minibus to travel to the River Dove in South Derbyshire, near Dovedale, to investigate how geomorphic processes changed the shape and flow of the river. They all worked independently, as well as working effectively as groups with excellent team work.

On arrival, they were greeted with grey skies but the students were eager to get started, splitting into their working parties to look at how the River Dove differed in river width, depth and speed in 4 separate locations, as well as looking at rock size and roundness.

Unfortunately, they were not able to control the weather and within an hour the heavens opened and they experienced some of the finest British Autumn weather, where it rained extremely heavily for the next 3 hours. However, with students already fully engaged and knee deep in water working in the river, the students of tQEA did the school, Geography department and themselves proud by showing huge levels of resilience by completing the tasks with an amazing level of effort, accomplishment and for many, enjoyment.

The day was a huge success and all the students involved did extremely well in some difficult conditions.





# Year 7 Outdoor Education Day- Conkers

In July the PE department took 14 Year 7 students on an outdoor education trip to Conkers' activity centre. During the day students participated in 4 different activities; go-karting, canoeing, climbing and a low ropes challenge course. We were blessed with fabulous weather and fun activities. The students had a great day and their attitude and behaviour throughout was excellent. We will be going back next year!









# LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME 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).

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

Information  
on our website

Please see the  
parents area on our  
website for copies of  
letters, information  
and key dates.



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