



QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

SPECIAL EDITION

SEPTEMBER 2022

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Champions

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the best in the UK

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We are on Twitter. Follow @QPHSchester to keep up to date with our news

WELCOME



I welcome all our community back to school after what has hopefully been a wonderful summer! Once again our newsletter has turned into a bumper edition celebrating all the achievements and

events that make Queen's Park High School the vibrant school that it is. It's always a pleasure to showcase the wonderful efforts of our staff and students!

To begin, I would like to take a moment to congratulate all our Year 11 and 13 students as both our A Level and GCSE results showed significant improvement compared to 2019, which was the last time young people across the country sat formal examinations. This year students surpassed their targets, to achieve our best results as a school to date.

I have been endlessly impressed with the increased sense of pride our students have, both for their own achievements and also for Queen's Park High. We have received so many positive comments from visitors who are impressed by their willingness to engage and interact and they are frequently described as 'a credit to the school' – what more could we ask for?

This has been a really successful start to the term, our new Year 7 students have settled in exceptionally well and are already soaking up the opportunities available to them, visibly growing in confidence by the day. As one year group settles in, the application process opens for current Year 6 children and I cannot wait to meet them all at our Open Evening and Open Mornings later this month. I urge you all to come and visit Queen's Park to really get a 'feel' of our great school. Please visit our website to find out more: [Open Events 2022](#).

I would just like to congratulate all our students who are showcased within this newsletter, for making such a valid and diverse contribution to our school community. I tell students to strive to be their best and staff at Queen's Park seek to find the brilliance in everyone of our students. I am proud of each and every one of them.

Finally, I hope you enjoy reading this special edition and I am truly excited for the new academic year and the success it will bring.

Mr Kearns,
HEADTEACHER



HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Time capsules buried in new development



Students from Queen's Park High School, Chester Blue Coat CE Primary School and The Queen's School have each buried a time capsule in the new Exchange Square in the heart of the Northgate development.

The capsules contain a wide selection of artefacts that the students selected to provide future generations with an insight into life in Chester in 2022.

These include information on each school, timetables and school uniforms; students favourite things, such as hobbies, sweets, fashion, sports, music and TV; coins and Jubilee commemorative items; technology such as mobile phones and contact lenses; along with a Covid 19 facemask and information about the pandemic and how it has impacted their lives.



Students from each school visited the site, (some virtually), in 2021 and learnt about the scope and scale of the Northgate development, the Roman history of the site plus archaeology and construction techniques and careers. The project was designed to enable students to gain an understanding of local history, the construction industry, developments in their local area and careers; aligning what is learnt in the classroom with the world of work.

One year later, members of the Year 8 School Council including: Phoebe, Ana, Amy H, Henry H and Harry B accompanied by Mrs Watts were invited back to the site to represent Queen's Park High School and bury their time capsule.

The time capsules were sponsored by VINCI Building as part of their Northgate community engagement activities and the chamber will be marked with a commemorative stone plaque.

Councillor Richard Beacham, Cabinet Member for Inclusive Growth, Economy and Regeneration, said:

“When the time comes to rebuild a future Northgate, I hope these time capsules will provide a wonderful snapshot of life in Chester for future archaeologists to discover and study, and be as fascinated as we have been by the archaeology we have found whilst constructing Northgate.

This programme for local young people is part of the Council's ongoing commitment to squeezing more value from the money we spend on projects like Northgate; over the duration of the build this has included creating new jobs, offering apprenticeships, and building partnerships with local education providers to inspire the next generation of construction workers, designers, architects, archaeologists and engineers.”

A great deal of care and thought has gone into protecting the archaeology on the Northgate site, which was once one of the largest

Roman fortresses in Britain.

Despite finding over 10,000 Roman artefacts, the works have disturbed less than three percent of the archaeology and the foundations have been carefully designed to let the building 'float' above the ground.

This project is one of many Queen's Park High School are developing, confirming our commitment to providing personal development opportunities and outstanding Careers Education Information and Guidance. For more information on Chester Northgate visit:

www.chesternorthgate.com

“We are delighted to help facilitate these time capsules and encourage students to learn more about the wide range of career opportunities within the construction industry and how we are building Northgate”

Jonathan Roberts, Senior Project Manager
from VINCI Building

Celebrating Achievement

Outperforming expectations at GCSE

Once again, Queen's Park High School students have done themselves and us, as a community, proud. Despite the impact of Covid on their schooling over the course of the two years of GCSE study, students have shown endless determination and a

consistent positive attitude, all of which has culminated in some spectacular results, both at an individual student level and in terms of continuing the trend of improvement the school continues to show in terms of outcomes.

This year, we are particularly thrilled to see our higher ability students outperform all expectations with 29% of grades

awarded being grades 9-7 (old A*/A) including 7% of these at Grade 9, with 20% of all students achieving at least 1 grade 9. These figures show a 100% improvement compared with the last time formal examinations were sat in 2019 and maintaining the improved outcomes achieved in 2020 and 2021. As well as this excellent attainment, we must also pay tribute to the whole cohort of students who have outperformed targets across all measures, showing that they have made better than average progress overall as a year group.





Particular mention needs to be given to the following students who have not only achieved outstanding academic results but have also contributed above and beyond to the wider life of the school and their particular embodiment of the schools' principles and ethos:

- Kaitlin P – 9 grade 9s and 1 grade 8
- Cari G – 5 grade 9s, 1 grade 8 and 3 grade 7s
- Grace S – 4 grade 9s and 5 grade 8s
- Callum L – 5 grade 9s, 1 grade 8, 2 grade 7s and 1 grade 6
- James P – 4 grade 9s, 3 grade 8s and 2 grade 7s
- Hannah J – 3 grade 9s, 3 grade 8s, 3 grade 7s and 1 grade 6
- Jasmine K – 3 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s, 1 grade 7 and 3 grade 6s
- Lucy M – 2 grade 9s, 3 grade 8s, 1 grade 7 and 3 grade 6s

Other outstanding performances include Sienna T, and with grades 7-9 overall, congratulations to: Freya C, Ruby W, Reece S, Reuben S and Grace N.

“

I am incredibly proud of our students and am delighted to see the resilience and hard work shown by Year 11 has paid off. This cohort approached the exams with real maturity and an overall sense of positivity despite the pressures the pandemic brought over the past 3 years. They are a wonderful year group who supported each other admirably and bought into the core values of the school. For each and every student, today is about celebrating their own personal success and determining their next steps in their academic journey, may that be here at Queen's Park in the Sixth Form or elsewhere. It has been a privilege for us as staff to be able to play a part in helping shape their futures.

”

Mr Kearns, Headteacher

“

I am immensely proud of all students collecting their results today. This has always been a special year group, small but perfectly formed and I have really enjoyed working with them over the past 2 years. The outcomes they have achieved today are well deserved and the QPHS team look forward to seeing their continued success over the coming years.

”

Mrs Cutler, KS4 Lead

Defining futures



Jubilant Year for Sixth Form students

Students and staff at Queen's Park High School are once again celebrating outstanding A Level results for students whose educational experience has been impacted by Covid over the past two years, but who have shown positivity, resilience and determination in all they have done, achieving outcomes which are a true testament to this. The school is delighted that the percentage of students achieving A* and A grades has trebled since students last sat formal A level exams and the number of students achieving grades AAB or above has increased by 15% since then.

There are countless examples of individual success to celebrate but a special mention must be given to the following students:

Rory J, who having achieved 4 A* grades in Chemistry, Physics, Maths and Further

Maths takes up a place at the University of Manchester to study medicine. Eirinn M, achieved 3 A*s and 2 As, whilst her peer Tyler G has achieved 3 A*s and 1 A, both will be taking up a coveted degree apprenticeship in Engineering at Airbus.

Congratulations to, Kiara P achieving 1 A* and 4 A grades, who goes on to study Architecture at the University of Dundee, Ceri R who will attend the University of Chester to study Community Policing and Criminal Investigations with 2 A*s, 1 A and 2 Bs and to Beth HP who achieved 1A*, 2 As and 1 B.

Congratulations also to the following students who leave with a range of A*- B grades: Adam T, Amy P, Rhea Y, Joe S, Finlay J and Tom D.



Year 13 Class of 2022 - Celebrating success and their next steps!

Looking beyond the headline grades, there are numerous stories of students who have overcome personal challenges to achieve the grades required to either access higher education, take up apprenticeships or successfully move into employment. We are equally proud of the students who joined us from other schools for the Sixth Form, having been offered a place here based on individual merit and potential, and who have then gone on to exceed their own targets and expectations. These students will be leaving Queen's Park High School to achieve their ambition of studying at University, further emphasising the holistic approach that the school adopts towards its young people. We look forward to hearing about all our students' future successes.

“ I am delighted for all of our students and immensely proud of each of their achievements. They have embraced the challenges thrown at them and committed themselves to online learning, hard study and engagement in all aspects of school life. Their efforts and resilience has enabled them to go on to apprenticeships, careers and further study but they will always be a part of the Queen's Park family. ”

Mrs Prydden,
Head of Sixth Form

“ After what has been a tough 3 years in education, the hard work and determination shown by the class of 2022 has paid off! They have gained the grades they deserve, which will now open the door to their next stages in education or employment. The class of 2022 are now members of the QPHS Alumni and I wish them continued future success and happiness. ”

Mr Kearns, Headteacher





Summer School

A taste of high school life

During the summer holidays, Queen's Park High School staff provided a fantastic opportunity for all our newest recruits and led a special, three day free event for new Year 7 students joining us this September.

