



The Queen Elizabeth
Academy



TQEA Newsletter: Friday 7th November

Issue 8



The Queen Elizabeth Academy

“We Can and We Will”



Head of Academy Welcome



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of our Autumn Term. We have so much to look forward to this half term, including the full launch of our XTRA programme, which will offer clubs ranging from sports to creative arts, ensuring there is something for everyone. In addition, there are a number of activities planned across departments, as well as forthcoming Rewards and Attendance events, and preparations for Christmas. The week began with our students who earned the most achievement points last half term receiving a complimentary cookie from the canteen. Thank you to Ms Shepherd for organising this and ensuring students are recognised and rewarded for meeting our academy values.

This week, we were delighted to welcome our students back to the academy, and it was wonderful to see their enthusiasm and positive attitude. We are pleased that the majority of students returned proudly wearing their uniforms correctly, and we truly appreciate your ongoing support in helping us uphold our standards and ensuring your child wears the correct uniform. Our uniform policy states that students should wear black formal trousers—please note that black jeans, jeggings, and leggings are not permitted. Students may choose to wear a pleated skirt; however, it is important that the skirt is of an appropriate length for a school environment, falling no more than three inches above the knee. These guidelines help us maintain a sense of equality and professionalism within our academy community.

We continue to remind students about skirt length and appreciate your support in encouraging them to meet these expectations.

Additionally, students may wear only one stud earring in each ear, and we kindly ask that all other piercings, including nose piercings, are either removed or replaced with a clear retainer, as outlined in our uniform policy. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation in supporting these standards. If you have any concerns or need assistance with obtaining the correct uniform items, please contact the academy office for support. We are here to help and want to ensure every student feels included and prepared for their learning.

Year 11 are approaching their final week before the start of their mock examinations. These are important preparations for their GCSE examinations. Students have been working exceptionally hard in the classroom, making the most of their Prep time intervention sessions, and attending Supercharge. Your support in ensuring they attend Supercharge sessions is greatly appreciated as well as the gentle encouragement to continue working independently at home. All of this ensure that they are fully prepared. On Friday, Mr Calvin and Mrs Hodgetts led an assembly to go through the expectations for the mock examinations. This is to ensure that every student is aware of the exam regulations. We appreciate that the build-up to these examinations can be worrying and stressful for students. Part of our preparation is to support students during this time, whilst also reminding them that these feelings are a natural part of exam preparation. If you are concerned or worried about your child, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Calvin or Mrs Arnold, who will be more than happy to support you.

Finally, as we head into next week and Remembrance Day on 11th November, Mr Kinvig has prepared our annual assembly to remind students of the importance of Remembrance. The assembly provides students with the opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices of service men and women throughout history and in more recent conflicts. On Tuesday, as an academy, we will respectfully honour the two minute silence. This will fall slightly earlier at 10.53am (just before we finish for break time) and will follow with our annual Remembrance ceremony where student leaders will lay the academy wreath and tutor group crosses. Students who are members of Guides, Rangers, Scouts and Cadets are invited to wear their uniforms on this day.

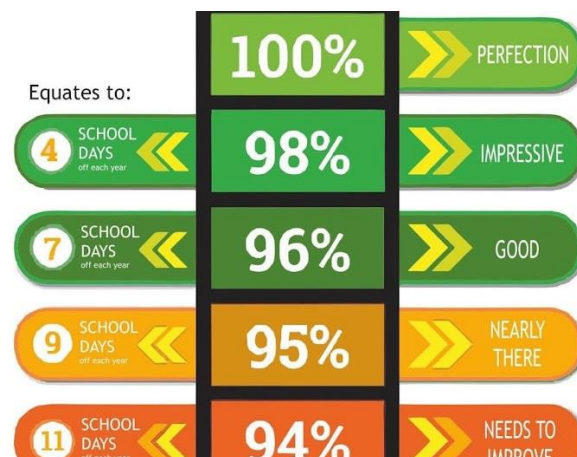
Finally, as we approach next week and Remembrance Day on 11th November, Mr Kinvig has prepared our annual assembly to remind students of the importance of Remembrance. This assembly offers everyone the chance to reflect on the sacrifices made by service men and women throughout history and in more recent conflicts. On Tuesday, as an academy, we will respectfully observe the two minute silence, which will take place slightly earlier at 10.53am (just before we finish for break time), followed by our annual Remembrance ceremony. During the ceremony, student leaders will lay the academy wreath and tutor group crosses. Students who are members of Guides, Rangers, Scouts and Cadets are warmly invited to

wear their uniforms on this day. In addition, we encourage all students to wear a poppy so that together, as a community, we can honour this important occasion.

Thank you to the staff and students for a great week and we wish you a restful weekend.

Academy

Attendance Information



Attendance Matters



Attendance remains a very high priority for us as a community. If students are not in the academy, we are not able to help to support them or teach them the knowledge and skills they need to succeed. It is vital that all children are in the academy every day.

Week Commencing: Tuesday 4th November Weeks Attendance: 92.4%

Top 10 Tutors of the week:

7RSA

7LXC

7SJ

7DTI

8MAL

8RJG

9JXP

9NXH

9NMP

Prioritising Attendance: Every Day Counts!

XTRA Enrichment Programme

Welcome to the XTRA Programme! Below is a comprehensive list of all available clubs. Please use this guide to select your child's activities before booking via the MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) app.

Please note that **Existing Clubs** (Cooking Club, Performing Arts Club, and all Sports Clubs) do not require booking through the Bromcom/MCAS app. Your child should continue to attend these activities in the same way they did previously.

