



# QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

SUMMER TERM  
JULY 2019

## ENTERPRISE & ENRICHMENT

A week of Challenge, Learning & Fun

## UK MATHS CHALLENGE

Students in top 6%  
of the country

Staff vs Parents

## DRAGON BOAT

Grudge Match

## CHESHIRE ATHLETICS

Record Breakers

## ROWING REGATTA VICTORIES

Chester, Northwich,  
Shrewsbury & Runcorn

Year 5  
**EXPLORE  
OUR WORLD**  
Curriculum  
Challenge  
Day

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

STUDENTS COMPLETE  
BRONZE AWARD

SIXTH FORM  
STUDENTS RECEIVE  
**MICHAEL ORD  
AWARD**

# DEFINING FUTURES

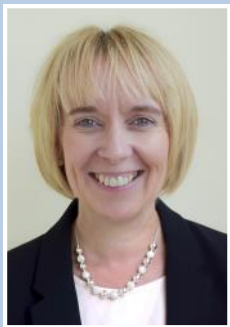
**STEM Dunkers' WIN**  
**CHESHIRE SCHOOLS AWARDS**  
**'Team of the Year'**



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



## WELCOME “



In the blink of an eye, another summer term draws to a close and what a busy one it has been! Once again our newsletter has turned into a bumper edition celebrating all the achievements and events that make QPHS the vibrant school that it is, a positive read to end a positive year!

To begin, I would like to take a moment to congratulate all our Year 11 and 13 students for the maturity, motivation and determination that

they showed throughout the exam season. It can be a very difficult and stressful time of year (for parents and staff too) but they approached it with real gusto and even managed to maintain a sense of humour too. We very much look forward to seeing them on their respective results days now, when hopefully all that hard work will be given the recognition it deserves.

There have been many highlights over the last half term; we were delighted as a school to be shortlisted for three Awards at the Cheshire Schools Awards this year, but even more delighted that our STEM students came away as the winners of 'Team of the Year'. This week I felt incredibly privileged to present the certificates at our annual Awards Evening, a celebration of the hard work and commitment shown by so many of our students throughout the school year. The evening also showcased the artistic and musical talents from Year 7 all the way up to Year 13, which is there in abundance. Thank you to everyone who came along to make this such a special evening.

Normally at this time of year I would also be writing to let you know about any members of staff who are leaving us but for the first year since I have been here, I am delighted to say that no-one is! Instead I am thrilled to report that we will be welcoming back Mrs Phillips to her post of Curriculum Leader for English (a post to be shared with Miss Kelly from September) and also Mrs Strauch who will be returning to work in the Science team. We will also be joined in the Autumn term by Miss Holt (Teacher of French and Spanish) and Mr Usher who will be adding additional capacity to our Senior Leadership Team. This consistency in our staffing is an important step for us in our future growth as a school as we also welcome around 130 new Year 7 students into our community, our biggest year group in the school!

Finally, I would just like to thank you as parents and carers for your on-going support for the school. We received over 150 responses to our recent parent/carers survey (the outcomes of which we will report back fully on at the start of the new year)! Your views are really important to us in helping to ensure that we can celebrate what's good about our school but equally address the areas for improvement. Thank you for taking the time to contribute, we value your partnership in helping us to make Queen's Park the school we all want it to be for our young people.

I hope you all have a lovely summer break and we very much look forward to welcoming our students back again on Wednesday 4th September, once we have all had a well earned rest. ”

**Miss Watterson, HEADTEACHER**

## INSPIRING INDIVIDUALS

### Meet the new 6th form Leadership Team

We are very proud to introduce our new student leadership team, Head Boy, Dan Kefford; Head Girl, Charlotte Carswell; Deputy Head Boy, Reuben Wardle with a focus on mental health and fundraising; Deputy Head Girl, Annie Melia with a focus on inclusion; Deputy Head Boy, Harvey Jones with a focus on mentoring and student voice; Deputy Head Girl, Liv Halewood with a focus on mentoring; Sports/Fundraising Coordinator, Bethan Curtis; Event Coordinator, Flo Pitt Knowles.

“ We all can't wait to start our new roles within the school. We believe that we can further improve the school and community in the best possible way, leading the school to become an even more enjoyable and involved part of the community, allowing everyone to participate and enjoy it. We are beginning to think of events which build upon the high example set by our previous leadership team and move forward in organising a recycling program to reduce our waste. We would be happy to listen to your ideas as we want to take them onboard so that we can then discuss them further in the school council. We are very thankful for the opportunity to represent the school as we all believe that it is a great place for learning and has a great sense of community. ”

**Dan Kefford, Head Boy**







# QPHS TRIUMPH AT CHESHIRE SCHOOLS AWARDS



## STEM slam dunk the finals!



We've been bursting to share the fantastic news that Queen's Park High School has once again been announced as a winner at this year's Cheshire Schools Awards.

The event hosted by Granada TV presenter Lucy Meacock was held in June at the Queen Hotel and celebrates the hard work, dedication and achievements of schools throughout the county, the children who attend them and the staff who inspire them.

This year we took great pride on hearing Queen's Park High School had qualified as a finalist in not just one but three award categories; 'Inspirational Teacher of the Year', 'School in the Community' and 'Team of the Year'.

All finalists including staff and students were invited to the ceremony where the winners of ten award categories were revealed. On announcing the winner of Class/Team of the Year Award, Year 10 students Beth Henderson-Palmer, Tyler Gordon and Kiara Parlevliet (on behalf of 'Team Dunkers') along with Miss Finola Sutton (Achievement Leader for Science) were called to the stage to accept the award.

This genius Stem Club team have had an astonishingly successful year. They have gone from strength to strength, winning the regional heats at The Big Bang and then representing the school at The Big Bang National Finals achieving the runner up prize for the prestigious Junior Science award. The team of seven which also included Rory Jones, James Fawcett, Adam Thomas and Maddy Lewis have worked tirelessly during after school STEM club to perfect their inspirational and unique invention - the biscuit dunking machine! Their outstanding teamwork has now been recognised by the Cheshire Schools Awards - another incredible achievement!

This is the third year the school has been recognised for their outstanding achievement at this prestigious event. In 2017 Headteacher Miss Watterson was awarded the Secondary School Headteacher of the Year Award and last year the school were announced winners of the Communication award.

