



QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

SPECIAL EDITION
SEPTEMBER 2025

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Acing Wimbledon
Athletics Legends

ROWING FOR GOLD

Regattas, Honours &
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REWARDS FESTIVAL

Together in Learning, Friendship & Fun



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WELCOME



As we begin a new academic year, I am delighted to welcome you to our special edition September newsletter. I hope you have all enjoyed a restful summer and are ready for the exciting opportunities ahead.

We start this term by celebrating another set of outstanding GCSE and A Level results. These achievements are a testament to the hard work, determination and resilience of our students, supported by the dedication of our staff and families. We could not be prouder of their success and the doors it will open for their future pathways.

This past year has been filled with experiences that truly reflect our school values: *Inspiring individuals, Empowering minds, Defining futures*. From our unforgettable cultural visit to Japan as part of the Turing Scheme, to our vibrant extra-curricular programme, our students continue to grow as confident and curious learners.

This newsletter also showcases the exceptional artwork produced by our talented students, creativity that never fails to impress and inspire. Alongside this, our enrichment activities at the end of the summer term brought the community together in style. Highlights included our Year 11 and Year 13 Proms and our very first QPHS Festival, a joyful celebration of music, arts and community spirit, which promises to grow bigger and better each year.

We also extend the warmest of welcomes to our new Year 7 students and their families. We are so pleased to have you join the QPHS community and look forward to supporting you on your journey with us.

Of course, no reflection on the past year would be complete without celebrating our many sporting achievements. From individual triumphs to team successes, our students continue to represent QPHS with pride, passion and determination.

As we look forward to the year ahead, I am excited to see how our students will continue to embrace every opportunity, challenge themselves, and shape their own futures. Together, we will build on our successes and ensure that QPHS remains a place where every student is inspired, empowered and given the tools to define their future.

We are excited for another positive year ahead.

Mr Kearns, HEADTEACHER

DIGITAL SCHOOLHOUSE

Inspiring Future Digital Leaders

We are thrilled to announce that Queen's Park High School has officially launched its Digital Schoolhouse (DSH) programme, offering free, play-based computing curriculum training to our local primary schools.

This initiative, supported by Nintendo UK and sponsored by PlayStation®, SEGA, Warwickshire County Council, Ubisoft, and Outright Games, is delivered by the UK games industry trade body Ukie.

The programme aims to inspire the next generation of digital leaders through creative and inclusive learning experiences.

At Queen's Park High School,

computing is more than just a subject, it's a passion. With a strong and growing curriculum from Key Stage 3 through to A Level, our school is committed to developing digital skills early and supporting a smooth transition from primary to secondary education.

As part of our transition programme, we are running engaging computing workshops for Year 6 children from our feeder primary schools, introducing them to digital literacy, physical computing, and creative tools like micro:bits and TinkerCAD. These sessions help build confidence and spark curiosity in computing before students even join the



“ Our goal is to make digital learning exciting and accessible, and the DSH programme allows us to do just that. We’re excited to continue working with local schools and to grow this network of support, innovation and enthusiasm for computing! ”

Mrs Welsh,
Teacher of Computing

Students at QPHS benefit from a wide range of enrichment opportunities beyond the classroom. These include: code clubs, robotics sessions using VEX and Kitronik kits, and participation in national competitions such as the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge and the CyberFirst Girls Competition. These activities not only develop technical skills but also foster teamwork, resilience and leadership.

At Queen’s Park High School our computing department is led by two full-time specialists with extensive experience in curriculum development, CPD delivery, and community outreach. Their work with local computing hubs, teacher training institutions and primary schools across Cheshire and beyond positions our school as a strong hub for digital education.

“ Queen’s Park High School has risen to the challenge of delivering the computing curriculum. Their passion and innovation, supported by industry leaders like Nintendo, are helping to shape the future of digital education. By taking part in the DSH programme, Queen’s Park High School is ensuring that pupils across the region are equipped with the skills and confidence to thrive in the digital world. ”

Shahneila Saeed, Director of Digital Schoolhouse and Head of Education at Ukie





Defining futures

Class of 2025

Celebrating achievement & next steps

We are delighted to celebrate another year of outstanding exam results in our Sixth Form. The results reflect the dedication of students to their studies over the past two years and the strong network of teaching and support staff across the school.

Results in facilitating subjects (those subjects preferred by leading UK universities) are particularly strong, with outcomes in maths, the sciences and humanities reaching their highest average grades to date.

Students achieved 100% A* - B in maths, further maths, history and geography, indicating the strong academic provision offered at QPHS Sixth Form.

Practical-based subjects also celebrated outstanding results, with the arts and sport studies recording their strongest results across all

measures.

Mr Kearns, Headteacher said,

"I am immensely proud of our Sixth Form students. These results are testament to their hard work, resilience and determination. They have shown not only academic excellence but also the personal qualities that will serve them well in the future. I would also like to thank our dedicated staff for going above and beyond to support and inspire our young people."

An honourable mention goes to Aaron Mohun, who after studying four A Levels in maths, further maths, chemistry and physics, secured 4 A*s and leaves us to pursue his golf scholarship at college in the United States.

Congratulations also to:

- Ned Hardisty who is heading to the University of Manchester to read

Physics.

- Camilla Haws who will be going to Northumbria University to study Fine Art.
- Dan Halewood who is going to Newcastle University to read Sport and Exercise
- Georgia Rich who will be studying Maths at University of Leeds.

“

Our students have truly excelled this year, and it has been a privilege to watch them grow into confident, ambitious young adults. Whether they are heading to prestigious universities, apprenticeships, or exciting opportunities overseas, we are confident they will continue to make us proud.

”

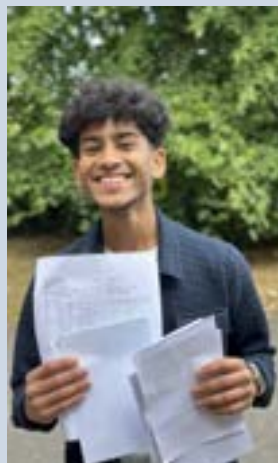
Mrs Prydden
Head of Sixth Form

For more information about joining QPHS Sixth Form, please email: 6thform@qphs.co.uk

“

This year's results are a wonderful milestone in Queen's Park High School's journey of growth and success. They shine a light not only on our culture of high expectations and excellent teaching, but also on the determination, resilience and ambition our students have shown every step of the way. We could not be prouder of each and every one of them, not just for their results, but for the progress they've made, the challenges they've overcome and the young people they've grown into. This is a truly special year group who will be deeply missed. At the same time, we are overjoyed that the overwhelming majority have chosen to continue their studies with us in our Sixth Form and we cannot wait to see them flourish even further. For those heading off to new adventures elsewhere, please remember you will always be part of our Queen's Park High School family. You will forever hold a place in our community, and we look forward to hearing about all the incredible things you go on to achieve.”

Mr Kearns, Headteacher



RAISING THE BAR!

Record-breaking GCSE results

We are celebrating a remarkable year of GCSE achievements as our Year 11 students continue to raise the bar and build on the school's upward trend in academic excellence. This year's results are a true testament to the hard work, determination, and resilience of our students, supported every step of the way by our dedicated staff and families.

A record number of students achieved grades 9 - 7 in English and maths, the highest grades available. Together with, exceptional performances across a wide range of subjects, with record outcomes in Art, PE, and Photography at grades 9 - 7, 9 - 5, and 9 - 4.

We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of all our students, with special recognition for the following Year 11 students:

- Phoebe Ryder-Barlett – eight 9s and one 8
- Henry Hardisty – six 9s and three 8s
- Amy Hunt – three 9s, four 8s and two 7s
- Annabel Carline – three 9s, four 8s, two 7s and one 6
- Joe Mayman – two 9s, four 8s, three 7s and one 5

We are incredibly proud of this year group and thrilled that so many have chosen to continue their journey with us in our Sixth Form, a reflection of both their success and our thriving school community.



TURING

SCHEME

Funded by the UK's global programme to study and work abroad



PASSPORT TO TOKYO

A week of culture, learning, and unforgettable memories in Japan

Through the Turing Scheme, schools, universities and colleges can apply for funding to give students the chance to take part in work placements and study abroad programmes across the world. Eighteen students from high schools across The Learning Trust were given the amazing opportunity to travel to Tokyo, Japan to take part in the scheme. Mrs Watts shares her experience:

“ After two flights totalling 14 hours, students and staff landed in good spirits ready to embark on their experience of a life time. On the first day, we visited the Yushima Tenjin Shrine, before a tour of The British School of Tokyo and learned how to say key phrases and write our names in Japanese. Next came the Harajuku area, lots of funky shops and some authentic food to round the night off! A visit to the British Council of Tokyo enlightened the students on how the British Council builds connections,

trust and an understanding through arts, culture and education alongside language acquisition. For their work experience, the students then had a project to promote the work of the British Council across the globe. This led to multiple posts being created whilst we visited Shinjuku Gyoen National Gardens - a truly spectacular site of culture and history. We ended an epic day at the hidden gem of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government building on the Observation deck viewing the city's sprawling views - a phenomenal sight! We wandered through the bustling Taito City area and saw first hand, the magnificent Tokyo lights. The next day, we completed a walking tour around historic Tokyo. Starting at Shibuya Crossing with Hachiko, we walked through the traditional Izakaya taverns (no drinking involved!) ending up at Meiji Jingu Shrine and Takeshita Street. The shrine was truly mesmerising! At dusk, we took in the sights of the Sensoji Temple,

Nakamise Street and had our first exposure to the insanity of Don Quijote department store!

The next day brought a wander around the East Gardens of the Imperial Palace Gardens and after a quick pitstop, we had the opportunity to see Xiao Xiao and Lei Lei, Tokyo's resident giant pandas at Ueno Zoo.

We were lucky enough to have a University tour, including insights into medicinal backgrounds and scientific discoveries. We then went to the amazing Samurai Ninja Museum experience.

The students (and I) were enthralled! Ninja Meg was a hit, educating the students on the complexities of feudal Japan! (Rubber) Shurikens were flung and our students all had the opportunity to practise their Ninja Star throwing skills! The evening was spent in Akihabara Electric City, which the students loved as they shopped in the anime stores!

“ I’m so grateful to have been able to go on this trip. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity that pushed me out of my comfort zone, developed my confidence, allowed me to meet new people and make unforgettable connections and memories. I loved learning about Japan’s history and culture, as well as embracing their amazing food and traditions. I got the chance to immerse myself in a different society and I will forever be thankful for it. ”

Olivia, Year 12 student



Mount Fuji was our next stop on the itinerary! A boat trip on Lake Kawaguchiko (one of five lakes around the base of the volcano) gave us spectacular views.

At the end of the week, we returned to the British Council of Tokyo where students presented their work experience projects. Staff at the British Council were delighted by the high quality visual social media posts and power point presentations that had been produced.

