

# QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL

#### SPECIAL EDITION

SEPTEMBER 2023

# TOMORROW'S

**ENGINEERS**Robotics Challenge

# CHESTER ZOO CONSERVATION

**AWARD** 

PRESENTED

TO QPHS

#### READING SCHOLARSHIP

# OXFORD COMMENDATION

Anthea Bell 'Young Translator' prize winner

#### YOUNG WRITERS

Unsolved writing competition

#### **SPORTS REPORT**

Chester & District
Rounders Champions

ROWING NEWS
Medals galore at the
Ball Cup

STUDENTS' WORK EXPERIENCE TRIP TO VALENCIA TURING SCHEME

#### **CAREERS**

School of The Year

CELEBRATING CREATIVITY WARWICK

CYBER SECURITY

with Chester Visual Arts

THE MAGIO

SUMMER SCHOOL A taste of high school life

LIONESSES RECEIVE SPONSORSHIP

Girls football team get brand new strip

# CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Defining futures & fulfilling aspirations



#### **WELCOME**



In the blink of an eye, another summer term draws to a close and we start our 2023/24 academic year! Once again our newsletter has turned into a bumper edition celebrating all the achievements and events that make Queen's Park the vibrant school that

it is, a positive read from cover to cover.

To begin, I would like to take a moment to congratulate all our Year 11 and 13 students for the maturity, motivation and determination they have shown throughout the exam season. Their hard work paid off and once again our journey of success has continued, with students achieving a fantastic set of GCSE and A level examination results. Well done to all!

With great pride, our 'new' year 7s, our largest year group in many years, have settled unbelievably well into life at Queen's Park. We welcome them into our community and will support them on their journey for the next 5 to 7 years with us at school. As one year group settles in, the application process opens for current Year 6 children. I am looking forward to meeting you all at our Open Evening and Open Mornings in the coming weeks.

Over the past term, we have launched and embedded our new school communication system 'Synergy' and parents/carers will have received their personalised log in which gives them access to information about their child's attendance, behaviour, rewards and extra-curricular activities. We will be adding progress data to the system during this Autumn term in order that parents/carers feel completely informed about their child's school life and education outcomes. For further support accessing Synergy, please contact ictsupport@qphs.co.uk

As a school we continue to strive for improved outcomes in all areas and I would like to thank families for all the positive feedback we have received so far. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be sending out a Parental Survey to help support us moving forward - honest feedback will be greatly appreciated!

Finally, I would like to congratulate all our students who are showcased within this newsletter, for making such a valued and diverse contribution to our school community. We tell students to strive to be their best at Queen's Park and we seek to find the individual brilliance in every one of them. I am extremely proud of our school family.

I hope you enjoy this special edition newsletter, action packed as ever with the wonderful achievements of our students.

Mr Kearns HEADTEACHER



## LIONESSES SPONSORSHIP

Chester restaurant is girls' biggest supporter

Queen's Park High School 'Lionesses' get a sharp new look! Earlier this year the popular Chester city restaurants, Urbano32 and Burger Shed (which form part of the Christleton Restaurant Company owned by Ian Wade) seized the opportunity to support Queen's Park High School by sponsoring a new dynamic kit for the school's up and coming girls football team.

The Queen's Park 'Lionesses' have played in local, county and national competitions this season, reaching the semi-final in the Chester and District competition along with wins against teams from across Cheshire. The girls have gone from strength to strength, developing individually and as a team, so quite rightly are deserving of their own kit.



Answering the school's appeal for support, Raquel Hernando, Operations Manager at Christleton Restaurant Company and Queen's Park High School parent, brought the girls' dream to reality, when the business generously agreed to fund their new strip.

As soon as we heard the Lionesses needed some funding for their new kit, I knew as Ian Wade had helped out other local teams in the past, it felt the right thing to do and we are delighted to help them. As a girl, I was also in a football team, so I know how much this means to them all. Go Lionesses!

Raquel Hernando, Operations Manager at Christleton Restaurant Company The school then approached Queensferry Sport who worked with the PE department and the girls to design a personalised and professional sports kit for their football team.

The kit will be used by Key Stage 3 students (Year 7, 8 and 9) when they represent Queen's Park High School for both home and away games. The new kit has been a massive hit with the girls team and injected a new energy and confidence in their play. So far their performance has been unrivalled, so we are excited to see where this takes them next season.

The Christleton Restaurant Company own three successful high quality venues in and around Chester offering excellent food, drink, service and value to suit everyone. The group consists of Urbano 32, Burger Shed 41 and the award-winning pub restaurant the Ring O' Bells. Urbano32 is a modern pizza restaurant situated in Chester city centre serving amazing sour dough pizzas, and across the road is Burger Shed providing the best in burgers, beers and shakes. The Ring O' Bells in Christleton is a shining example of a 21st Century pub and a great location for families.

To find out more about Urbano32 visit: https://www.urbano32chester.co.uk/

URBANO32











I feel really privileged to have worked with such a motivated and determined year group, many of whom have overcome personal challenges along the way. Their hard work and desire to be successful has allowed them to reap the benefits and we hope they will be celebrating their achievements tonight with their friends and families. Well done to a really lovely bunch of students many of whom we look forward to seeing back with us in September.

Mrs Cutler, KS4 Lead



#### Special mentions

All students are celebrating their own personal journeys with the following students achieving outstanding academic results across their GCSEs:

- Aaron Mohun Six grade 9s and three grade 8s
- Amelie Privat Four grade 9s, four grade 8s and one grade 7
- Matthew Hunt Four grade 9s, four grade 8s and one grade 7
- Jake Spaven Four grade 9s, three grade 8s, one grade 7 and one grade 5
- Ned Hardisty Four grade 9s, two grade 8s, two grade 7s and one grade 5
- Rafael Davidson Sousa Three grade 9s, two grade 8s, three grade 7s and one grade 6
- Ben Barraclough Two grade 9s, six grade 8s and one grade 6

Other honourable mentions go to:

- Sara Shah
- Cara McDonough
- Murphy Smyth
- Jacob Green
- Finn Howard
- Lily-Mai Barrie
- Lucy Ferguson
- Dan Halewood
- Camilla Haws
- Alice Hutcheson
- Sophie Gray
- Lily Wehbeh





Year 13 Class of 2023 - Celebrating success and their next steps!

# Defining futures

# HARD WORK PAYS OFF

Celebrating excellent A Level & BTEC

Queen's Park High School's Sixth Form continues to flourish as the 'Class of 2023' celebrates excellent A Level and BTEC results.

Students, families and staff have come together to recognise the hard work and commitment of Year 13 who can now finalise their plans as they continue onto university or employment pathways.

With national data showing a downwards trend in outcomes post -Covid, we are pleased to see that results at Queen's Park have not been affected by these more demanding grade boundaries. Students studying three A Levels continue to excel with the average grade increasing year on year. Many of these qualifications are in facilitating subjects, the qualifications which are most commonly preferred by universities.

All of our students have results to celebrate but special mention must be given to Daniel Pritchard, who, having achieved an A\* in Maths, 2 As in Further Maths and Computer Science and a B in Physics, takes a place at Warwick University to study Cyber Security. Jack Smith

I am so proud of all our students who have done exceptionally well and are now off to the next stages of education and employment. They will be forever members of our Alumni and we look forward to hearing about their future successes and endeavours.

achieved an A\* in Maths and 2 As in Further Maths and Computer Science and goes on to Manchester University to study Maths. Tess Griffin will attend Lancaster University to study English Literature and Creative Writing after achieving 1 A\*,1 B and a Distinction. Daniel McDermott takes a place at Loughborough University to study Chemical Engineering after gaining 3 A grades.

Further congratulations also go to the following students who leave with a range of A and B grades: Anna Kelsall, Isaac Miller, Joel Coombs, Lucia Morris, Hamish Hutcheson, Jazz Murphy, Lily Banham and Isobel Brown.

Students have also excelled in their vocational qualifications, with all students who completed the BTEC Sports Studies qualification achieving a Distinction. 2023 is also the first year in which we are celebrating outcomes from the new Level 3 BTEC Extended Diploma in Uniformed Protective Services. A special mention goes to James Abbott who achieved a Distinction and two Merits and now goes on to study Aeronautical Engineering at

At Queen's Park High School, we continue to provide both a setting to excel in academically, as well as a place to develop as an individual, in preparation for the next stage in their future.

Mrs Prydden, Head of Sixth Form















#### A taste of high school life

During the summer holidays, Queen's Park High School staff provided a fantastic opportunity for all our newest recruits. They led a special three day free event for our new Year 7 students joining us in September to give them a proper introduction to the school.

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

On Monday 21st August, over 90 students gave up their holiday to get a taste of high school life and experience learning in a range of different curriculum areas whilst making new friends in the process.

