

Queen Elizabeth II High School



February 2020 Newsletter

Special points of interest.....

- Welcome!
- 14 – 19 Evening
- Mansat
- iGeo 2020
- Dance Showcase
- Accelerated Reader Scheme
- Anti-Bullying
- Year 10 Work Experience
- School Association News
- PE Department News
- Important dates

Welcome!

A very warm welcome back to the Spring Term.

We have a number of events coming up over the next few weeks. Please see the 'Important Dates' on the final page of this newsletter. The full School Calendar can also be found on our School website by visiting -

<https://qe2.sch.im/>

The website is updated daily so please do take time to visit it as you will find lots of useful information which may be relevant to your child.

Also, remember to follow the School on Facebook –

www.facebook.com/QE2IOM

As always there are a wide range of **School Clubs** on offer and there should be something for everyone to enjoy! The full brochure can be found on our website by following the 'About' link to the 'Co-Curricular' page.

Our annual Open Evening, which was held on Tuesday 21st January, was once again a great success. A huge number of children and their families enjoyed tours of the School and engaged in lots of fun and exciting learning experiences. We received some fantastic feedback and would like to give special thanks to everyone who helped out and made it such an enjoyable evening!

The lucky winner of the Open Evening 'Passport Competition' was Keira Bolt from St John's Primary School. Well done!



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14 - 19 Information Evening

**Wednesday 4th March
6pm until 8pm**

Students in Years 9 and 11 have to make important decisions about option choices this year.

The 14 - 19 Information Evening is designed to provide you with information to help your child make their choices for Key Stage 4 and Post-16 courses. It is also an opportunity to explain recent developments in 14 - 19 education.

More information regarding the format of the evening will be sent to parents of students in Years 9 and 11 in the next few weeks.

This Information Evening is always a huge success and we hope to see you there.



We would like to say **HUGE** congratulations to Year 12 student, Sophie Bell, who is one of the island winners of this year's Mansat competition.

Sophie entered a series of short exploratory essay questions and subsequently has been chosen to represent the Isle of Man and attend 'Space School' in the USA this summer.

This will be an amazing experience and it is great to have a QEII student winning the placement for the second year running. **Well done Sophie!**

Runner-up in Manx Youth Bard

Congratulations to our Year 13 student, Esther Walters, who is this year's runner-up in the second Manx Youth Bard. The contest was closely fought to take the title from our student, Holly MacRae, who was the first Manx Youth Bard back in 2019.

Well done Esther!

Jasmine to represent the UK at iGeo 2020

Year 13 student, Jasmine Crellin, has been selected by the Geographical Association for the four-person team to represent the UK at the 17th International Geography Olympiad in Istanbul this August.

The Olympiad involves teams from more than 40 countries across the world, which come together to take part in a range of geographical activities and excursions and to share their culture and friendship. It contains three elements: a written response test, a multimedia test and a fieldwork test.

To be selected for the team, Jasmine entered a competition to answer a series of challenging analytical questions based on 'the conservation and management of the rainforest ecosystem', where her answers were highly commended.

Jasmine said, "I am so honoured to have been given this opportunity to compete against some of the best young geographers around the world. To me this is an achievement that words can't describe after having such an interest in Geography".

Each candidate is required to raise money to cover transport costs of approximately £1000. If you would be interested in sponsoring Jasmine, or would like to make a donation to assist in funding her trip, please contact the School Reception or email qe2enquiries@sch.im



QE2 PRESENT TO YOU...

EVENING WITH THE SIXTH FORM

ON THE 6TH FEBRUARY 2020
START TIME 7:30PM
QE2 MAIN HALL
£2.50 PER TICKET OR £10 FOR A FAMILY OF 5

The annual 'Evening with the Sixth Form' will take place on Thursday 6th February

Come along for a fun-filled evening of singing, dancing and a variety of comedy acts, including their very own tribute band and QEII 'Countdown'.

There will also be a raffle during the interval (tickets will be able to buy at the beginning of the evening).

Tickets for the evening are available to buy in the Entrance Hall at lunchtimes.

QEII Dance Showcase

When? Thursday 13th February

Where? QEII Main Hall

Time? 6.30pm



Tickets available at
Reception

Adults £3, Children £2

We would like to invite you to our annual Dance Showcase on **Thursday 13th February.**

Tickets are now available at Reception and are selling quickly. Don't delay or you may be disappointed!