All students took their turn to present, and were met with rounds of applause from staff at the British Council. We continued our last day travelling on a driverless train to the National Museum of Engineering, Science and Innovation, where we experienced the future of robotics and a 4D show in the sky dome theatre called ‘Birthdays’ - a recreation of the birth of the Universe. Following this, we went to the Odaiba area to see the unicorn Gundam, Giant transformer and Statue of Liberty! Our final adventure took us to the highest point in Tokyo. At the Tokyo Skytree, we ascended 451.2 metres to the observation deck, where we took in stunning panoramic views of the city - a truly breath-taking and unforgettable experience!



Honour
may not win power,
but it wins
respect.
And respect
earns power.





STEM-TASTIC DISCOVERIES

Explosions, Experiments & Epic Engineering

STEM Club has had another exciting year! The club welcomed a new cohort of investigators who explored a wide range of topics - from the curious behaviours of non-Newtonian fluids (including slime-making!) to biology and biomechanics, where students examined how engineers design and build prosthetic hands for young children. They even created their own model 'hands' as part of the project.

Other exciting projects included designing wings for gliders, crafting flying 'bats' for Halloween, and launching Christmas-themed balloon rockets. A highlight of the year was a special visit from Airbus engineer Tyler, who captivated students by sharing the science behind flight with our budding young scientists and engineers.

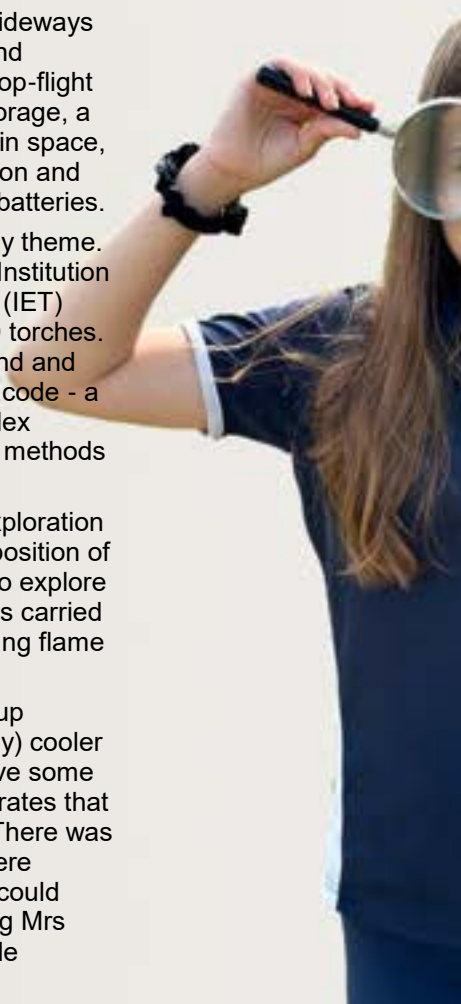
Later in the academic year, the club welcomed its Year 8 STEM group, with many superb scientists returning from the previous year. Jumping straight back into STEM, these students had to think like NASA scientists, developing creative solutions to challenges involved in future manned missions to the Moon and beyond. Activities explored the wide range of problems scientists and engineers face when landing people and equipment safely on the lunar surface.

Following this, the club took a sideways step into some more obscure and unusual conundrums faced by top-flight STEM professionals. Energy storage, a critical issue both on Earth and in space, was explored through the creation and testing of homemade cells and batteries.

Communication was another key theme. A STEM Ambassador from the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) visited with kits for building LED torches. Students then used these to send and receive messages using Morse code - a great reminder that when complex systems fail, reliable old-school methods can still save the day.

Another crucial part of space exploration is identifying the chemical composition of distant planets' atmospheres. To explore the science behind this, students carried out positive ion identification using flame tests.

During the hot weather, the group ventured outdoors to the (slightly) cooler climate of the school field to have some fun and investigate the invertebrates that call the school grounds home. There was also a light-hearted session where students competed to see who could produce the largest bubble using Mrs Cabrero Niubo's patented bubble mixture.





To cap off the year, the students had some flaming fun safely setting Mr Watkins' hands on fire in a controlled science demonstration. Despite being follically challenged on his head, Mr Watkins confirmed that thanks to the students' excellent care, he didn't lose a single hair on his hands or arms!

“

It has been a blast and I can't wait to meet our new cohort of scientists next year!

”

Mr Watkins, Teacher of Science



CREST SUCCESS!

Award-winning innovators

We're thrilled to congratulate five talented Year 9 students who have achieved their Bronze CREST Award for their outstanding work on a STEM project, where they designed an innovative, eco-friendly washing powder.

The CREST Awards, a nationally recognised scheme, celebrate student-led STEM achievements. Through this project, the team demonstrated creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork as they planned, developed, and presented their innovative idea to a panel of judges.

This award is a testament to their dedication, collaboration, and ingenuity.

Well done to Amelie H, Alexa DBS, Emily LJ, Millie C, and Alice F, you have done yourselves and Queen's Park High School



WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

A Day of Discovery, Innovation & Inspiration

On a recent trip to Stellantis in Ellesmere Port, four Year 9 students had the exciting opportunity to witness cutting-edge engineering in action for brands including Vauxhall, Fiat, Peugeot, Opel, and Citroen. Accompanied by Miss Mazurek, the group visited the all-electric car manufacturing plant as part of an event designed to inspire young women to pursue careers in STEM and engineering.

As a global leader in automotive innovation, Stellantis is driving the future of mobility through its commitment to clean, safe, and sustainable electric vehicles. This event offered our students a rare glimpse into how those vehicles are brought to life.

The day began with an exclusive tour of the production facility, where students followed the manufacturing journey of an electric van from start to finish - from assembly to quality testing. One of the most memorable

moments was watching the precision and efficiency of the robotic arms at work on the production line. The highlight for many was the chance to take part in a quality assessment of completed vehicles, getting up close with the finished product! To top it all off, the students were treated to a thrilling test ride on the plant's outdoor test track!

More than just a visit, this experience was about inspiring individuals, empowering minds, and helping define futures. It was a celebration of what is possible when young women are encouraged to see themselves as innovators, creators, and leaders in STEM.

We're incredibly proud of Alyssa, Sophie, Uzma, and Alice for embracing this opportunity and representing the school with such enthusiasm and curiosity - who knows, the next generation of electric car innovators might just start right here!



VAUXHALL



“ The visit gave our students a glimpse into the fast-moving world of automotive technology and showed them just how many exciting opportunities there are for women in science, tech, and engineering. ”

Miss Mazurek
Teacher of Maths



PLASTIC FANTASTIC!

Prize-worthy Recycling Scheme

At the end of June, a team of 7 QPHS students took part in the Plastipak STEM Challenge in Wrexham. Plastipak is a UK-based company that manufactures and designs a wide range of plastic bottles and containers for various products.

Students were challenged to design a new product that uses plastic packaging, along with a recycling reward scheme to encourage people to recycle more.

Working in teams, students took on different roles, including finance, design, and marketing, and collaborated to develop their ideas. Throughout the day, teams also took part in mini-challenges to earn extra funding for their projects.

Our QPHS team designed a product aimed for use in schools. Their packaging concept included a reward system: when students returned the packaging, they would receive a token for a prize draw. The incentive scheme also included prizes for top recyclers, such as school resources and educational visits.

Students then presented their ideas to a team of judges which included staff who work at Plastipak.

At the end of the day, students presented their ideas to the panel. After a tense wait for the awards ceremony, QPHS students were awarded second place out of eight teams for their innovative design and confident presentation.

A special congratulations goes to Amelie, who was awarded 'Standout Student of the Day' for her exceptional contribution.

“ Well done to Amelie H, Alex JF, Poppy CW, Ife, Lucas B, Alice V, and Rory P. It was fantastic to see students developing their teamwork, creativity, and presentation skills, while also having the opportunity to engage with STEM employers and explore exciting career possibilities. ”

Miss Sutton
Curriculum Leader for Science



BAKING UP BUSINESS!

Year 10 mix maths with brownies & profit!

The GEM pathway in maths and English empowers students to thrive academically while developing essential real-world skills. This term, our Year 10 GEM maths students have been putting their mathematical knowledge into practice through a series of hands-on projects. One of the highlights? The deliciously creative Brownie Project!

Working alongside trainee teachers from the University of Chester, students began by researching ingredients, comparing prices across different retailers, and identifying the most cost-effective options to maximise profit. Next, students conducted market research to explore customer preferences and pricing strategies. With this data in hand, they moved

on to planning their marketing and production, forming their very own brownie companies.

Five unique businesses were created, each with a name and tagline, among them: *Fudgie Dee's*, *Fluffernutter*, *Brownie Bliss*, and *MEGA MEGA Bizarre Brownies*.

When it was time to bake, the students were guided by our very own 'chemistry chef', Mrs Prydden. To make the experience even more special, Sally Bamber, (the original creator of the legendary Bamber Brownie) generously shared her secret recipe. With careful scaling and teamwork, each group baked two scrumptious trays of brownies.

The grand finale took place at the Chester Regatta on Saturday 7th June, where students sold their brownies for £2 per slice and sold out in under two hours!

Adding a memorable touch to the day, Mrs Blears-Chalmers and Year 10 student, Isaac were invited into the umpires' tent to present brownies to Richard Phelps, Chairman of the Henley Royal Regatta.

Back in class, students calculated their profits which totalled over £100 and reflected on their learning experience. Congratulations to *Fudgie Dee's* who were crowned the winning team of the project!

The feedback from both students and staff has been overwhelmingly positive, and we're proud to announce that Chester Regatta has invited us back for a third year. This project is a fantastic example of how the GEM pathway brings maths to life and prepares students for success beyond the classroom.





“ It was an absolute delight to meet Isaac from Queen’s Park High School, hear about the project, and sample the brownies – they tasted delicious! ”
Richard Phelps, Chairman of the Henley Royal Regatta



MATHS FOR ALL

Spotlight on QPHS innovation

Back in May, Mrs Blears-Chalmers was invited to deliver a lecture with Dr Sally Bamber (Senior Lecturer in Education) at the opening of the University of Chester’s new School of Education building. Mrs Blears-Chalmers was delighted to be invited to speak to colleagues from across the county at this event and discuss her work with international colleagues too.

Mrs Blears-Chalmers and Dr Bamber’s lecture was entitled ‘*Maths Education for Social Justice - a local collaborative response to a global issue*’. It featured the work that has been done in developing a maths curriculum that is accessible for all and engages all learners. One of the projects has looked into a better way to teach trigonometry and this technique is now embedded in the curriculum at QPHS, allowing all students to experience trigonometry in Year 9.

Further work and collaborations with the University are ongoing...watch this space!



University of
Chester



PROBLEM SOLVED!

Junior Maths Champs!

This term, sixty of our Year 7 and 8 students took part in the UK Junior Maths Challenge, joining over 300,000 students nationwide in testing their problem-solving skills.

The challenge consists of 25 multiple-choice questions completed in one hour, designed to encourage mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and creative thinking. It was a great opportunity for students to put their maths skills to the test in a different context.