We hope we can continue this winning streak into 2020!

“It's fantastic to be a part of the continued celebration of our multi award winning STEM club. The students have worked hard together throughout the year and it's great to see that this has been acknowledged by so many people.” Miss Sutton, Achievement Leader for Science. ”

Miss Sutton, Achievement Leader for Science

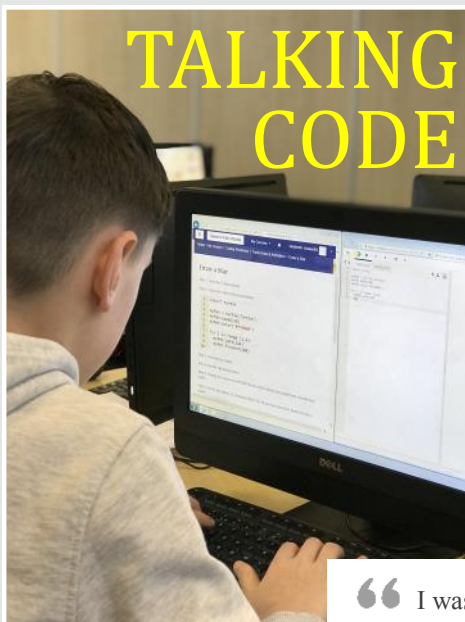


“As individuals and as a team they have proved themselves to be outstanding ambassadors for the school as well as budding scientists of the future. ”

Miss Watterson, Headteacher

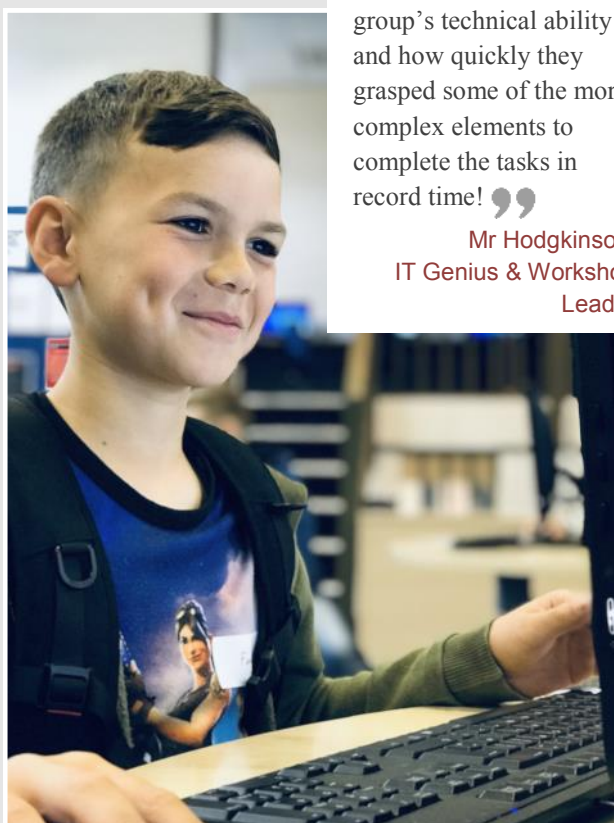


# TALKING CODE



“ I was really impressed with the group’s technical ability and how quickly they grasped some of the more complex elements to complete the tasks in record time! ”

Mr Hodgkinson,  
IT Genius & Workshop  
Leader



During the May half term break, a group of eager coding enthusiasts from our partner primary schools were treated to a free coding workshop at Queen’s Park High School. This exciting opportunity formed part of our Transition programme this year and was offered to Year 5 and Year 6 children from primary schools across Chester. We had a fantastic response and the first sixteen names on the list were selected to take part in the masterclass led by our in- house specialist and IT techno whizz Mr Hodgkinson.

The budding coders were totally focussed and engaged throughout the morning. They got to grips with programming digital art and animations, learned how to translate colour values into code, and created their own reaction game on BBC Micro:bits! By completing sets of small challenges they were able to learn the basics of code structure and formatting in two different programming languages.

Due to its popularity, we hope to run a follow up coding session after the summer holidays – watch this space if you want to reserve your place!

## Ground Control to ISS

During the coding club enrichment lesson back in December, Oliver Womack and Jayden Howard in Year 7 took part in Mission Zero, the European Astro Pi Challenge 2018-19 and designed a python programme which they ‘beamed up’ to the International Space Station (ISS). Astronauts aboard the space station would then run the code designed to take temperature readings inside the ISS and display messages from the students. We are delighted to report we have just had confirmation from the European Space Agency that the students’ script successfully ran 500km East of New York over the Atlantic Ocean on 2nd May at 14:06 for 28 seconds! Congratulations to Oliver and Jayden – that’s what we’d call ‘mission accomplished’!







# EXPLORING OUR WORLD

**It's not rocket science - Year 5 say it is!**

At the beginning of June, we were thrilled to welcome over 300 Year 5 children for our second Curriculum Challenge Day of this academic year. Based on the theme 'Exploring our World', children from ten primary schools across Chester were eager to experience a taste of high school life and rise to the challenging and exciting learning opportunities that our curriculum teams had planned for them. The children worked in mixed school groups to take part in workshops based in three faculty areas - science, social studies and Ebacc.

"It's not Rocket Science..." well in fact it is! In science, we looked at space travel and how rockets use energy to travel beyond our planet. We looked at two different types of rocket - the first a chemical rocket powered by Alka Seltzer tablets which, when they react with water, use the gas produced (that would usually make somebody burp!) to set off a small canister rocket. The children were amazed as almost all their tiny spaceships managed to hit the ceiling!

The second type was a physics propelled rocket. The children built a paper craft on the end of a hosepipe which connected to a plastic drinks bottle. They found great enjoyment in jumping on the bottle to release a large volume of air which forced the rocket upwards.....'to infinity and beyond'!