Year 7 and 8 Accelerated Reader Scheme

This is now our third year of implementing the Accelerated Reader scheme for our students in Years 7 and 8. At its heart, the Accelerated Reader scheme is simple – read a book, take a quiz, receive instant feedback. The scheme has been proven to increase student reading ages by, on average, 7 months over a 4 month period, with some students making 12 months progress over the same time!

As the Accelerated Reader scheme assesses comprehension and not reading ability, it is accessible by all students – both books and quizzes can be read to the individual student, and there are also a large number of short articles on a variety of subjects which can be read and quizzed on. Improvement in comprehension has a follow on effect throughout ALL the subjects and not just English.

The books in the School Library have been colour coded to relate to specific learning levels – ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development). Following their initial assessment at the start of the school year, students were issued with their own ZPDs. They are encouraged to choose books within that level – if they read below their minimum ZPD, they will not progress, and similarly, above their ZPD the book may be too hard and the student will likely not pass the quiz. The quizzes are not restricted to books available in our Library – there are at least 40,000 quizzes on the system with new ones being added daily! Students (parents/teachers) can check on <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/> to see if their own books are available and, if not, click on the ‘Suggest Quizzes’ link.

Students are rewarded with individual Certificates for passing their first quiz, for becoming Word Millionaires or indeed, Multi-word Millionaires! In addition, we have now implemented a further reward scheme in which students will receive not only a Certificate, but extra achievement points and a further prize when they complete 10 quizzes at 100%.

Please encourage your child to read and quiz! 😊

Key Stage 3 Homework Club

Miss Kelsey runs a Homework Club for **all of Key Stage 3** on a Tuesday and Thursday after school. This is for **ANY** subject.

If you feel that your child would benefit from this, please suggest it to them and remind them that this facility is available.

It is a safe, chilled space for 45 minutes/1 hour after school (or however long they wish to stay) for students to get organised and get some homework done.

Room 40
Tuesday and Thursday
3.45pm – 4.45pm

Anti-Bullying

Queen Elizabeth II High School is committed to creating and sustaining a safe, positive and inclusive environment for all students, staff and parents/carers.

More information about our Anti-Bullying Policy can be found on our School website –

<https://qe2.sch.im/pages/index/view/id/100/Anti-Bullying>

Our online Bullying Report Form can also be found on this page or by scanning the QR Code below with your mobile device -



Year 10 Work Experience

As part of the School curriculum a two-week work experience placement is being organised for every student in Year 10. This will run from **Monday 22nd June until Friday 3rd July.**

This is an extremely valuable and exciting opportunity, designed to give each student a greater understanding of the world of work and the opportunity to work with adults other than teachers.

The most successful and meaningful placements are those that students have taken the initiative to arrange for themselves. Therefore, we encourage everyone to consider carefully their future career aspirations and then contact a suitable company to arrange a self-placement.

Should your son/daughter not manage to secure a self-placement, they are able to access a database of placement providers. Every attempt will be made to offer each student who uses the database a placement that matches his or her aspirations, however, no guarantee can be made that every first choice placement will be available.

****Please note that students MUST check the database before contacting any employer to arrange a self-placement as a position may have already been offered.**

This year's programme was launched to students on Thursday 9th January and introduction letters and the Work Experience Guide were handed out during tutor time the following day.

Please note the following important dates and deadlines -

Monday 3rd February - students able to access Placement Database

Friday 13th March - deadline for Database selections

Wednesday 22nd April - deadline for Self-Placements

Monday 11th May - deadline for returning Agreement Forms

Monday 22nd June - Friday 3rd July - Year 10 Work Experience placements

**More information can also be found on our School website.
Follow the 'About' link to the Work Experience page.**



Year 11 All About Money

On Thursday 23rd January our Year 11 students took part in a Junior Achievement workshop 'It's All About Money'.

The programme is designed to empower students to become financially capable adults and we are very grateful to the volunteers, from the local business community, who took the time to come in and help the students to discover the importance of money management.

School Association News and Events

Once again a very big **THANK YOU** to all our loyal School Association supporters!

The School Association plays a vital role in raising money for additional School resources and equipment. Through money raised at quizzes, musical evenings, Christmas Fayres, and so on, funds have been available to buy many additional items that wouldn't otherwise be possible.

Our most recent event was last Friday evening (31st January) when fabulous local band '**Retrospect**' entertained us for the fourth consecutive year. This is a hugely popular evening and the tickets sold out in record time at our Christmas Fayre. The School Hall rocked all evening and everyone who came along had a wonderful time!



Our next **School Association meeting** will be held on **Wednesday 26th February** from 6pm in the School Library. The committee is made up of a group of enthusiastic volunteers who arrange fundraising events throughout the year. If you have a little spare time and feel you could help in any way, the committee would be delighted to welcome you.