As a school, we were thrilled with the overall results: 18 Bronze certificates, 14 Silver, and 2 Gold. A special shout out to Olly M, who received the 'Best in School' award for his outstanding score, while Ben Mc, was recognised as 'Best in Year' for Year 8!

We are especially proud of our Year 7 students, who achieved some fantastic scores. Congratulations to Riley B and Olly M in Year 7 who both achieved Gold Awards - an honour given to the top 6-7% of all participants which recognises exceptional performance. An incredible achievement and very well deserved!

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA for generously funding the entry fees for this event. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and we're so pleased to see their enthusiasm and hard work recognised in such a positive way.

Well done to everyone who took part, we're already looking forward to next year's challenge!





MART MAGIC

Art you can Count on!

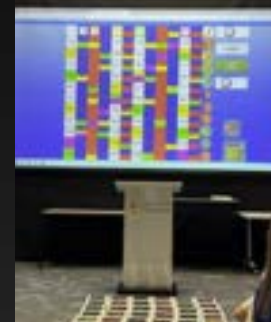
A group of our Year 8 students, also former pupils of Lache Primary School, recently took part in an exciting cross-curricular project combining mathematics and art, in collaboration with Dr Sally Bamber from the University of Chester.

As part of the project, students explored MART (maths + art), designing unique paintings inspired by number theory, colour and the styles of influential artists such as Piet Mondrian, Jackson Pollock, and Mark Rothko. The idea was to create artwork that showed how numbers were linked to colour, eg. red representing multiples of 2, blue representing multiples of 3. Many students used Pollocks inspiration of mood and feeling to represent their number theory, splashing colour and paint on canvas to create an individual response within a structured concept. Their artwork was underpinned by mathematical concepts including factors, multiples, and prime numbers, bringing number theory to life through creative expression.

The students then had the opportunity to visit the University of Chester to present their finished pieces to university lecturers, local teachers, and Year 6 pupils from Lache Primary School as part of the Festival of Ideas. The experience didn't end there - our Year 8 students also led workshops to help inspire and support their Year 6 peers in creating their own MART pieces.

Alongside showcasing their work, students enjoyed a tour of the University campus, including lunch in the White Dining Room to give them a real taste of university life.

The final artwork from both Year 8 and Year 6 students will be presented at a special event at the University of Chester in the autumn term.



“ We’re so proud of our students for their creativity, leadership, and enthusiasm throughout this fantastic collaboration! ”

Mrs Blears-Chalmers
Curriculum Team Leader for Maths

SUN, SAND & SCIENCE

Hands-on learning at Formby Beach

Our Year 10 geographers couldn't have asked for a better day to conduct the physical fieldwork element of their geography GCSE coursework. Under sunny skies at Formby Beach, students explored coastal processes and ecosystems in action, putting classroom theory into real-world practice.

Employing a range of primary data collection techniques, students measured the beach profile using ranging poles, measuring tapes, and clinometers, while investigating sand dune vegetation through quadrat sampling and random selection techniques to ensure accurate and representative results.

The fieldwork gave students the chance to collect valuable primary data and sharpen their geographical skills. The students worked with focus and enthusiasm throughout the day, showing a real commitment to their studies.

“

I am so proud of how hard the GCSE Geographers have worked on both their Liverpool and Formby field trips. They've demonstrated excellent teamwork, clear communication, fantastic behaviour, and impressive analysis of primary data. Well done Year 10!

”

Miss Sumner, Teacher of Geography





URBAN EXPLORERS

Liverpool: Then & Now

In glorious 28 degree sunshine, our Year 10 Geography students took to the streets of Liverpool to carry out fieldwork on urban regeneration. As part of their GCSE studies, students explored key regeneration sites, including the historic Albert Dock and the modern Liverpool ONE development, investigating the impact these projects have had on the quality of the built environment.

At the Albert Dock, students learned about the area's rich industrial past before completing detailed field sketches and land use surveys. They then took a short walk to Liverpool ONE, where they conducted environmental quality surveys at several locations to assess the impacts of regeneration.

This hands-on experience will be invaluable as students prepare for Paper 3 of their Geography GCSE in Year 11, which focuses on fieldwork and data analysis.

Great work Year 10!

“

We are incredibly proud of our Year 10 students for their effort, enthusiasm, and excellent behaviour throughout the day. They were a real credit to the school!”

Miss Sumner,
Teacher of Geography



CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

Bienvenue! Benvenuti! Willkommen!



“It was fascinating to learn about Italian school life and compare it to ours.” **Year 9 Student**



It has been a busy summer term in the Modern Foreign Languages department with our reputation for a warm welcome attracting new visitors from across the globe.

In May, we welcomed our first group of visitors from Réunion Island which is a French overseas department. Feeling very far from their home in the Indian Ocean, they quickly settled into school life at Queen's Park High School joining our Year 10 French lesson to discuss all things music ahead of this years' Eurovision Song Contest. The students quickly bonded over their love of music and were able to freely express their opinions on some of this years' entrants. Our visitors then joined Year 10 in their PE lesson and had their first experience of playing rounders.

Mr Taylor, Curriculum Leader for PPA said,

“It was fantastic to welcome our French-speaking visitors into our Year 10 PE lessons. Students had the option to join either a rounders or tennis session. It

quickly became clear that our guests possessed impressive skills, particularly in tennis, with several playing for clubs and receiving professional coaching. There was a wonderful atmosphere of cultural exchange, as our more confident students took the lead in making our visitors feel like a valued part of the Queen's Park community. Both schools demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and mutual respect, showcasing the unifying power of sport. ”

In June, we were thrilled to welcome visitors from Europe, which gave our Year 9 students a fantastic opportunity to connect with peers from abroad. The day was filled with fun activities and cultural exchange, especially valuable for those students who have chosen to study a language at GCSE level next year.

We then had the pleasure of hosting a group of over 50 Italian students all the way from Liceo Linguistico Internazionale Grazia Deledda in Northern Italy who were keen to learn more about school life in the UK. The Italian visitors joined our students in a series of team-building



WRITE TO SUCCEED

Royal Literacy Fund boosts essay skills

We are delighted to highlight a special collaboration with the Royal Literacy Fund, designed to enhance academic writing skills and boost confidence among our Year 13 students. During the summer term, our Psychology students had the privilege of working with three esteemed Fellows from the charity, who supported them in preparing for their upcoming A Level exams.

Over the course of the day, students took part in four dynamic workshops that focused on key skills such as planning, writing, and evaluation. These sessions not only sharpened their academic writing but also encouraged critical thinking, helping students to articulate their ideas more clearly and effectively in essays and examinations.

A heartfelt thank you to Lizzie from the Royal Literacy Fund for organising this fantastic opportunity. Her dedication to promoting literacy and academic success is commendable, and we are excited about the positive impact this initiative will have on our Year 13 students.

Looking ahead, we are eager to work closely with the Royal Literacy Fund as part of our Sixth Form Induction Programme. This partnership will pave the way for a smoother transition to academic writing at A Level and better prepare our students for the challenges they will face at university. Together, we aim to inspire a new generation of confident, articulate scholars.

“ The power of human connection never ceases to amaze me when students participate in these exchanges. With resilience, adaptability and developing self-confidence, our students quickly overcame linguistic and cultural barriers to develop meaningful friendships and connections with their peers from different cultures and backgrounds. ”

Miss Worthington
Curriculum Leader for MFL

activities which included a treasure hunt and group games designed to encourage communication, cooperation, and friendship across cultures. The day concluded with a lively game of 'Duck, Duck Goose' and an international football match, bringing together students from both schools in a spirited game that showcased not only their skills but also the great camaraderie built throughout the visit.

Finally, in late June, we once again welcomed more than 50 German students from Freie Evangelische Schule Lörrach as part of our ongoing partnership with the Chester Twinning Commission. To help everyone get to know each other, students joined in with activities such as 'human bingo' and a language and culture quiz. They also took part in competitive problem-solving challenges that encouraged teamwork and sparked plenty of laughter.

“ I feel less anxious going into my exams after the workshop as I now know how to put all my revision into a structure paragraph. ”
Year 13 student,





ART 'CLASS OF 2025'

A creative 2 year journey to masterpieces!

As the academic year drew to a close, it was a fitting moment to celebrate the incredible journey of the Year 11 Art group. Over the past two years, this group has impressed with their confidence, creativity, and unwavering dedication.

Throughout the course, students consistently approached every task with positivity and enthusiasm, showing real growth both artistically and personally.

For the final component of their GCSE course, each student worked independently on a selected exam question, spending nearly three months preparing for their 10-hour (two-day) practical exam. Their focus and commitment were outstanding, resulting in some truly exceptional final pieces that received high praise from external moderators.

The results in August reflected the hard work and passion they've poured into their studies. With such talent on display, it is likely that some future professional artists are among them, and it will be exciting to see how they continue to grow.

A huge well done to the Art Class of 2025, you've been nothing short of amazing.





PORTRAITS TO PRINTWORK

Celebrating Key Stage 3 Creativity & Talent

It's been a wonderfully creative term in art and textiles for our Key Stage 3 students, who have been busy producing some truly impressive and imaginative work across a range of exciting themes.

Year 7 have been busy developing their drawing skills, with a focus on proportion, tonal work and composition. Inspired by photographer Laura Letinsky, they also explored still life photography, while in textiles they developed their printing techniques to produce vibrant fish studies. These works combined mixed media and hand stitching on a variety of textured surfaces and really showcased their personality and creativity.

Year 8 artists took inspiration from illustrator James Gulliver Hancock, learning how to create beautiful architectural illustrations. These drawings were then brought to life through the construction of their own 3D model buildings. In textiles, students embraced the bold colours and intricate patterns

of Mexico's 'Day of the Dead', transferring their designs onto tie-dyed fabric and crafting eye-catching decorative cushions.

Year 9 focused on portraiture. Students have learned about proportion and how to draw facial features. They created large-scale charcoal portraits, influenced by the work of artist Casey Baugh, known for his powerful blend of realism and impressionistic storytelling.

Meanwhile, in textiles, steampunk was the spark behind a mechanical-inspired design challenge. Students created imaginative mechanical creatures which were then heat-transferred onto tote bags. Techniques such as stencilling, embroidery and hand stitching embellished the finished pieces.

Across all year groups, the creativity, skill and enthusiasm on display has been fantastic. Well done to all our young artists and designers!



Celebrating CREATIVITY

DRAMA

'Hysteria' to Artaud

On Thursday 19th June, after a rigorous five months of devising, the A Level Drama class performed their two outstanding devised pieces entitled, '*The Bird That Hit The Window*' and, '*A Story You Like Until Madness*'.

These two pieces were based on exploratory work around the play-text '*Hysteria*' by Terry Johnson and this was interwoven with their newly found understanding of the work of theatre practitioner Antonin Artaud. Both pieces were compelling and truly created a sense of anarchy in a controlled yet rather disturbing environment. Students rightly received plaudits from the three audiences they performed to, and certainly had them all on the edge of their seats!



RISING STARS

'QPHS Unplugged' & Unstoppable!