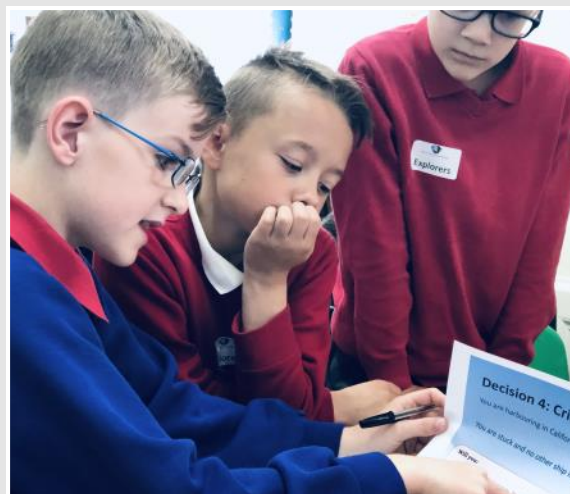
When our young visitors ventured to the EBACC department they had great fun sailing the seas with Sir Francis Drake, debating how to avert disaster on the open seas, rescue treasure for the Queen and fend off some very angry Spanish pirates! This was all before they got very glittery and colourful whilst creating masks for one of the biggest carnivals in the world which takes place in Colombia. It's safe to say they had a great time and may still be washing glitter out of their hair!

During the day, the children learnt about making ethical financial decisions linked to the subject areas of citizenship, business and RE. Students found out about Nike as a company and judged whether or not Nike is acting in a socially responsible and ethical way towards their workforce in Indonesia. We considered fair trade, social justice and capitalism versus democracy as key themes. The children then developed their 'make a change' boards to enact change!

“It was brilliant to see so many interesting ideas about what we can do to make a positive change in society. Well done Year 5!”

Mrs Watts, Teacher of Business

We look forward to working with the new Year 5 children as part of our transition programme next year!





# ALL PSYCHED UP



## Brains, Wizards & Illusions

Manchester University's Psychology conference left Sixth Form students buzzing with experimental ideas and practical illusionary images. The conference enabled both Year 12 & 13 students to develop their skills in cognitive neuroscience, the scientific study of the influence of brain structures on mental processes. They also learned how the brain develops speech patterns and how these can be used to read the brain in 'brain fingerprinting' mind mapping techniques.

This cutting edge cognitive neuroscience is being developed for eye witness testimony and future lie detector tests.

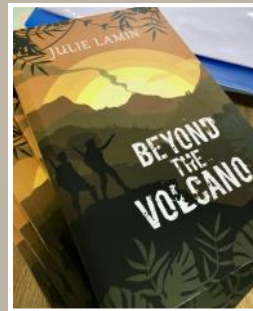
The day ended with a visit to the Manchester University campus' Five Guy's burger restaurant, where burgers, fries and milkshakes were definitely no illusion to the students!



## GUEST AUTHOR VISIT

### Celebrating National Writing Day

Last month, the English department were fortunate to welcome published author, Julie Lamin to share her literary wisdom with 45 Year 9 students. Julie shared intriguing opening chapters from her recently published Young Adult novel, 'Beyond the Volcano' then signed copies for some avid readers who continue to enjoy her writing as the plot unfolds.



Julie also shared insider secrets into how she creates characters, setting and plot, as well as how writers make careful choices about language and structure. This offered an invaluable insight into the writing and redrafting process which is sure to support students with their English Language paper.

Many thanks to Julie for taking the time to visit our students. What a fantastic way to celebrate National Writing Day!







# SNOWDONIA - HERE WE COME!

## Score the quality of your environment

Our brilliant Year 10 geographers have recently undertaken some fieldwork around school in preparation for their physical field trip to Snowdonia National Park. This one hour session consisted of students completing environmental quality surveys of three locations around school, a land use map surrounding the sculpture garden and a field sketch from the back field.

All students have now accessed the skills they need to answer the question: has tourism had a positive or negative impact on two contrasting locations in Snowdonia National Park ready for their trip in July.

## Exploring Glacial erosion

During July our Year 12 Geographers explored the Nant Ffrancon valley to collect field data in preparation for their coursework write-up commencing in September.

Their key focus was on features of glacial erosion.

For their final A-level Geography trip, Year 13 students travelled to the Snowdonia Mountains to develop their knowledge of glacial systems and landscapes.

The students completed the Ogwen Trail around Cwm Idwal to recap and reflect on the knowledge and concepts they had learned in the classroom. Year 13 have since sat their A-level examinations and we wish them the very best of luck for their results in the summer.





# DRAMA NEWS



## ‘PRIMUM NON NOCERE’

Over the past five months, our Year 12 drama students have been preparing a piece of devised theatre as part of their A-Level drama course. On Friday 12th July the piece, based on the work of practitioner Antonin Artaud, was presented to a select group of parents and friends. The immersive piece of theatre took the audience on a journey through an NHS waiting room through to a subterranean operating theatre space, all cleverly designed by the students themselves. The experience of devising a piece of drama provided students with a great deal to think about along the way which has enabled them to become active practitioners in their own right. The piece served as a fantastic end to their studies in Year 12 and will act as a springboard for their performance and theory work in Year 13!



## Much Ado About Nothing

On Tuesday 7th May, Year 13 Drama A Level students visited The Lowry to watch a performance of Much Ado About Nothing by the theatre company 'Northern Broadsides'. The performance was a contemporary adaptation of the popular Shakespearian comedy set in post WWII middle England. The performance was amazing and provided a platform for the students to use in preparation for the written exam paper which they sat in June. The performance was preceded by a final farewell group meal at a Chinese buffet restaurant.

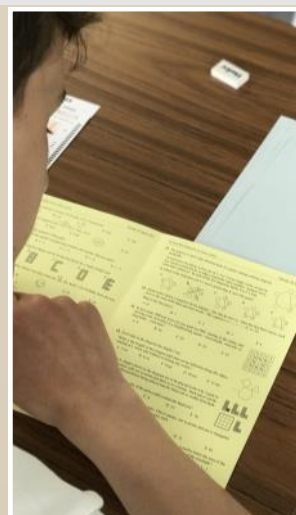


## ‘Flesh’ Performance

On Friday 26th April, our cast involved in the production of 'Flesh' performed on the professional stage of the HOME Theatre in Manchester. The performance marked the end of a six month journey in which our students, along with students from CIS, explored a play text commissioned especially for the National Theatre Connections Festival. The students produced an exceptional performance with some truly brilliant moments of acting - students gained a wealth of experience from performing on a professional stage.