We will be holding a **Coffee Morning** on **Friday 13th March** at St Patrick's Hall in Peel. This event will take place between 10am and 12 noon. If anyone is a keen baker, we would be delighted to receive donations of cakes, which can either be dropped off at the School Reception or delivered to St Patrick's Hall on the morning.

An appeal for raffle prizes – we would be very grateful to receive items that could be used as raffle prizes at our fundraising events. If you have any 'unwanted Christmas gifts', or anything else that would be suitable, please could you drop them in to the School Reception. Thank you.

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We are delighted that the local Co-op Food Store continues to support our School Association as part of their 'Local Community Fund'. Every time you use your Membership Card and purchase Co-op branded products, a portion of the value of your goods will be donated to our cause.

If you aren't already a member, please be sure to pick up a leaflet in store. Alternatively, you can join the scheme by visiting the Co-op website - <https://www.coop.co.uk/membership>



The School Association has its own Facebook page. For useful information please be sure to follow them –

https://www.facebook.com/QEII-High-School-Association-1749586035344871/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

PE Department/Sports News

Senior Games – Paddle Sports

Autumn term saw a group of students visiting Injebreck Reservoir with QEII and Ardwhallan OEC staff to participate in various paddle sports, which was one of the Senior Games options available to them.

The students used canoes, kayaks and stand-up paddleboards throughout the term, developing existing knowledge and learning new skills. They practised transferable strokes which can be used across all craft and learned how to escape a capsized kayak in the freezing waters. Some of the GCSE PE students also gained a good base-skill which could be used for the course if they wish to. Of course, there was also time for fun and games too, with multi-craft races and balance tests on the paddleboards!

Spring term will see the return of rock climbing, with a good number of adventurous students taking to the ropes. Watch this space!



Year 8 Hockey Champions!

Back in November our Year 8 Hockey team won the IOM Schools Championships, holding their title for the second year in a row. Their ethos to training and representing the School proudly is a credit to their success, ending the season as undefeated champions, which is no mean feat!

Throughout the tournament the girls dominated in possession, creating fantastic goal scoring opportunities, which were converted with flair and precision. A highlight of the afternoon was the display of teamwork, with all girls demonstrating great resilience to work hard for each other on and off the ball, with outstanding tactical organisation in set pieces.

A special mention to the other three hockey teams throughout the season, who trained with commitment and secured many respective victories throughout, highlighting the exciting depth of talent in this year group. You are all a credit to the School and we are extremely proud of your performances as a year group, well done!



PE Department/Sports News - continued

Basketball

We have had a successful Basketball season, with both the Inters and Seniors making it to the finals undefeated.

Unfortunately, for the Inters, it wasn't meant to be, as they lost out to Ballakermeen High School by only 7 points in the recent final. They put on an impressive show against a predominantly Year 10 BHS team and they represented the School so well with their skills and their attitude both on and off the court.

The Seniors managed to achieve the 'dream season' as they went on to win their final against Castle Rushen High School by about 20 points. This means that they achieved the back-to-back championship that they wanted as they took the win last year also! For many of the students it was their last basketball game for QEII, and again, attitudes and ability wise they represented QEII to the highest level. It was a fabulous way to finish and we would like to thank you for your dedication and commitment, well done!



Peter becomes Manx Youth Games Ambassador

Congratulations to Year 13 student, Peter Boussougou, who has been selected to be a 2020 HSBC Manx Youth Games Ambassador!

Peter will be delivering sports sessions and facilitating the Manx Youth Games, creating sporting opportunities for hundreds of local students.

Only two students across the whole Island were selected for this accolade. QEII are extremely proud of your achievements, well done!