Over the course of the week, students were able to participate in workshops in a variety of curriculum areas. These included: multiplication bingo and relay gecko in maths, designing and building stomp rockets to launch in science, inventing fantasy characters for a short story and exploring chocolate poetry based on the 5 senses in English, software programming to create a dancing animation in computing, baking shortbread in food technology, talking climate change, continents and oceans of the world in geography, performing short scripts from Matilda and Shrek in drama, talking introductions and greetings in Spanish and composing their own samba rhythms in music! Wow!

I loved making rockets in science and shortbread in food tech, but I also feel much more prepared for September.

Beth, new Year 7



















Fun, fitness & friendships for Year 4 & 5

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

On Monday 21st to Wednesday 23rd August, the school opened its doors to welcome over 100 eager and energetic children for this free summer event as part of our transition programme.

This was the sixth year we have run

Sports Camp and the response was, once again, overwhelming!

This high-octane, intensive activityfilled event offered a medley of sports led by our in house PE staff.

Over the three days, all children were able to compete in new and familiar activities including: Danish longball, benchball, badminton, football, tag rugby, ping pong, tennis, indoor athletics, relay racing, rounders, capture the flag, dodgeball and diamond cricket; culminating in an athletics relay tournament on the last day.

These sessions not only aim to help improve children's confidence, self esteem, co-ordination,

Max, Year 5 at Dodleston

communication, teamwork and fitness, they are also great fun and allow children to make new friends in the process!

Throughout the event all children were engaged, challenged and pretty exhausted (if not broken) after the final day's activities!

Well done to all the children, whose energy, good spirits and smiling faces made this year's event another great success.





## **CONSERVATION AWARD**

#### Presented by Chester Zoo

In July our science department were invited to Chester Zoo to attend the Conservation Schools Awards.

Queen's Park High School was presented with an award and certificate for the work we have done this year on the Nature Recovery Corridor Project.

This is to recognise the work our STEM club has completed on protecting endangered species and further work Year 8 students completed looking into sustainability and global warming.

This was a fantastic evening and it was great to see lots of school's recognised for their important conservation projects. We are looking forward to working with Chester Zoo again next year.

Miss Sutton, Curriculum Leader for Science







On Friday 7th July we were honoured to be invited to the Cheshire Schools Awards which were held at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel in Chester.

The awards were presented by ITV journalist Lucy Meacock to recognise those exceptional teachers, teaching assistants and schools who have worked, supported and achieved over the last twelve months.

With 13 categories covering a wide range of roles and positions, we were delighted to have been shortlisted from over hundreds of entries for Secondary School of the Year and Ms Rachel Brandreth for Support Staff of the Year.

It was with real pride that excerpts from the nominations were read out and to hear how warmly our students think of our staff and school.



#### Tomorrow's Engineers

Earlier this year, a small group of Year 8 students represented Queen's Park High School in the regional qualifier for the EEP LEGO Robotics Challenge held at Edge Hill University. The students tested their mettle as they competed against other schools in the North-West region across a series of four challenges.

Since the start of the year, the students have attended weekly lunchtime sessions to design, build and programme a LEGO robot capable of completing a wide variety of tasks as well as carrying out a controlled long distance speed challenge along a narrow 4m long track.

On the day, their hard work paid off in these tasks as the group may not have had the fastest robot in the building, but its careful and steady drive resulted in second place during the Speed and Control Challenge. Despite a few minor hiccups in their first attempt at the Challenge Table task, they tweaked their programming to meticulously carry out the collection and delivery tasks they had prepared for.

# Tomorrow's Robotics EEP Challenge

An unseen task on the day presented quite the challenge for the group, requiring them to create the marble run that takes the longest time to complete from a limited number of from a limited number of resources. Fortune favoured the bold as their inventive, if unreliable, design only started to work mere moments before the judges arrived! The final task of the day involved presenting their work and design choices to a panel of judges. It was in this task that the group were most impressive, demonstrating

exceptional teamwork and professionalism whilst maintaining a sense of humour that was certainly appreciated and praised by the judges.

At the end of day, the team unfortunately didn't earn a qualifying slot for the finals but achieved a very respectable tied 4th place. Most important of all however, was the enthusiasm and drive expressed by each of the students towards pursuing further STEM opportunities in the future.



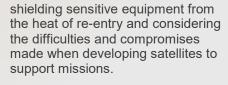


#### Year 8 Artemis moon mission

Artemis is NASA's programme to return astronauts to the Moon by 2024, preparing the way for human missions to Mars. Year 8 STEM Club aimed to introduce and model the challenges facing space engineers who are working on this mission.

The first activity encouraged students to problem solve the issue of setting up a permanent base on the moon: how could the habitat be manufactured, transported and then set up on the moon?

Further activities included the challenges of landing people and equipment safely on the moon,



Each activity presented the teams with strict criteria: communication, patience, creativity and problem solving were all key to their success!



It was very impressive to see how quickly students divided up tasks and worked together to accomplish the tasks set. Great work!

Mr Watkins, Teacher of Science





#### **MAKING IT COUNT**

#### **Maths Modelling**

In July, four Year 12 Further Maths students attended a Mathematical Modelling day at the University of Manchester. The students learnt about how they could take maths further and the impact Mathematical modelling has on business, medical and cyber security careers.

The boys worked with post-grad students on two projects. Making it count - a project about game theory and its applications and Shuffling Cards where they investigated how many ways you can do a perfect shuffle. They then presented their work to other students in a lecture theatre.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to experience university lectures, work with post-graduate students and to explore the use of mathematics modelling in industry.

Miss Jones. Achievement Lead of Maths





# SMART MONEY AWARD

#### Former student becomes the teacher

It is always heart warming when we hear of a former student from Queen's Park High School doing well after they have left school, and that is certainly the case with Morgan Linfield who has been back into school several times this year to deliver sessions as part of the HSBC bank graduate scheme. Morgan has kindly given up some of his valuable time to speak to Year 10 students about different careers and opportunities to work within the HSBC company.

Year 9 worked with Morgan looking at Gaming4Good; these sessions highlighted budgeting and protecting against identity theft and fraud.

Year 8 became Savvy Shoppers, which was a masterclass on making smart decisions around purchases that we make and understanding the differences between both good and bad debt.

As part of this scheme the school have now been awarded a HSBC Smart Money Award. This was presented by Morgan to Ethan and Bessie in Year 10 along with the legend that is, Mr Nixon.

**66** I enjoyed looking at different types of loans and how much they differ in the amount you have to pay back 99

Lydia, Year 8 student



## THE MAGIC OF 'MART'

#### Year 6 Transition Project with Lache

Over the last half term, Year 6 children at Lache Primary School have been taking part in a very exciting maths and art project which we've coined 'MART'. Students have been involved in a series of transition workshops with staff and PGCE students from Chester University in partnership with maths teachers from Queen's Park High School. Dr Sally Bamber (Senior Lecturer for PGCE Secondary Mathematics at the university) led the sessions, focusing on developing ideas around factors, multiples and primes. Visual representations were used to demonstrate the number connections. Year 6 were also introduced to abstract artists including Piet Mondrian and Jackson Pollock, to inspire and make reference to their work.

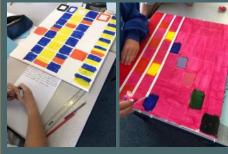
Following their plans, students began to create their artwork with the help of QPHS maths teachers and the PGCE students. They then wrote a short explanation about their MART work.

An exhibition was then held at Lache Primary School in July to showcase and celebrate the students' achievements.
Parents, friends and family were invited to the event and each student presented their work and explained what it was about.
The next step of the project will happen in the Autumn term at Queen's Park, when the university team and QPHS maths teachers develop the ideas further. The Year 6

children from Lache Primary will

also lead the project as they are

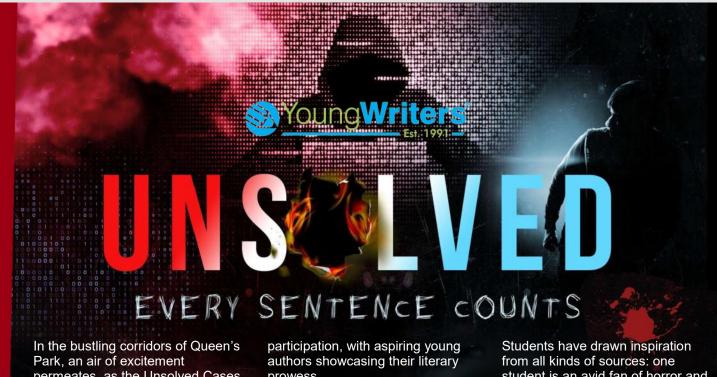












permeates, as the Unsolved Cases creative writing competition reaches its climax! Students from all years have poured their hearts and minds into crafting tales of mystery and intrique, which we're sure will leave the judges awe-inspired by their ingenuity and creativity.

In this national competition by Young Writers, students were tasked to write a story which focused on crime and mystery; the catch being that they only had 100 words to create a thrilling tale!

The competition has seen an unprecedented surge in

prowess.

