

Queen Elizabeth II High School



July 2017 Newsletter

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Farewell and good luck!

A number of staff are leaving us at the end of this term.

We have already said farewell to Mrs Blythe, the School Business Manager, who has retired after 14 years at the School. Her most recent role included being the senior leader for all the support functions of the School: budget, resources, buildings, and everything else that helps us to function.

Mr Ayre is retiring after leading the Design and Technology department since 1991 – over quarter of a century! We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Mr Ellison is also leaving after being at the school since 2003 and helping to lead each of the key stages as well as teaching Mathematics.

We also say goodbye and thank you to Miss Ashworth, Mrs Boulton, Miss Grant, Mrs Livingstone, Mr McDonald, Mr Miller, Mrs Milne, Miss Riley and Mr Watt.

To all students and staff who are leaving, thank you for the contribution you have made and we wish you all the best for the future!

Don't forget our School motto –

***'Always strive to do
your best'***



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School Choir performs at the Armed Forces Service

This was the first event that the School Choir has been asked to perform at for many years and singing on the Villa Marina Royal Hall stage was a privilege and a first for many of the students. They were very professional and a credit to the School singing 'Sing' by A. Lloyd Webber and G. Barlow and 'Rise' by K. Perry Arr. Superfruit. Many comments were given to the choir regarding their lovely sound, harmonies and maturity on stage.

Miss Withey would like to say a big thank you to the Choir for all their hard work and to their parents and guardians for getting them to and from the venue on such a tricky road closure day!

Here is a picture taken after the event on the balcony of the Villa Marina.



Year 10 Work Experience 19th - 30th June

Students from Year 10 have just spent two weeks on work experience at a variety of local businesses.

Staff went out and about visiting the students in their work places and gathered some fantastic feedback from both the employers and students.

It has been a wonderful experience for them and we would like to say a big thank you to all of the employers who have welcomed our students and put together some great programmes of work to keep them busy.





Year 9 Science Fair Wednesday 12th July



We had some fantastic projects on display for our annual Year 9 Science Fair! This year's topic was 'EARTH' and the students have been working extremely hard for the last few weeks seeking to answer a wide range of intriguing scientific questions.

The projects were judged by Colin Bagshaw from RLC and David Abbott from Swagelok. After much deliberation, the eventual overall winners were Callum, Edward, Grace and Mirril with their **'Space Exploration'** project.



There was also a Headteacher's prize (presented by Mr Kinley) and this went to India, Katie and Rosie for their **'Lightning'** project.



The following article was written by India, Katie and Rosie –

This year we participated in the Science Fair. All Year 9 students took part and worked towards getting their Bronze CREST Award. We split into small groups and chose a topic to do with 'Earth'. This gave us a large range of topics from the digestive system to the planets in the solar system. We had about three weeks to put together our projects. Some groups chose to do research topics and others chose to do investigations/practicals. We had to work together to plan, present and inform people on our chosen topic. We had to try to relate this to the wider world and how people can use our information in real life.

This gave us an opportunity to learn about a topic of our choice and experience learning in different ways. It also helps us understand our topic more as we are teaching others not just ourselves. At the Fair, we were able to walk around to the other groups' projects to see what they have achieved and to learn what they have done.

We have enjoyed doing this Science Fair as it was an opportunity to have freedom in our learning and see for ourselves how science relates to the wider world.

'Freedom' Showcase

On Friday 7th and Saturday 8th July our Performing Arts Department presented a 'Freedom' Showcase. This was a thought-provoking showcase which highlighted our freedom here on the Isle of Man and current world news.

The evenings showcased dance, drama and music with choral-speaking, ensemble dance, songwriting, poetry, a UN Speech and songs. It was an opportunity for many of the students to perform for the first time and explore what 'freedom' means to them.

The School would like to thank their Actor in Residence, Bryony Grant, for all her hard work in creating the showcase alongside the Performing Arts staff. It was an evening that allowed both the audience and students to reflect on some deeper topics and was well received by all who attended.

Well done everyone!



Each year NAMA presents awards to under 25-year-olds who are nominated for their creativity, language skills and community involvement. The tradition dates back to 1979, the millennium of Tynwald, when NAMA established the awards.

Congratulations to two of our students who received awards!

Chloe Irving received the award for **'Outstanding contribution to Manx culture by a student under 18'**. Amongst many other things, Chloe is a founding member of the School Wind Band and takes a leading role in running the School's Ukulele Orchestra. She has also encouraged fellow students to play music and take part in concerts. Chloe is also a member of the Rushen Silver Band which participates in over 40 engagements per year.

Harry Hewson received the award for **'Outstanding achievement in Manx Language'**.

Having attended Bunscoill Ghaelgagh as a primary pupil, Harry became proficient in Manx Gaelic and has continued to study several subjects through the medium of Manx Gaelic. During his free time, Harry has assisted with Club Spoyrt, which gives Manx speakers the opportunity to practise sport after school through the Manx language. He is also involved in the Manx music group the Mollag Band and has helped translate an Asterix story into Manx.



Our School Wind Band



Under the direction of Mr Kinley, twenty nine members of the School Wind Band travelled to Peel Clothworkers' and St John's primary schools on the morning of the 10th July to perform short concerts for children in Key Stages 1 and 2. Their audiences learnt about the instruments in a wind band and had a chance to hear them individually before hearing them play together in a wide variety of music including 'Jurassic Park', 'Firework' and 'Hey Jude'.

