

QUEENSMEAD

Newsletter

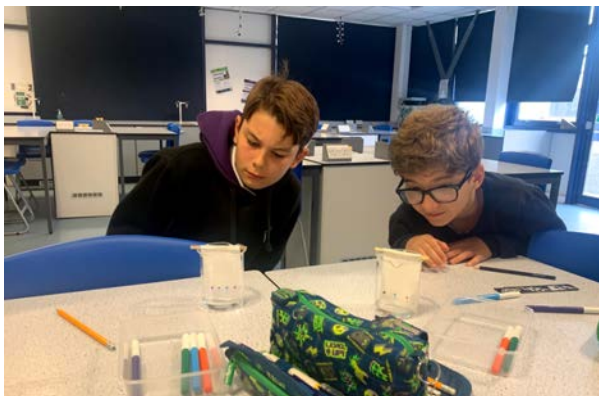
Autumn 2021

Summer School

"The Queensmead Way" Summer School ran this summer for two weeks to allow a selection of Year 6 to 7 students, a period of transition prior to starting in September.

During the programme, the students experienced a range of activities aimed at preparing them for life at Queensmead. The programme was developed to provide a blend of both academic and practical enrichment workshops based around English, Maths, Science, Humanities, Art, Drama and PE.

Week 1 of the programme included highlights such as students making a school values mosaic with the Art department which will be displayed on the school site, before culminating in a Sports Day run by the PE department. Week 2 continued with a mixture of both academic and practical activities finishing with an exciting Friday adventure participating in 'Bushcraft Sessions' including fire lighting and shelter building.

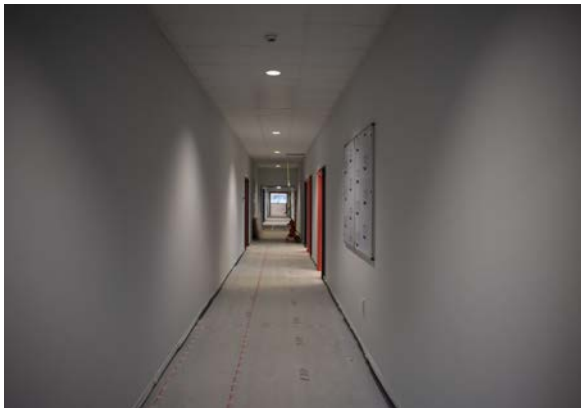


New Build Update

We are delighted at the progress Morgan Sindall has made on the new building.

As you can see from the images, the building is on course to be completed by the end of October. Both students and staff are very excited about having all of their Design & Technology, Engineering, Graphics and MFL lessons in a brand new building.

The builders schedule for this week includes fitting smart boards in every classroom and fitting out the computer rooms and science laboratory.





Queensmead Jack Petchey Awards

We are delighted to announce our winners for last year's Jack Petchey Achievement Awards and the reasons they were selected as winners. Congratulations to:

Isaac S (Year 10)

Having joined Queensmead last year, Isaac already has one of the highest ATL's in the year group. He has joined extra curricular clubs and is a keen musician. He has a fantastic attitude towards school and is one of the most polite students I have ever met. He has made many friends since starting Queensmead and is always looking for ways he can help others around him.

Keira M (Year 11)

An amazing attitude towards learning in all lessons. A role model to other students. Keira worked really hard through lockdown and engaged really well. She is an active member of the school council and is always looking at ways to try to improve the school and help others.

Amy J (Year 8)

Amy is a polite and kind student. She always displays positive behaviour towards her peers and leads by example. She is diligent, hard working and helpful in class. Comments about her offering to assist her teachers in lessons are received on a regular basis. She has made an exceptional start to school in Year 7 and is a stand out student, which is why her Head of Year nominated her for a Jack Petchey award.

Marwan EH (Year 13)

Marwan has given a presentation to Key Stage 3 students about career pathways and how their passions can change over time. He shared his own journey through school over a Google Meet. This presentation received some really positive feedback from students and Marwan dedicated lots of his time to this.