Building on the success of last year, the Music Department has once again been hard at work, rehearsing and preparing for this year's showstopping end-of-year performance: 'QPHS Unplugged'.

Throughout the summer term, students have been fine-tuning their talents, from full band rehearsals to solo instrumental practices and vocal ensemble sessions in readiness to wow their audience with a spectacular showcase featuring over 25 acts by students from Year 7 to 10.

The event was a complete sell-out and a wonderful way to celebrate the creativity and musical brilliance of our younger year groups. From powerful vocals to polished instrumentals, every performance highlighted the amazing emerging talent at QPHS.

A huge congratulations to all the students who stepped into the spotlight and gave it their all on stage. We're already looking forward to seeing and hearing what next year will bring!



Artisanz on tour!

After stellar performances over the past couple of years, *Artisanz* (formerly Radio Silence) were invited back to perform at the North Liverpool Academy (NLA) for the third year running! This year was no different from the previous years, with hundreds of screaming fans and requests for the band's autographs. The boys also had a buffet trolley loaded with delicious goodies in their very own green room ahead of the performance to over 460 students! Adorned with banners and posing for photos after the show, the boys showcased to the aspiring musicians of Liverpool where talent and hard work can get you!

Many thanks goes to NLA's principal Mrs Vernon who has championed the boys since she first saw them compete in the QPHS own *V Factor* way back in 2022!

Storyhouse Schools Festival

The band continued their local tour with a performance at the Chester 'Schools Together Festival', held in The Garrett Theatre on Monday 7th July.

Playing to an audience of students from four other local high schools, the band wowed them all with their talent. They then supported a collaborative piece devised by students from the participating schools, providing original musical underscoring for the performance. The piece was developed under the guidance of Elenka Bennion, Storyhouse's resident Creative Learning Practitioner. This was performed in front of an invited audience including The Westminster Foundation's Cheshire Grants Manager, Caroline Da Cunha.

Everyone was impressed with the musical talent and yet again many Instagram followers were added to the band's page: [@artisanz.band](https://www.instagram.com/artisanz.band)





“ The opportunities were amazing - from painting on the floor to finding DNA from a banana! I also enjoyed my own CPD, learning how to program Micro:bits. Your young leaders were so kind and supportive and our children really enjoyed it. ”
Year 5 teacher



BRAINS & BANANAS

Inspiring Creativity, Curiosity & Code

“ I didn't know bananas have DNA and you could paint on the floor! ”
Year 5 student

At the end of the Summer Term, we were thrilled to welcome Year 5 children from Chester Blue Coat primary school for an action-packed day of workshops in science, computing, and art.

In computing, children became young programmers as they explored coding using Micro:bits, building their confidence and creativity with technology. Meanwhile, in science, they discovered the ground-breaking work of Rosalind Franklin and her role in uncovering the structure of DNA, before extracting DNA from a banana themselves!

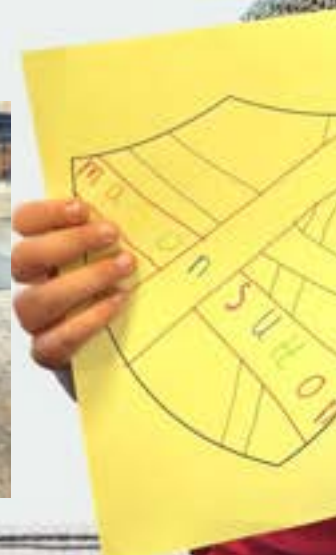
Over in the art department, Year 5 channelled their inner Jean-Michel Basquiat to create powerful mixed media self-portraits, using colour, symbols, and words to express their personality and emotions. In another session, they explored Mexican folk art by designing their own Milagros hearts (sacred hearts) from aluminium, a beautiful tradition from Mexico and Peru where these small charms represent love, healing, gratitude and, fittingly, miracles.

Finally, inspired by the work of contemporary artist Golsa Golchini, children worked collaboratively to create a magical shoal of optical

illusion fish, transforming Mr Parker's art room floor into an underwater world!

A huge shout out to our fabulous staff for leading the workshops, and our wonderful Year 8 ambassadors who supported Year 5 throughout the morning.

It was a fantastic day full of energy, ideas and imagination. We loved having the children from Chester Blue Coat with us and we can't wait to see what these inspiring individuals do next!





“ It was a jam packed day with lots of new information to take on board! Year 6 did so well and we can't wait to welcome them back into the QPHS family in September as fully fledged Year 7 students! ”
Mrs Bearcroft, Transition Lead

A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

Taster Day for new recruits

We were delighted to welcome our new recruits on Tuesday 1st July for our annual Year 6 Transition Day. With nearly 145 children joining us from 28 different primary schools this September, it was great to see so many new faces and begin to help them settle in.

Throughout the day, students spent time getting to know their group tutors and took part in three taster lessons across a variety of subjects, including maths, drama, art, English, WPD, geography, science, history, and computing. It was a great chance for them to get a feel for secondary school life and try something new.

Lunchtime gave everyone the

opportunity to sample our school cuisine with a visit to The Eatery, followed by a guided tour of the school led by our fantastic Sixth Form Leadership Team.

Our Sixth Former Leadership Team also led a special assembly, where they shared their own journeys, talked about how Queen's Park High School has supported them, and detailed the many opportunities available to them at high school. Their aim was to encourage the Year 6 children to get involved, be confident, and make the most of everything their new high school has to offer.

We look forward to following them on their exciting journey ahead!



GAME ON AT SPORTS CAMP

Three Days, Endless Energy!

This August, Queen's Park High School welcomed over 80 Year 4 and 5 children from local primary schools for three lively days of sport, activity and fun at our annual Sports Camp.

The camp, now in its eighth successful year, has become a highlight of our transition programme, giving children the chance to experience life at QPHS while enjoying an exciting mix of games and activities.

Across the three days, our PE team introduced the group to a wide range of sports, from football and badminton to tag rugby, dance, dodgeball, Danish longball, capture the flag and more. Each activity was designed to encourage teamwork, build confidence, and help children try something new. Their effort and enthusiasm was fantastic!

The children rose to every challenge with energy, determination and above all smiles, creating new friendships along the way.

“ It was wonderful to see the children throw themselves into every activity with such positivity and enthusiasm. Their brilliant attitudes made the camp such a success, and we can't wait to welcome them back to QPHS in the future. ”

Mrs Bearcroft
Transition Lead





BLAST OFF TO HIGH SCHOOL

A flying start at Summer School

Starting high school is an exciting adventure, but it can sometimes feel a little overwhelming. To ease the transition and give our incoming Year 7 students a head start, Queen's Park High School staff ran a free, three day Summer School during the holidays, and what a week it was!

With over 80 students signed up, our new recruits threw themselves into a jam-packed programme of fun and learning. From stomping rockets in Science to stepping through the wardrobe in English, every day was filled with creativity, enthusiasm and teamwork. Along the way, students built Royal Marine-style tents, cracked bomb squad missions, crossed rivers

Navy-style, travelled through time in history, created postcards in geography, performed original rhythms in music, storyboarded chase scenes in film studies, and even crafted whole new worlds in English.

The aim of Summer School is to help our new Year 7 students feel confident, make new friends, and get to know life at Queen's Park High before they start. It not only bridges the gap between primary and secondary education but also sets the tone for a positive and exciting start at Queen's Park High School.

What a way to kick off their journey, we were seriously impressed!





CHECKMATE!

Year 7 shine at Chester's inter-school chess tournament

On Thursday 24th April, five of our most talented Year 7 chess players proudly represented the school at the first Chester inter-school chess tournament, organised by the Chester Schools Together partnership and hosted at The Bishops' Blue Coat C of E High School.

The event brought together students from five high schools across Chester, with teams from Blacon High, Chester Catholic High, Upton High, The King's School and Bishop's Blue Coat. Mr Evans, the official chess club maestro, supported the students in their efforts to achieve brilliantly.

Our five students represented the school with distinction, showing great skill and

sportsmanship in their playing, winning a number of matches!

While the final match saw a close contest between students from Blacon High and King's, we were especially proud of our very own chess grandmaster, Herbie, who was awarded Tactical Player of the Tournament! This is fantastic recognition of his sharp strategic thinking, tactical prowess and strong analytical skills!

Congratulations Herbie, what an honour and fantastic achievement and well done to all the teams who helped to make this inaugural event such a success!





PEDAL POWER!

'BikeRight': the smart way to cycle



At Queen's Park High School, we are proud to see so many of our students choosing to cycle to school, therefore cycling safety is a top priority.

Over the summer term, our Year 7 students had the opportunity to take part in the Bikeability Level 3 programme, delivered by BikeRight, a modern-day version of the traditional Cycling Proficiency scheme. Funded by the Department for Transport and the Local Authority, the programme aims to give young people the skills and confidence to ride safely on our roads.

Over the course of the training, students ventured out onto the roads around Handbridge, learning how to make clear observations, choose the safest road positioning, communicate

effectively with other road users, and understand road priorities. The training not only focused on safety, but also encouraged students to view cycling as a fun, healthy, and environmentally-friendly way to travel.

Congratulations to all 36 students who successfully completed the course! Their enthusiasm and focus throughout were outstanding, and we're confident they now have the tools to cycle more confidently, independently, and responsibly, whether that's on the journey to school or beyond.



QPHS Festival

A Fun-Filled Finale to Remember

One of the first and most ambitious projects taken on by our new Student Leadership Team was planning an end of year festival to celebrate a brilliant ten months of student effort, engagement, and achievement. With a clear budget and brief, the team set their sights high from the start and what they delivered was nothing short of spectacular!

After weeks of planning, the students pulled off a 20-activity extravaganza for over 500 people! It was a true test of their organisation, creativity, and teamworking skills, and they absolutely nailed it!

At the centre of the festival was the buzzing Main Stage, showcasing not only our fantastic in-house talent *Artisanz*, but also the headline act *Dynamix*, fresh off the plane after performing abroad.

Adorned with their pre-purchased wristbands, students enjoyed a whole host of exciting attractions,

from human zorbing and the bungee run to a hilarious photo booth and the ever-popular Total Wipeout. One of the biggest hits of the day? The 'sponge a teacher' stall, with students lining up in their class sizes for the chance to give their favourite (or not so favourite) members of staff a good soaking! (Thank you to all the staff for being such good sports)!

It was a pleasure to award over 150 students with bonus wristbands as a well-earned reward for achieving silver and gold house point awards.

The atmosphere was electric, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

GIANT TWISTER
SPONGE A TEACHER
BUNGEE RUN

PHOTO BOOTH
PER PERSON





“ It was lovely to hear the young people having such a wonderful time! ”
Community Member

A huge congratulations to our Student Leadership Team for making this unforgettable event happen. A perfect end to a fantastic year!

STARS & PRIZES

Hard work pays off

The summer term featured two Gold Star Assemblies, bringing together students from all year groups to recognise outstanding achievement. Certificates and badges were awarded to those who had gone above and beyond - a well-deserved moment in the spotlight.