From the seasoned wordsmiths to the fledgling storytellers, we have seen an outpouring of incredible talent.

A coveted £50 book voucher awaits the winners, offering them the opportunity to dive further into the realm of literary inspiration. Additionally, all students will have the incredible honour of seeing their stories published in a collection that the competition releases, meaning that despite their young age, several of our students are due to become published authors!

student is an avid fan of horror and has created a copy cat killer akin to the Scream mysteries, another student has taken inspiration from Macbeth and created a chilling revenge tale.

Among the entries, the narratives that have emerged are nothing short of extraordinary. Imagination has run wild, giving birth to inventive, terrifying, and mindblowing mysteries. From disappearing bodies, unexplained phenomena in abandoned mansions to diaries of a serial killer, each tale has offered a unique perspective on the art of suspense.



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When the judging panel delve deeper into these gripping tales, the question on everyone's minds is who will emerge victorious, their imagination recognized and rewarded? Regardless of the final outcome, one thing remains certain: the Unsolved Cases Creative Writing Competition has become a testament to the boundless talent and limitless potential of our students. I hope you'll join me in wishing all the students who entered the very best of luck in the competition. Whatever the outcome, students should be immensely proud of their creativity.

Mr R Jones, Teacher of English





# Modern Foreign anguages



### **OXFORD COMMENDATION**

#### Anthea Bell prize for Young Translators

Last half term all Year 8 students participated in a translation project which involved translating a Spanish poem written as a reflection on the Spanish Civil War.

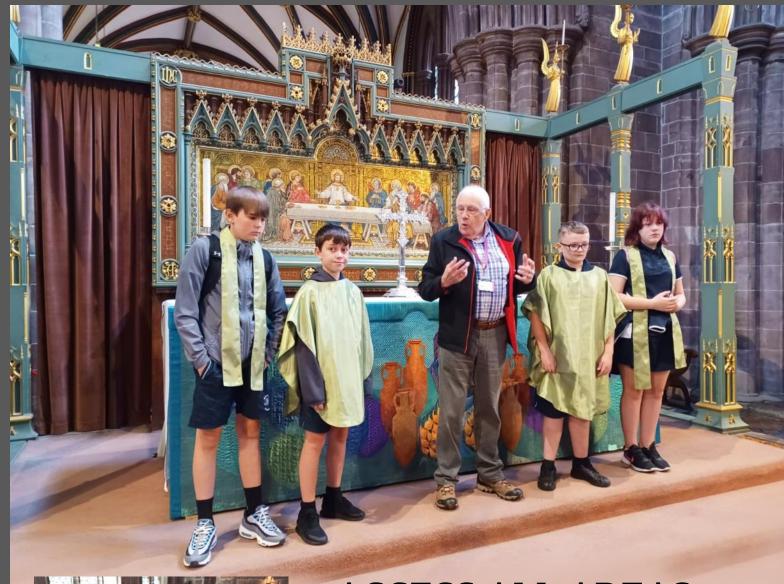
The best entry from each tutor group was then submitted to the prestigious Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators - an annual competition which is run by Oxford University.

This year over 15,000 students from schools across the UK took part in the competition and we were told the standard of entries was extremely high.

We are very proud of all our students who participated and who have received a certificate from The Queen's College at the University of Oxford in recognition of their effort and creativity.

In particular, we would like to congratulate Lucy who was successful in the regional competition and progressed to the national competition with a commendation for her translation of the Spanish poem Como Tú.

Fantastic work Lucy, well done!









## **ACCESS ALL AREAS**

#### Hidden treasures of Chester Cathedral

On Wednesday 19th July the Social Studies and EBACC faculty took over 150 Year 7 students to Chester Cathedral for a curriculum enrichment morning.

Each group were given a detailed and informative tour around the iconic building and students learned about the religious history of the Cathedral. Students were also granted access to parts of the building closed to the general public!

We explored the design and meaning behind the various stained glass styles in the spectacular windows before students took part in a stained glass window workshop with Education Officer, Jen Stafford. They used acetate in paper black frames to produce some creative and beautiful pieces of work which they were allowed to keep and will be showcased in the RE department.

All of the volunteers and Jen Stratton commented on how well behaved and enthusiastic our Year 7 students were.

> A huge thanks to all the staff who made the trip run smoothly, Jen and her team of volunteers and of course our fabulous Year 7 children. 99



Mrs Merryweather, Curriculum Team Leader for Social Students & Teacher of RE



# **CHESTER**

#### SCHOOLS TOGETHER

#### Stretch & Challenge

In June, Queen's Park Year 7 students were invited to take part in the *Stretch and Challenge* Conference with partner schools from Chester Schools Together at the University of Chester Queens Park Campus. Alice F in Year 7 gives her account of the event:

When we arrived at the university we went into a lecture theatre with very squeaky desks and it wasn't long before our first lecture began. This introduced different topics of debate like *Free Will is not an Illusion* and *Celery Munchers Vs Steak Stokers*. In my group, we decided we should eat meat, so we had to come up with arguments for the quotes provided – the first one stated eating meat is murder.

After sharing ideas, it was lunch, when we were allowed outside. This let us chat with students from other schools and have a break from the information and ideas!

Later, we were introduced to quantum mechanics and began an interesting lecture on quantum theory. I found the day extremely fascinating and it was a privilege to have had this opportunity.

Thank you!

Alice . Year 7 student





## GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

#### Urban Regeneration in Liverpool

During the summer term, Year 10 students have been enjoying the benefits of studying geography and learning outside the classroom.

GCSE geographers have been delving deeper into their human fieldwork unit, which forms part of their Paper 3 exam in Year 11. This unit allows them to step out of the classroom and bring their taught knowledge to the real world.

After boarding the train to Liverpool James Street, students visited both the Albert Dock and Liverpool One, extending their geographical understanding on urban regeneration.

On an extremely rainy day, students practised their drawing skills to sketch out the local environment (including in-depth annotations of the urban landscape), completed a land use survey along with numerous environmental quality surveys (EQS) that will support them in presenting and analysing their data back in the classroom.

Students collected an amazing amount of quantitative data, which will allow for detailed analysis and evaluation for their human fieldwork. Well done Year 10!



# How did we get here?

#### Working with Chester Visual Arts





Queen's Park High Schools' art and design department have been delighted to have been involved with the Simon Roberts' photography exhibition brought to Chester by Chester Visual Arts and Arts Council England this summer.

Year 10 art students visited the exhibition and worked with Rebecca Burns, the programme co-ordinator from the Redeve Photography Network. This gave students a valuable insight to viewing real work in a real gallery setting.

Rebecca discussed the works on view so students could gain a deeper understanding to promote their own personal response. Inspired by the work, they then completed a practical photographic activity around Chester City Centre .

Year 12 art and design students had a similar experience working alongside Rebecca. Students developed and extended their thinking and communication skills as part of the discussion of the works on display. Brighton based 'Photoworks' collaborated with the workshop and presented a series of contemporary photo works for students to explore and discuss, making connections and searching for meanings and ideas.

This enabled students to work in two teams to curate and install a temporary exhibition of the work they had chosen. Much of the debate was how to hang the work within the

The workshop gave a new and different approach to their learning which they will take further as they move into their personal investigation unit at A Level in the coming months.

Chester Visual Arts have kindly donated a large scale photograph by Simon Roberts to the school for display, as part of our



## **ART WORKSHOPS**

#### Screen printing masterclasses

We are immensely lucky to have recently secured funding from our PTA to provide a number of artists' workshops to enhance our art and design courses.

Last term, Year 10 and 12 students had the opportunity to work with a local artist and the owner of SANS Studio in Chester. This screen printing business is run by designer and printmaker Emily Gerrard. Emily is also a former QPHS student and it has been lovely to see the progress she has made and to have her back working in the art rooms again.





Emily has experience in typography, graphic design, analogue photography, and mixed media collage. Every art print and piece she produces is handmade using reclaimed books, records and photographs. Traditional creative practices lie at the heart of Emily's work, celebrating the craftsmanship of handmade techniques.

Emily began working alongside the Year 10 GCSE art class, introducing them to the new practical techniques and processes of screen printing. She also explained her own creative journey from her time studying art at QPHS to now running her own creative business.

Students in Year 13 were able to gain an insight into creative careers and pathways following A Level Art before learning how to screen print. It was really interesting to hear from a QPHS student who had been where they are now and to explain that there isn't just one pathway after A levels.

All students worked together to create a range of screen printed images inspired by vintage diagrams to include within their portfolios.



These workshops have been an invaluable experience for students to extend their creative skills and knowledge. I look forward to seeing the impact these new skills have on their work next year.

Miss Barmer Teacher of Art & Design

#### Photography winners

Year 10 photography students have also completed a research and practical based project based upon Simon Roberts' exhibition that supports their portfolio of work for their overall GCSE grade.

Students read and wrote about his work and spent several sessions taking their own photographs along the river bank, Chester walls and Grosvenor Park to explore people at leisure.