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## 

On Tuesday 30th April, 60 students in Year 7 and 8 joined over 300,000 other students nationwide for the UK Junior Maths Challenge, aimed at the most mathematically able students.

This was the final challenge this year, following on from our earlier successes in the Intermediate and Senior Challenges.

Students had one hour to work through 25 multiple-choice questions that tested student's ability to apply mathematics in a wide variety of contexts.

What made matters even more challenging was that for the later questions, a wrong answer resulted in the deduction of points!

There were some excellent achievements with certificates awarded to; Dylan Canty, James Parlevliet, Kaitlin Pryce, Callum Lewis, Grace Standen, Reuben Sharp, Daisy Price, Lydia Kelly, Hannah Jones, Reece Sharp, Charlotte Lewis, Jacob Green, Georgia Rich, Matt Hunt, Amelie Privat, Lucy Ferguson, Camilla Haws, Alice Hutcheson, Jessica Williams & Joss Holloway

Congratulations must go to James Parlevliet, Dylan Canty and Kaitlin Pryce who were in the top 6% in the country achieving the highest marks and who were awarded Gold certificates. James and Dylan as the top performers automatically progressed to the next round of the competition, the Junior Kangaroo - a first for Queen's Park High School and an incredible achievement for both boys!

We look forward to finding out their results! Good luck boys and well done to everyone who took part.

“ The Maths Challenges provide material to provoke students’ mathematical thinking and test their problem solving skills in an accessible and challenging way. Many congratulations to Queen’s Park High School on their success in the Junior Maths Challenge; it is great to see achievement in mathematics recognised. ”

Rachel Greenhalgh,  
UKMT Executive Director



### 

On Aoife’s 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, Buster was three times her age. On Aoife’s 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, how old was buster?

- 32
- 48
- 53
- 63
- 64







# ENRICHMENT WEEK

## A week of challenge, learning & fun

At Queen's Park High School we firmly believe that learning doesn't necessarily have to take place in one hour blocks of time all the way throughout the year. Some of the most creative and engaging conduits of learning come through project work and opportunities to develop skills that ultimately enrich the already diverse curriculum we have in place. To this end, our Enrichment Week provides with the unique opportunity to challenge our students to learn in ways that transcend the traditional classroom-based approach.

During the week of the 1st -5th July, whilst our Year 10 and 12 students engaged themselves in Work Experience placements, our students from Year 7, 8 and 9 took part in a whole range of activities:

Monday and Wednesday provided them with opportunities to develop their team working and enterprise skills working with Enabling Enterprise to explore investment and start-ups in business. Tuesday and Friday provided them with the opportunity to engage in day-long activities such as First-aid training, cycling, gardening, multi-sports events, Japanese day, photography, D of E taster session, games & crafts, origami and the ever popular 'Harry Potter and the goblet of science'.







Thursday morning brought the whole of the key stage together to plan acts of kindness with local charity ACTS. From each year group one charitable act was chosen. The winners were 7SUT who wanted to provide fresh fruit and water for all students before the end of term; 8TON who wanted to re-develop the courtyard area with planters and shrubs and 9OLI who want to run Coffee mornings for the local community in the next academic year. Supported with funds kindly donated by the charity, these acts of kindness will truly improve not only our school community, but also the wider community in Handbridge too.

Thursday culminated in our Sports afternoon with all students out on the front field cheering each other on in our Sports Day events.

This year, enrichment week provided a really diverse range of learning opportunities, deeply embedding our already strong culture of learning. Thanks go to all of our staff, volunteers and external agencies who worked so hard to make the week such a resounding success!



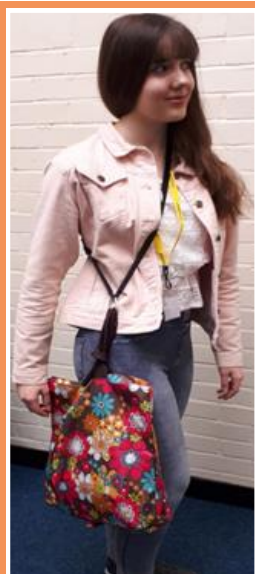
## Spanish Through Drama workshop

A group of Year 8 students were invited to take part in a 'Spanish Through Drama' event led by PGCE language students at the University of Chester.

Students spent the day learning new vocabulary in both Spanish and French through mimicking, miming, role playing and games. Lots of fun was had by all and our students were praised by both the trainee teachers and the event organisers for their energy, creativity and excellent behaviour. They did us all proud! A massive thank you to MFL PGCE students at the University of Chester who led this 'Spanish Through Drama' workshop for Day 2 of enrichment week.







Louise Coleman modelling the Holde Strap

## Will business pitch 'Holde' up?

"MindSET" is the most powerful tool you can have to be successful in life! You can have it all but you have to be willing to work for it! Eric Bishyika, the guest speaker at the Young Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington County Show case delivered an inspirational talk about his journey to become a successful entrepreneur at the age of 22! Grit, determination, passion, resilience, a willingness to learn and having a focus on your goal were key factors in Eric's success and could be seen in all the students who took part in the event!

Team Holde from Queen's Park High School (Chloe Wissett, Charlotte Carswell, Ola Los and Louise Coleman) pitched their business idea to a board of judges from a number of companies including Solvay, Jolliffe and Co. LLP. Since October 2018, Team Holde has set up their own business in school with the support of two business advisers from the University of Chester and Mrs Watts.

During the academic year, the students have built their business to the success it is today. Their original idea of a multifunctional strap to carry multiple bags at once was a hit with the judges!

The team showcased their ideas in the form of producing a trade stand, presentation and company report. Well done team Holde! Budding entrepreneurs of the future!