Queen's Park High Summer School has always been extremely popular with families as it supports students' transition to high school, helps to develop their confidence and prepare them for the next steps of their educational journey.

On Monday 22nd August, over 80 students gave up their holiday to get a taste of high school life and experience learning in a range of different curriculum areas whilst making new friends in the process.

Over the course of the three days, students were able to participate in science, English, maths, Spanish, art, technology, drama and performing arts workshops. These included: designing, building and testing stomp rockets, creating Mexican Tecuán masks, problem solving with factors and multiples, making small textile plushies, describing a work of art in Spanish, performing a song, dance and script from Matilda, looking at freeze frames, composing their own witches spell based on Shakespeare's Macbeth and inventing imaginary creatures who live in the mythical 'Land of Neverbelieve' - such as the 'blellophant' to the man-eating mushroom! Wow!

“ I really enjoyed making new friends and meeting the lovely teachers and assistants. I like the routine of the school. The lessons were fun and great. My favourite subjects were drama and English. ”
 Rory P, new Year 7





“ Summer school has been a fantastic opportunity to meet our new Year 7 cohort and give them a proper introduction to the school. It has been wonderful to see the children form positive relationships with one another and with their future teachers. The children have really done themselves proud; rising to the challenges of learning in a new way and pushing themselves to develop wider skills around teamwork and overcoming challenges. ”

All students worked phenomenally well and their attitude to high school was extremely impressive - what an outstanding start! Queen’s Park is really looking forward to working with our new recruits and seeing them thrive over the coming weeks, months and years.

Mrs Bearcroft, Key Stage 3 Lead



“ I really enjoyed drama because of all the activities and the funny teacher Mr Yeoman. I also enjoyed science, it was so good to experiment and make rockets. ”

Meryem S, new Year 7



STEM CLUB

SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATHEMATICS



Morse code to ping pong launchers!

This term Year 7 have been busy completing a range of engaging STEM activities after school every Thursday. These have included presentations on their STEM heroes, debates on global warming and constructing steady hand games, to name but a few!

A popular activity involved students making a battery from coins, cardboard and tin foil that was then used to light an LED. This enabled students to develop their engineering and practical skills.

They have also made their own LED torches and used these to learn Morse code. They were then able to send different coded messages to each other, which proved quite a novelty!

Students have also taken on the role of environmental engineers and set the challenge to develop a way to solve how to remove oil spills from the ocean. For this exercise they completed a range of science practicals and tested different materials to discover which could absorb oil from water.

“ In STEM club we researched information about someone in a STEM career and designed a poster. We learnt new facts and developed our team work skills. I enjoyed doing this because we were able to work with our friends to create a poster. We then had to present our STEM heroes to everyone.”

Victoria, Year 7 student



During STEM Club students have also been developing their team work and presenting skills. They have been writing debates to discuss if flying should be banned to help the fight against global warming and then presented these to the rest of the group.

Students have also given presentations on their STEM heroes. Their heroes have included a range of notable people in STEM including well known scientists such as Alexander Fleming who discovered penicillin, Professor Sarah Gilbert who developed a covid-19 vaccine and not forgetting our very own chemistry teacher, Mr Jones, who has inspired many a student to pursue a career in Science!

Year 7 have also been developing their technology skills this term. They have made a buzzer steady hand game using a range of materials and built and tested their own ping-pong ball launchers. This involved students taking on the role of electrical engineers. They wired a battery to a motor in order to spin a wheel which then launched the ball – this was a big hit with the students!



“ In STEM, we have done many things: posters, model making, ping-pong ball launchers and chemical experiments. All of these activities have been fun. But throughout this term in STEM, I have learnt one thing in particular, to try again even after failure. That is how I have ended up succeeding in making a ping-pong ball launcher and a battery from coins. ”

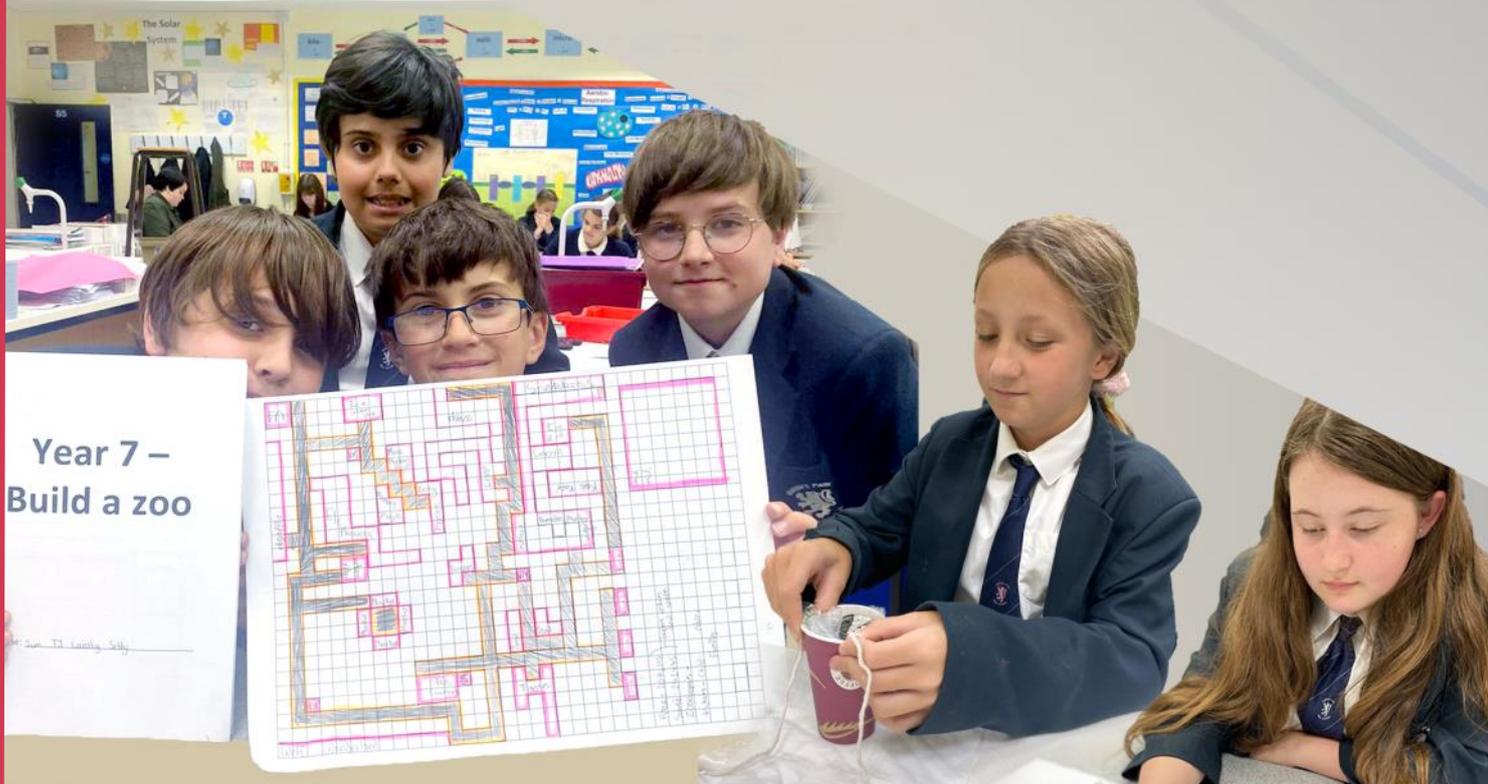
Alvaro, Year 7 student

“ I have really enjoyed STEM but my favourite project was making the buzzer game. I really enjoyed drilling and testing the buzzer. ”

Alisha
Year 7 student



Space engineers, conservationists & zoologists!



**Year 7 –
Build a zoo**

This year during enrichment week each year group was set a different STEM challenge.

Year 7 students took on the role of zoologists and conservationists and had the challenge of building a zoo. This involved students researching the important roles zoos play in the protection of animals. Students then worked in groups to design a zoo and calculate the cost for animals, food and ticket prices. This allowed students to develop their creativity skills and teamwork skills.

Year 8 students had an exciting day as space engineers. They were set two different tasks linked to the theme of space. Firstly, students designed and tested rockets made from paper and card.





Year 7 winners



Year 8 winners

Discovery CREST Awards

The rockets were then launched using the air from empty drinks bottles. It was great to see some fantastic rockets but also see students develop their designs when they did not work out first time. The second task involved students working in groups to develop a parachute to allow their cargo (an egg) to land safely on a planet. Lots of different designs were built from a range of different materials to allow the eggs to land safely and intact!

Year 9 students spent their day designing and building a water filter. They used a variety of materials such as sand and gravel that would filter dirty water. The filters were then tested to see how effective they were at producing clean water by looking at the appearance of it.

