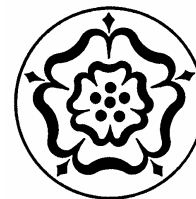


# Newsletter



## NEWS from QEGSA

The final total from the Christmas Fair was a massive £6,200. A big factor in this was the massive success of the Y7 and Y8 Apprentice Challenge. We are very grateful to everyone who supported the fair in any way, but in particular to Winkworth Estate Agents who sponsored the advertising boards and Slaughter and May's charitable fund which supplemented the takings of the raffle.

## COMING SOON

Parents and Staff are invited to brush up their general knowledge and trivia for the next QEGSA quiz. Put a date in your diary for Friday 26 March. Tickets will be £10 including a fish/chicken (or veggie alternative) supper. Tickets will be available from the school office after half term.

## AWARDS FOR DISTINGUISHED WORK

Congratulations to the following Y8 students who achieved Awards for outstanding work in History: Lauren Thomas, Stephanie Hadjipetrou, Clara Scatola, Jeronee Jennycross. All the girls produced superb presentations on aspects of Tudor life. Well done!

## SUCCESS AT NATIONAL TAP DANCE AWARDS

Congratulations to Rosie Bretherton (SF01) who competed in the ISTD Marjorie Davies Tap Dance Awards on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> February.

She took part in the Premier Class section and competed against 55 talented tap dancers from all over the UK, Hong Kong, Italy and Ireland. Rosie was awarded Runner Up of the Premier Class and also won the Gwen Carter Choreographic Award for the most creative and original dance in the whole competition.

The 3½ hour section was exhausting, since the competitors had to learn two hard routines from scratch and also were given another piece of mu-

sic to choreograph on their own within 30 seconds. The competitors then had to perform their two minute solo dance.

Rosie was in good company in the competition, since Mathew Koon - the finalist in Got to Dance - was in the competition. He was awarded a Special Commendation.

Rosie is now training hard with the Tap Attack England Team in preparation for the World Tap Dance Championships in December.

## AMNESTY YOUTH GROUP

Do you want to actively help people suffering from abuse of human rights all over the world? QE Girls has now become an affiliated member of Amnesty International. This is a very important organisation which campaigns for freedom, justice and equality across the globe. The work of the Youth Group will include debates on human rights issues, petitions, letter writing, guest speakers and protest marches. It is open to everyone from Year 9 upwards and will be a brilliant opportunity to help people in desperate need of your support. Meetings will be held on Friday lunchtimes in MW01 at 1.10pm. GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!

## SCHOOL UNIFORM CONSULTATION WITH PARENTS

The School Council have made a request to the School Governors asking for consideration to be given to making some changes to the school uniform. A survey has been carried out to gain the opinion of our students so we would now like to extend the consultation to parents.

The feedback from the students was that the large majority would favour a move to a V-necked jumper or sweatshirt. A majority were also in favour of the introduction of a blazer. When given a choice over which item should be compulsory - v-necked jumper or the blazer - the majority favoured the jumper.

The Senior Leadership Team would favour the blazer being made the compulsory item as it provides the option of having a number of pockets in which to keep valuables on one's person, and would hopefully reduce the incidence of "lost" valuables. Any changes to the uniform would be phased in gradually.

We are now giving all parents of students in Y7-10 the opportunity to complete a short survey in order to gather your views. The survey will be sent out by email and any parent who does not have access to email is welcome to contact the school office for a hard copy.

### THE REALLY GOOD SCHOOL DINNER

QEGS took part in this fundraising initiative that ran for the whole of the last week in January.

The aims of the campaign, which was organised by the World Food Programme and the School Food Trust, were simple:

Have a school dinner. Give 10p extra and a hungry child gets a meal.

As always QE students and staff were very generous and the £96.81 that we raised will go straight to the World Food Programme to provide really good school dinners in places where children are hungry. The World Food Programme is currently working in many countries including Haiti. Thank you to everyone for your contributions and to the Sixth Form students who helped with the collection. *Miss Livock*

### LEPRA FUNDRAISING

We have finally heard the total amount raised for Lepra by Year 7 and 8 in the Autumn Term - a whopping £1190.99!! We have received a plaque and framed certificate from Lepra and a huge thank you to acknowledge this fantastic effort. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

### SPORTING SUCCESSES IN BADMINTON AND TRAMPOLINING

The KS3 Badminton team took part in the North London finals on 3<sup>rd</sup> February as the winning Barnet team from the first round. Our girls were up against some very tough opposition but still managed to win some of their games against Waltham Forest and Haringey. Congratulations to all mem-

bers:

Vista Kermani, Keerthana Arularooran, Eleanor Young and Nikta Kermani.