@holdeofficial



@holde 2019

## CEIAG - EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT VISITS

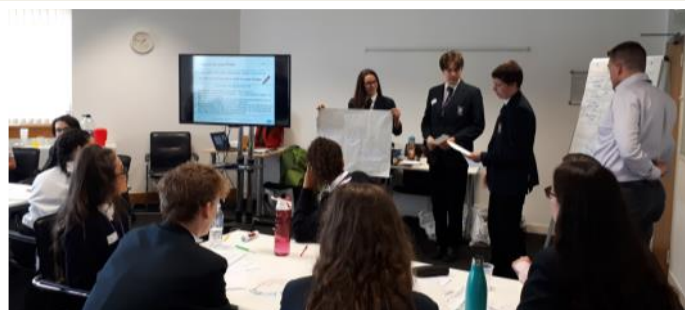


### Roaring to success

The Bank of America, Chester and Royal Sun Alliance, Manchester were the businesses that students in 9LUF and 9SKE visited as part of Queen's Park High School's commitment to providing Careers Education Information and Guidance. The business trips are designed to inspire and motivate students, as they learn more about the workplace, the sector and the employees. It is also an opportunity for them to further develop their understanding and application of the essential skills they have used at school such as; team work, presentation skills and problem solving, in lesson-time projects and Challenge Days in a real-world situation supported by professional volunteers from industry.

“I enjoyed going to see inside one of the largest employers in the area. I was surprised about all of the facilities there are for the people who work there and was impressed by the Bank's Command Centre. The trip made me think about the jobs I want in the future, gave me the opportunity to speak to employees and find out more about the technology used to ensure the banks global operations run smoothly.”

Year 9 LUF student



“Visiting RSA was really interesting especially when I had the opportunity to speak to people who work in the business. I learnt about the company and the different jobs I could get when I leave school education. I enjoyed the 'pitch perfect' challenge as I learnt about how banks provide financing for small businesses. I had to use leadership, presenting and team working skills.”

Year 9SKE student



# CHALLENGE DAYS

## Start up success

**K**S3 students became entrepreneurs for the day, establishing a start-up greetings cards company. Competing against each other in teams, students engaged in real-life challenges exploring each stage of creating a successful start-up including designing, prototyping, producing and costing a new product. The challenge culminated with a pitch to the EE shop (a retail store) in an attempt to persuade them to stock their range of greetings cards. Watch out Clintons Cards !

## Invest it best

KS3 students worked in teams to become Investment Bankers. They learnt about how to take on information, and use this to make decisions of which shares to invest in. They had to balance risk and return, their client's preferences, and the different ideas of their team to grow the largest set of investments by the end of the day. Well done KS3 ! You used all of your enterprise skills throughout the day.

## WORK EXPERIENCE (1st - 5th July)

Year 10 and 12 had a successful week gaining work experience at a range of employers from across the country. The opportunity is part of our CEIAG provision to support all students to consider future careers, pathways and options open to them.

“Work experience at Airbus has been awesome, a real opportunity for me to see how I can apply STEM learning to real jobs in one of the largest employers in the area.”

Year 10 student

“Having the opportunity to work in the NHS for the week has given me a great insight into the future careers path I would like to pursue”

Year 12 student







# THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

At Queen's Park High School, students in Year 10 are encouraged to train for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. This is a scheme which is offered in over 140 countries and aims to introduce young people to exciting, positive, challenging and enjoyable experiences.

A Duke of Edinburgh Award programme is a real adventure from beginning to end. It doesn't matter who you are, or where you are from, you just need to be aged between 14 and 24 and realise there's more to life than sitting on a sofa watching life pass you by!

You can achieve an award by completing a personal programme of activities in four sections (five for the gold award):

- Volunteering
- Physical
- Skills
- Expedition

You will find yourself helping individuals or the community, getting fitter, developing new skills, going on an expedition, and taking part in a residential activity. But, here's the best bit - you get to choose what you do!

Your programme can be full of activities and projects that get you buzzing and along the way, you'll pick up experiences, skills and friends that will stay with you for the rest of your life.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award has been very popular since we began to run it three years ago and is a great opportunity for students. For more information on Duke of Edinburgh please contact Mr J Budgen:

[J.budgen@qphs.co.uk](mailto:J.budgen@qphs.co.uk)



## Bronze Award Expedition

Congratulations to all the fearless Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Bronze participants who braved the elements to successfully complete their expedition training this month.

At the beginning of June, 25, Year 10 DofE students battled against the adverse weather conditions to complete their first Training Hike/Camp. The training started with map reading and route planning before students set off on a hike across the picturesque local countryside. The expedition pushed students to their limits, both physically and mentally; testing their teamwork, navigation and interpersonal skills within their groups. They navigated through forestry, fields, footpaths and towns to show their understanding of map reading and their developing orienteering skills.

During the practice expedition students planned and walked a route from Delamere Visitor Centre to the camp site near Brassy Green where they set up camp overnight and cooked an evening meal on a camp stove. The next day despite a waterlogged field, soaked tents and wet clothes students navigated their way to Kelsall carrying all their weighty belongings in their gigantic rucksacks, a sure sign of their endurance!

In spite of the inclement weather, it didn't dampen the students' spirits and positive approach to the hike. They faced their challenges with grit and determination, demonstrating excellent team work, camp craft and navigation skills.

We are delighted to announce that all 25 students passed their assessed expedition and in July successfully completed their qualifying expedition, achieving the DofE Bronze award. Congratulations to all students, what a fantastic achievement!



Service



Physical  
Recreation



Skill



Adventurous  
Journey



Residential  
Project



# TRIP TO MIMOSA, FRANCE

## A sporting extravaganza

“ At 9.30am on 25th May 2019, 38 students and five staff met at school to embark on a 23hour coach journey to the South of France! The purpose: to have fun, oh and challenge ourselves to take part in water sport activities which had never been experienced before. Parents showed a mixture of emotions, some slightly excited being able to wave goodbye to their children for the Summer half term holiday! Miss Watterson on the other hand could only find an emotion of slight jealousy at being left behind as the emergency contact!

Adorned with team hoodies (colour co-ordinated of course!), sleeping bags, pillows and the necessary picnic, we boarded the bus. Minutes turned into hours and hours turned into what seemed like days but eventually we arrived. Some having had more sleep than others!

We were greeted by Becky, our Groupie for the week. It has to be said, where we were maybe lacking in enthusiasm due to sleep deprivation, she certainly wasn't. Becky was amazing; a little fireball of energy, motivating everyone into action for the first activity; beach games. Her enthusiasm never faltered and we were swiftly escorted from activity, to food, to activity and to more food! Not to mention the dance rehearsals for the daily evening disco!