Adding to the excitement was the much-anticipated grand prize draw. Following the success of our spring draw, each assembly offered a brand-new laptop as the top prize. We were delighted to see Harry receive his laptop in the first draw, and Dylan's surprise win in the second was a fantastic finale.

Several runners-up also received festival wristbands, adding to the celebrations and rewarding even more students for their excellent efforts this term.

Congratulations to all our award winners - hard work really does pay off!



QPHS UNITE

Celebrating Inclusion & Belonging

On Friday 27th June, Queen's Park High School came together to celebrate *No Outsiders Day*, an annual event that promotes diversity, respect, and belonging for all. The day was filled with meaningful and engaging activities that reminded us of the importance of inclusion, and that everyone has a valued place in our school community, regardless of background, ability, or identity.

A key highlight of the day was the inter-house quiz, held at lunchtime in the main hall. With rounds themed around equality, inclusion, and cultural awareness, it was both fun and educational. Students from all four Houses took part with great enthusiasm, and after a close contest, Westminster House came out on top, earning a well-deserved 2,500 house points.

Risking It All

Real-life challenges through theatre

On Tuesday 13th May, Year 9 students were treated to a powerful performance by the Theatre in Education group, 2Engage. Thanks to the continued support of the Westminster Foundation, we were able to offer subsidised access to this impactful experience.

The production, *Risking It All*, focused on the challenges and consequences of risk-taking behaviour among young people. Through a dynamic and thought-provoking performance, students explored themes such as peer pressure, decision-making, and personal vulnerability in an age-appropriate and relatable way.

2Engage are known for their honest and engaging style, and this performance was no exception. It offered students the chance to reflect on real-life scenarios and start meaningful conversations about the choices they may face.

We're grateful to both 2Engage and the Westminster Foundation for helping bring these essential messages to life in such a meaningful and memorable way.

“ It made me think about some of the risks that are out there and what might happen if you say yes when really you shouldn't. ”

Year 9 student



Another popular feature was the cake sale, organised and run by our dedicated Student Leadership Team. Impressively, the team baked all the cakes themselves the night before, offering everything from rainbow cupcakes to allergy-friendly treats. The stall was a big hit with both students and staff, and all proceeds went to our House charities.

To mark the occasion, students were invited to wear their own colourful clothes in exchange for a small donation - the brighter the better! The response was

fantastic, and we're proud to share that over £500 was raised which will directly support our chosen House charities.

No Outsiders Day is more than just a one-off event, it reflects the inclusive values we aim to uphold every day. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success, especially the Student Leadership Team and staff involved in planning and running the activities.

Together, we continue to build a school where everyone belongs.



C-NOW SCHEME

Talking Sexual Health

The HCRG Care Group, one of the UK's largest providers of community health and care services, works in partnership with Queen's Park High School to offer extended support for our students.

As part of our Relationships, Sex, and Health Education (RSHE) programme, Key Stage 5 students were invited to attend a sexual health event on 9th July, where they had the opportunity to meet and speak with the CWAC Sexual Health Team.

Looking ahead, we're excited to launch the C-Now scheme in September for Sixth Form students. This initiative will provide access to trained staff who can offer guidance and support around contraception and sexual health, helping students make informed choices

“ I am delighted to bring this service into our school which will support our Sixth Form students to keep safe and make informed choices. ”

Mrs Watts
Careers & PSHE Lead



Festival OF *ideas*



PROTECT THE DEE

Forest City Project

This term, a group of Year 8 students were invited to attend the Chester Festival of Ideas by Forest City Projects to discuss the impact of pollution in the River Dee. The Forest City Projects are a community interest project in Chester which is working to improve urban spaces and improve biodiversity.

The workshop centred around a pressing issue close to home: pollution in the River Dee. Students explored why the river is polluted, who is responsible, and how this is harming both wildlife and the wider community.

Over the course of the workshop, students discussed what could be done to prevent the pollution in the river and how to promote this to students in school and the local community.

Students worked collaboratively to design posters that highlighted these issues and even proposed running assemblies and making a mural from rubbish from the river to spread their message further. These ideas were then shared with the Forest City Projects and also with a local MP to further gain support on the matter.

At Queen's Park High School, we recognise the River Dee as an important part of both our school community and the wider community, and we are excited to continue developing this project next year.



University of
Chester



DREAM BIG!

Inspired by Paralympic legend

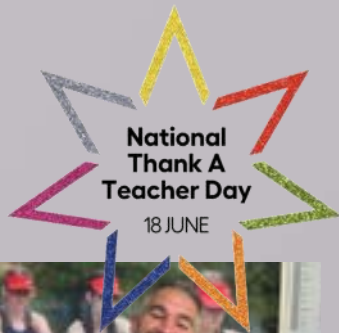
As part of the University of Chester's Festival of Ideas, a group of our Year 8 students had the chance to attend a very special "In Conversation" event with none other than Hannah Cockroft OBE, a phenomenal Paralympian and multiple gold medal winner. The event took place on Friday 4th July at 2pm at Storyhouse, and it was completely free to attend.

Hannah shared her incredible journey with honesty, humour and heart. From her early challenges to becoming one of Britain's most celebrated athletes, her story of resilience, determination and world-class success left a lasting impression on all our students.

They were all truly inspired by her words and it was a great opportunity for them to hear first-hand from someone who has made sporting history!

A huge thank you to the University of Chester and Storyhouse for making this unforgettable experience possible.





MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Feeling the love on 'Thank a Teacher Day'

National 'Thank a Teacher Day' brought a wave of warmth and gratitude through the corridors of Queen's Park High School on Wednesday 18th June.

The day began with staff gathered in the main hall and a special presentation was made to Mrs Cogger, our Curriculum Team Leader for the Communications faculty and an exceptional English teacher in her own right. Following her nomination for Teacher of the Year award, Mrs Cogger was honoured with a Certificate of Excellence signed by Michael Morpurgo - the Pearson Teaching Awards Chairman, and legendary author, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the teaching profession!

The celebrations didn't stop there and nominations came flooding in

(literally hundreds) from students, parents and carers, thanking every single member of our teaching and support staff. These heartfelt messages were placed in personalised 'Thank You' cards and delivered throughout the day. It was wonderful to see such genuine messages of thanks coming from across the QPHS community.

While no one in education works for recognition, Thank a Teacher Day certainly provided an unexpected deluge of praise (quite rightly) for the staff at the school and certainly gave them a well-earned boost.

A huge thank you to everyone who sent in a lovely message, it means a lot!





**Cheshire College
South & West**

FUTURE FOCUSED

Year 10 take on college life

Year 10 students had an amazing time at Cheshire College South & West, Ellesmere Port Campus, as they took part in a Careers Taster Day designed to give them a real insight into college life and potential post-16 pathways.

Students had the opportunity to explore the campus and take part in three engaging hands-on mini sessions. They could choose from a broad range of subjects including travel & tourism, health & social care, theatre studies, mechanics, engineering, cabin crew, catering, electronics, and hair & beauty. Each session was led by expert tutors who provided valuable insights into what studying that subject entails, both in the classroom and in real-world settings.

The day offered more than just subject tasters. Students received valuable guidance on entry requirements, course structures, and GCSE grades needed to start their future college journey. Support was on hand to help them understand not only what they might want to do, but how to get there. For many, the experience brought their career goals into sharper focus.

Josh, who explored mechanics, catering and electronics, said,

“I've really enjoyed the day. The staff were great and really helped me understand what I need to do. I like that they treat you like an adult too.”

The visit forms part of our school's careers provision and our commitment to the Baker Clause, which ensures students are exposed to a range of education and training providers to help make informed decisions about their future.

Year 10 had a brilliant day of exploration and inspiration, and are already looking ahead to what comes next!



“It's harder than I thought but I've really enjoyed it and am still thinking of doing hair and beauty at college after my GCSEs.”
Ellah, Year 10 student



“As Head of Year 10 I was, and still am, exceptionally proud of how our students conducted themselves with a level of maturity beyond their years; they were polite, respectful, engaged and motivated, regularly asking questions and volunteering ideas and participation.”
Miss Domelow
Head of Year 10



“ We got to see the Duke of Westminster’s carriage and sports cars!
Year 9 student ”



“ I loved learning about arboriculture; I could not believe how much work goes into looking after the plants and trees across the estate. My favourite part of the day was being able to get hands on with the arboriculturists who rigged us up with equipment to climb the trees! ”
Year 7 student

CLIMBING NEW HEIGHTS

Exploring Careers at The Grosvenor Estate

In June, three of our students had the unique opportunity to take part in a workplace experience day at The Grosvenor Estate. It was a valuable opportunity to learn more about the estate and explore the wide range of career pathways it offers.

During their tour of the estate and its beautiful gardens, the students learned about a range of professions, including arboriculture, horticulture, and operations management. They gained a deeper understanding of the skills and dedication involved in these roles, and how these careers work in a real-world setting.

A huge thank you to the Grosvenor Estate team for hosting our students and generously sharing their time and knowledge. It was a great chance for students to see what careers they can achieve if they aim high.

“ It was interesting to learn about the work that the Estate Manager does including organising events. Events Management is an area I think I would like to go into when I am older and this experience helped me to understand the role of the operations team and human resources. ”
Year 7 student



TAYLA TAKES THE LEAD

Young Person Business Vision Awards Winner

We are thrilled to share some exciting news about Year 12 student, Tayla, who has been announced winner of the 2025 Chester Business Club (CBC) Young Person Business Awards!

Tayla is one of only five students across Chester to be shortlisted in the highly competitive Vision Award category, which celebrates young people demonstrating outstanding innovation, leadership, and entrepreneurial spirit.

The newly launched CBC Young Person Business Awards aim to celebrate and champion Chester's brightest young business minds. The judges sought innovative ideas for new businesses that could thrive in Chester. Tayla submitted a detailed 750-word proposal explaining her business concept, why she believes it would succeed, where it would be based, and how she plans to establish it. She also outlined potential challenges she might face and the support she would need to turn her idea into reality. Alongside her business plan, Tayla provided strong evidence of her business acumen, impressing the judges further.

Tayla said,

“ My idea is to create a place where students of all ages from across Chester can come to study, in a safe and comfortable environment. ”

This year's awards attracted an outstanding calibre of entries, and the CBC panel was truly impressed by the creativity, ambition, and determination demonstrated by so many talented students. Tayla, was selected as one of the five finalists and invited to attend the CBC Annual Banquet and Young Business person Awards on Monday 7th July at the Slowboat in Chester city centre. On the night, she was announced as the winner of the prestigious Vision Award and takes home a £300 prize and mentoring from 2 top business leaders to enact her business plans and support her moving forwards! This a remarkable achievement that reflects her dedication, innovative thinking, and passion for creating meaningful change.

We are immensely proud of Tayla for receiving this well-deserved recognition, and we look forward to seeing where her vision and talent will take her next!