During this challenge students developed their maths skills by calculating the cost for their water filters after they had purchased materials from the 'shop'. Finally, students presented their results and filters to the rest of their class.

Last term Year 7 and Year 8 students took part in the 'Stop the Spread Challenge' and designed a handwashing device that could capture rain water which could then be used to wash hands. Students' work was collected at the end of the project and submitted for a discovery CREST award.

CREST is a UK award scheme for 11-19 year olds recognising success, building skills and demonstrating personal achievement in science technology, engineering and maths project work. We are delighted to announce that 196 students were awarded the discovery CREST award for their hard work and the overall winning group from each year was selected for a special prize. To the delight of these students each also received a dynamic robotic spider!

We are thrilled for Keir in Year 10, who has been announced as one of the 'All About STEM' competition winners! Keir's innovative project proves how refuse in landfills can be put to use, in this case to make waterproof clothing!

Congratulations to all students. What amazing achievements!



MATHS HONOUR

Michael Ord Award

Michael Ord was a former Queen's Park High School student who loved Maths. In 1993, Michael sadly passed away from meningitis. He was only 14 years old.

His mother, Hilary, created the Michael Ord Award to honour Michael's memory and to be presented each year to the student who, at the end of Year 11, has shown the greatest improvement in mathematics.

This award is normally presented in September following GCSE results, but due to the pandemic, we've had to postpone announcing this year's winner until now.

Mr Johnson explains why Year 12 student, Michal S is our extremely worthy winner.

“ Michal was in set 2 for GCSE Maths and whereas most of the class sat the Foundation tier, Michal pushed and, with Miss Curtis' support, completed the Higher assessments to enable us to give him a Centre Assessed Grade.

We were delighted at how well Michal performed and were thrilled when we were able to award him a grade 7 for GCSE Maths.

Although he has not received this award until now, he is clearly deserving of it, as Michal has made excellent progress at A level Maths across Year 12. ”

Mr Johnson,
Former Achievement Lead of Maths

Congratulations Michal, we look forward to seeing your continued progress in mathematics in Year 13.



MATHS RELAY RACE

Year 6 Transition Visit

In June, Mr Nixon and Miss Jones took 10 Year 9 students to visit Year 6 at Hoole C of E Primary School to lead a maths workshop and support students' transition to high school. This was a valued experience and an opportunity for our students and maths team to showcase some of the activities and projects we can offer to our feeder primary schools.

Year 6 students spent the morning brushing up on their maths knowledge, starting with a session on directed numbers. After break, they were challenged to a maths relay race - a problem solving race to see who could work as a team to answer tricky maths problems. Congratulations to the purple team who were the ultimate winners! They managed to complete an impressive total of 14 problem-solving questions, narrowly beating the blue team with seconds to go!

A big thank you to our Year 9 student helpers: Holly, Rhys, Macey, Evie, Izzy, Olivia, Kai, Alice, Cameron and Isla for being such great ambassadors for Queen's Park and making the workshops such a success!

“ The Year 6 transition day was a huge success and it was lovely to meet some of our future students. As part of my new role as Maths Achievement Lead, I am looking forward to arranging more opportunities to collaborate with our partner primary schools next year. ”

Miss Jones, Teacher of Maths





LINKING MATHS & ART

The magic of Islamic geometric design

This collaborative cross curricular project united mathematics and art, to celebrate the common links found in both subjects.

For this year's curriculum enrichment day Year 7 discovered the magic of Islamic art and explored the wonderful array of geometric patterns that can be formulated and found in Islamic design.

Students took part in a carousel of exciting workshops throughout the day. Based on mathematical principles, they explored 4 different approaches in a variety of workshops which included: stained glass windows, digital imaging (using tessellations to develop their

designs), Islamic calligraphy and 3D structures designed using geometrical shapes and forms.

At the end of a busy and creative day, students came together in the school's main hall to showcase their achievements. A number of students bravely volunteered to give a presentation to their year group and talk about the work they had made throughout the day.

A big thank you to the maths and visual arts and design departments for coming together to create a wonderful atmosphere that enabled the students to be challenged in their creative outcomes.





GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIPS

Liverpool City Centre

During the summer term, Year 10 students have been enjoying the perks of studying geography and learning outside the classroom as they set off on their GCSE fieldwork trips.

They first began by evaluating the impact of the regeneration in Liverpool city centre. Students started their day at the sunny Albert Dock where they assessed how the area had changed from the 1980s to present day. Students identified changes to land use by doing a land-use survey of the area. They then completed field sketches of two locations at the docks which had undergone significant change. Students had to annotate the sketches with the key changes to the area.

After a walk around the docks students made their way to Liverpool One where they completed environmental quality surveys on all three floors and all of the entrances to the area. This would determine whether or not the regeneration has improved the

surrounding area and environment within Liverpool One.

Year 10 are using this research to write up their investigation ready for their GCSE paper 3 exam in the summer 2023 examination series.

Formby Beach

Our second successful field trip of the year saw Year 10 visit Formby Beach to assess the importance of the sand dunes for coastal management as well as measuring the vegetation growth on sand dunes.

Students used clinometers and quadrants to measure the respective changes over distance.

On the hottest day of the year so far, we had plenty of fun in the sun, and were able to collect a vast amount of data that students will use as part of their fieldwork write up in their paper 3 examination in the summer of 2023.





GOING GREEN Year 8 & 9 Career Event

In June 35, Year 8 and Year 9 students took part in a series of workshops focusing on green skills and green careers within the UK.

The virtual event was led by Ahead Partnership and included an introductory session where students were able to see what green careers looked like in the corporate world. This was followed by a two hour workshop led by volunteers from Pinsent Masons where students looked at developing their own responsible business idea, guided by the UN Sustainability Goals.

As well as flexing their business and enterprise skills, students were able to discover what it means for Pinsent Masons to be a responsible business themselves.

To finish off the event there was an interactive session featuring panellists from a range of employers within the green economy sector. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to learn more about various job roles within the sector, hear professionals speak about their experiences and career journeys, receive advice on routes into the sector and ask any questions they had.



SHOEBOX RAINFORESTS

Conservationists get creative!

Our Year 7 geographers were given an opportunity to create their own tropical rainforest as part of their Extended Learning Project (ELP). We were so impressed with the outstanding effort and creativity from all involved, and are very proud to show them off in geography classrooms!

Year 7 students have been studying Tropical Rainforests in their lessons this term, covering biodiversity, adaptations, tribal culture, and the importance of conservation. They were given an ELP project that used map skills, independent research, and data analysis to produce fact files, news reports and shoebox rainforests.

Sasha created an amazing mini rainforest using a wide range of materials, and carefully labelled significant plant species using key terminology and independent research. Hayden brought his rainforest to life using real-life materials such as grass, twigs and leaves, whilst Alisha created a 3-D waterfall running through the rainforest with fluffy clouds and textured rocks.

From rainforest waterfalls, to colourful (real life!) plants, to monkeys swinging from trees and jaguars skilfully crafted from pottery; these ELP's were created by incredibly talented geographers.

A big well done to all involved!





EXPLORING CHESTER'S HERITAGE

Uncovering the historical & religious secrets of our city

On Monday 4th July over 100 of our wonderful Year 7 students descended on Chester Cathedral as part of an RE and History trip.

On arriving students were split into four groups. Two groups were given a detailed and informative tour around the Cathedral with Barry and Sheila - volunteers who work at the cathedral with many years of experience.

The students were allowed to access parts of the building closed to the general public where they re-enacted a court case! The other two groups took part in a stained glass window workshop with Education Officer, Jen Stafford and produced the most beautiful and unique pieces of work. Students were allowed to keep their creations which will be showcased in the RE department back at school.

After lunch in the grounds of the cathedral, Year 7 were treated to a historical tour of Chester by our very own, historical duo, Mr Howens and Miss Whitford-Stark. They thoroughly enjoyed sharing their local history expertise with the groups, showcasing the exciting sites right on our doorstep.

The tour included a walk along the famous city walls which have been built upon and developed for centuries. What was once a defensive barrier to outsiders is now a thriving tourist site welcoming all! The group learned about the 'kaleyards' or cabbage/vegetable gardens serving the monks of the cathedral during the Middle Ages; the site is now a car park! Walking along the walls they saw King Charles' Tower, where Charles I would have watched his army defeated at Rowton Moor

during the Civil War of 1645. The group were amazed to learn of the medieval plague pits close to the racecourse, and how the site of the racecourse would have been the bustling River Dee and port!

Not forgetting the Roman heritage of our city, we ended the tour with the Amphitheatre and Roman gardens. Students certainly racked up their step count for the day as they were taken through time around our vibrant historical city.

“ Throughout the day the students were well behaved and engaged. They were a credit to the school. Well done Year 7!

Mrs Merry-Weather,
Curriculum Team Leader for Social Studies

”



“

Visiting the mosque in Chester gave us more of an understanding and a really good experience of what the Islamic faith is about and its beliefs! ”

Emily C, Year 10 student



MOSQUE VISIT

Enriching the Study of Islam

During the afternoon on Monday 6th June, Year 10 GCSE Religious Studies students visited the Chester mosque to enrich their study of Islam.