Students selected what they felt represented their project the best and submitted their photograph for a Chester wide competition which was judged by Simon Roberts himself.

Congratulations to our 3 prize winners: Jack F (1st prize), Charlie L (2nd prize) and Florence W (3rd prize). A fantastic achievement!



Where do we go now?

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

#### Farm to Fork with Higher Horizons

As part of the Food for Thought Project, Year 9 Catering students were given the opportunity to visit a number of local universities. Students took part in a range of activities starting with a talk on food sustainability. Teaching them about sustainable food practices and how to make informed choices connected to the environment, reducing food waste and organic farming. They even (the brave ones!) got to taste some dried insects as a suitable source of protein.

The University Centre
Reaseheath showed students
the future of crop growing and
the use of technology and
innovation. They were able to
view modern farming through
the use of drones, sensors and
crop growing. Students visited
the vertical greenhouse and
onsite farm and finished the

day by making their own butter from the farm produce.

At the University of Chester, students focused on diet and nutrition, attending lectures and workshops about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. They took part in analysing nutritional information which created lively discussions about the foods we eat. In the kitchen, students were challenged to investigate portion size by weighing ingredients and understanding portion control.

Our final visit was to Harper Adams University where students were set a task to design and make a breakfast meal for McDonalds. Working in teams, the students designed a meal with set ingredients. This was then taken to the food labs to make and taste-test the final product.

Students created new ideas such as smoothies, bagels and wraps which they then evaluated as a food developer would in industry.

These visits have had a positive impact on students in numerous ways. It has allowed them to explore different campuses, giving them firsthand experience of an academic environment and its facilities. This exposure will help them to make informed decisions about their future education. Such interactions have also helped support their career aspirations and allowed them to envision themselves as part of a university community.

The Design Technology department are looking forward to building partnerships with a range of different Post 16 opportunities in the future.











#### **MASTERCHEF**

As part of the Enrichment
Programme, MasterChef
students have been learning
new skills and techniques
whilst creating some delicious
dishes.

They have followed recipes to make tasty delights including traditional scones, sausage rolls and cheese and onion turnovers. During British strawberry season they made mouth-watering white chocolate and strawberry cheesecakes. They have also baked their own chocolate Victoria sponge cakes before practising their piping skills decorating them with chocolate butter icing.

In the final session we said 'goodbye and thank you' to Mrs Joynson who leaves us this summer after 21 years at QPHS. She has helped with MasterChef since it started 8 years ago. We wish her every happiness in her retirement.





## PLASTIPAK CHALLENGE

#### Make it - Manufacture Your Future!

The Future is Now, Don't Bottle It - the powerful end statement during a pitch to Plastipak, earning QPHS second place in a design and manufacturing challenge.

On Friday 9th June, a group of Year 9 students competed against nine other schools from across Cheshire and North Wales in the Make It - Manufacture Your Future event hosted by Plastipak at the Ramada Hotel in Wrexham. During the day, students discovered the origins of Plastipak, what they do and how they are one of the biggest suppliers to the UK's plastic bottle packaging, producing bottles for brands such as Robinson's, Heinz and Molton Brown. Students discovered that 75% of PET1 plastic in the UK is currently being recycled, and that Plastipak aim to find ways to increase this to 100%. The student teams were tasked with

devising ways to design and manufacture a new drinks product to pitch to the Plastipak judges in a two minute presentation. The inclusion of budgets, proto-type models, packaging and a rewards scheme to help consumers recycle their empty bottles also formed part of the challenge. Students divided the tasks up by delegating each member a key role across management, design, manufacturing, logistics, finance, marketing and sustainability, learning about their duties and responsibilities in the process. After a hearty lunch, QPHS took the floor and delivered a thorough presentation on their product called 'btl' (bottle), a unique bottle bank vending machine recycling scheme to earn points and free drinks.

The Operations Director, Simon Lawrence was blown away with the team's ideas and presentation and awarded them second place.

A bugg well done to Eden Lily Osci

A huge well done to Eden, Lily, Oscar, Healy, Ben, Olly, Tyler and Sam!





This Summer Term the music department has been thriving! Lunchtime Keyboard Club and Guitar Club have been buzzing with the sounds of students practising and performing.

Band rehearsals have also seen a burst of activity. Our Year 9 boy band more popularly known as 'Radio Silence' entertained students at the launch of 'Feelgood Fridays' with their expert covers brightening up QPHS lunchtimes for both students and staff.

After a term of daily rehearsals, the band were then ready for their first public performance.

On Friday 14th July, 'Radio Silence' experienced their first taste of stardom, when they were invited to perform on stage in front of a live (and rather excited) audience of 240 students at the North Liverpool Academy. The gig, kindly arranged with the principal of the academy, offered the band the chance to showcase 10 numbers in an hour long set.

The boys were genuinely treated like popstars with screaming fans and requests to sign autographs, photoshoots, technical crew on hand plus platters of sandwiches, crisps and drinks backstage! The crowd were blown away by the band's professional and accomplished set! Since this event, the battle of the bands has begun with the newly formed band 'Nerdz' also vibing up the music department. Watch this space for the band's debut performance this Autumn term.













#### **Community Champions**

Outside of Queen's Park, our musicians have been busy making us proud by sharing their talents in the local community.

Year 10 student Quinn B played bassoon in the stunning Chester Mystery Plays at Chester Cathedral. Annabel C from Year 9, played trombone in the mighty Chester School's Concert Band 'Summer Showcase' at Ellesmere Port Civic Hall and Jack JS in Year 12 played tenor saxophone with Chester Big Band at Storyhouse and Llangollen Eisteddfod. Amazing!

#### **Music Examinations Success**

Congratulations to the following students who all impressed examiners at their recent music grades.

Year 8 students: Tom C passed grade 2 in trumpet, Sophia H grade 2 in piano and Year 9 student Max O passed grade 1 in piano. Superb work!

#### Music For Life

Music tuition is provided at QPHS by Music for Life. For further information, please visit: www.musicforlife.org.uk.









## PSYCHOSIS 4.48

#### Emotive exam performance

It was a real treat to be able to present to a public audience, the A Level Component 1 Devised Piece on Wednesday 28th June. The piece was a product of over 5 months of research and hard work conducted by the students as they drew upon their knowledge of the theatre practitioner Antonin Artaud and their understanding of the play text Psychosis 4.48 by Sarah Kane.

The 5 strong ensemble created a world within a world and in conjunction with the performance taking place in the basement under the stage, it truly was an emotive performance!



### **BOOK AWARDS**

#### Livestream event

On Wednesday 21 June members of Queen's Park High School Book Loving Tuesday Club (BLT) were delighted to be invited to join Chester Schools Together for the 2023 Yoto Carnegie Shadowers' Awards at Chester Storyhouse.

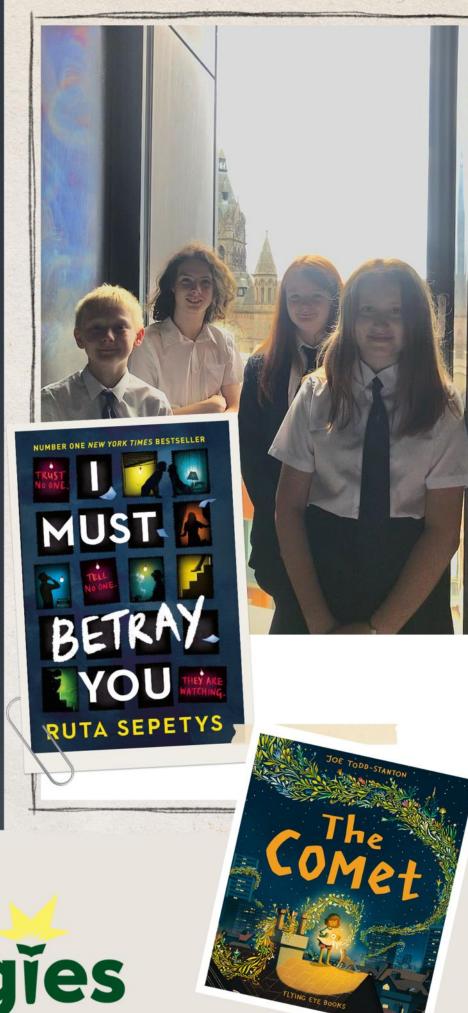
The Yoto Carnegies are the UK's longest-running and best-loved book awards for children and young people that celebrates outstanding achievement in children's writing and illustration.

Each year thousands of reading groups in schools and libraries in the UK and around the world get involved in the Awards, with children and young people 'shadowing' the judging process, debating and choosing their own winners.

This was our first Carnegie Shadowing Awards and four QPHS students attended alongside students from Kings, Blacon, and Bishop Bluecoat high schools. Students watched as the winners were revealed at an in-person ceremony held at The Barbican in London, which was live-streamed and watched by shadowing groups around the country. The. The awards were hosted by former Children's Laureate Lauren Child CBE, who won the Carnegie Medal for Illustration – then known as the Kate Greenaway Medal in 2000 for her first Charlie and Lola book, I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato.