Often too windy to go out on the sea, the group experienced a wide range of activities. Climbing and abseiling, rock jumping, archery, rifle shooting, snorkeling and initiative exercises, provided excellent opportunities to develop teamwork, challenge and activities never tried before.

Our final day brought a drop in the wind speed and an opportunity to spend the whole day on the water, sailing Picos and Catamarans. When not in the boats the group made the most of the good weather by sunbathing and swimming in the sea.

Five days of activities flew by and then came the final disco. QPHS took the dance floor by storm with a full performance of Footloose. The hours of practice led by Becky certainly paid off; and we did Kevin Bacon proud!

Thank you to the 38 students for their impeccable behaviour, their willingness to try new things, challenging themselves, their resilience but above all making the trip so enjoyable. To the staff, thank you for your unwavering support and giving up your half term to allow the students such an incredible experience. We are booked to go again in 2021 and I for one cannot wait! ”

Mrs Cutler, Head of KS4 & Trip Leader







# CELEBRATING Creativity

## Year 8 portraiture project

Year 8 students have produced some wonderful creative responses to the theme of 'Portraiture' this term based on the work of Hattie Stewart, Ana Strumpf and Delores Orridge Naskrent. These inspired pieces have been created as part of their art and design homework.

“ It is always a real pleasure to see how students develop their individual responses with such confidence and creativity. I'm really impressed with their creative outcomes for this homework project. Keep up the great work! ”

Mr Parker  
Curriculum Leader for  
Visual Art & Design

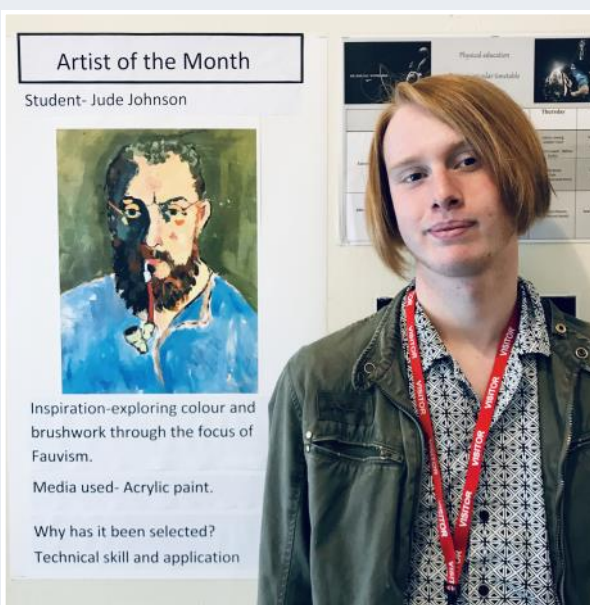
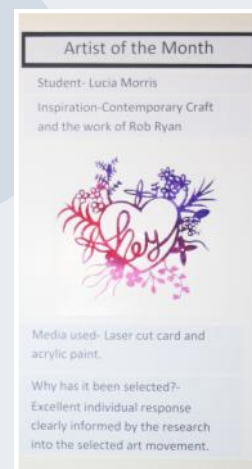
## Artist of the month

To recognise the outstanding achievements of our budding artists in school, the art department have introduced the "Artist of the Month" competition. This gives students an opportunity to celebrate creativity, share good practice across the whole school and give recognition for hard work and natural talent.

Each month, the visual art & design and technology teachers nominate an outstanding piece of work and the winning piece is selected and displayed on the student Information board near main reception.

Congratulations to Year 9 student, Lucia Morris and Year 12 student Jude Johnson who have been selected as 'Artists of the Month' for June and July. As part of an individual research based project exploring contemporary craft, Lucia created an impressive lasercut card design inspired by the artist Rob Ryan. Chosen for technical ability and excellent application of colour, Jude's incredible painting, inspired by fauvism and the work of Andre Derain, was a worthy winner.

Well done to both students and keep up the great work. Who will be chosen as 'Artist of the Month' for September, will it be you?







## BIG BAND DEBUT

### End of year celebrations

This term saw the beginning of something special - Queen's Park Big Band! We currently have a group of fantastic flautists, clarinetists, saxophonist, violinist, cellist, euphoniumist, trombonist, electric guitarists, bass guitarists, percussionists and pianists! These talented individuals rehearse every Friday lunchtime in A3 with Mrs Tonon.



The band premiered at the official opening of the Summer art exhibition and our annual awards evening, along with medley of musical performances from our talented students.

The art exhibition showcases a selection of visual art and design work created by students in KS3, KS4 and KS5 and celebrates creativity.

Our annual awards evening recognises students' achievements, attendance, commitment and progress across all year groups covering every subject area. Parents, staff and representatives of the governing body were invited to share in the successes of our students and celebrate their achievements over the last academic year.



## CELEBRATION BALL

### Sequins, shades & suits



Once again, we have had the pleasure of celebrating the end of the formal education of our Year 11 and 13 students at their Leavers Proms over the last couple of weeks. The Year 13 prom took place at the Abode Hotel followed by the Year 11 prom at the Cheshire View.

Students were dressed to impress and 'stunning' was the word of the evening at the Cheshire View; a stunning venue with stunning views for stunningly dressed students! Sequins, shades, suits and glamour was the theme for the evening as they toasted the end of an era at Queen's Park High School. It was a great celebration of their time at school which staff enjoyed equally as much.



“ 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. ”

Mrs Cutler, Head of KS4



# RECORD BREAKERS!



Athletes of the future!

Following their success at the indoor athletics earlier in the year, a select group of athletes from Year 7 and 8 were chosen to represent Queen's Park High School at the Chester and District athletics. The event was held at Deeside athletics stadium, which provided an ideal venue for our students to flex their athletic talents. There were a number of outstanding performances, including Reece Sharp and Kier Gordon in the 200m, who finished in second and third place respectively. The athletes also gained medal positions in a number of field events, with Callum Lewis achieving second in the triple jump and Kiera Owen second in the shot put. A special mention must go to Year 7 student, Lewis Parsons who achieved first place in both the 100m, with a phenomenal time of 12.97s; and the long jump, with an incredible distance of 4.46m. The event ended in the traditional manner with the 4 x 100m relay final. Our Year 7 boys team (Lewis Parsons, Harvey Hall-jones, Kier Gordon and Finn Howard) not only won the competition, but smashed the Chester Schools' previous relay record with a spectacular time of 55.31s!

