

# ewsletter

**July 2019** 

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Dates:

Break up:

Friday 19th July

Return to School:

Wednesday 4th September

Training days:

Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd September

**Exam results:** 

This year, results will be available to students on Thursday 22nd August.

Students will be able to collect results at Reception from 9.30am to 11.00am. No results will be aiven over the telephone.

Any uncollected results will be held at Queensbury until Wednesday 4th September and will then be posted out at the end of the day.

Dear Parents / Carers

Fantastic news! The local authority has agreed to fund approximately £250,000.00 for immediate infrastructure work to the school premises. This involves fire doors, windows, immediate works to fix leaks and clad some of our mobile classroom structures. A large part of this funding is to replace the perimeter fencing, which we are awaiting planning permission. Works will start over the holiday period but the extent of the works will result into

some building work continuing during term time. We will aim to minimise the disruption to any learning. The Local authority has also agreed to fund work over the next 3 years totalling £400,000.00. Can I thank all parents and students who have supported the school.



The school also plans to release a new up to date, tablet and phone friendly website in the Autumn term to improve communication with parents. Our new curriculums; **Discovery**,

Explorer, Venture and Navigation along with new KS5 Curriculum launch in September 2019.

Two staff are leaving us at the end of term. Mr Wilkes is relocating to Devon and Mrs Webb is concentrating on her own business. They have both been dedicated to the school and students. We wish them all the best with their new ventures.

Academisation with the Education Impact Trust (Wilson Stuart School) is on trajectory for early 2020. The school will be open on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019, 9.30 -11am for GCSE results day. We all have our fingers and toes crossed. Have a happy, sunny and safe holiday! I look forward to seeing you all in the new academic year on Wednesday 4th September 2019.

Chais Wilson Acting Head Teacher



## **SCHOOL EVENTS/TRIPS**





The Student Council have been very impressive this academic year. They have met as a team every half-term to discuss issues that are going well in school and areas that they feel we could improve. They have played their part in gettina our fabulous new table tennis equipment in school, water fountains and they have said they would like to see more trips so they were very happy to see the attendance trip to Drayton Manor! Recently they have presented their ideas to the IFB which was both professional and confident!

Well done Student Council!

The PTA have been hard at work this year. They have raised over £700, which has been spent on Christmas Fayre, Leavers hoodies, trips to the Pantomime, and funding for samosa sales. Queensbury recognises all their efforts and the students really enjoyed the trip they went on. Some were lucky enough to go to The West Midlands Safari Park and the local cinema.

The PTA look forward to raising more funds during the next academic year and thank Queensbury for continuous support.

As part of the Key Stage 3 Science curriculum, 8.2 investigated the conditions that are needed to grow their own pea plants. They had to keep a record of the growth and make sure the plant got enough water.

10.2 were given the challenge to care for and grow their pea plants for the Entry Level topic (food factory).

Some were more successful than others.









Queensbury Staff have been getting creative at a felting workshop. We are hoping to offer this workshop out to parents too in the new school term.



#### Careers in Focus—Looking back and looking forward

I have really enjoyed my first academic year at Queensbury School. I am writing this with a week to go and I still have another careers related trip next week. We have completed so much this year from the Skills Show in November to a visit to David's Bridal in July and everything in between. Our goal of meeting the Gatsby benchmarks still remains and to do this we need to continue engaging with colleges, training providers, universities and employers.

#### September 2019 and beyond.

Planning for the next academic year is already taking place. We will continue with everything that worked well and all our statutory requirements. We will remove or try to improve things that students didn't gain from. We also have some exciting new initiatives for next year. Where possible these will involve our enterprise partner, the law firm Shakespeare Martineau. We will also have all resources that the Careers and Enterprise Company and Birmingham Enterprise Partnership have to offer. New for next year will be Key Stage 3 Career Focus Weeks for each of the Year groups. We want students to explore career and other ideas for life after Queensbury. These weeks will be fun for students while letting them investigate new and traditional careers, colleges, apprenticeships, supported employment and volunteering opportunities. We will invite employers and employees in to school and hope to arrange a number of work place visits.

For Key Stage 4 we are looking to introduce mock interviews or employee chats. These will help our students build confidence when looking for placements, employment or volunteering opportunities. We will also look at arranging more college visits and promote more engagement with open days.

Perhaps the biggest changes will come in Key Stage 5. We are looking for the vast majority of sixth form students to go out on work experience, such as volunteering at Weoley Castle or British Heart Foundation. These will be for a term at a time, one day a week. We will ask students and parents/carers to find placements as this helps in the future when trying to find jobs or volunteering opportunities. We will be there to offer help and support all the way.

I am looking forward to another exciting and busy year next year!

#### **Queensbury School Prom**

On Wednesday the 26th June the school held it's annual prom at Hollyfields for Year 11 and sixth form students. The students looked fabulous in their outfits and enjoyed dancing to the music played by C C the DJ. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many staff who gave up their free time to help supervise the prom.











#### **Leavers Assembly**

Our leavers left Queensbury on Friday 28th June. We held a special assembly to say goodbye and wish them well for the future. Hopefully we will see them again at the achievement evening in early November, when they will receive their certificates.

#### **Stationary**

From September we expect all sixth form students to bring in their own writing equipment. Students will need a pencil, 2 pens (1 blue or black and the other red), rubber, sharpener and a ruler.



Welsh National Opera has been delivering weekly workshops at Queensbury School this term, introducing young people to the world of opera.

The young people taking part have been learning songs, developing their performance skills and the art of storytelling through music. They presented their very own opera for which they have created the story and written one of the songs to a large audience and their performance was filmed and played at KS3 Celebration Evening.

We would like to thank the WNO music leaders: Davina Brownrigg and Chloe Knibbs and Youth & Community Producer Sandra Taylor for all your hard work and support

9R enjoyed an end of term trip to 'Star City' on Thursday 11th July. They started the day watching 'Spiderman' followed by lunch at McDonalds. All the students had a great day out as did the staff.



### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## BREAKFAST CLUB (Monday – Friday) 8.15am - 8.45am



Toast 10p per slice

Tea 20p

Hot Chocolate 20p

Juice 20p





PLEASE NOTE - There is NO Staff supervision in School before 8.15am. Students must not be in School unaccompanied before this time.

Also, if your child is being collected by a different family member/friend please notify Reception.

Without prior permission we are unable to let your child off school premises until we have contacted you.

#### "Magic Breakfast"

Queensbury have joined the "Magic Breakfast" team, which ensures no child is too hungry to learn. Magic Breakfast gives every child the opportunity to have a bagel during our extended registration lesson, free of charge. For more information on how this is funded please follow the link to <a href="https://www.magicbreakfast.com">www.magicbreakfast.com</a>.

This is run separately to our wrap around breakfast club that commences at 8:15a.m until 8:45a.m.

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