This year they voted for their favourites from the 2023 shortlist and have chosen *I Must Betray You* by Ruta Sepetys for the Yoto Carnegie Shadowers' Choice Medal for Writing, and *The Comet* by Joe Todd-Stanton for the Yoto Carnegie Shadowers' Choice Medal for Illustration.

We look forward to taking part in this event again next year.



Carnegies

### STORYHOUSE

#### An audience with BLT

Last term headed by Mrs MJ, our Book Club students were invited to take part in the inaugural Year 6 Transition Event at Chester Storyhouse. Students thought about what they wished they knew before they started at high school and soon had a variety of ideas to take along with them, including: don't over pack your school bag, memorize your timetable and don't be afraid to ask for help if you get lost!

At the Storyhouse, there were over 300 Year 6 children from primary schools across Chester eagerly waiting to hear about our students' experiences.

The events began with Queen's Park and Tarporley High School Year 7 students competing head to head with the toothpaste challenge. This highlighted how all sorts of words stick, even unkind ones – and how once they are said it is hard to take back. This was demonstrated with students trying to squeeze the most toothpaste out of a tube in 10 seconds then trying to spoon it back in with a teaspoon in 10 seconds – a near impossible job! Emphaising to us all the importance of saying only kind things and respecting other people's feelings.

Students then left for the cinema where they found themselves centre stage, literally!

Our students were fantastic ambassadors
Queen's Park as they were able to answer
the questions very positively and with
great confidence. We had a great time at
an event which empowered our students to
share their experiences and represent
our school in the best possible light!

Mrs Melhuish-Jones, Librarian



## THE QUEEN'S PARK GAMBIT

#### **Chess Championship**

The Queen's Park Gambit chess tournament was held in May. Our chess enthusiasts Mr Girow and Mr Mosses were keen to continue this extra-curricular legacy set by Mr Johnson last year and relaunched the competition to all year groups.

There was an amazing turnout with over 30 students keen to take part. Round 1 was held during lunchtime between 11th and 12th May and saw some amazing matchups and a final between Jake S in Year 7 and Sami S in Year 8. Round 2 was held the week after and saw 8 competitors through to the quarter finals.

Quarter finals week saw some incredible matches including the gruelling slugfest between Lydia in Year 8 and Josh L in Year 10 with Lydia coming out victorious.

Semi-final week had 2 great match ups: Sam L in Year 10 vs the current champion Healy S in Year 9 and Lydia vs Evan M in Year 9. This was an impressive day which saw Sam and Evan progress to the eagerly anticipated final.

The final was held in the main hall with a great crowd spurring on their favourites. It was a close match that ebbed and flowed but ultimately the end game saw Sam crowned QPHS Chess Master 2023. Congratulations Sam, it was a brilliant and tactical game!

For all students interested, Chess Club runs in the maths department every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtime. We look forward to seeimg plenty more tournaments next year!





Chester and how you can get involved,

please visit: https://atfest.uk/contact/

second prizes respectively, in their year

group.



# PEDAL READY

With so many of our students opting to cycle into school each day, cycling safety is of utmost importance, so in May, students from Year 7 and 8 were given the opportunity to take part in the level 3 Bikeability programme. 24 student enrolled onto the course which offers practical road safety training to develop students' skills for cycling on complex, busy or fast roads and junctions.

Students learned how to identify important observations, choosing the most suitable riding position on the road,

communicating intentions clearly to others and understanding priorities on the road.

During the sessions students navigated the roads in and around Handbridge, under the close supervision of experts in cycle safety from Bike Right UK.

Congratulations to all students who successfully completed and gained their level 3 qualification. We hope this will not only inspire students to cycle into school, but will give them the tools to cycle independently, confidently, safely and equip themselves appropriately for their journey.





# 

#### School of the Year

Mrs Watts is delighted that Queen's Park High School has been nominated by The Cheshire and Warrington Pledge in the Mainstream 'School of the Year' category. The nomination recognises the outstanding contribution Queen's Park make in supporting the growth of young people in Cheshire and Warrington and ensuring that careers is a key topic on the education and business agendas.

A full overview of our Careers programme can be found on our website: www.qphs.co.uk



#### **Work Experience**

Year 10 and 12 students had a fantastic time out on work experience, week commencing 10th July. Work Experience provides students with first hand experiences of the workplace in order to help their exploration of career opportunities and to expand their networks.

I worked at Altimex during work experience week, they are a UK electronics manufacturer, fibre optics solutions company and lighting specialist. I learnt a lot about careers linked to STEM which is an area I am interested in. Year 10 student

Having an opportunity to go out into the workplace gave me a greater understanding of the area I would like to work in. I went to Chester University Business School where I worked in the IT and Marketing departments to develop marketing materials aimed at Sixth Form students.

Year 12 student







## **MONEY MART**

#### Financial Literacy workshops

During Enrichment Week, Year 7 and 8 students completed an array of tasks to deepen and strengthen their mathematical fluency.

Both year groups participated in financial literacy workshops which looked at their behaviours towards money and budgeting.

Working in partnership with Young Enterprise, Year 8 were encouraged to consider their personal hopes and dreams and financial plans for the future. They learned about the cost of living and explored ways to budget and manage their future earnings by looking at possible career options.

This activity enabled students to start understanding the skills necessary

for success in life and future employment. Students also had the opportunity to think about the study options and pathways open to them and how these can be financed.

For Year 7 students, this was followed with 'MART' - a maths and art session based around the properties of prime numbers inspired by our continued partnership with the University of Chester and work with Dr Sally Bamber (Senior Lecturer, PGCE Secondary Mathematics at the University).

Student finished the day with a fun maths relay problem solving competition where blue team B came out victorious. Well done!





#### **BANK OF AMERICA**

# W

#### **Insight into Digital & Finance**

On Tuesday 11th July, a group of Year 9 students attended an 'Insight Day' into careers in Digital and Finance at Bank of America in Chester.

The day consisted of a deep dive into cybersecurity, which looked at how the bank works to ensure they are not attacked by hackers. Students investigated code breaking where they were shown different types of encoding; they even had a go at deciphering coded messages using Caesar Cipher amongst others!

After lunch students were treated to a session on Raspberry Pi programming. Aidan showed a real talent in this activity!

During the day students had tours of both sites within the Business Park.

This visit helps to go towards students obtaining their Gatsby benchmarks 4 and 5.

A massive shout out to Ceri Morgan at The Cheshire and Warrington Pledge for organising the trip and a big thank you to Bank of America for hosting the event.



# College Taster Day

Cheshire College

South & West

In July, Year 10 students visited Cheshire College South and West Ellesmere Port Campus.

The trip was to enable them to start thinking about opportunities on offer Post 16.

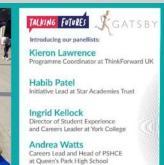
Following an introduction from college staff, the day was all about taster sessions - a 'hands on' approach to decipher possibilities of subjects for September 2023.

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

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







#### LEADING FOR IMPACT

#### Careers in Excellence

Following on from the successful Year 9 Parents' Evening / Futures event which took place on 8th February, Mrs Watts was asked by the Careers and Enterprise Company to take part in a national project called *Talking Futures* and speak at the National Careers Excellence Seminar in London in July. At the seminar, the panel considered excellence in parental engagement with careers - how can we positively engage all families?'

I was proud to represent Queen's Park High School and to share the development of our careers programme. Parental engagement with careers education is important to me and an area I would like to develop further during the next academic year. We will be hosting a number of events as outlined in our careers programme which will enable students and parents to make informed decisions.

Mrs Watts, Careers Lead

If you would like to be involved in any aspect of our careers programme: providing work experience placements, talks, workshops or mock interviews, please contact our Careers Lead - Mrs Watts: a.watts@qphs.co.uk





ENTERPRISE COMPANY



# **ESTEEM PROJECT**

#### Relationships & Sex Education

Working in partnership with ACET UK, a Chester based charity, students in Year 10 and 12 have been involved in the esteem project.

This project has empowered our students to share their voice in order to develop a shared understanding of relationships and sex education (RSE) to support young people in making wise and healthy choices.

During Cultural Enrichment Day on 18th July, Year 12 students took part in a workshop where they learnt about pelvic health conditions . The aim of the workshop was to empower young adults to be prepared for possible conditions they could encounter and was an opportunity for students to revisit any questions they still had about general sexual and genital health.





#### How to be an active bystander

Working in partnership with CSASS (Chester Sexual Abuse Support Service) Mrs Watts and a team of Year 10 students have developed workshops which have been delivered to Year 7 students this term.