The Imam and Mr Chowdery (one of our Queen's Park parents!) could not have been more welcoming. We had a tour of the whole mosque, which included seeing where Muslims perform Wudu (ritual washing) before prayer, and were lucky enough to witness afternoon prayer in the prayer room.

Throughout the visit students were engaged, respectful and curious, asking intelligent questions. Well done Year 10 you've made Mrs Merry-Weather very proud!



SHAHJALAL JAME MASJID & ISLAMIC CENTRE
23-25 CLIFTON DRIVE, BRACEY, CHESTER CH1 5LJ



“

I loved having the tour of the mosque! It was a really great experience and it showed us what it is like for Muslims day to day. ”

Ellie, Year 10 student



CONNECTING CLASSROOMS

Students film tourist attraction in Spanish!

Year 8 have been enjoying taking part in a pen pal scheme with a partner school in Granada, Spain. The partner school wanted to find out a little more about Chester and as the students have already written about the city in previous letters, they wanted to showcase our biggest tourist attraction, Chester Zoo.

During the trip students filmed a tour of the zoo for their pen friends putting the Spanish they have learned this year into a real life context. In the film they introduced their favourite animals in Spanish, explaining where they live and the reasons why they are endangered. They also took part in conservation themed activities to highlight some of the careers that languages can benefit.

The trip was an ideal opportunity for students to improve and develop their communication skills through group tasks, as well as practising their Spanish speaking skills with other teenagers, whilst proudly showcasing the best of Chester.

“ It was very insightful
Adam B, Year 8 student ”

“ It was an amazing opportunity
Max J, Year 8 student ”

“ Year 8 did a great job recording their favourite animal in Spanish and we got some great footage to send to our partner school. They really enjoyed getting out of the classroom and using their Spanish in a real-life context and we're so proud of their standard. ”
Mrs Whitehouse,
Teacher of Spanish





Acts of Spanish Kindness

Year 7 have been using all the language they have learned so far this year to write an email to a Spanish animal shelter. They have all chosen a favourite rescued animal and written to the charity about themselves and how they would be a responsible pet owner. They were thrilled to receive personalised messages back from the charity and will be completing fund raising activities later in the year to support the excellent work they do!

In addition to their letters, Miss Adamson's Year 7 tutor group have been busy baking sweet treats for a cake bake sale to raise money for the charity and raised an amazing £42.75!

If you'd like to show your support for this charity please visit:

<https://animalrescuespain.es/>



LOCAL MP VISIT

A day in the life

It was an exciting day for Key Stage 3 (KS3) students on the 10th June, when a very special guest came to visit them at Queen's Park High School! Miss Oliver invited our local MP, Chris Matheson to spend a morning at our school speaking to students and having a whistle stop tour of the school site, which he has not seen for a few years.

Chris was really impressed with the fantastic facilities we have here at Queen's Park and was amazed by our incredible KS3 students; two of which Mia and Quinn walked Chris around and gave him an insight to a day in the life of a student here at Queen's Park High.

All KS3 students got the chance to hear how Chris became an MP for Chester. He discussed what role he plays in the community, what work he does in London, why he wanted to be an MP and how he got there and finally what was required in order to serve in the Public Sector.

As well as hearing from Chris, students also got the opportunity to ask him a question. Prior to his visit, students were challenged during their tutor time to think of a question that could be asked to Chris. From over 30 questions, Miss Oliver managed to whittle it down to the lucky six!

Well done to Oscar (7IKP), Poppy (7JOS), Jayden (8KEL), Jack (8JOE), Tayla (9WAS) and Tom (9NIX) for coming up with their insightful questions, articulating them perfectly as well as being a role model to all of our students within KS3.





EXTENDED LEARNING PROJECT

Celebrating Achievement

This year, we have reimagined homework for our Year 7 and Year 8 students.

In addition to literacy homework set weekly, students were asked to opt-in to a homework project each half term in a subject of their choice.

These projects were devised by teachers to include a diverse range of activities in order to broaden our students' experience beyond the classroom. For example: producing a time line scroll of Roman Chester to present a day in history; creating stage sets for a musical production from shoe boxes in drama and rain forests in geography; designing body adornment using paper manipulation in design technology and a whole host of other creative opportunities.

These projects are designed to promote a love of learning, foster students' existing passions and encourage independent skills.

“ I am hugely impressed by the wide range of students who embraced this new homework opportunity and created wonderful projects! Subject teachers were asked to nominate students who had gone above and beyond in their homework effort, and this was reduced to a final list of 30 students. These lucky winners enjoyed an ice cream treat in the sculpture garden to celebrate their success and showcase their final pieces. A massive well done to all students involved! I look forward to the creation of more projects from September.”

Mrs Kelly
Achievement Leader for English





Theatre Trip

Whilst theatres have been open for a while, it has been some time since the school offered a theatre trip to GCSE and A Level students as part of their studies.

Our drama exam board gave the option for students to write about filmed productions as part of their final examinations, however Mr Yeoman wanted to take the students to see live theatre to re-ignite their passion for what can be achieved on the professional stage. So, in May students went to see The Royal Court's production of *Macca and Beth* in Liverpool.

The production was a brilliant scouse farce focusing on both the fortunes and misfortunes of the protagonist, Macca, who along with his girlfriend, Beth, discover that he is the heir to a great fortune as he visits the family home in the wilds of Scotland.

The students really appreciated the performance and the opportunity to experience live theatre again.

Special Effects workshop

As part of the school's commitment to the development of teachers, we work in close partnership with a number of initial teacher training providers to provide opportunities for student teachers to develop their skills in the classroom. Miss Ramsey joined the drama department over four months this year. Sharing her own skills with Year 9 students they worked on their own devised performances.

Using professional stage makeup, students were guided in making their own gruesome special effects which were extremely realistic! Thankfully, our first aid officer had been warned about the activity in advance!



DRAMA

BOOK Review COMPETITION

The Catcher in the Rye review

My favourite book I have ever read is The Catcher in the Rye. I suspect this is because it's a coming of age, perfect for a teenage demographic. Despite being written in 1951, Salinger is effectively able to appeal to, and captivate, the interest of the modern generation with a sarcastic, cynical and pessimistic outlook on this "phony" world. The book begins by addressing the reader directly with the protagonist, Holden Caulfield, appearing to write to us. Immediately, his demeanor is extremely engaging and the writing seems almost self-indulgent in its attention to detail coating every page. With every scene there is seemingly a long tangent accompanied with it, and as a massive fan of complex world building, this only served to immerse me more. Ultimately, my favourite aspect of the book is the lack of conflict. As I kept reading, I kept waiting for the climax: a huge event that would change the trajectory of the story - but it never came. I expected a final twist that would compel me to reread the entire book in search of foreshadowing and irony, but there was none. However, the absence of this is oddly charming and impressive. Salinger proves that ludicrous conflicts aren't required to tell a compelling story - and that's really admirable. For me personally, the story is especially important as Holden is introduced as lonely, isolated and completely clueless about his future. Towards the end, however, a message learns to be a more hopeful one: a message that the reader can learn to embrace thanks to the character's reliability throughout. As a book that explores identity, rebellion and independence, it's a must-read for all teenagers.

Today was: _____
 My problem: _____
 LUCY M.

Students win heart stopping prizes!

With the Netflix rom-com Heartstopper a hot topic at QPHS, we decided to give our students the chance to win a set of the books that inspired the show. Alice Oseman's graphic novel 'Heartstopper' tells the story of Nick and Charlie, two teenage boys who are in the process of finding themselves – and each other. The unfolding story encompasses questions about sexuality, identity, and growing up, and it has won readers' hearts with its gentle and affirming message.

To win copies of the books, students were asked to write a 250 word review of the best book that they had read recently, either fiction or non-fiction, with results being chosen by a panel of judges from the English department. The response was phenomenal, with students crafting reviews that revealed a thoughtful and often sophisticated understanding of literature. Reviews explored a wide range of texts, from contemporary YA fiction like 'Cinderella Is Dead', to adult literary fiction ('The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo') and classic literature such as 'The Catcher In The Rye'.

We look forward to running future competitions which offer students the chance to get their hands on more brilliant books. Well done to everyone who took part!



“ We were blown away with the quality of writing from all entrants, as well as the effort and care that had been taken in crafting each entry. Our three winners – Evie M in Year 9, Alice H in Year 10, and Lucy M in Year 11 – created exemplary responses which thoroughly deserved recognition and reward. ”
 Mrs Cogger, Literacy Lead





CHESHIRE BOOK AWARDS

Book Loving students win county competition

Students from 'Book Lovers Tuesday' club received a special invitation to attend the library awards evening hosted by the Winsford Academy. Book Loving Tuesday (BLT) is one of our popular enrichment options chosen by Key Stage 3 students which takes place each week after school in the library at Queen's Park and is led by librarians, Mrs Irvine and Mrs Melhuish-Jones.

The Cheshire School Book Awards are held annually and this was the first live event since COVID, so our students were very excited to attend.

Over the course of the year students across Cheshire read a range of books from the Book Awards shortlist and placed their votes accordingly.