As a result both Keir and Lewis have both been selected to represent the county at the Cheshire County Track and Field Championships in Warrington. Competing against some of the best athletes in the county, the boys put on an impressive race and won first place in the 4x100m relay; outstanding achievements for both boys!

Lewis was also selected to represent Cheshire Schools in Ellesmere Port at an inter-counties match with Merseyside, where he clocked up a PB of 12.8secs in the 100m sprint -remarkable!

Congratulations to Year 7 student, Murphy Smyth who, from over 2000 competitors sailed through three qualifiers and has been selected for the final 14 to represent the Cheshire Junior Cricket Team Fantastic news!

Watch this space for the potential athletes of the future!





# SPORTS HONOUR



## Students commended for outstanding contribution to sport



The Michael Ord Award is a particularly important and meaningful memorial trophy which is presented to nominated students each year for their outstanding contribution to sport. This year there were two stand out nominations who received the award, Bethan Curtis and Reuben Wardle. Reuben has received the award for his achievements in Handball where he has captained Great Britain and represented the nation in international competitions. In addition, he has now begun to impart his knowledge on the next generation of athletes. Reuben has been teaching and coaching during Year 7 lesson this year and as a result has inspired a number of young individuals.

Bethan's endeavours have provided students of all ages and abilities with the chance to develop their rowing skills. She has proven herself to be able to independently organise and run coaching sessions. Bethan has a particular strength in rowing performance analysis, her precision feedback coupled with her drive for excellence has seen her and her trainee rowers perform at the highest level.

Reuben and Bethan were 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, died of meningitis in 1993, aged 14.

Reuben and Bethan's names will be engraved onto the honours plaque which lists previous years' winners dating back to 1994.

## REPRESENTING TEAM GB Celebrating Sporting Achievement

Congratulations again to Reuben Wardle who, during 2018-19, has captained Great Britain in the European Open Handball Championships! He is also confirmed as the top goal scorer for Under 17s in Great Britain and top goal scorer in the Under 19s National Final. As part of his team (Warrington Wolves) they have become National Champions in both the Under 19s and Men's competitions.

In addition to all of these achievements, he has also coached the Warrington Wolves Under 16s team to gain second place in the national final!

What absolutely amazing triumphs – Well done Reuben!







## CHAMPIONS OF THE NORTH

### North of England Head Race – 5km at Chester

Our local head race, the North of England Head is seen as the pinnacle of the head race season. It is one of the last chances for rowers in the North of England to compete in a head race until the following Autumn. While for many of us a 5km run may seem daunting, our rowers compete for best time over 5km of the River Dee, starting up near Eccleston and finishing just near our own Boat House.

This year we had one crew who won gold, our Women's J16 coxless quad. Congratulations Gracie Twigg, Beth Henderson-Palmer, Kiara Parlevliet (Year 10) and Grace Stark (Year 11) This victory was the culmination of much training and commitment from them as a team, not forgetting of course many hours, hard work and dedication from the coaches!



## SHREWSBURY REGATTA

### Just third time out in a single!

Shrewsbury hosts a 2 day regatta with 1000m racing on the Saturday and 600m racing on the Sunday. Like many races this season the course has had to be altered due to the volume of water that is in our rivers, which meant 2 days of 600m. With some of our crews choosing to camp over the weekend, it ends up being a fun weekend full of rowing, supporting and cheering. Many, many events raced, with the following crews successful, winning their finals.

- **J13 1x** Callum Lewis (Year 8 - 3rd time in a single boat)
- **WJ13 2x** Freya Cossons and Sienna Taylor (Year 8)
- **WJ14 2x** Erin Kendall-Smith and Claudia Jackson (Year 9 – winning both Saturday and Sunday events)
- **WJ14 4x+** DD Smyth, Lowri Jones, Claudia Jackson, Erin Kendall – Smith, coxed by Sam Baker (all Year 9)
- **J15 2x** Josh Halewood and Tom Lawrence (Year 10)
- **J16 1x** Dylan Howard (Year 10)
- **WJ15 4x+** Beth Henderson Palmer, Kiara Parlevliet, Gracie Twigg (Year 10) and DD Smyth (Year 9), coxed by Charlotte Carswell (Year 12)





# NORTHWICH REGATTA

## Racing in trying conditions at Northwich

When the sun is shining and it's a warm day it is easy to imagine sitting by a river and watching people row past as you cheer them on. Imagine then that it is pouring down with rain, windy with no shelter and you are either the rowers on the river, or those at the side of the river supporting them (not so much fun)! The latter was the experience this year at the Northwich regatta, with rowers finding shelter under the boat trailer between races to try to stay somewhat dry!

There was fantastic rowing by all our rowers, smiles on everyone's faces as they continued to rally and call out support for our crews.

Congratulations to all our rowers and especially to the following winners:

- **W 4x** – Charlotte Carswell (year 12), Grace Stark (Year 11), Gracie Twigg and Beth Henderson-Palmer (Year 10)
- **Op 4+ (Band 2)** – Iestyn Burke, Dylan Howard, James Cox, Josh Williamson and (Cox) Tyler Gordon (Year 10)
- **WJ14 2x (Band 1)** – Claudia Jackson and Erin Kendall-Smith (Year 9)
- **WJ14 2x (Band 2)** – DD Smyth and Lowri Jones (Year 9)
- **Op J15 2x Band 1** – Josh Halewood and Iestyn Burke (Year 10)
- **W J14 4x+** - Emily McDermott, DD Smyth, Claudia Jackson, Erin Kendall-Smith – coxed by Lowri Jones (Year 9)



# NORTHWICH SPRING HEAD

## The end of head racing... for another year

Northwich is the last head event on the rowing calendar, and this was an opportunity for our Year 8 crews to have some new experiences in competing, as well as our other rowers to pitch themselves against the best teams in the North West.

There were wins for:

- **J14 1x** Luke Harris (Year 9),
- **WJ14 2x** DD Smyth and Claudia Jackson (Year 9)
- **J15 4x+** James Cox, Iestyn Burke, Dylan Howard (Year 10) and Luke Harris (Year 9) with Charlotte Carswell (Year 12) as Cox.