The focus of the workshops was to develop a shared understanding around the 'Time to Challenge' and no one should stand by agenda, specifically addressing healthy and unhealthy relationships including an understanding of how to be an active bystander. Kathryn Kirk (CSASS Outreach Manager) has been working with Mrs Watts for over 18 months to enhance our approach to RSE curriculum delivery. At Queen's Park High School, safeguarding and keeping everyone safe is a key priority across our school community.

As part of our ongoing development of our Key Stage 4 and 5 curriculum for September, the Social Studies Team are working with Lime Culture, a national safeguarding / sexual violence organisation and Cheshire Police as part of the Safer Streets Partnership with Purple Leaf. The KS4 and 5 PSHE curriculum has been designed to engage students in conversation around these issues.

A full overview of the curriculum for PSHE can be found on our website: www.qphs.co.uk





## STORYHOUSE

#### Women's Schools Day

The Storyhouse Women Festival 2023 aims to celebrate women, spark conversation and explore topics that impact women as part of International Womens Day 2023. The rearranged Women's Schools Day at Chester Storyhouse took place in June after a bout of heavy snow caused its cancellation in March! This time the conditions couldn't have been more different as sun prevailed and temperatures soared!

Miss Hunter took a group of Year 9 girls to the event which started with an inspirational talk from local MP Samantha Dixon encouraging us all to be brave and go for our dreams. This was followed by a bit of mindfulness as we practised breathing and meditation to find the best ways to overcome the challenges we face.

The main message from the event was to grab every opportunity without fear of judgement and not to care what others think.

The day ended with a panel of inspirational women; Taya who has created her own fashion brand, Carly from our workshop who was a paediatric nurse turned professional boxer and Abi, a local fire fighter. They discussed the challenges of their careers and the hurdles they faced to be successful.

Overall, it was a day filled with passion and enthusiasm for achieving our best and chasing our dreams. Thanks to the Storyhouse for organising such a great day!





#### A trip of epic proportions

As part of the Turing Scheme, 53 Year 10 and 12 students joined Chester International School (CIS) and Christleton High School on a Trust wide 10 day work and cultural learning experience in Valencia, Spain.

The Turing Scheme is the UK government's global programme to study and work abroad providing students with the chance to develop new skills, gain international experience and boost their employability as well as gain a better understanding of other cultures.

Each day was packed with at least two activities; in the mornings Year 12 students attended one of the work experience venues which included working with Villareal football club on their marketing, business and management projects.



Others worked alongside companies with a focus on travel, leisure or the food industry. There were also opportunities to work with organisations specialising in education and sustainability.

During the placements, students completed projects, attended meetings and had to present their findings to the company they had been working with.

Year 10 experienced a wide variety of cultural opportunities to give them a deeper understanding of the history of Valencia and the way of life in the city.

As part of the itinerary, students visited The Fallero Museum, Natural Science Museum and the IVAM Modern Art Museum. Their cultural experiences also extended to taking part in workshops and opportunities at the School of Entrepreneurs (EDEM), University of Valencia, NGO Coastal Sustainability experiences and, of course, cracking the language barrier to order an ice-cream!

A few of the most popular days were spent either shopping, experiencing the wonders to be seen at Oceanografic or splashing around and enjoying fun times together at Aquopolis Water Park.

All students completed two projects and could chose from: a social project where they had to invent something that would improve life in the city and the life of the residents; a STEM project where the focus was on science and sustainability; or a tourism project, where students would promote and improve the experiences of a tourist.

Additionally, all students were required to complete a daily reflection of their experiences. These were presented to staff at the end of the trip and both Mr. Howens and Miss Domelow were impressed by the enthusiasm, professionalism and detail of the work. Go QPHS – you smashed it!















They had an absolute blast!
I'm hoping this was just what
they needed to think, 'I can do
it!' We will never forget
what you have given them.







# THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

#### Pushing students to their limits

With a new batch of 42 enthusiastic applicants from Year 10 and 12, the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award is now in full swing.

In early June, students took part in a 2 day practice expedition. This challenged students to walk from Delamere Forest to Kelsall over a 2 day period whilst camping overnight. However, being Duke of Edinburgh, it wasn't as simple as that. Students had to carry all their equipment and resources they needed for the two days in their rucksacks. This included: tents, cooking stoves, food, clothes and much more.

The practice expedition provided students with the essential skills they needed, such as map reading, navigation, food preparation and camping.

For the assessed expedition, students independently navigated their way from

Malpas to Waverton. Inevitably, they faced many unpredictable hurdles along the way, including the temperamental British weather, herds of inquisitive cows and a few wrong turns along the way.

Throughout the expedition, students demonstrated their determination to overcome obstacles, and learnt the importance of teamwork and resilience.

We're delighted to announce that all 42 students were successful in passing their assessed expedition. Furthermore, they were a credit to themselves and the school.

Participants are now working through the final three sections of the qualification which include volunteering, skill and physical challenges.



# MEET OUR HEAD STUDENTS

#### Introducing our Student Leadership Team

We are very proud to introduce our new Student Leadership Team who were recruited at the start of June from a broad selection of Year 12 students following a rigorous interview process. The new team consists of:

Head Students: Max J & Freya C Head of Eaton House: Sienna T

We are the Student Leadership Team for the upcoming school year. We are looking forward to improving our school and its environment with the help of all the other students who make QPHS a great place to be.

As a team it is important to us that we amplify the student voice and create a diverse space where ideas can be acted upon. To do this we plan to schedule regular meetings with the wider leadership team, as an opportunity for student ambassadors across all years, to share their thoughts and suggestions as well as communicating feedback from their peers. For a more anonymous way for students to voice their opinions, we plan to introduce suggestion boxes

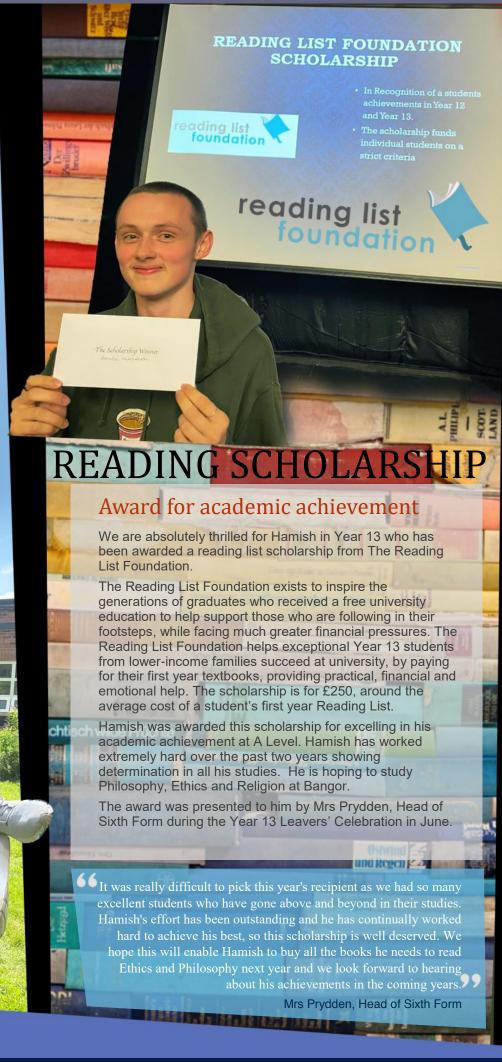
Head of Grosvenor House: Kaitlin P Head of Westminster House: Hannah J

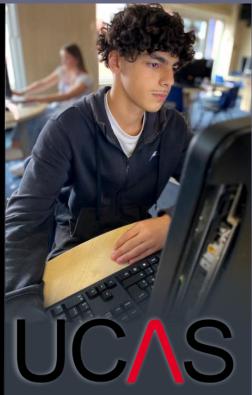
where notes can be passed on to the student leadership team. If you have any ideas, please feel free to drop a note!

Another priority for us as a team is to reinforce the house system to unite the school community through friendly competitions and events. Grosvenor, Eaton, and Westminster get ready! We are also very passionate about raising money for our school and for charity. As a result, we hope to be able to run events throughout next year to do so.

We are excited to give back to the school and can't wait to work with you over the coming year. If you would like to reach out to us, please contact us via e-mail through the school system.







As part of Enrichment Week, Year 12 started their UCAS journey.

Students completed careers quizzes to reveal the careers that are suited to their personality.

They then started to research the 35,000 different courses (including Agriculture Management, Wine Production and Cosmetic Science), which are on offer for students once they leave Queen's Park High School Sixth Form.

If university is not for them, students also had the opportunity to explore the vast array of Degree Apprenticeships that are on offer. There was a real buzz in the library with Year 12 talking about the many different pathways available to them!





# TIME TO CELEBRATE

#### Leavers' Prom

The Leavers' Celebration Ball is always a very special and memorable event for Queen's Park High School students. It brings together both staff and students to celebrate and reward the hard work, successes and achievements of their time at Queen's Park High School.