On Wednesday 29th June nine students travelled to Winsford on a very wet evening to join the celebratory event.

The students gathered with other schools from across Cheshire, excited to hear which authors would be announced as the winners.

In the younger age group the winner was, *When the Sky Falls* by Phil Earle and the runner up was *Girl (in real life)* by Tamsin Winter. In the older group

the winner was *The Outrage* by William Hussey and the runner up was George Lester's book, *Boy Queen*.

Students were delighted to meet two of the authors who spoke at the event - Tamsin and George gave brilliant and inspiring talks on their lives as authors, George especially had the room buzzing with his wit and charm.

In the run up to this event, students across the county were asked to enter a Book Review competition about the shortlisted books. We are thrilled to announce, that two students from Queen's Park High School were revealed as the winners of this competition: Lydia S in Year 7 won 'Best review' in the 5 books nominated in the younger age group category and Gloria K in Year 8 was revealed as the runner up in the older category. Congratulations to both students!

During the evening, students had the opportunity to hear from a number of established children's authors who talked about their writing experiences and as an added bonus they received their own signed copies of their favourite author's books! Some were beyond excited!

“ The students were a great credit to the school, and it was lovely to see them so excited. This must be the very best way to finish my career as a librarian at QPHS. For the 5 years I have been taking the BLT club, Tuesdays have been the highlight of my week in school. So sad to be going but I have insisted Mrs Melhuish-Jones invites me to the future events when she takes over in the library in September. I know she will be as enthusiastic as myself and bring a lot of ideas to the table! ”

Mrs Irvine, Librarian



“ We hope our success at this event will inspire students to read more and be encouraged to become involved in the exciting literacy initiatives we have here in school. We are already looking forward to the next book awards next year and wonder what books will make the shortlist! ”

Mrs Melhuish-Jones,
Librarian & Independent Study
Co-ordinator



E-SAFETY & SOCIAL MEDIA

Information Evening

For many of our parents (and our teachers!), the world of social media is an everyday challenge as we try to learn and adapt to the ever-evolving cyber world our teenagers live in. As staff, we are lucky enough to have regular training and updates from our Parent Governor, Ben McGrath. Assistant Key Stage 3 Lead, Miss Hunter wanted to seek an opportunity for parents to experience something similar.

Ben works for a digital safeguarding solution company working across the country with a number of different schools and colleges. His expertise meant that parents of students in KS3 were able to opt-in for an Information Evening during the Summer Term.

This event enabled parents to become more equipped to protect the young people in their care, whether through changing security settings; having open and honest conversations; monitoring their social media use or simply having a broader understanding of the risks some of the apps our young people use.

Keep an eye out for further events similar in the new academic year, the first one will be aimed at parents of our new Year 7 cohort. The link for the recording of the event is now available on our website, hopefully together we can support our young people to manage their time online and prioritise their safety!



▶ Jesy Nelson: 'Odd One Out'

CAREERS IN MEDIA

Thought provoking workshop

When Jesy Nelson rose to fame with pop band Little Mix, she was abused online. In 2021 she opened up about the heartbreaking effects cyberbullies have had on her life through a BBC documentary 'Odd One Out.'

In this intimate, personal documentary, Jesy exclusively revealed the impact online trolls had on her mental health as she goes on a journey of rehabilitation.

The Communications faculty chose this documentary to inspire a morning with Year 9, as we know that these students are reaching the age where they spend more of their time online.

Students watched the documentary and then chose from five media briefs to give them a taster of working in media. Students created a range of media products such as storyboards, blogs and print-based adverts to raise awareness of the issues raised in the documentaries. They had to consider how to have an impact using image, language and camera angles and had detailed discussions around the importance of the messages being shared.

A thought-provoking morning for all.





RAISING AWARENESS

Talking Relationships

Queen's Park High School were selected to be part of a national pilot project called 'Talking Relationships' working in partnership with the NSPCC.

During enrichment week, Year 9 took part in this project and worked with the Chester Sexual Abuse Support Service. Students learned about positive and toxic relationships, stereotypes and the influence of the media.

This enrichment activity forms part of the wider work we have been doing across the school linked to raising awareness of and challenging behaviours which could lead to abuse and the 'no-one stand by' agenda.



LEARN & EARN

Young Enterprise workshop

Working in partnership with Young Enterprise, Year 8 took part in a financial literacy workshop which encouraged them to consider their personal hopes and dreams and financial plans for the future.

Students learned about the cost of living and explored ways to budget and manage their future earnings by looking at possible career options.



This activity enabled students to start understanding the skills necessary for success in life and future employment. Students also had the opportunity to think about the study options and pathways open to them and how these can be financed.

A big thank you to all the staff from Young Enterprise for leading such engaging and eye-opening workshops.





- In Recognition of a students achievements in Year 12 and Year 13.
- The scholarship funds individual students on a strict criteria

READING SCHOLARSHIP

Sixth Form student awarded for academic achievement

We are absolutely thrilled for Adam Thomas in Year 13 who has been awarded a reading list scholarship from The Reading List Foundation.

Textbooks should not be a luxury!

The Reading List Foundation exists to inspire the generations of graduates who received a free university education to help support those who are following in their footsteps, while facing much greater financial pressures. The Reading List Foundation helps exceptional Year 13 students from lower-

income families succeed at university, by paying for their first year textbooks and providing practical, financial and emotional help. The scholarship is for £250, around the average cost of a student's first year Reading List, which is roughly what a student spends on textbooks in a year.

Adam was awarded this scholarship for his dedication to his studies and his outstanding academic achievement in his A-levels, particularly during the challenging last two years.

The award was presented to Adam by Mrs Prydden, Head of Sixth Form, during the Year 13 Leavers' Celebration on Monday 6th June.

This scholarship will greatly help Adam who hopes to go on to study history at university in September.

To find out more information about the Reading List foundation please visit:

[https://
www.readinglistfoundation.org](https://www.readinglistfoundation.org)

“

80% of students said the scholarship made a 'very big' or 'fairly big' difference to their first year at university. ”

Reading List Foundation

reading list
foundation





Defining Futures Exhibition

As part of our support for students in our Sixth Form, we are working closely with Year 12 students to look at their future options. This work was launched with a visit to the UCAS exhibition at Liverpool Conference Centre on 28th June.

This was an exciting opportunity for all students to look at their options post A Level and start shaping their plans for the future. Students had the opportunity to speak to over 100 different universities as well as apprenticeship providers. They were able to listen to talks about student life and how to make a personal statement stand out from the rest.

All students enjoyed this experience and there was a buzz of excitement as they made their way home, with one student commenting that she was now going to apply to university after the trip!

“ It was very helpful in finding my route after Sixth form, I now know which universities I would like to apply to. ”

Jack D, Year 12 Student



“ This is not just an exhibition about university, but for all students who are thinking about their next steps after Year 13. ”

Mrs Prydden, Head of Sixth Form



College Taster Day

At the end of June, 58 Year 10 students visited Cheshire South and West College.

After an introduction from college staff, the day was all about taster sessions - a 'hands on' approach to decipher possibilities of subjects for September 2023.

Courses were wide ranging from childcare to motor vehicle mechanics, catering to bricklaying and many more.

“ It was a great day for students to experience college life and to see what is available for their post 16 education. Obviously this is only one of many other options and as we hit the new academic year the students will get the chance to experience Sixth Form life and research apprenticeships on offer. ”

Mrs Cutler, Key Stage 4 Lead



Artist & PHOTOGRAPHER of the month

Congratulations to Emily (Year 10), Amy (Year 8), Michael and Jess (Year 10) who have all been selected for the 'Artist' and 'Photographer of the Month' award this term.



Emily



Amy



Michael



Jess



PHOTOGRAPHY

Still Life Project

Year 7 students have been broadening their artistic skills and thoroughly enjoying their art and design lessons this term. Inspired by the work of Laura Letinsky, they've created their own fake still life compositions using pictures of fruit, bowls and glasses, then worked together in small teams to photograph the set up, using torch lighting and simple backdrops.

Students have then been developing their post editing skills using Photoshop to effect the tones, contrast and colours of the image to produce a series of final still life studies.

Well done Year 7!



CELEBRATING

Creativity

'LIVE' EXHIBITION

Showcasing Talent

The summer art and design exhibition at Queen's Park High's Gallery has had special resonance this year as we were delighted to be back live after the past two years of virtual exhibitions experiences.

It was lovely to see the gallery full of both students and their parents enjoying the work on display. It brought smiles, awe and wonder in celebrating students' creativity and achievement in both art and design, photography, and design technology.

This year it has been fantastic to have the students back in the art rooms and workshops, a buzz in the air with making and exploring materials, techniques, and ideas in both two and three dimensions.

The exhibition showcases students' work from Year 7 all the way through to Year 13 and can now be viewed via the gallery section on the school's website. Please visit: ['LIVE' Exhibition](#)

“ I'd like to thank all the students for their hard work and commitment in producing the amazing work on display and continue the outstanding legacy we have here at Queen's Park High School. ”

Mr Parker
Curriculum Team Leader for
Visual Arts & Design





Enrichment WEEK

Learning beyond the curriculum

Whilst our school curriculum is designed to be engaging, diverse and deliver a broad knowledge base, it is always a pleasure to offer our Enrichment Week as an opportunity to experience learning beyond the curriculum. From Monday 4th to Friday 8th July, all our students enjoyed a fantastic range of educational experiences which took place both in and out of the classroom.