Club Name	Brief Description	Day & Time	Target Year Group(s)	Capacity
Sustainability Club	Explore real-world environmental challenges, learn about sustainable practices, and plan school and community-based initiatives to reduce environmental impact.	[DAY TBC] Lunchtime	8,9,10	20
TQEA News Team – by the students, for the students	To provide opportunities to develop journalistic skills and to delve into the history of TQEA and the local community.	Tuesday After School	All	20
The Great Debate	Master the art of persuasive speaking, critical thinking, and structured argumentation. Build confidence to articulate complex ideas.	Tuesday After School	7 - 9	20
Mindfulness, Resilience & Support	Techniques and strategies for stress management, improving focus, and developing a positive mental attitude and strong emotional resilience.	Tuesday After School	All	NA
Performing Arts Club (Existing)	Join our drama, music, and performance workshop to build skills, confidence, and stage presence for our next major production.	Tuesday After School	7 - 10	NA
Cipher Club	Dive into the historical world of codebreaking, learning the fundamentals of cryptography and secret communication. Great for puzzlers!	Tuesday Lunchtime (Week 2)	7	20
UKMT Challenge Prep	Dedicated sessions to tackle challenging mathematical problems and prepare thoroughly for the national UK Maths Trust competitions.	Wednesday After School	7 - 9	20
Peer Mentoring	Training for our most responsible students to support younger peers, building essential leadership, empathy, and communication skills for life.	[DAY TBC] Lunchtime	7 - 11	NA
Coding & Cybersecurity	Develop foundational programming skills and explore internet safety,	Wednesday After School	7 - 9	20

	ethical hacking, and digital resilience in our modern, connected world.			
Science Club	Exciting, hands-on practical experiments covering chemistry, physics, and biology topics beyond the curriculum—from rocketry to amazing reactions.	Tuesday After School	7 - 8	20
Citizenship & Social Action	Investigate local and national issues, plan meaningful community projects, and learn how to be an active, positive agent for social change.	Thursday After School	7 - 10	20
Art Club	Explore advanced techniques in drawing, painting, and 3D sculpture. Develop personal style and build a creative portfolio in a relaxed environment.	Thursday After School	7 - 9	20
Cooking Club (Existing)	Learn essential culinary skills, explore different cuisines, and take home delicious treats each week.	Assorted mornings and after school	7 – 10	20
Sports Clubs (Assorted) (Existing)	A huge range of team and individual sports activities, including fixtures and training sessions.	Assorted Evenings	All	NA

Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 11 Mock Exams commence week beginning the 17th November. We are incredibly proud of the efforts they have put in to prepare for these important preparation examinations. Please join us in wishing them luck.

Please see attached the mock exam timetable for your reference. All students have been provided with a paper copy.

GCSE Mock Exams Timetable

Date	Subject	Start	Duration
Monday 17 th November	Science - Biology	P1/P2	1hr 45mins/ 1hr 15mins
	Engineering	P3/P4	1hr 30mins
Tuesday 18 th November	English Literature	P1/P2	2hrs 15mins
	Music	P4	1hr
Wednesday 19 th November	Mathematics Paper 1 (Non-Calculator)	P1/P2	1hr 30mins
	Statistics GCSE PE Paper 1 BTEC Sport	P3/P4	1hr 30mins 1hr 30mins 1hr 30mins
Thursday 20 th November	Science - Chemistry	P1/P2	1hr 45mins/ 1hr 15mins
	History 1	P3/P4	2hrs
Friday 21 st November	English Language 1	P1/P2	1hr 45mins
	Geography 1	P4	1hr

Monday 24 th November	Mathematics Paper 2 (Calculator)	P1/P2	1hr 45mins
	Business Studies	P3/P4	1hr 45mins
Tuesday 25 th November	Science - Physics	P1/P2	1hr 45mins/ 1hr 15mins
	History 2	P4	1hr
Wednesday 26 th November	English Language 2	P1/P2	1hr 45mins
	Geography Paper 2	P4	1hr
Thursday 27 th November	French Reading and Writing	P1/P2	2hrs (H) 1hr 45 (F)
	GCSE PE Paper 2	P3/P4	1hr 15mins
	Travel and Tourism		1hr 30mins
Friday 28 th November	Mathematics Paper 3 (Calculator)	P1/P2	1hr 30mins
	Hospitality & Catering	P3/P4	1hr 20mins
Monday 1 st December	Media Studies (in Assembly Hall)	P1/P2	1hr 45mins
	RE (in Assembly Hall)	P3/P4	1hr 30mins

Joyful Learning

Each week we would like to share with the ***joyful learning*** taking place in the academy and this week has been no exception. Please enjoy looking at some examples of the fantastic work our students have produced this week.

Excellent work in **MUSIC** this week: Year 10 have started looking at Conventions of Pop and analysis Rock Anthems. Today they listened to and appraised the song 'Killer Queen'. They're

also working with their peripatetic teachers on their solo and ensemble performance coursework where they are free to choose their own genre. The power of music really shows in the department.





Excellent **Science** work from Mrs Sabin's Year 9 class learning about Variation. An opportunity to put into practice their learning by carrying out an experience outside of the classroom.





Excellent technique was showcased by Year 8 in **Xtra Curricular Food - Bake Off**. Can you guess which the winning bakes were?







Upcoming Events

13th November - Y11 Photos

17th November - Y11 Mock Exams Begin

20th November - Parent Partnership Evening

27th November - GCSE Certificate Evening