The Year 13 Leavers' Ball kicked off the celebrations at the end of June and was held at The Queen at Chester Hotel, whilst Year 11 enjoyed an evening of celebrations at The Cheshire View. All students were dressed to impress as they toasted the end of this part of their educational journey after successfully completing their GCSE and A Level summer exams.

Year 13 students were treated to a mocktail on arrival before tucking into a hot buffet and dancing the night away with their peers and staff, which included the staff winning the Macarena in the hotly contested dance off!



This year's cohort of Year 13 have been a very special year group and the fantastic night celebrated their hard work over the past two years. We will be sad to see them leave, but we know that they now have the life skills to be successful in whatever they go on to achieve. We wish them a well-deserved summer break and we look forward to celebrating their results with them in August.

Mrs Prydden, Head of Sixth Form



### **AWARDS EVENING**

#### Celebrating success at Chester Grosvenor Hotel

At the end of a very exciting and productive year we were honoured to be able to hold our annual Celebration Evening in the Westminster Suite at Chester's prestigious five star hotel: The Chester Grosvenor, as a result of our unique partnership with the hotel. The Lord Mayor of Chester, Cllr Sheila Little was in attendance to present the awards to over 100 students, in recognition of their hard work and achievement during the academic year.

Over 300 guests attended the event on Tuesday 18th July to share in the celebrations.

Following a drinks reception, awards were presented to students who had achieved the highest number of reward points in a subject, along with presentations to students who were deemed to be 'Outstanding Learners' by our Curriculum Team Leaders. The Will Lawrence Award for Perseverance (our newest award) was given to Samuel P in Year 9 whose efforts and positivity in school were publicly recognised. Our three Key Stage Leaders awarded one member from their Key Stage for being the most engaged and committed learners within their cohorts. This year's awards went to: Leigh (KS3), Harry (KS4) and Max (KS5).















It was a truly wonderful evening which complimented our in-school awards systems brilliantly and recognised those students who are truly outstanding in their fields of study. We very much look forward to next year's opportunities to celebrate success! Huge thanks to Diamond UK for generously sponsoring this event.

U.K.
Promotions

Mr Yeoman, Assistant Headteacher



Year 7 & 8

# CHESTER & DISTRICT ATHLETICS

#### Sprinting to victory

Another year and another record set of results for Queen's Park High School athletics team, as years 7 - 10 competed in both track and field events at the Chester and District athletics competitions in Deeside this term.

We must give a special mention to our Year 7 athletes as it was their first taste of a major high school competition, and they faced each challenge with confidence, determination and grit.

There were numerous standout performances for the team across both days in the 100m, 800m, 4x100m relay. Millie W ran a new personal best of 12.88 seconds in her final, winning the Year 8 girls 100m! Lola S ran an amazing race in her final, placing her 2nd in the Year 10 100m. Rodrigo T continued his winning streak from last year's race and ran an incredible time of 11.91 seconds in the 100m for the Year 10 boys, safely winning the final.

Further highlights for the boys team saw Piotr W finish 4th in the Year 7 100m final. In the Year 7 girls 800m, Alice F was placed 2nd out of 17 competitors - a phenomenal achievement! Our Year 8 girls finished 2nd in the 4x100m relay heat and placed 4th in the final. Harriet L in Year 7 and Grace O in Year 8 also made it through to the finals of both the 200m and 300m track events respectively.

It is fair to say Queen's Park dominated the field events with newcomer Indiana N in Year 7 and Phoebe W in Year 8 both gaining 2nd place in the javelin for their year groups. Proving their all round sports aptitude, Alice F in Year 7 and Millie W in Year 8 competed in the long jump, both winning 2nd place in their event. Meanwhile, Theo in Year 7 finished 2nd in the shot put, throwing a tremendous distance of 8.75m! Matthew in Year 8 came 3rd in the triple jump with an epic distance of 8.14m. Lola S demonstrated her sports versatility and was placed 2nd in the high jump, successfully clearing a height of 1.35m!

What an incredible set of results! All students attitude, morale and support for their team was exceptional throughout! Well done to all involved!



















# ROUNDERS ROUND UP

#### Chester & District champions for a second year!

During the Summer Term, girls' rounders really took off for years 7,8,9 and 10.

The Year 7 team has gone from strength to strength and whilst the majority of the girls had never played the sport before, over the season they have grown to know the tactics of the game and really bonded as a team. This was reflected in one of their last games of the season, where Queen's Park were the winners of their match against Upton High School with an outstanding score of 12 - 3! This is also testament to the excellent support and communication the girls have shown one another in all their matches.

For the second year running, our U13 team were the deserving champions of the Cheshire and District Cup this season.

Following wins against The Queens School and Blacon, they beat Christleton in the semi-final and faced Tarporley in the final. It was destined to be a thrilling and tightly fought game, however, the teamwork, finesse and skilfulness demonstrated by our girls proved too much for Tarporley, and Queen's Park were declared the winners.

Congratulations girls, you've done yourselves and the school proud!

These games have been incredible to watch and Miss Wragg and I are so proud of how all our girls have played. Their team spirit and communication has been exceptional in every game and it has been an absolute pleasure seeing the girls progress, develop and bond as a team this year!

Miss Darroch, Teacher of PE









to score had to display

their true skills to beat

performance by our

new goalie on the day.

such a formidable

the first time ever they have won!

year of sport at Queen's Park.

Congratulations Westminster!

What a way to sign off on a fantastic





# WINNING GOLD FOR WALES

#### U19 rowers selected for Welsh Rowing Squad

Home International Rowing (HIR) is an annual challenge match between Scotland, England, Ireland and Wales. The Teams, which comprise of four separate teams (Senior Men, Senior Women, Junior Men and Junior Women) are selected annually by each nation's Team Selectors and comprises approximately 60 athletes and 10 coaches and support staff. The HIR provides an opportunity for rowers and coaches alike to gain their first taste of international competition.

This year Sienna Taylor (Year 12) and QPHS alumni Grace Nugent were both

selected to be part of the Junior Women team for Wales.

Sienna competed in the 2000m event with Grace in the pair, and she was also the bow seat in the 500m sprint in the junior women's eight.

Grace also competed in the 2000m category in a double, and a coxless quad, and for the 500m sprint was in a coxless quad.

The girls had to train in Chester with the whole junior Welsh team for 3 days prior to taking the ferry across to Dublin with the team.



# ERNATIONAL ROWING /ELSHROWING

Hosted by Rowing Ireland the event was held at Lough Rynn, a beautiful natural lough in Leitrim County.

A fantastic end to the school year (or start of the holidays) saw both Grace and Sienna's crews in the 500m sprint win gold! They also came 3rd in the pair together and snatched 3rd and 4th place in their other events.

An amazing experience, and wonderful to see the girls in their Welsh team kit, proudly representing Wales.





The Michael Ord Award celebrates outstanding sporting achievement and encourages individuals to repay their sporting experience back to the community. This award recognises positive sporting role models, and provide them with a platform to inspire younger athletes.

Mr Taylor, Curriculum
Team Leader for PPA

# **SPORTS HONOUR**

#### Outstanding contribution to rowing

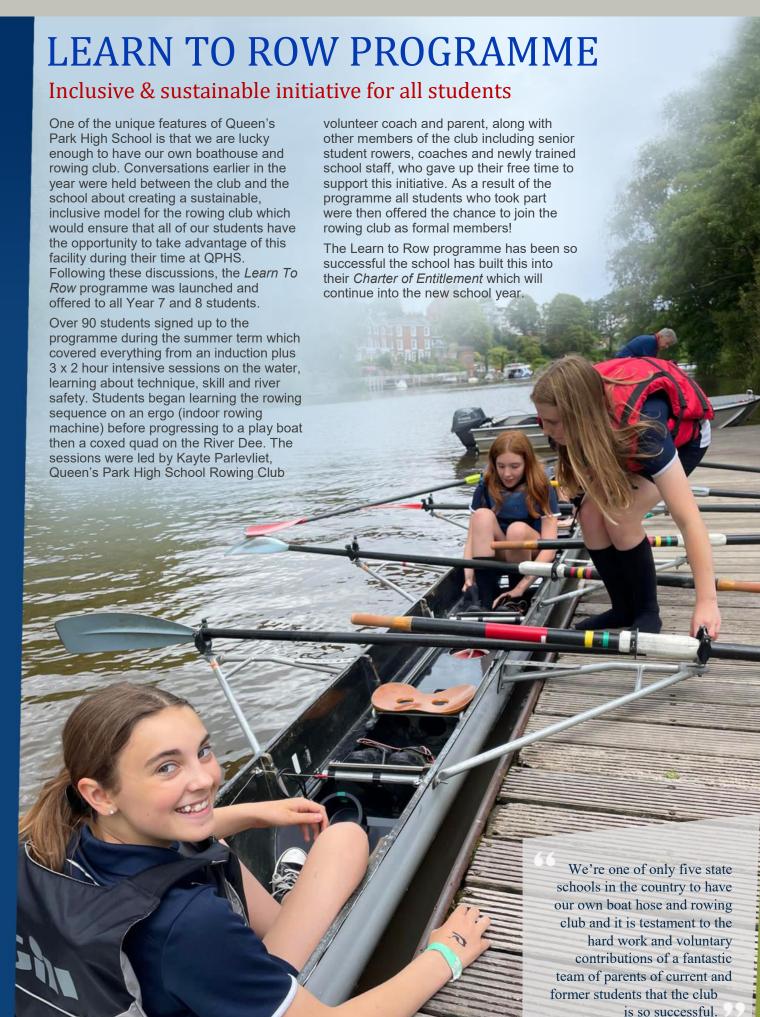
The Michael Ord Award is a particularly important and meaningful memorial trophy which is presented to a sixth form student each year from Queen's Park High School who not only has a passion for sport but who dedicates their time back to supporting the development of younger athletes. This year the award was presented to Year 12 student, James Parlevliet for his outstanding commitment to rowing and dedication with coaching younger students.