Year 10 and 12 students encountered work experience for the first time (something we have not been able to offer over the course of the pandemic), whilst Year 7, 8 and 9 students experienced a plethora of enriching opportunities and activities.

The science department once again produced a range of innovative STEM challenges including the design and logistical planning for a brand-new zoo!

The visual arts and design faculty combined forces with the maths department to look at patterns and shapes in Islamic art, they also organised an off-site photography trip to The Meadows and a belated jubilee themed technology and design day.

The maths department continued to broaden their offer with two trips to experience life at Chester University along with a morning supporting the Young Enterprise team and our Year 8 students with the development of

their financial literacy skills for the future. English and Modern Foreign Languages had a busy week focusing on student wellbeing, Greek mythology and travel and tourism. Students learned about the Greek hero Odysseus, made masks from Greek theatre, and then performed a scene from Simon Armitage's play script of *The Odyssey*.

The Social Studies and EBacc faculties offered a broad range of opportunities including a trip into Chester to experience the culture, history and religion of the city and some deep spiritual thinking around the 'soul'.

Finally, the physical and performing arts faculty were engaged in delivering: emergency first aid training to Year 9, sports day for all KS3 and a week of intensive drama workshops. We were incredibly privileged for these workshops to be led by West End performer Michael Southern (Sammy in *Blood Brothers*) and choreographer Rhianne Stubbs who has worked on productions from all over the UK including '*Oliver!*' (Storyhouse 2021)!

“ The week was a welcome and wonderful return to cultural enrichment which the school is renowned for delivering so well; it was certainly a week enjoyed by all and a fantastic end to the school year. ”

Mr Yeoman,
Assistant Headteacher



BELATED JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

'The Best of British'

As this year's Platinum Jubilee celebrations took place in the school holidays, the visual arts and design technology department took the opportunity during enrichment week to relive this momentous event and delivered a series of workshops based around British culture.

Year 8 students spent a day moving through a carousel of vibrant activities to celebrate the 'Best of British'!

In Food Technology, the focus was on the traditional British cream tea and students learned how to make and bake scones, which they later devoured with butter, jam and cream! In art and design students created jubilee cake boxes based on Jamie Reid's artwork for the Sex Pistols, 'God Save The Queen. The boxes were designed and

constructed from nets before being decorated with a collage of paint and iconic British images. Red, white and blue hanging decorations and paper chandeliers were made through group work and displayed in the sculpture garden. In technology students looked at traditional British games before creating their own wooden spinning tops with different optical effects.

In conjunction with the jubilee celebrations, Queen's Park High School wanted to go one extra step and support The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC). This project devised by HRH The Prince of Wales is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 inviting people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee". With a focus on planting sustainably, the QGC

encourages the planting of trees to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, which will benefit future generations.

As Mrs Irvine, Library Manager was also keen to leave her own lasting legacy as she was retiring this year, with a group of her Book Loving Tuesday enrichment group, they chose a spot in the sculpture garden to plant what will grow to be a beautiful apple tree enhancing the school environment for future generations of Queen's Park High students to enjoy.

A big thank you to Wayne for creating the bespoke commemorative plaque to mark the occasion, which is will be placed next to the tree along with hand-painted union jack coloured pebbles by our BLT students.





Hello & goodbye

Farewell from Mrs Scanlon



When I arrived in September 2006, who could have imagined that I would be sharing my goodbye at the end of 16 years? Not me, for sure. Back then, I could never have anticipated how important Queen's Park would become to me. For those of you who know the school well; whether as a member of staff or as a student, you will easily be able to understand how special the place is and how it gets hold of you in a way that it's easy to just become part of the place and very difficult to leave. I've told students that I could never just go to a new school which is why this next step is about a completely new challenge for me working alongside schools to ensure that all young people have the best opportunities.

Over the years, I have undertaken lots of different roles which have allowed me to work closely with many special young people. There have been ups and downs along the way, but my lasting memories will always be of the good times. As Mr Kearns has said on many occasions, the things we remember from our school days are not the great English or music lessons we had one Tuesday in December, but all of the extra opportunities and experiences which leave a mark on us and that is the case for me as a teacher too. As well as the wonderful in class experiences I

have had as a teacher during my time here whether that be in: music, criminology, English and even French(!), I have been very lucky to be involved in many experiences during my time here and to spend time with our students outside of the classroom. From the many musical shows we've produced over the years showcasing the immense talent we have here, to residential visits from Conway to LA and London to New York. These are the experiences which have really shown me the best of our QPHS team and I am grateful for the teams that I've worked and travelled with who are genuinely the most dedicated and talented colleagues (and friends), and with whom I know that the future students will continue to be supported, challenged and encouraged by.

Queen's Park will always hold a very important place in my heart, and as I've said to all of the students who have spoken to me about my future plans, you can't get rid of me that easily and I look forward to keeping in touch and seeing all of the success that is to come for every young person who is lucky enough to be part of this family. Thank you to the whole QPHS team; students, parents, staff and our community; I will miss you all but know that the future of the school is one which will go from strength to strength.

”
Mrs Scanlon,
Former Deputy Headteacher



MEET OUR HEAD STUDENTS

Introducing our Student Leadership Team

“

We are the head students for this coming year, and we're excited to be a part of the school's development alongside the staff and student body.

Something that's really important to us as a leadership team is bringing people together in the aftermath of Covid-19. We feel year groups face a large divide after so many months of distancing, and bringing back a sense of community is something we're very passionate about.

Another thing that's really important to us is ensuring that at Queen's Park we facilitate learning for everyone involved and do our absolute best to support all students. We will be taking advantage of student feedback to ensure that all students at Queen's Park are taught in

ways that work for them to not only make sure all students do the best they possibly can but to add a sense of uniqueness to our ways of teaching.

In order to involve students in house events, clubs, and other extracurricular community activities, putting in place some medium for student news is also a priority. This could be a daily bulletin to be read in tutor time, where staff can send in their announcements to publicise charity events, and students can get informed about what there is to get involved in.

We are really excited to work with both staff and students throughout the next year.

”

Student Leadership Team



We are very proud to introduce our new Student Leadership Team who were recruited at the start of June from a broad selection of Year 12 students.

Head Students: [Anna K](#), [Jack S](#) & [Tess G](#)

Head of Eaton House: [Lily B](#)

Head of Grosvenor House: [Joel C](#)

Head of Westminster House: [Joe B](#)

Anti-bullying and Wellbeing Ambassador: [Craig D](#)

Communications and Logistics Officer: [Jack D](#)

As part of their induction to their new role, Queen's Park High School's former Headteacher, now The Learning Trust Development Director, Lyndsay Watterson, visited the school to deliver a 2 hour leadership masterclass with the new team.

The team has already hit the ground running with plans for 2022-23 which will re-vitalise 'student voice' in the school and bring new life to our House system including the launch of our very own QPHS Radio, postponed as a result of the pandemic.

Celebration Ball

Class of 2022



END OF AN ERA

Leavers' Prom

At the end of the Summer Term, staff and students came together to celebrate the successes and achievements of both Year 11 and Year 13 and to mark the end of their formal education, at their Leavers' ball. Year 11 started off the celebrations on 28th June at The Cheshire View, followed by Year 13 on 30th June at The Queen at Chester Hotel.

At both events students did themselves proud and were dressed to impress as they toasted the end of this part of their educational journey. After some refreshments, students and staff danced the night away and really came together as a team to share the celebration.



“ The prom has been a lovely occasion and we look forward to seeing the students again in August where we can celebrate their results and achievements. It is an honour to be part of these young people’s lives and we all wish them the very best for the future. ”

Mrs Prydden, Head of Sixth Form



Year 13

For our Year 13 students there were tears of happiness and sadness as it marked the end of an era at Queen’s Park High School. It was a special and memorable evening, celebrating students’ hard work, resilience, determination and achievements over the last 7 years particularly over the last couple of years as they coped with working through the pandemic and pressure of their A Level exams.

“ Well done to our Year 11 students, I am unbelievably proud of the way they conducted themselves throughout their exam period and I look forward to celebrating with them further on results day. We wish them all the very best for the future and look forward to seeing many of them return in our Sixth Form. ”

Mrs Cutler,
Key Stage 4 Lead



Year 11



TRAVEL SMART

Students are pedal ready!



All students from Year 7 and 8 were given the opportunity to take part in the level 2 and 3 Bikeability programme. The Bikeability course is a practical road safety training which develops students' skills for cycling on complex, busy or fast roads and junctions. Students were taught how to identify important observations, choosing the most suitable riding position on the road, communicating intentions clearly to others and understanding priorities on the road.

During the session students navigated the roads in and around Handbridge, under the close supervision of three experts in cycle safety from Bike right UK, Joh Hughes, Oliver Briscoe and former QPHS student Jason Corbett (Class of 2004).