Nikshana S (Year 9)

Nikshana is an outstanding student. She always strives to do her best in all that she attempts, be that in school or outside. Nikshana embodies the Queensmead values of respect and kindness in the way that she conducts herself and through her interactions with both staff and students alike.

Ho-Pui L (Year 10)

Ho-Pui has been nominated several times for the school values awards and this has led to him winning a Jack Petchey Award.

He displayed resilience in the Real Life Monopoly event, where he never gave up. He is always willing to help and goes out of his way to assist staff and peers. Small gestures such as helping put chromebooks away without being asked. Ho-Pui took the initiative and ownership of organising all the students in the form for sports day. He is polite and courteous in every aspect of school life.

Award winners are given a fund of up to £250 to spend on an area of the school of their choice. It is thanks to these students that the school has been given funding to purchase the following items:

The art department purchased watercolor paint sets that were distributed to students during lockdown to assist them with their artwork at home.

The Design & Technology department has purchased a small scale Porsche engine, assembled by Post 16 students, to be used in KS4 engineering lessons. This will be showcased in the new Design & Technology building.



Mr Fieldhouse has purchased a range of new tools for students to use when they are working on our new allotment area.

The PE department received funding from one of our prize winners and they have planned to repaint the basketball court lines on the school playground.



Year 11 Food

The year 11 food groups have made an excellent start to the year preparing foods from different cultures. Each student has chosen a cuisine, investigated the traditional foods and dishes, meal patterns and cooking techniques. They have chosen, prepared and presented dishes from their chosen culture and evaluated their results.

Considering how little practical work these students did in Year 9 and 10 I think they have made a fabulous start to the year and I look forward to some excellent GCSE results next summer.

Here are some examples of their work:

Kasthoori V



Jasmine M



Rabpreet S



Dhiren M



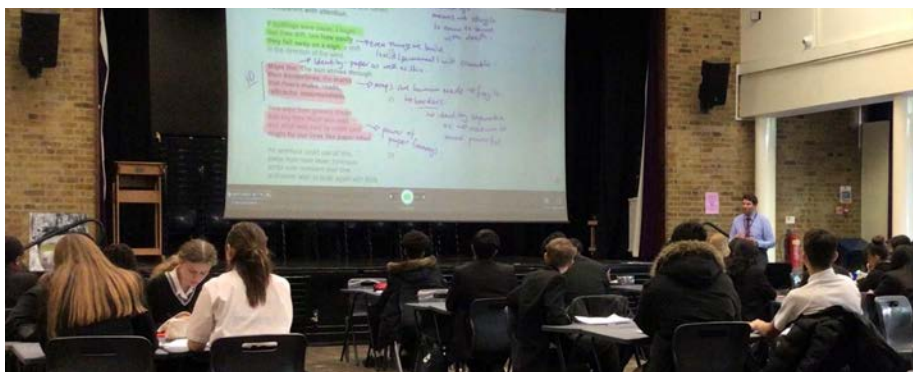
Mastering the skills: Year 11 gear up for national exams

Following two years of unprecedented disruption and uncertainty, the nation has been gripped by the lost learning for our students, and for those facing national examinations in the summer, it is even more worrying.

To help address this lost time and to narrow the gaps in learning, Queensmead has put in place a comprehensive timetable of extra sessions to support our Year 11 students. In particular, the English, Maths and Science departments have arranged a sequence of weekly masterclasses.



It kicks off on a Tuesday, when the Science masterclass takes place after school from 2.45pm. Classes have already spanned a range of topics, from 'Ionic and Covalent bonding', to 'Enzymes' and 'Transport in cells', and the upcoming schedule builds upon existing knowledge as they embark upon 'The nervous system', 'Motion' and 'Newton's Laws'. A large session in the hall is aimed at challenging higher tier students, and two smaller group sessions enable students to get differentiated support to boost confidence.