“ I am ecstatic to have been named one of the winners of the Young Vision Award 2025! I never imagined I'd receive it, but I'm so glad all the hard work paid off. I owe a huge thank you to Mrs Watts for her incredible passion for Business and for inspiring that same passion in me. ”

Tayla, Year 12 student



WORK EXPERIENCE

Students dive into work life

“ During my time at Encirc I got to see many of the on-site facilities, such as the glass factory, the filling hall, the automated warehouse, and so many more. I thoroughly enjoyed learning about Encirc and its values, as well as seeing the manufacturing process from raw materials to finished products. ”

Dan, Year 12 student



Kaejun & William (Y12) - NHS Property Services



George (Y12) - IT Technician at QPHS



Daisy (Y12) - Grosvenor Museum & Chester Archives



CAREERS IN FOCUS

‘The Next Step’ Student Theatre Company

From 14th-18th July, over 170 students from Years 10 and 12 took part in our annual Work Experience Week. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to gain first-hand insight into the world of work, explore potential career paths, and build valuable connections with local employers. We are incredibly grateful to the wide range of organisations who generously offered placements and supported our enthusiastic students.

One standout project involved a group of 17 students who formed their own Theatre in Education company, *The Next Step*. Seizing the opportunity with both hands, the group spent the week devising, rehearsing, and preparing their touring production, *Transition*. Rehearsals took place at QPHS and at Storyhouse’s Studio rehearsal space, where students also received a careers talk from Storyhouse’s Education Partnership Manager, Jacob Maudsley.

The week culminated in performances at two of our feeder primary schools: Grosvenor Park Academy and Belgrave Primary. The play followed three Year 6 pupils navigating the nerves and excitement of starting high school. Entirely devised by the student cast, and supported by Year 12 assistant director Liv and music director Dan, the piece struck a perfect balance between humour, empathy and reassurance.

Following each performance, Year 6 pupils had the chance to ask our students questions about life at high school and feedback from teaching staff was brilliant, with Tim Clifton of Belgrave suggesting that this should become an annual event!

The experience gave students a genuine insight into what it takes to bring a production to life - under pressure, and all in just a few days!

STORYHOUSE



A TASTE OF ARMY LIFE

Students Step Up at Holcombe Moor

At the end of April, a group of our learners traded their school routines for a week of boots, bergens, and a full-on military experience at Holcombe Moor Training Camp. From the moment they boarded the minibus on Monday 28th April, it was clear this wouldn't be a typical school trip.

On arrival, the group was welcomed by serving Army personnel and quickly introduced to the expectations of military life - discipline, teamwork, and resilience. After collecting their kit and settling into their accommodation, there was little time to ease in. The week began with a packed schedule of activities designed to push them both physically and mentally. Students took part in fieldcraft, navigation, patrol exercises, and command tasks - each one requiring teamwork, problem-solving and leadership skills. The rugged terrain of Holcombe Moor, combined with unpredictable weather, made the experience all the more real. Learners were challenged to think clearly under pressure, adapt quickly, and support one another through every task.

What stood out most was the camaraderie. Whether it was helping each other through a tough hike, sharing laughs under a rain-soaked basha, or keeping spirits high after a long day, the group bonded in a way that only shared challenge can bring. Staff saw real growth - from quiet students stepping up to lead, to others pushing past their own limits with quiet determination.

By the end of the week, they returned muddy, exhausted, and incredibly proud of what they had achieved. It wasn't just about trying something new; it was about developing confidence, communication, and resilience - skills that will serve them well beyond the training ground.

Holcombe Moor was a tough environment, but our learners rose to the challenge. We couldn't be prouder of how they embraced every moment, proving to themselves just how capable they really are.





The Level 3 Extended Diploma course

in Uniformed Protective Services offered by APST Education and Training for Sixth Form students at Queen's Park High School, is a comprehensive programme designed to prepare students for careers in various uniformed services such as the police, fire service, armed forces, and also an opportunity to progress onto University. This course provides students with a thorough understanding of the roles and responsibilities within these services, as well as essential skills and knowledge needed for success in these professions.

For the second year, APST has provided opportunities beyond the classroom to run the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) awards for the school. Through these programmes, students have the opportunity to engage in adventurous activities, develop leadership skills, and contribute to their communities through volunteering initiatives.

The Duke of Edinburgh programme aligns well with the ethos of the Uniformed Protective Services course, as it promotes personal development, resilience, and teamwork – qualities essential for success in any uniformed service career. By participating in DofE, students not only enhance their academic learning but also gain practical experience in outdoor exploration, navigation, and problem-solving, all of which are valuable skills in the field.

Under the guidance of APST instructors, students embark on challenging expeditions, undertake volunteering projects, and develop physical fitness – all while working towards achieving their Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards. Through these experiences, students not only grow as individuals but also foster a sense of camaraderie with their peers and develop a deeper appreciation for the natural world.

To find out more about APST Education & Training, please visit:
<https://apsteducation.co.uk/>

PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Gearing up for university, apprenticeships & employment

On 13th May, we were pleased to welcome Alex Edmunds to Queen's Park High School to speak with all of our Year 12 students about Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) available at Cheshire College South and West. HTQs are Level 4 and 5 qualifications that focus on high-quality, sector-specific technical skills. Developed in collaboration with employers, they are designed to equip students with the training and expertise needed to succeed in the workplace.

On 3rd June, we were delighted to welcome Joy Brereton, who spoke to students about Higher Education and the UCAS

application process. Joy shared expert advice on the new format for writing personal statements, giving our students a valuable head start as they begin to plan and draft their own.

Year 12 students were also excited to learn more about the Pledge Employer Readiness programme which was launched in school on 20th June. Starting in September, as part of their Year 13 WPD lessons, all students will have the chance to attend sessions focused on apprenticeships, hear directly from current apprentices, take part in job and apprenticeship masterclasses, and prepare for

interviews and assessment centres. Throughout the autumn term, they will continue to explore their post-18 options by working on UCAS and/or apprenticeship applications, leading up to a mock interview and assessment centre experience in January 2026.

Supporting students to make informed decisions about their next steps is a key part of our Futures CEIAG (Careers Education, Information and Guidance) programme at Queen's Park High School.



Getting ready for the workplace
What Employers are looking for in a
candidate

Allie Swindlehurst Cleeve School Artisan

STAR QUALITY



Interview Ready

Year 12 have been absolute STARS this term - literally! With the help of Allie Swindlehurst from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), students took part in an engaging and informative workshop focused on employability skills and interview preparation.

Allie introduced the STAR technique (Situation, Task, Action, Result), a simple but effective method for structuring strong responses to interview questions. Through practical advice and an interactive presentation, students gained valuable insights into what employers look for and how to confidently present their experiences and strengths.

It was a fantastic session that gave students a real boost as they begin thinking about life beyond the Sixth Form.



UCAS

UCAS DISCOVERY DAY

Ready for What's Next



Our Year 12 students recently had an exciting and informative day at the UCAS Discovery Day held in Liverpool, where they took a significant step towards planning their futures after Sixth Form. This event provided a fantastic opportunity for students to engage with a variety of universities and apprenticeship providers, helping them explore their next steps with confidence.

Throughout the day, students had the chance to speak directly with representatives from numerous institutions, gaining valuable insights into the courses on offer and the career progression available after graduation. The discussions were not only enlightening but also tailored to help students understand the diverse pathways they can take after completing their studies.

As well as having one-on-one conversations, students took part in helpful seminars covering practical topics including: how to write a strong personal statement and how student finance works. These sessions provided them with useful tips and advice to help them feel more confident about applying to university or apprenticeships.

Students came back from the event full of ideas and inspiration, along with a few freebies in their bags! It was a great opportunity to think seriously about their next steps, and we are looking forward to seeing where their ambitions take them.

“ We encourage our Year 12 students to continue exploring their options and to reach out for guidance as they embark on this important journey toward their future careers. ”

Mrs Prydden
Head of Sixth Form



LEADING THE WAY

Meet our Student Leadership Team

We are very proud to introduce our new Student Leadership Team, ready to inspire change, build community, and lead with purpose!

“Hello! We are very pleased to introduce ourselves as the Student Leadership Team for 2025-26. We are very focused on improving the school in any way possible and helping wherever we can.

One of our main priorities is the inclusion of everyone across the school. This will be achieved by regular meetings with the wider student leadership team and

discussions with students, allowing them to share their ideas or concerns. To truly encompass students' voices, we plan to incorporate feedback from these discussions and reflect on solutions or development ideas to help improve the school environment.

As well as this, we plan to take onboard as much student input as possible and cultivate a strong sense of community within Houses via increased inter-House competitions. This is a priority for us as creating healthy competition

can help build a sense of community and camaraderie within the Houses. We want to increase the passion; whether you're Westminster, Grosvenor or Eaton you should strive to be a part of the winning House.

We are excited to work with the school over the upcoming year and have open discussions with students and parents. If there are any queries or ideas that anyone has, please send us an email via the school system, tell a teacher, or even approach us in person. ”

Nell
Lead Student

Melda
Head of Culture

Olivia
Transition Support

Grace
Head of Grosvenor

Chloe
Head of Westminster

Sam
Head of Eaton

Millie
No Outsiders Champ

Dan
Deputy Head Student

Jasmine
Head Student

Lainie Mac
Head Student

Alice
Deputy Head Student

Our new leaders were recruited at the start of June from a broad selection of Year 12 students following a rigorous interview process.

SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

Reading List Award

We are delighted for Aditya in Year 13 who has been awarded this year's Reading List Scholarship from The Reading List Foundation.

The foundation aims to inspire a culture of giving back among graduates who benefited from free university education by supporting today's student, many of whom face far greater financial challenges. Their scholarships provide practical, financial, and emotional support by covering the cost of essential textbooks for exceptional Year 13 students from lower income families.

Each scholarship is worth £250, which is roughly the average cost of a first-year university reading list. This contribution can make a real difference in easing the financial pressures of higher education.

Aditya was selected for this award in recognition of his outstanding dedication to his studies over the past two years, his remarkable progress in mathematics, his willingness to support and coach younger students in sport, and his consistent contributions to school life.

The award was presented by Mrs Prydden, Head of Sixth Form, during our Year 13 Leavers' Celebration on Friday 23rd May, a well-deserved moment of recognition for Adi's hard work and generosity of spirit. The scholarship will greatly help Adi who is going on to study Aeronautical Engineering at Derby University in September.

Congratulations, Aditya! We are so proud of you and wish you every success on your journey ahead.

“ With his strong work ethic and passion for innovation, we have no doubt that he will soar to new heights in this exciting field. ”
Mrs Prydden, Head of Sixth Form

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Development Workshop

The curriculum and its offer of qualifications at the end of Year 11 and 13 is just one part of the wider opportunities available to students at QPHS. As part of their development in the newly formed Student Leadership Team (StLT), students took part in a focused morning of leadership training, delivered by Lyndsay Watterson, Improvement Director of The Learning Trust and former Headteacher of QPHS. The session brought together the Student Leadership Teams from both QPHS and Chester International School (CIS).