The importance of cycling safety has also been emphasised to students as part of the citizenship

lessons. Mr Taylor, Curriculum Team Leader for the Physical & Performing Arts leads by example and has himself taken on a number of cycling challenges in the past, including the coast to coast as well as cycling the 1000miles across the length of France, so he is all too aware of the potential dangers posed by cycling.

We hope this course will not only inspire students to cycle into school, but give them the tools to cycle independently, confidently and safely. In total 52 student were successful in gaining their level 2 and 3 qualifications.

Well done to all those students who have now passed their level 2 and 3.





“ It is fantastic that so many of our students choose to cycle into school. This promotes a lifelong appreciation of healthy active lifestyles. It is vital that students recognise the importance of cycling safety and that they support one another to equip themselves appropriately, and that starts with wearing a helmet. ”

Mr S Taylor, Curriculum Leader PPA



CRICKET CHAMPIONS



Unrivalled first season

Our Year 8 boys achieved great success in their first cricket season.

The team, passionately represented by Healy S, Aryan S, Sam B, Jack M, Fynn O, Bruno B, Joe M, Evan M and Carlos V bowled their way through a tough field of opponents.

Although faced with some strong opposition in The Chester Catholic High and Blacon High schools, our boys ran out victorious in both meetings with each school, retiring from their campaign undefeated!

Well done boys!

ATHLETICS

Storming to victory

This year proved to be another proud moment for Queen's Park High School athletics team as we competed at the district athletics competitions in Deeside.

Introducing Year 7 and Year 8 to their first taste of high school competition, they confidently competed in a range of new disciplines in track and field and came up against some stiff competition. It was not without success however and we had some great individual performances: Alice N in Year 8 won the 800m, Millie W in Year 7 came 2nd in the 100m, Bruno B in Year 8 gained 3rd in the high jump, and both Katie GJ and Kristiya in Year 7 came 3rd in the javelin.

It was at the Year 9 and Year 10 event where we observed our greatest success with a phenomenal performance by Rodrigo T in Year 9 which earned him 1st place in the 100m boys race. As a result he was selected to represent Chester and District at the Cheshire Championships at Ellesmere Port Sports Village.

Similar success was shared amongst Year 10, with Rafael D finishing 3rd in the high jump, Keira O and Evie H - 2nd in shot put, Murphy S - 2nd in javelin and Keir G - 2nd in the 400m. Lewis P stormed to victory in the 100m winning 1st place. Lewis, Rafael and Keira went on to represent Chester and District and compete at the Cheshire Championships, where Keira came a very respectable 5th place and Lewis won so was subsequently selected to represent Cheshire at the Mason trophy in Stoke.

Amazing results! Well done to all involved!



Year 7 & 8



Year 9 & 10

TROPHY WINNERS

Chester & District rounders champions!

The summer term was full of activity for the girls in PE which saw rounders replacing netball, a big athletics competition and a team of girls attempting to defeat the independent schools at tennis!

The term started with rounders fixtures for the Year 7 and 8 teams against Blacon and Chester Catholic High School. They started well with wins for both age groups.

On Tuesday 30th June, Queen's Park girls entered the U13 tennis tournament hosted by The Kings School. This is not a tournament we usually enter and it is often dominated by The Kings and The Queens independent schools, however, armed with rackets in hand and a sense of determination the girls fought hard. The winners of the competition was the school who had won the highest numbers of games. Our Queen's Park girls was just pipped to the post and missed out on the runners up place by one match! A great achievement and huge congratulations to all players involved.

The highlight of Mrs Cutler's summer term has to be the rounders tournaments and Year 7 have been awesome!

The tournament was hosted by Bishops High School on Thursday 23rd June and although Queen's Park didn't have the best start to the day with our star player and bowler off absent due to illness, Immi W and Evie B stepped in last minute and were a credit to the team. The girls managed to gain top spot in their league before the heavens opened. They had beaten Abbey Gate College, The Queen's School and Bishops and drawn against Christleton. Unfortunately the rain put a stop to play so the tournament's final had to be postponed to a later date.

The girls needed to play Blacon High School who had come top of their league. Friday 8th July was set as the new date of play. We travelled to Blacon with a full compliment of players. The game was close with some great batting from both sides but also some



fielding errors on both sides. Nerves had clearly taken hold. After an innings each of 18 good balls, the score was 5½ to 7. We had done it! For the first time since 2007, Queen's Park High School had won a Chester and District trophy!

“ Proud didn't come anywhere close to it! Well done to all the players who took part in the league and final matches. What a great performance!
Mrs Cutler,
KS4 Lead and Teacher of PE ”



SPORTS DAY

A celebration of team spirit

Sports day presented an opportunity for the school to celebrate its sense of community and sporting achievement. Students from year 7, 8 and 9 competed to represent their house in pursuit of the coveted house trophy. You could sense the excitement in the air as the crowd roared for the first event of the day, the 100m sprint. During the afternoon there was a multitude of events, which encouraged everyone to participate. Some events were more traditional such as high jump, shot put, javelin and our track events. Other activities were focused on galvanising a sense of teamwork, such as rowing, snag golf, walk the plank, tug of war as well as an

inflatable penalty shoot-out and nerf range. There were several standout performances this year including achievements and new records from:

- 9WAS: Walk the plank - 15secs!
 - Olivia L (Y7): 300m - 52.4secs
 - Rodrigo T (Y9): 100m - 10.93secs
- High Jump new record:
- Millie W & Immy W (Y7) - 1.35m
 - Archie R & Oliver R (Y9) - 1.54m
 - Izzy M (Y9) - 1.55m

Mr Yeoman, who acted as chief announcer and DJ, created a party atmosphere and a healthy sense of competitiveness between the houses.

The modern-sports day trophy dates back to 2017, when the house system was founded at Queen's Park High school. Since then Eaton house have proudly won the trophy three times in 2017, 2018 and 2019. Eaton's successful reign came to an end last year when Grosvenor house were crowned 2021 winners. Following a sense of anticipation and excitement, Mr Kearns proudly presented this year's sports day trophy to the 2022 winners for a second year running, Grosvenor House!



SPORTS HONOUR

Michael Ord Award

The Michael Ord Award is a particularly important and meaningful memorial trophy which is presented to a nominated sixth form student each year from Queen's Park High School for their outstanding contribution to sport. This year the award was presented to Year 13 student, James Cox.

James has received the award for his passion for rowing. James has been a member of Queen's Park High School Rowing Club since he started in Year 7. He is a student who also dedicates his time to supporting the development of younger rowers, providing students of all ages and abilities with the chance to develop their rowing skills. James' drive for excellence has seen him perform at the highest level. He has now been selected for the GB World Class Start programme for Rowing!

On Monday 18th July, James was presented with the memorial trophy by Stuart Ord, who set up the award in honour and memory of his son Michael. Michael, a former Queen's Park High School student and keen sportsman tragically died of meningitis in 1993, aged 14. James' name will be engraved onto the honours plaque which lists previous years' winners dating back to 1994.

“ We are immensely proud of James for his sporting achievements both in and outside of school. He is a true ambassador for his sport and deserves this honour.

Congratulations James. ”

Mr Taylor Curriculum Team Leader for the Physical and Performing Arts





Sports CAMP

Fun, fitness & friendships for Year 4 & 5

Due to the resounding success and popularity of our Sports Camp over previous years, staff at Queen's Park High School were delighted to offer an exciting and fun opportunity for children in Year 4 and Year 5 from our local primary schools.

On Monday 22nd to Wednesday 24th August, the school opened its doors to welcome over 70 enthusiastic children for this free summer event as part of our transition programme.

This was the fifth year we have run Sports Camp and the response was, once again, overwhelming! Capped at 80 children, this intensive three day event offered a medley of sports led by our legendary Queen's Park High School PE staff and Mr Bearcroft.

Over the three days, all children were able to compete in new and familiar activities including basketball, Danish longball, benchball, badminton, football, tag rugby, ping pong, tennis, indoor athletics, relay racing, rounders, capture the flag, dodgeball, domes and dishes, and not forgetting a favourite of Mr Taylor's and hit with the children - heads, shoulders, knees and cones, combined with cat and mouse!

Throughout the activities, all children were engaged, challenged and then extremely exhausted!

These sessions aim to help improve children's confidence, self esteem, co-ordination, communication, teamwork and fitness, whilst having a bit of fun and making new friends in the process!

“ The best thing about Sports Camp was learning to play lots of sports like tennis, table tennis, dodgeball and more. Also all the teachers were really nice. I would really like to come to Queen's Park High School when I'm older. ”

Devon, Year 4
Overleigh St Mary's





“ I think the best thing was that we got options on what sport we wanted to do and that we got to experience different sports. ”
 Amelia, Year 5, Belgrave



“ The best thing about Sports Camp is making new friends and trying new sports. Also all the staff were really friendly. ”
 Marcus Year 5, Overleigh St Mary's

To celebrate all their fantastic achievements, the staff organised a special awards ceremony in which all involved were presented with a certificate of achievement and participation.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who gave up their summer holidays to plan and deliver such positive experiences to this young group, and of course we must thank all the children, whose energy, good spirits and smiling faces made this year's event another great success.