On Wednesdays, the English department offers a range of sessions on the varying topics and skills required for both the language and literature GCSEs. So far, the masterclasses

have delved into the motif of blood in *Macbeth*, tracing the gory trails that thread through the play. Then, an amazing 74 students packed out the hall to listen to a discussion of the dual nature of setting in Jekyll and Hyde, while small group sessions have focused on refreshing knowledge of other components and skills, from tackling an unseen poem in the exam, to crafting a piece of creative fiction.

In maths, every Thursday, there are a variety of sessions, tailored to cater for the needs of all. In the hall, there is a session for the higher tier students, catering for up to 60 students at a time. Smaller, bespoke sessions take place in classrooms for students taking the foundation tier paper, while a group prepares for further maths. For those students who may simply want an opportunity to get individual support, perhaps to

tackle a query over homework or unravel the mystery of fractions, there is a session for that too!

For all sessions, for each subject, Google forms are shared on a weekly basis to enable students to sign up in advance. It is first come, first served, so please encourage Year 11 to get involved. It's an unmissable opportunity to make up for lost time, enabling them to rise to the challenges ahead, and fulfil their potential!

Miss Scott, Head of English

Queensmead Performing Arts ECA Returns!

The welcome return of extra-curricular activities across the school is met with particular enthusiasm by the Performing Arts department. Students have passionately returned to after-school and lunch time activities with us. There has been a huge involvement from Year 7 students, which is lovely to see, as this will really help with their transition from Year 6 as they settle into high school and make new friends.

On a Tuesday after school we run a Drama club for all year groups. Year 7 Summer School really enjoyed the Drama lessons, so we have seen a great deal of enthusiastic Year 7 attendees. Pupils can learn about acting skills through fun games and devising activities and they will also be learning a series of short plays. We aim to have some brilliant performances to present later this year.

On a Wednesday after school there is a school band. This is a club where if you play any instrument you can come and learn some music to play together in an ensemble. We will be learning a variety of different numbers, from classical music to jazz and film music.

Thursday's after school is a choir with a difference - *sign choir*. This is a brilliant opportunity not only to sing with your voice, but join others to learn British Sign language. The combination of sound and visuals is beautiful and a really superb way to include diversity in the arts, such as the non-hearing community. As well as two songs, the choir has already learned the BSL alphabet and how to sign their name!



Science Club

Even in just a few weeks, Science Club has taken part in a wide range of activities. In the first few weeks we experimented with Bunsen burners. We observed flames burn different colours when heating different salts. We even turned a copper coin silver then gold by exposing it to sodium hydroxide, zinc powder and heat. Using household ingredients like baking soda and sugar we were able to make a soda snake, which creates a dark tube pushing out from the burning sugar. If things like fire writing, alien blood and heart dissections sound exciting to you, join us every Wednesday in S9 for years 7 and 8 and every Thursday in S8 for years 9 and 10. Our Giant African land snails Schrodinger, Fossey, Tesla and Bill can't wait to meet you!



Spanish Club

A promotional graphic for the Spanish Art Club. It features the words 'spanish' and 'ESPAÑOL' in large, colorful letters. Below them, the words 'ART CLUB' are written in a stylized font. A paintbrush is shown painting a blue stroke across the text. The background is a map of the world made of small, colorful objects. At the bottom, a pink box contains the text: 'Tuesday at 2:45pm in room 49. Come and join Mr Luzardo if you want help with your Spanish homework, or just want to learn more about the Spanish speaking culture while making art and having fun using your Spanish language skills.'



The Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Award Scheme is the world's leading achievement award for young people, and is highly regarded by Universities, Colleges and Employers. It encourages young people to develop independence, commitment, leadership and teamwork through being involved in a personalised programme of activities, they choose themselves. The award consists of three progressive levels Bronze Silver and Gold that increase in difficulty and time commitments required.

Over the last two years our program has been interrupted and impeded by the covid 19 restrictions, however I'm excited to inform you that we will be running our bronze program again for newcomers this year and enabling students to finish their awards which were postponed.



This is an excellent opportunity for students in years 9 and above at Queensmead. They must volunteer their time, take part in a physical activity and learn a skill as well as taking part in a practice and qualifying overnight camping expedition. This is not a "taught" award, the students need to be motivated self-starters but we will train and support them for their expedition. To find out more about the award see: <https://www.dofe.org/what-is-dofe>.