Many thanks to the staff and students in the band for giving up their time to rehearse for these concerts and to staff and students at Peel Clothworkers', St John's and Bunscoil Ghaelgagh for inviting the band along and for providing such enthusiastic audiences.

The band is also very grateful to the QEII School Association for purchasing a set of portable music stands, at a cost of £300.00, which were used for the first time at these concerts.

Design and Technology Primary Transition Workshops



We recently welcomed Year 6 students from all of our partner primary schools for their Design and Technology primary transition sessions.

They had a very busy time making shortbread biscuits and savoury scones in Food Technology, silk painting fish designs in Textiles and making wooden picture puzzles in Resistant Materials.



Some great work everyone, well done!

Enrichment Activities

Monday and Friday of the last week of term are normal School days and therefore uniform is required. Tuesday to Thursday is non-uniform.

Tuesday – Year Group Activities:

- Year 7 - Wildlife Park
- Year 8 - Multicultural Day
- Year 9 - Beach Buddies and walk
- Year 10 - Team Building
- Year 12 - Treasure Hunt

Wednesday and Thursday are activity days. Please ensure that students have appropriate clothing for their activity and any weather that they might encounter (good and bad).

Packed lunches are needed for some activities and will be provided for students on free school meals.

The 'Hungry Caterpillar'



Well done to Year 11 student, Hannah Buttimore, who designed and produced the 'Hungry Caterpillar' with help from the QEII Design and Technology Department.

The wall art was installed last week at Marown Primary School and being situated in the Reception/Year 1 playground it was met with great excitement from the students.

We hope it gives many years of enjoyment!

Please help our School Association

We would welcome new members to join our committee and would be pleased to hear from anyone who has a little spare time and be willing to join our friendly team. We meet roughly once every half term to discuss forthcoming events and requests for funding. If you would like to have a say, please get in touch, or come along to our next meeting on **Wednesday 6th September**.

Sadly our 'Prom and Pamper Evening' which was scheduled for the end of September has been cancelled as we have been unable to generate any support from parents. The School Association plays a vital role in raising money for additional School resources and equipment and **every penny raised** directly benefits our students. We therefore appeal for help in supporting us at future events in any way that you can.

We also have a **'100 Club'** with CASH PRIZES every month. If you are interested in joining the form is available on the School Website or from School Reception.

Dates for your diary.....

Wednesday 6th September - our **School Association Meeting** will be held at 6.00pm in the School Library.

Friday 15th September - there will be a **'Pig Racing Evening'** from 7.00pm at the Centenary Centre in Peel. This is being run in conjunction with the local Co-op Food Store who are supporting our School Association as part of their 'Local Community Fund'. Come along for a fun evening! Please note that this is for **ADULTS ONLY**.

Monday 13th November - our **School Association Annual General Meeting** will be held at 6.00pm in the School Library. This will be followed by the Ordinary Meeting. Everyone welcome!

Wednesday 29th November - **Christmas Fayre** – more information will be available nearer the time.

We also hope to welcome back **'Retrospect'** early next year! More details will be announced shortly.....**WATCH THIS SPACE!!**

Important dates.....

July

Monday 17th – Friday 21st July –
Year 7 Sports Trip to Wales
Belgium Trip
Barcelona Trip
Sealyham Surfing Trip

**Tuesday 18th – Thursday 20th
July** – Enrichment Activities

**Wednesday 19th – Thursday 20th
July** – Alton Towers Trip
Chill Factore Trip

Friday 21st July – School closes
for Summer Term

August

Thursday 10th August –
Cambridge Results Day

Thursday 17th August – A Level
Results Day

Thursday 24th August – GCSE
Results Day

Friday 25th August – Sixth
Form Interviews

September

Wednesday 6th September –
Start of New School Year –
Autumn Term

Wednesday 13th September –
Senior Prize Night

Friday 15th September –
School Association 'Pig Racing'
Evening at the Centenary Centre,
from 7.00pm. ADULTS ONLY.

Lost Property

This will be on display in the
corridor by the Entrance Hall
until **Friday, 11th August**.
Anything not claimed by then will
be donated to charity.

The School will be open between
9.00am and 3.30pm during the
summer holidays.

Summer 2017 Results Days

A Level – Thursday 17th August

GCSE – Thursday 24th August

Results are available from 9.00am in the Sixth Form Block.

Cambridge International Examination results can be collected from
10.00am on **Thursday 10th August** also in the Sixth Form Block.

You can only collect your own results. If you are unable to collect your
results in person you may authorise someone else to collect them on
your behalf. This authorisation **MUST** be in writing. Alternatively, if
you leave a large stamped addressed envelope with Miss Caley, we will
post your results to you.

**Please note that results will not be supplied by telephone or email
under any circumstances.**

Please help.....

We would be very grateful to receive **SCHOOL TIES** from any students
who have left and no longer need them.

Also, please ensure that all **TEXT BOOKS** are returned to the School
Reception as soon as possible.

Thank you

Library Books

Please ensure that all **LIBRARY
BOOKS** are returned to School
Library before the end of term.