QEII Extra Curricular Sport Timetable Spring Term 2020

	Monday	Staff	Tuesday	Staff	Wednesday	Staff	Thursday	Staff	Friday	Staff
	Senior Netball Breakfast Club 8:00-8:45 RPA/RDU		Yr.7 Netball Breakfast Club 8:00-8:45 RDU/MSM		IGCSE Revision 8:00-8:45 RPA		Yr.8&9 Netball Breakfast Club 8:00-8:45 RPA			
Break	Sports Hall		Sports Hall		Sports Hall		Sports Hall		Sports Hall	
Lunchtime	Intermediate Yr.9 & 10 Football & Netball	RPA HRI MSM MCL AMC	Dodgeball	RPA MSM	Boxing	DWI	Junior Yr.7 & 8 Football & Netball	RPA RDU DWI TKE MSM	Boys Hockey	LFR CWI
	Year 7 Dance	EWA			Junior Basketball	RDU MCL				
	Table Tennis & Badminton	JST	All Years Dance	EWA	Year 8 & 9 Dance 13:00-13:30 Boys Dance 13:30-14:00	EWA				
	Fitness Suite Every Lunchtime 1:10-1:45									
After School	Year 7 Football & Netball	DWI RDU MSM	Year 8 Netball	RPA MSM	Intermediate Year 9 & 10 - Netball Year 10 - Football	HRI RPA AMC MSM	Yr.7 & 8 Rugby	CHO DWI		
			Boxing	DWI	Acro Dance	EWA				
	Year 9 Football	MCL	Senior Football	MCL	Year 8 Football	TKE	IGCSE Revision	MCL		
							Fitness Suite	Staff only	Fitness Suite	6th form only
	Year 8 Fixtures	TKE/RPA	Year 10 Fixtures	AMC/ RPA	Year 7 Fixtures	DWI/RDU	Senior Fixtures	MCL RPA/RDU	Year 9 Fixtures	MCL/ HRI
KEY										
Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10		All Years		

Spring Term fixtures can also be found on our School website –

<https://qe2.sch.im/pages/index/view/id/24/School%20Clubs>

Appeal for donations of sports clothing, footwear and equipment

At the end of this academic year, a group of students are going on a sports tour to South Africa. They will be visiting and playing against a range of schools and teams while they are there. They will be competing in some affluent areas against private schools, and at the other end of the spectrum, they will also be visiting and competing against local townships, where the children that they will be competing against literally have nothing and live in huts around the area. Our students are looking forward to visiting these areas and want to help the children in a positive way by leaving gifts of clothing, kit, footwear, or anything else that will impact the children there for years to come beyond our visit.

We are looking for donations of any old equipment, old/spare clothing or kit, old boots or trainers that we can give to children in these areas. Clothing and equipment does not have to be brand new to be donated and can be anything that your child has grown out of or doesn't use/wear anymore. Anything will be accepted, however, we do ask that it is in a reasonable condition to be able to pass on. Alongside this, we are also seeking donations from local sports clubs/teams who may have kits/equipment that they no longer use which is in good condition. If you know of any clubs in this position, please ask them to contact Miss Dunne at the School. Donations can be dropped into the box at School Reception, or if it is a large quantity of items, they can be dropped straight to the PE area.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Important dates...

February

Thursday 6th February – Evening with the Sixth Form

Sunday 9th – Wednesday 12th February – Geography AS Field Trip to Manchester

Thursday 13th February – Dance Showcase

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February – Half Term

Wednesday 26^h February – School Association Meeting, 6pm in the School Library

March

Wednesday 4th March – 14-19 Information Evening for Year 9 and Year 11

Thursday 12th March – Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening

Friday 13th March – School Association Coffee Morning, 10am until 12noon at St Patrick's Hall, Peel

April

Thursday 2nd April – Spring Showcase

Monday 6th – Friday 17th April – Easter Holidays

May

Friday 1st May – Record of Achievement Ceremony

Friday 8th May – Bank Holiday

Friday 15th May – HPV vaccination 2 for Year 8 students

Monday 25th May – Bank Holiday

Tuesday 26th May – Heats Day

Thursday 28th May – Reserve Heats Day

Friday 29th May – Friday 12th June – Half Term

June

Monday 22nd June – Friday 3rd July – Year 10 Work Experience

Monday 29th – Tuesday 30th June – New Intake Days

July

Friday 3rd July – Sports Day

Monday 6th July – Tynwald Day

Tuesday 7th July – Reserve Sports Day

Thursday 9th July – Creative Arts Evening

Thursday 9th – Friday 10th July – QEII's Got Talent

Wednesday 15th July – Sports Awards Presentation Evening

Thursday 16th July – Year 9 Science Fair

Thursday 16th July – New Year 7 Tutor Evening

Sunday 19th – Thursday 23rd July – Music Tour to Belgium

Monday 20th – Friday 31st July – Sports Tour to South Africa

Friday 24th July – School closes for Summer Term

August

Tuesday 4th August – SQA Results Day

Tuesday 11th August – Cambridge Exam Results Day

Thursday 13th August – GCE Results Day

Thursday 20th August – GCSE Results Day

Exams Information

Please note that students in Years 11-13 will receive their Statement of Entry, Summer timetable, disclaimer and Exam Guidance Booklets in early February.

The disclaimer and acknowledgement of receipt slip must be returned to School by **Friday 14th February**. Thank you.