On Wednesday 5th July, James was presented with the memorial trophy by Stuart Ord, who set up the award in honour and memory of his son Michael. This year poignantly marks 30 years since Michael, a former Queen's Park High School student and keen sportsman who tragically died of meningitis aged 14.

James' name has already been engraved onto the honours plaque which lists previous years' winners dating back to 1994.

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





Mr Yeoman,

Assistant Headteacher









#### **Rowing for Team Orange**

As part of the Northwest region for British Rowing, rowers can be selected to represent the Northwest team at the Junior Inter Regional Regatta which is held in late April each year.

This year we had 6 athletes representing 'Team Orange' (the colour they race in) for the Northwest. Amelie P and Maisie M were in the women's J16 pair, Ned H and Matt H were in the J16 pair, Dan H was the J16 single and Achilles A was the J14 single.

The event was held at the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham. It's an opportunity for all selected crews to represent the region and to cheer on 'Team Orange' from the banks for rowers who would traditionally be our competition.

#### Congratulations to:

- Matt and Ned placed 2nd in their heat and won silver in the A final!
- Dan placed 3rd in his heat and came 4th in the A final.
- Achilles placed 5th in his heat, and came 4th in the B final
- Amelie and Maisie placed 3rd in their heat, and came 6th in the A final

The Northwest came 3rd overall against the 12 regions, another terrific result for Team Orange.





# IRONBRIDGE REGATTA

#### Dodging raindrops and thunderstorms

Over 2 days in the last weekend in June, the Rowing Club had 39 entries in the Ironbridge Regatta. Saturday is raced over 750m and Sunday 500m.

This was the last event for most of our year 11 boys and girls, so a hint of sadness overlapped with fun as they competed in mixed boats on Saturday. We had many wins in the early rounds, it was an incredibly hot day, focusing on staying hydrated and cool! A terrific final race between two QPHS mixed quad boats in the morning saw Ned, Keir, Leah and Amelie take home the prized Ironbridge tankard! This was the last event for most of

Sunday was a different day with our younger rowers racing, and the threat of thunderstorms lurking all day. Racing was stopped for 30 minutes in the afternoon when the heavens opened, but we managed to avoid any of the thunderstorms that were roaming across the country that day.

Tankards were won by Carlos and Jacob in their J14 double, Carlos in his single, Issy and Siyana in their WJ4 double, Grace in her W17 single and Evie, Millie, Millie, Phoebe with TJ coxing in their WJ14 4x+.







#### NATIONAL SCHOOLS REGATTA

#### Where future Olympic Champions start out!

Held at Dorney Lake in late May, the National Schools Regatta is the key national event for schools to compete in crew boats (for J14 and J15 rowers) and then smaller boats for the older athletes. Dorney Lake was the location for rowing and canoeing events at the Olympics in 2012. The regatta draws over 5000 rowers to compete over three days. This year we had our J14 boys and girls competing on the Friday (the boys in a coxed oct, and the girls a coxed quad) and Sienna and Grace competing in the Championship girls single event over the Saturday and Sunday.

WJ14 4x+ Eden M, Siyana M, Alice N, Isobel C and cox Grace N were 27th out of 54 crews.

J14 8x+ Louis P, Healy S, Jack M, Joseph D, Achilles A, Carlos L-V, Toby M and cox Bruno B were 15th out of 27 crews for their

timetrial, and then placed 2nd in the C-final, less than a second behind the winners.

Championship Girls 1x - Sienna was placed 31st out of 49 in the time trial then progressed to repechage 3 where she was 6th. On Sunday Sienna was then in the C/D semi-final placing 7th to be in the D final where she finished 6th.

Championship Girls 1x – Grace was placed 17th out of 49 in the time trial, then progressed to repechage 1 where she was placed 3rd, this moved her into the same C/D semi-final as Sienna. She won the semi-final which put her in the C final where she finished in 2nd place.

Well done to all crews.



#### SHREWSBURY REGATTA

It seems that many of the events this year have either been bathed in incredible heat and sunshine, or being soaked to the skin! Shrewsbury this year managed to be a bit of both. With so much rain prior to the event, all the parking and camping was compromised, with our van having to be towed out before the event even started! The Sunday racing was 900m and we had a very long day, racing until nearly 7.30pm! Medal winners were:

- Ned J16 1x
- Sam, Apollo, Freddie, Rhys J15 4x-
- Florence, Alice, Macy, Freya Cox: Ephraim WJ15 4x+ plate

Monday is a shorter course of 550m, and another very wet day. A special thank you to the parents who helped get everything packed on the trailer while it was still pouring with rain. There was some tremendous racing with all

rowers doing the club proud.

Those who took home wins were:

Grace: WJ17 1x

- Carlos and Achilles: J14 2x
- Alice, Phoebe, Issy, Siyana and cox Louis: WJ14 4x+ plate
- Sienna and Grace: W 2-
- Evie, Millie, Millie, Phoebe and cox Freya P: WJ13 4x+
- Carlos: J14 1x
- Joseph, Lucas, Louis, Jack and cox Sienna: J14 4x+ PLATE





#### **RACING AT HOME**

#### World's oldest regatta

Chester Regatta is truly a team event, with all the clubs on the Dee working together to put on the event that is the Oldest Regatta in the World, first raced

Our parents and coaches and volunteers all help out on the day, assisting with launch driving, running the barbeque, marshalling and helping every way they can.

The racing is a fun 700m regatta along

#### Those who took home medals were:

- WJ15 2x Alice and Florence
- J14 1x Henry
- J16 2- Ned & Matt
- WJ13 4x+ Evie, Millie, Millie, Phoebe, cox: Leigh
- W Sch/Jun 1x Grace
- J14 4x+ Toby, Carlos, Jacob, Achilles cox: Daisy
- W J14 2x Eden & Isobel

# JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### Competing with over 100 clubs across the UK

The Junior Championships were held in Strathclyde, Scotland, a first for all our rowers attending this year. The Junior Championships are the final formal regatta racing for the year, with over 100 clubs from all over the UK attending with their crews to see final placings.

This year 18 athletes from QPHS attended over 2 of the 3-day event.

The weather packed a punch, with Friday starting relatively calm and sunny and descending into torrential rain. Saturday we saw the wind pick up with coastal conditions on the loch, and many of our rowers testing their mettle for their time trial and then finals race down the course.

For our J14 and J15 competitors, they had to complete a 900m time trial and then were ranked for their finals based on their times. All finals were side-by-side racing of up to 8 lanes, 1000m.

Our J16 and J18 competitors (unfortunately they don't often have a J17 category, so our year 12 rowers have to row in J18) have to complete a 1900m time trial, with final side by side race of 2000m, unless there are fewer than 9 competitors and then it gets a little complicated (starts with a side by side heat, top 2 in each heat go through to A finals, then those who don't make it through to the A final get a second chance through a repechage).

All of our crews did incredibly well, many having their first opportunity to compete at a national level in smaller boats. A huge thank you to our parents and coaches who travelled to Glasgow to support and help over the weekend.

#### **Results:**

J14 1x - Henry There was a lot of confusion with Henry's event, as there were repeated issues with timing for the time trial, having to be rerun twice, and then adjusting the format so all rowers raced in sideby-side heats to determine who the fasted three rowers across the group were. Henry placed 29/38 in the final heat series.

WJ14 1x - Isobel 3rd in the D-final. J14 2x - Louis and Seth Mc 4th in D

WJ14 4x+ - Eden , Siyana, Phoebe RB, Alice N coxed by Isobel 7th in

J16 1x Dan 6th in C-final

J16 1x Ned 4th in E-final

WJ15 1x Elen 46/62

WJ18 2- Sienna and Grace 6th in A -final

J16 2- Dan and Ned 4th in B final

WJ16 4+ Lucy, Amelie, Lily, Maisie (sub Florence) coxed by Henry, lost by less than a second in the repechage after placing 6th in the heats first thing in the day.

WJ18 1x Grace 1st in E final













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