Our J13 coxed quad comprising Year 8 students James Parlevliet, Callum Lewis, Tom Bamber, Nathan Fawcett and Year 10 cox Kiara Parlevliet had a terrific race. Not only did they beat their personal goal, they came away with a medal for their efforts! Amazing achievement!





# ROWING NEWS



## CHESTER REGATTA

### Supporting our own river Regatta

The Chester regatta is a special regatta as all rowing clubs on the River Dee work together to put on an event which is historically the oldest regatta in the world!

It was fantastic to have Miss Watterson with the rowing club all day, supporting our crews as they battled out down the 750m course.

It was a very successful day for our crews with wins for:

- **WJ13 1 x** – Grace Nugent (Year 8)
- **WJ14 4x+** - mixed quad with students from Grosvenor Rowing Club (who happen to be at our other Trust school CHS) plus Freya Cossons and Grace Nugent (Year 8)
- **J13 4x+** (Callum Lewis, Tom Bamber, Mate Kovacs, James Parlevliet and coxed by Nathan Fawcett– all Year 8).
- **WJ14 4x+** (Lowri Jones, Claudia Jackson, DD Smyth, Emily McDermott and coxed by Erin Kendall-Smith – all Year 9).

Amazing performances, well done teams!



## CREW RANKED 8TH IN COUNTRY

### National School's Regatta at Dorney

This year we took two crews to compete in the National School's Regatta at Dorney in London (our J15 4x+ and WJ14 4x+ crews).

The National School's Regatta is where crews from all over the UK come to compete, with only a handful of state schools mixed amongst the likes of Eton, Henley and Brighton.

It is always an incredible experience for both our crews, with our boys finishing a very credible 21st out of 63 crews.

Our girls team comprising Year 9 students, Claudia Jackson, Erin Kendall-Smith, Lowry Jones, DD Smyth and Sam Baker (cox) finished an impressive 8th in the country (out of 41 crews) and finished in second place in their B final.

A fantastic result - well done girls!

## RUNCORN REGATTA

### Rowers victorious at Runcorn

The Runcorn Regatta is an annual event that the rowing club looks forward to every year. Also known as the Ball Cup, the regatta is aimed at junior rowers under 15 years of age.

The regatta has been an incredibly successful event for QPHS in the past so the crews had a lot to live up to! This year the team didn't fail to impress.

Out of the 18 crews we sent to compete, 16 of them won a medal, 8 gold, 6 silver and 2 bronze! This propelled them to overall victory, winning (for the second year running) the prestigious Victor Ludrum award for the club with the most wins across the event.

Congratulations to all rowers, you put on a stunning display of sculling, sportsmanship and teamwork!







# DRAGON BOAT RACE

## Staff vs Parent Grudge Match

In what has become one of the most contested and competitive sporting events of the school calendar, the time had come for Queen's Park High School staff to face their nemeses on the water in the Parents versus

Staff Dragon Boat race 2019!

The annual grudge match takes place on the River Dee covering a distance of 300 metres per race with the starting point after the earls eye bend and the finish line just outside Queen's Park High School Boat House. The team that wins the best of three very gruelling races are declared the champions and awarded the coveted Dragon Boat trophy!

Last year, after a photo finish in the final race it was confirmed a dead heat with the title and trophy being shared by both crews, a controversial decision according to the disputing staff!

This year, the staff team looked formidable and undeterred by the goading chants of the parents aka 'River Rats'. Dressed in warrior red bandanas they were ready for victory— this had to be their year! The team spirit and resolve to win was almost tangible on both sides and the scene was set for an intense and competitive match.

After a closely fought battle endured over four heats which resulted in photo finishes, close scrutiny of the video footage confirmed that the staff had been pipped to the post!

The exhausted teams retired to the QPHS Boat House for a well-earned BBQ courtesy of the PTA and, although the staff felt they had been 'robbed', they graciously congratulated their River Rat rivals as they were presented with the winning trophy and crowned champions 2019!

“ This event epitomises the community spirit that exists amongst our staff, students and parents alike and is a real highlight on our school calendar. I still can't believe how closely contended the race can be for such novices - imagine what could be achieved if we actually put in some practice first! Thank you again to everyone who made this event possible - perhaps 2020 will be the 'Year of the Staff', we can only live in hope race! ”

Miss Watterson Headteacher





# OPEN EVENING 6 - 9pm



Thursday 19 September 2019



**Attention all parents!**



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**You can:**

- ✓ Receive messages on your computer, tablet or mobile
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# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date	Event	Time
19-21 July	Rowing Event - National Junior Rowing Championship	
22 July	Rewards Trips	All day
24 July - 30 August	SUMMER HOLIDAYS	
24 July	INSET DAY	
15 August	A Level Results	9.00am
19-21 August	Summer Sports Camp for Year 4 & 5 children	10am-3pm
19-21 August	Summer School for QPHS new Year 7	10am-3pm
22 August	GCSE Results <a href="#">Sixth Form Enrolment</a> (internal students)	9.30am
23 August	<a href="#">Sixth Form Enrolment</a> (external students)	
24-26 August	Rowing Event - Ross on Wye Regatta & camping weekend	
1 September	Year 6 progressing to Year 7 in September 2020: Online admission application opens	
2 September	<a href="#">Sixth Form Enrolment</a>	
2-3 September	INSET DAYS	
4 September	<a href="#">BACK TO SCHOOL</a> Welcome back to all our students current and new	8.40am
14 September	Rowing Event - Boston Marathon TBC	
19 September	<a href="#">OPEN EVENING</a>	6pm-9pm
20 September	<a href="#">OPEN MORNINGS</a> For Year 5/6 parents	9.15-12noon
23 September	<a href="#">OPEN MORNINGS</a> For Year 5/6 parents	9.15-12noon
26 September	New Year 7 Information Evening	6pm-7pm
14-16 October	New Year 7 Residential Trip at the Conway Centre, Anglesey	
28 October - 1 November	<a href="#">AUTUMN HALF TERM</a>	
31 October	Year 6 progressing to Year 7 in September 2020: Closing date for secondary school applications to be sent to the Council	

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