The training centred on key leadership skills such as effective time management, team cohesion, and what it truly means to be an effective team. Of course, leadership training is only impactful when the roles it supports are meaningful and valued. At QPHS, being part of the StLT is a highly regarded opportunity, and one that our 2025-26 team of 11 students are sure to embrace. We are confident they will rise to the challenge and become strong, effective leaders of the student body.





LEAVERS' PROMS

Year 11 & Year 13 go out in style

This summer, we had the pleasure of celebrating two important milestones for our students at Queen's Park High School.

At the end of June, our Year 13 students enjoyed their prom at the Queens Hotel in Chester. It was an opportunity to mark the end of their school journey and look ahead to the future. A few days later, Year 11 came together at Cheshire View to celebrate five years of hard work, growth and shared memories.

Both evenings were full of laughter, music, and connection. For Year 11, the prom was especially meaningful after starting high school during the disruption of the pandemic. Their appreciation speeches to staff

were a real highlight, showing the strong relationships they built over time. The Year 13 celebration had a slightly different feel and was more reflective, as they prepare to take their next steps beyond school. It was a great chance to recognise all they have achieved and enjoy some time together before moving on.

We also said goodbye to Mr Emptage, Head of Year 11, who is heading off to a new role in Dubai.

To all our leavers: we are so proud of you. Wherever you go next, we hope you carry these memories with you.

“ This year group has shown real strength and character through some incredibly challenging years. It's been a privilege to support them and see them grow—not just academically, but as people. I'm proud of everything they've achieved and wish each of them the very best as they move on to their next steps. ”

Mr Emptage , Head of Year 11



AWARDS EVENING

Celebrating excellence, effort & attainment

Across the year we find many opportunities to recognise the brilliance of our students. This always culminates with the Awards Evening which is a great opportunity for our staff to nominate students who have excelled in their efforts and attainment this year.

There were five categories of awards this year: *Excellence in a Subject*, *Outstanding Achievement in a Subject*, *Michael Ord Award for Maths*, *Will Lawrence Award for Perseverance* and the *Learner of the Year Awards* (one per year group).

With an outstanding turnout of very smartly dressed students, we were proud to award over 100 students with certificates and Amazon vouchers for our Will Lawrence Award which was

presented to Megan in Year 11, and our Learners of the Year Awards - presented to Matilda in Year 7, Teddy in Year 8, Belle in Year 9, Will in Year 10 and Olivia in Year 12.

Our culture at Queen's Park High School is one of celebrating success and supporting everyone to achieve their best. A huge congratulations and well done to all students.



“ Our culture at QPHS is one of celebrating success and supporting everyone to achieve their best. This evening was a wonderful opportunity to do just this and parents and carers should be rightly proud of their children for their successes over the course of the year. ”

Mr Yeoman,
Assistant Headteacher





SPORTS REPORT



MICHAEL ORD AWARD

Recognising Outstanding Sporting Achievements

The Michael Ord Award is a prestigious memorial trophy presented annually to a sixth form student from Queen's Park High School. This award honours a student who not only exhibits a passion for sports but also dedicates their time to nurturing and supporting the development of younger athletes.

We are pleased to announce that this year's Michael Ord Memorial Trophy was awarded to Dan Halewood in recognition of his outstanding personal sporting achievements in both football and rowing. More significantly, this award acknowledges Dan's commitment and dedication to supporting younger students through coaching. His contributions include leading the Year 7 boys' football team, refereeing girls' football matches, and organising house competitions in his role as Head Boy.

On Tuesday 8th July, Dan received the memorial trophy from Stuart Ord. The family established the award in honour and memory of their son, Michael. It has been 32 years since Michael, a former Queen's Park High School student and avid sportsman, tragically died of meningitis at the age of 14.

The presentation was deliberately a small intimate event held in the Conference Room at QPHS and was attended by Stuart Ord (Michael's father) and partner

Sue along with a small number of teachers and Dan's family and friends.

Dan's name has now been engraved onto the honours plaque, which lists past winners dating back to 1994. We are incredibly proud of Dan for his exceptional sporting achievements both in and out of school. He is a true ambassador for his sport and fully deserves this honour.

Congratulations, Dan!

“ The Michael Ord Award is a presentation the school holds in the highest regard, embodying the sporting values we encourage our young athletes to aspire to. This year, there was a clear sense of excitement and anticipation among our Sixth Form students, reflecting just how meaningful the award is to them. The PE team carefully considered a strong field of nominees, including elite golfers, rowers, cricketers, and a number of talented all-rounders. We are incredibly proud of Dan, both for his outstanding sporting achievements and for the way he has developed his natural leadership into an example for the next generation of sports people. ”

Mr Taylor Curriculum Leader for PPA



ROUNDING OFF IN STYLE!

Celebrating a season of triumph & team spirit

What a fantastic summer it's been in Girls' PE! The sunshine brought with it a brilliant season of rounders and athletics and the girls have absolutely smashed it!

Year 7

The Year 7 girls have been on an incredible journey, going from strength to strength. It's been a true rollercoaster of progress and success! A special shout out to Olivia A for some unbelievable hits and to Poppy K and Jessie M for being absolute rocks in the field.

Year 8

Year 8 has had a powerhouse of a team. Jana MC has wowed us with her batting skills and Emily C has delivered some seriously strong long throws. So many players have stepped up and made their mark! This group is one to watch!

Year 9

Year 9 has been unstoppable. Indiana N has shown off some of the best batting I have ever seen alongside Evie S' monster throws have left everyone speechless. New

faces have joined throughout the season, it's been brilliant to see!

Year 10

Year 10 kicked off the rounders season in style, with Leah C scoring multiple rounders in a single game. Grace O has been a force in deep field with her strong and accurate throws.

This term has been full of pride, passion, and progress. We can't wait to see what next year brings - bring it on!

“Rounders club has honestly been one of the highlights of my week. The girls' commitment and energy have been second to none. I hope they have thoroughly enjoyed it as I very much have!”

Miss Darroch, Teacher of PE





CHESTER & DISTRICT ATHLETICS

Track Stars & Field Legends

It was another energetic and determined performance by our Year 9 and Year 10 boys at our annual athletics competition in Deeside. The boys showed a true QPHS team spirit as they cheered each other through their events and celebrated their efforts.

The events themselves had stacked fields with some excellent competitors across the schools, but that didn't deter Lucas S (Year 10) from finishing 1st in the high jump, and an invitation to represent Chester at the county competition the following month.

Girls Athletics has been just as impressive! Alice Fotheringham (Year 8) came 2nd in the 200m against all other Chester schools - an amazing achievement! Millie Warren (Year 10) was absolutely flying, earning the title of the fastest Year 10 girl out of all the schools in Chester! Victoria Abbiati (Year 7) completely smashed the high jump with a brilliant performance.

In field events, Indie and Evie Singleton (Year 9) dominated the javelin and shot put with some seriously strong performances.

These inter-school competitions had a great energy about them and our teams did Queen's Park High School really proud.

Well done to all involved!



Year 9 & 10 Athletics Team

1ST CLASS CRICKET



Year 7 & 8 hit it out of the park!

Queen's Park High School's Year 7 and 8 cricket team have had an outstanding season in the highly competitive Chester and District Cricket League, known locally as the '*Crash and Bash*' league. This fast-paced, action-packed version of cricket sees teams face off over just eight overs each, making every ball count and creating an atmosphere of excitement and unpredictability.

Our talented team played four fixtures in total, demonstrating not only skill and determination but also exceptional sportsmanship throughout. One of the standout victories came against Blacon High School, where Queen's Park batted to an impressive 78-6 not out, combining sharp batting with clever fielding and disciplined bowling to secure the win.

County Finals

Alongside the boys Chester league fixtures, they also earned themselves an invite to the Cheshire County Cricket finals at Northwich Cricket Club. The invite in itself was a real triumph and success story, but the boys found another level of skill as they took on strong opposition from across the county. Winning three out of their four games against Wilmslow High School, The County High School, Leftwich High School and Malbank High School, the boys needed a victory against Wellington School to secure a 100% win streak.

Unfortunately, this was just out of their reach as they were defeated by Wellington, who went on to be the tournament champions, not losing a single game. Nevertheless, the boys produced some eye-catching performances, earning commendations from the hosts and representing QPHS with genuine pride and professionalism. For a team that has only recently formed, they showed fantastic teamwork, leadership and resilience in tough matches to navigate a very competitive fixture list. Impossible to give individual shoutouts as they were all instrumental in their successes and achievements this year. Well done boys!



Another nail-biting fixture was against The Bishops' Bluecoat, which went right down to the final over, keeping both players and spectators on the edge of their seats. Year 7 rose to the occasion with remarkable performances across the board.

Felix and Freddie delivered top-class fielding and handling, while Alex and Harry bowled with pinpoint accuracy. The team's powerful batting was led by Bjorn and Hamid, whose aggressive '*crash and bash*' style brought much-needed runs when they mattered most.

In the clash against Bishops' Bluecoat, the team was excellently captained by Harry, whose leadership kept spirits high and players focused. Special mention goes to Hamidullah, who delivered a game-changing performance by taking four wickets in just two overs, a feat made even more special by superb catches from Freddie and Alfie.

The team's success this season reflects their hard work, teamwork, and passion for the game.

Congratulations to all the boys!



SPORTS DAY 2025

Let the games begin!

Sports Day marked the beginning of a series of events held during the final two and a half days of term, all designed to celebrate the QPHS community. In the days leading up to it, one topic dominated conversations: the weather. *"Will it be on? Won't it be on? Do I need sun cream or an umbrella?"* These were the questions on everyone's lips.

The answer? *"Keep an eye on the forecast, be flexible, and be ready to move things around at the last minute"* and that's exactly what happened. Thanks to some quick

thinking and last-minute adaptations, Sports Day was brought forward and went ahead successfully, despite the initial uncertainty.

The PE staff, site team, and a group of willing volunteers worked hard that morning to transform the field into a fantastic competition arena, complete with marquees, a sound system, and inflatable games. As one of the most eagerly anticipated days on the school calendar, the stage was set! At 1.15pm, tutor groups, armed with banners, painted faces, and house-coloured hair paraded onto the field, ready for battle.

The competition was fierce. Students sprinted their fastest, jumped their highest, and gave their all in the tug of war, determined to earn every point possible for their house. Even a light shower couldn't dampen spirits, though it did make the sumo ring a bit more slippery!

The atmosphere was electric. Whether competing or cheering from the sidelines, everyone played a part. Staff were spotted running alongside their tutees, leading the charge on "Walk the Plank," and joining in the fun wherever they could.



After two hours of intense competition, the day ended with a crowd favourite: the 4 x100m relays!

Results were announced by Mr Taylor as part of the final assembly on the last day of term, and this year it couldn't have been closer!

In 3rd place was Grosvenor with 73.2 points, in 2nd place was Westminster with 75 points and in 1st place was Eaton with 76 points!

Well done to everyone who took part and a special congratulations to Eaton House who lifted the Sports Day trophy for 2025!