SHREWSBURY REGATTA

Year 8 rowers make their debut

Another weekend, another regatta. This was Queen's Park High School Rowing Club's first 2 day competition in the calendar and with it came a buzz of activity!

The regatta took place on a beautiful stretch of the River Severn at Pengwern Boat Club in the heart of Shrewsbury. Saturday's event consisted of a 900m course whilst Sunday was

550m, allowing for rowers of all ages and abilities to race past the luscious green riverbanks.

After a cold and wet Friday night for our trailer crew (thanks to Richard and James!), the sun came out shining for the rest of the event, making for an enjoyable start to the season!

For our Year 8 rowers this was their first ever regatta and it is safe to say they smashed it!



“ For our Year 8 rowers this was their first ever regatta and it is safe to say they smashed it! ”

Kayte Parlevliet
Queen's Park High School
Rowing Club Coach



Saturday winners:

- Alice T & Florence W – WJ14 2x
- Lily W, Lucy F, Leah H, Maisie M – WJ15 4x-
- Grace N, Sienna T, Freya C, Amelie P – WJ16 4x-
- James P, Fin M, Tom B, Mate K – J16 4x-

Sunday winners:

- Sam L – J14 x
- Ned H & Matt H – J15 2-
- Sienna T & Grace N – WJ16 2-

Fantastic results! Well done to all our crews!



JUNIOR INTER REGIONAL REGATTA

Representing the North West

Queen's Park had 4 crews representing the North West at the Junior Inter Regional Regatta in April. As part of 'Team Orange', our crews contributed to the North West team, coming third overall (out of 12 regions).

The weather and winds were crazy, with crews competing in huge waves, as if they were on the sea. It took a huge amount of determination and resilience to row the 1km time trial.

James P & Tom B came 7th in J16 2x

Alice T & Florence W came 8th in WJ14 2x

Dan H, Murphy S, Finn H & Keir G coxed by Tyler G came 6th in J15 4x+

Congratulations to all who rowed, with a special shout out to Sienna and Grace who won their heat, and then came 2nd overall, winning a silver medal! This is the highest QPHS has placed at JIRR in recent history.

Amazing achievements by Team Orange!





IRONBRIDGE REGATTA

Taking home over 13 wins!

Ironbridge Regatta is a very special event, with 2019 being the last time it was run, so it was great to be back! This two day event on the River Severn sees a long course of 1km on Saturday and then a 500m sprint on the Sunday. This year we had a record number of entries with 50 students competing over the weekend.

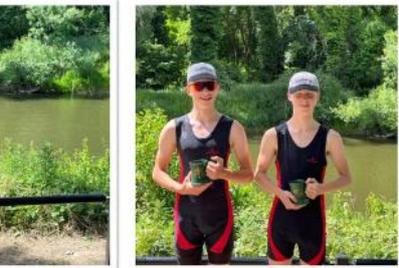
This was deemed our most successful Ironbridge, taking home 13 wins across the weekend and over 40 wins across the heats!

Ultimately, it was a great start to the competitions of 2022, and we are very much looking forward to the next event.

Results:

- James C – Saturday and Sunday J18 1x and Open 1x
- Sienna T & Grace N – WJ16 2x
- Alice T – WJ14 1x
- Ned H & Harvey HJ – J15 2x
- Apollo A, Freddie P, Sam L, Will S with cox Leah H – J14 4x+
- Dan Halewood – J15 1x
- Macy & Freya P – WJ14 2x
- Florence W – WJ14 1x
- James P, Tom B, Nathan F, Mate K – J16 4x-
- Gracie T – W1x
- Harvey HJ, Ned H, Fletcher P, Keir G with cox Tyler G – J15 4x-





NATIONAL SCHOOLS REGATTA

Where future Olympic Champions start out!

What a weekend! Our Year 10 cohort had an early start on the Friday as they ventured down together on a minibus all the way to Buckinghamshire! The team, in true QPHSRC fashion, raced hard and demonstrated one again great team spirit!

For the seniors, Sunday was a brilliant opportunity to showcase their abilities and push their limits, and they did so with much success.

The National Schools Regatta is the largest and most exciting regatta in the junior race calendar in Great Britain. The regatta attracts crews from over 350 clubs and schools with over 5000 competitors. It is the premiere junior regatta in the country. With racing for 10 hours per day, exciting, closely-matched rounds and finals, this is the regatta where you will see future Olympic Champions start out!

The National Schools Regatta runs annually at the Olympic 2012 rowing lake of Dorney and boasted blue skies all day (with a fair bit of wind at the top of the course). Both the seniors and Year 10 rowers made the most of the fabulous weather and racing.

We are so proud of each of them, with some phenomenal results for our crews; beating their own PB's, being placed in finals and performing at such a high level alongside the best in the country.

Fridays results:

- Lily, Lucy, Amélie, Maisie with cox Leah - WJ15 4x+ time trials 37/68
- Ned, Matt, Fletcher, Harvey with cox Kiara - J15 4+ time trials 14/22

Sunday results:

- Kiara - Champion girls 1x time trials 32/42, making it to the D final.
- James & Tom - J16 2x time trials 18/23
- Grace & Sienna - Champion girls 2-time trials 11/13, then 9/12 in the semi finals, making it to the B finals.
- James with Quinn for Warrington came 3rd in their time trial, 1st in their semi final and made it to the A finals for Champion boys 2x





CHESTER REGATTA

World's oldest regatta

Chester Regatta is a fantastic event where we can row on our own river and work with the other clubs on the Dee. The Chester event is renowned for being well run, and it is the oldest regatta in the world.

In addition to the racing, this year we organised the sale of t-shirts in which all proceeds went towards the 'Spacehive' fundraising project, for added security to the club.

The club had terrific support from parents and staff from the school, who cheered from the banks as crews made their way down past the meadows and the sailing straight.

Local wins include:

- Open J16 2x - Callum L & Nathan F
- WJ14 2x – Florence W & Alice T
- WJ16 2- - Sienna T & Grace N
- Open 1x – James C

Well done to all the crews.



RUNCORN REGATTA

It seems the weather gods are on our side this season (touch wood)! Runcorn brought an exciting opportunity for our Year 8 and 9 rowers to compete on a 300m course in a round robin, with prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

The teamwork and support displayed by all the rowers continues to blow us all away and is regularly noted by officials at all events.

Congratulations to our crews in achieving these incredible results:

- Henry H & Jack M – Bronze in J13 2x
- Healy S – Gold in J13 1x
- Eden M, Siyana M, Isobelle C & Phoebe RB with cox Leah H – Silver in WJ13 4x+
- Alice N, Amy H, Annabel C with Royals crew member and cox Healy S – Bronze in WJ13 4x+
- Elen P – Gold in WJ14 1x
- Daisy H – Silver in WJ14 x
- Macy P & Amy J – Silver in WJ14 2x
- Freya P & Macey L – Bronze in WJ14 2x
- Will S, Rhys D, Apollo A, Freddie P with cox Leah H – Gold in J14 4x+



Written by Tyler G. Chief Coxswain



BRITISH ROWING JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Competing with the best across the country

The end of the national racing calendar saw the British Rowing Junior Championships take place at the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham. The event spanned over 3 days, running from 15th - 17th July 2022,

Our Year 9 rowers (J14 category) competed in a 1km time trial on the Friday so they could be seeded into finals for their 1km of side-by-side racing, with their final position.

There were fantastic performances by all our crews with the following results:

- WJ14 1x - Elen - D Final - finishing 5th

- WJ14 1x - Daisy - E Final - finishing 2nd
- J14 1x - Sam - D Final - finishing 6th
- WJ14 2x - Alice & Florence - C Final - finishing 5th
- WJ14 4x+ Macy, Macey, Freya, Amy with Kiara coxing - E Final - finishing 1st
- J14 4x+ Rhys, William, Apollo, Freddie with Alice coxing - D Final - finishing 5th

Our senior crews competed in their 1500m time trials on Saturday and Sunday, with the 2km minor finals taking place on Saturday afternoon and the A and B finals on the Sunday morning. Both these days saw a significant increase in

temperatures, as rowers, coaches and support crews aimed to stay as cool as possible.

There were some outstanding performances for each of our crews over the two days, with crews being seeded as 6th, 7th and 21st in the whole country from their time trial results.

The final results were:

- WJ18 1x - Kiara - D final - 3rd
- J16 2- James P & Tom - B final - 1st
- WJ16 2- Sienna & Grace - A final - 6th
- J18 4x- James Cox in a composite boat with Warrington and Kings - A final - 4th

“ All rowers showed incredible determination and focus and should be proud of everything they achieved over the weekend. They were competing with the best across the country, and their progress over the last 12 months has been fantastic! ”

Kayte Parlevliet
QPHSRC Coach





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ROOFING PROJECT

School wins bid for £500k funding

Queen's Park High School has been successful in gaining funding for replacing the old pitched roof on the west end section of the school building.

We are delighted to have secured an investment of over half a million pounds for this exciting roof replacement project, which will ensure classrooms stay dry for many years to come and benefit future generations of both staff and students.

Work has already started in July and is scheduled to complete by mid November 2022.



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