Many of our participants also mention the expeditions as a highlight of their time at school and it is the sort of experience they will remember for the rest of their lives as it is a fantastic opportunity to form close bonds with teammates and get their first experience of work through the volunteering section. It also gives people the opportunity to learn new skills such as map reading, putting up a tent or cooking outside!

The sign-up cost to register for the award is £23.50 made via parent pay. This covers a registration fee to the charity, there are also costs associated with the expedition trips and with the purchasing of personal kit such as walking boots, water-proofs etc. If you have any questions please email aclarke@qmschool.org.uk and we look forward to seeing as many students as possible completing the award this academic year! Support with finance is available.



Extra curricular sport schedule

Extra curricular sports are very popular currently and students are often joining clubs each day. There is no booking or cost but students do need to get changed after school finishes.

Queensmead PE Extra Curricular Activities - Autumn 2021

Monday morning 7.15am - 8.00am	Year 11+ Fitness (Mrs Carter)				
Tuesday	Year 7 Netball (Mr Farren)	Year 8 Football (Mr Walden)	Year 9+ Badminton (Mr Fernandes)	Year 9+ Rugby (Mr Fieldhouse)	Yr10+ trampolining (Mr Lattimer/ Miss Reed)
Wednesday	Year 7 + 8 Girls Football (Miss Reed)	Year 7 + 8 Basketball (Mr Walden)	Year 9 Football (Mr O'Reilly)	Year 9+ Netball (Mrs Carter)	
Thursday	Year 7 + 8 Rugby (Mr Fieldhouse/ Mr Lattimer)	Year 7 + 8 Badminton (Mr Walden)	Year 9+ Girls Football (Miss Reed)	Netball Squads (Mrs Carter/ Mr Farren)	Year 10 Football (Mr Fernandes)
Friday	Year 7 Football (Mr Lattimer)	Year 8 Netball (Mr Fieldhouse)	Year 9 + Basketball (Mr Fernandes)	Year 11 + P16 Football (Mr Farren/ Mr Kavanagh)	
Friday morning 7.15am - 8.00am	Year 9 Fitness (Mr Farren)				

Year 11 Borough Netball Tournament

Alanis R, Joely M, Demi M (Captain), Leah H, Rubigaa S, Rachel B, Gabriella D, Saraniya M, Preethika S B and Meri E

On Monday 4th October the Year 11 Netball squad travelled to Vyners to compete in the Year 11 Borough versatility tournament. In this competition every player is given their playing position and this changes every match, making it more challenging and demanding for every player. The girls played with fluency and control in both defence and attack. The squad are to be congratulated on their level of performance and excellent sportsmanship.



Year 10 Borough Netball Tournament

Niamh M, Zahra K, Lily-Rose R, Aisha K, Anjali M, Rithigaa S, Hannah L and Imogen B (Captain).

On Wednesday 6th October the Year 10 Netball squad



travelled to Vyners to compete in the Year 10 Borough tournament. They played four matches in their section, showing resilience and respect throughout. They are a newly formed squad and have been dedicated to training every Wednesday and Thursday after school. They are a talented squad with lots of potential and I'm sure they will continue to improve as they compete in the Hillingdon Schools Netball league this season.

Year 11 football team

First game for the Year 11 Football team this year against Douay Martyrs' ended in a 2-2 draw in a very competitive game.



Examination Invigilators

Queensmead School requires Examination Invigilators to assist with the supervision of all public and internal exams throughout the year. Public exam seasons are January and the summer term, with the bulk of exams taking place in the summer term during May and June. Internal exams are scheduled throughout the school year.

Successful candidates will work as part of a pool of invigilators and you will be supported by experienced Invigilators. We are interested in applicants who are available any day of the week (Monday – Friday) and we can offer flexible hours. Morning exams start at 09:00 and afternoon exams 14:00.

Please contact the examsofficer@qmschool.org.uk for further information.