“ In my eyes, there was one true winner: ‘Team QPHS’. What a brilliant way to come together as a school, showing just how much we support one another and how we all strive to be the very best versions of ourselves!”
Mrs Cutler, Assistant Headteacher



QPHS ACES WIMBLEDON

Royal sightings & world-class tennis!

Strawberries & cream, Henman Hill, royalty, and the iconic call of “*New balls please...*”, it could only mean one thing... Queen’s Park High School at Wimbledon!

On Men’s Final Day, our lucky Year 10 GCSE PE class headed down South to the world’s most prestigious tennis tournament for an unforgettable day!

From the moment they stepped through the famous gates, the magic of Wimbledon was in full swing. On Court One, students were treated to a line up of world-class tennis, starting with the gripping wheelchair final (where they roared support for British star Alfie Hewett), followed by the boys’ singles final and a show-stopping women’s invitational, featuring none other than the legendary Martina Hingis! Talk about a grand slam of talent!

Meanwhile, our stylish trio: Poppy, Millie and Phoebe were literally rubbing shoulders with royalty, catching a glimpse of Catherine, Princess of Wales as she arrived at Centre Court; a moment met with gasps, photos and plenty of awe at

the elegant dresses and outfits on display. The whole group couldn’t help but admire the sheer glamour of Wimbledon’s best dressed... speaking of which, Miss Darroch scooped the coveted QPHS Best Dressed Award, as voted by the students themselves!

Not to be outdone, Leigh, Hayden, Matty, Ephraim, and Alvaro enjoyed a perfect afternoon perched on Henman Hill, tucking into traditional strawberries and cream while watching the nail-biting Men’s Final on the big screen. With Jannik Sinner ultimately crowned Wimbledon Champion 2025 in a tense clash against Carlos Alcaraz, the boys witnessed history in the making; with sun, snacks, and sport all served up in style.

But the excitement didn’t stop there. As the sun set and the minibus revved up for home, our students were still buzzing, breaking into a full-blown karaoke session that kept spirits high all the way back to Chester.

A truly unforgettable day of tennis, tunes and top-tier memories, QPHS does Wimbledon in style!





ROWING CLUB NEWS

FAMILY FUN DAY

Celebrating our Rowing Community

Back in December, the Club once again had to cancel the much-loved Pudding Races on the River Dee due to terrible winter weather - wind, floods and freezing cold! Having had to cancel the event three of the last four years, the decision was made to move away from December altogether and instead create something new: a summer Family Day.

As luck would have it, our very first Family Day landed on one of the hottest days of the year, a blazing 37°C! But there was no question of cancelling this time!

On Saturday 12th July, families came together for a brilliant afternoon of picnics, water fun, and, of course, rowing. Parents, siblings, and rowers shared boats, giving everyone a taste of what it feels like to be out on the water and a glimpse into the sport we love.

Despite the heat, it was a terrific day, and the celebrations continued back at school in the hall, where we came together to honour and recognise the achievements of our dedicated rowers.



ROWING HONOURS

Award Winners for 2025

- Cox of the Year Kodey BA
- Bev Chuter Award - For Excellence Alyssa D
- Leadership Award Carlos LV
- Angie Mohan Award - Most Helpful Rower Eden M
- Best performance at National Competition WJ14 Coxed Quad (Alyssa, Ife, Talia, Val & Amelie)
- Senior Boys - Graduation Award Dan H
- Senior Boys - Graduation Award Keir G
- Senior Boys - Graduation Award Ned H
- WJ13 Most Enthusiastic Charlie M
- J13 Most Enthusiastic Teddy H
- WJ13 Most Improved Alona K
- J13 Most Improved Dylan C
- Senior Girls Libby M
- J15 Commitment Award Leigh D
- J15 Most Improved Matthew C
- WJ15 Brilliance Award Lydia S
- WJ15 Positivity Award Sasha M
- J14 Most Improved Milo P
- WJ14 Positivity Award Talia R
- J16 Excellence Award Henry H
- J16 Excellence Award Jack M
- J16 Excellence Award Carlos LV
- J14 Most Improved Arthur D
- WJ14 Commitment Award Harriet L
- Club Spirit Award Amy H

Huge congratulations to all our award winners - a fantastic reflection of the hard work, talent, and dedication shown throughout the year.



IRONBRIDGE REGATTA



Standout wins in the Gorge

Held on the stunning River Severn in the wonderful setting of Ironbridge Gorge, this is one of the club's favourite two-day events.

On 28th and 29th June, with blazing sunshine across the weekend, our crews rose to the challenge and delivered some fantastic results.

On the Saturday, a composite J15 quad of Max, Leigh, Alvaro, Olivier, and Milo stormed to victory in their event, while the WJ16 quad of Issy, Eden, Alice, and Libby also powered through to claim a well-earned win.

The Sunday brought even hotter conditions and some thrilling

rowing. The J13 open quad of Will, Eddie, Margaux, Alex, and George narrowly beat their clubmates Trystan, Rohan, Dylan, Thomas, and Ralph in a close-fought final. Dan H added another success with a superb win in the J18 single.

The J14 squad also impressed, with five of the seven crews reaching finals.

A special mention goes to Lucy E, who rowed beautifully in her first-ever single event, and to the WJ14 quad of Amber, Harriet, Eden, Amelie, and Alyssa, who came away with a brilliant win.

It was a weekend of sunshine, success, and superb rowing!





CHESTER REGATTA

Rowing through Rain & Glory

Chester Regatta returned on 6th and 7th June this year as a two-day weekend event and it truly felt like a tale of two seasons. Saturday brought torrential rain, with our rowers showing real grit and determination as they braved some insane conditions. By contrast, Sunday offered far kinder weather, giving crews the chance to shine on the water.

The regatta is a true community effort, that is run by all the clubs on the River Dee, with volunteers supporting everything from catering and marshalling to launch driving, race control, and boating. A huge thank you goes to everyone who helped make the event such a success.

There were some fantastic performances across the weekend, with wins for:

- Alyssa – WJ14 single
- Evie, Lydia, Sasha, Phoebe (coxed by Millie P) – WJ15 4+ in their first sweep race
- Amber, Georgia, Talia, Lucy, Mia – WJ14 quad
- Issy – WJ16 single

It was another memorable regatta, full of resilience, teamwork, and brilliant racing.

Congratulations to all our crews for doing the club proud!



YEAR 7 & 8 Bridging the Gap

Keen and committed Year 8 and Year 9 students have spent the past term developing their rowing skills, preparing to step into full crews this September.

Every Wednesday morning at 6:30am, (long before most students are awake) they have been training hard, focusing on timing, rhythm, and working together as a crew. Their energy and enthusiasm were matched by the support of older rowers, who worked with them to improve.

It's been inspiring to see their progress, and we can't wait for them to join their full crews from September.

BRITISH ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS



ROWING FOR GOLD

Runcorn Regatta

The Runcorn Regatta on 13th July proved to be a brilliant day out for our junior rowers. This fun and competitive round-robin format guaranteed each crew three races, and our athletes made the most of every opportunity, delivering fantastic performances across the board.

There were plenty of medals to celebrate, with strong results in both singles and crew boats.

Silver medals went to:

- J13 quad: Teddy, Caleb, Eddy, Dylan (coxed by Alice N)
- J14 quad: Arther, Kodey, Marly, Milo, James
- J14 single: James
- WJ14 single: Lucy

Gold medals were claimed by:

- WJ14 single: Abigail
- J14 double: Alyssa & Harriet
- WJ14 quad: Eden, Emily, Ife, Savannah & Val

Congratulations to all our rowers, a brilliant effort and some well-deserved medals!



Bringing their A-Game to Nationals

The biggest event in the British Rowing calendar - the British Rowing Championships, took place over four days at the end of July at the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham. Crews from the rowing club competed across three of those days, delivering fantastic performances, setting personal bests, and making it through to finals throughout the weekend.

Saturday saw the composite J18 8+ (with Warrington and Royals Rowing Clubs) featuring Dan, Keir, and Ned, who rowed strongly through their heat and repechage despite very limited practice time together.

There were also outstanding performances in the single sculls with Carlos finishing 2nd in the F Final, and in the J16 pair, where Jack and Henry claimed 2nd in the C Final. The WJ16 quad of Issy, Eden, Alice, and Libby went one better, storming to victory in their C Final.

ROSS REGATTA

Rowing out in style

The final regatta of the season took place over the August bank holiday at Ross-on-Wye, marking the 150-year celebrations of this historic event. Although previously cancelled due to low river levels, the organisers put contingency plans in place to ensure the regatta could go ahead, and it was well worth the effort!

A small but determined crew from the club raced across both days, with some terrific results to round off the season. The event also carried extra significance as it marked the last races for Keir and Dan before heading off to university and gap year adventures.

There were plenty of highlights on the water. Millie Warren claimed victory in her single on Sunday and impressively repeated the feat in the same event on Monday. The WJ14 quad of Val, Ife, Abigail, and Harriet, expertly coxed by George, also secured a brilliant win on Monday. To top it all off, Millie and Phoebe Warren doubled up later that afternoon to take gold in the WJ15 double.

It was a fitting finale to the season - a weekend full of strong racing, proud moments and celebrations.

Congratulations to all our rowers for finishing the regatta season on such a high!



Other highlights included:

- Milo and Olivier (J14 2x): 3rd in the D Final
- Susannah & Lucy, Amber & Talia, Harriet & Eden (WJ14 2x): 1st and 5th in the F Final, 6th in the D Final
- Alyssa (WJ14 1x): 6th in the B Final
- Millie W (WJ15 1x): 1st in the C Final
- Valentina, Emily, Amelie, Ife & Abigail (WJ14 4x+): 3rd in the C Final

It was a brilliant weekend of racing, with every crew giving their all and making the club proud on the National stage.

Congratulations to all our rowers for their hard work, resilience, and fantastic results!





QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL

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OPEN EVENING

**Wednesday 17th
September 2025**

6.00pm - 8.00pm

OPEN MORNINGS

Thursday 18th & Friday 19th September

Monday 22nd September

8.50am - 12pm

To book a tour on our Open Mornings, contact:

01244 257088

openevening@qphs.co.uk

www.qphs.co.uk [X](#) [f](#) [@qphschester](#)



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Thank you for your support



*Important
information for
parents or carers*

Applying for a Secondary School place - Year 7 September 2026

**Is your child due to transfer
from Primary School
to Secondary School in
September 2026?**

**YES - from 1 September
2025 you must apply for a
school place.**

You can apply from 1 September 2025:

- online at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/admissions (last year 98.3% of parents/carers applied online), or
- by telephoning the Authority on 0300 133 7039 to request a "Transferring to Secondary School 2026-27" booklet.

In addition you can view a copy of the booklet:

- in all Cheshire West and Chester primary schools
- online at www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/admissions.

Closing date for secondary applications 31 October 2025

If entitlement to transport is important to how your child will get to and from school, it is vital you read the Home to School Transport Policy before applying for a school place. Visit the authority's website for further information.

Visit: www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/admissions

**Cheshire West
and Chester**

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