At the **Barnet Schools Trampolining Competition** this week we entered teams in the Senior and Year 9 categories. The Senior team performed very consistently and came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the team event, with particular congratulations going to Charlotte Wingfield who came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall in the silver medal position in the individual rankings.

We are still waiting the final results for the Year 9 team who also performed very well.

#### Senior Team

Sarah Shepherd

Gemma Clark

Rebecca Storey

#### Year 9 Team

Fay Williams

Daisy Sutherland-Young

Tiffany Fieldman

Charlotte Wingfield

Sara Zylfo

Maya Hanoomansingh

### ATTENDANCE

#### Year Group Attendance 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2009 - 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010

Year Group	% attendance
Year 7	95.62%
Year 8	94.30%
Year 9	93.73%
Year 10	92.85%
Year 11	94.28%

#### Form groups with the best attendance 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2009 - 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010

Form Group	% attendance
7P	96.69%
8S	95.02%
9L	95.74%
10L	95.06%
11L	95.90%

Congratulations to **7P** who are the new leaders in year 7. Congratulations also to **8S** who have

taken the lead by 0.01% from the previous leaders in year 8. Well done to the following form groups who have seen a substantial increase in their attendance rates over the last week, **7N, 8Q, 9N, 10S, 11P**. Enjoy your half-term break.  
*Ms Griffith*

### **MUSIC NEWS**

**GCSE MUSIC** Year 11 Half-term Coursework Help On Monday Feb 15th from 9.30-12 noon the music department is offering extra support for current composition coursework. Just turn up at any point during that time. Remember to sign in first at the greenhouse door.

### **VISIT FROM SWEET CHARITY DIRECTOR**

In advance of our trip to Sweet Charity on Thursday evening, we were very lucky to be able to have a workshop with the director in school. Gabriella Sinclair Santa Cruz & Olivia Matthews of 7N have written the following report.

The directory Kate Golledge of Sweet Charity came into school for a visit to talk to us about the theatre production. She described the Chocolate Factory where we will be going on Thursday 11th February to watch a performance of Sweet Charity.

She asked a number of girls to stand up and placed them to show how wide the theatre was and long the stage is. We also got a chance to act out different parts of the show so we understood the plot. We asked her a lot of questions to do with the show. For example, How did the Chocolate Factory get its name? How many actresses and actors are performing? When is it moving to the West End and so on...She gave us some examples of the songs which we will recognise in the show such as Hey Big Spender!

We would like to thank Miss Tierney and Miss Horne on behalf of everyone going on the trip for organising this wonderful experience.

We hope to have some reviews of the show in the next newsletter!

### **COMPETITIONS GALORE**

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** Age Concern Barnet has launched "A Positive picture of older generations: challenging stereotypes". The aim is challenge stereotypes of older people which are often held

by younger people and to encourage positive interaction between the generations. The competition is open to all young people living in Barnet aged 11-19 (two age groups 11-14 and 15-19). Entrants are encouraged to interpret the theme widely but photos must not include anyone aged under 18. Closing date is 24 June 2010. Watch out for the posters advertising the competition.

### **ST PATRICK'S DAY COMPETITION**

Another photo/video competition asking young Londoners to develop and display their awareness of Ireland. The theme is 'Ireland our Neighbours' and entries should highlight at least 3 aspects of Irish society and culture. The winners will win prizes of holidays in Ireland and will receive their prizes at the St Patrick's Day festival in Trafalgar Square on Sunday March 14. Full information at [www.london.gov.uk/stpatricksday/schools](http://www.london.gov.uk/stpatricksday/schools)

### **RUBBISH ART COMPETITION**

Barnet are running a competition to select artworks to put on the side of the rubbish trucks which empty our wheely bins. The aim is that the artworks will encourage people to recycle more of their rubbish. Over 72% of the rubbish we generate can be recycled but currently only 31% is recycled in Barnet in the blue and black boxes and green bins. If recycling is increased it will save valuable resources, stop waste being buried in landfill sites and reduce our carbon footprint. The deadline for entries is 8 March and the winners will receive an ipod touch each. More info and entry forms from the school office or Barnet Online or from Edel Ryding on 020 8359 7418 or at [edel.ryding@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:edel.ryding@barnet.gov.uk)

### **BOLLYWOOD DANCERS AT THE BETT SHOW**

Following their appearance at the Schools Prom in November, Unsuya Karsan and Sona Shah have again performed with QE Boys' Bollywood Orchestra, this time at the high profile BETT Show at Olympia where they were described as 'the highlight of the show'. Well done girls!

### **BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE**

We have been asked to print the article below on behalf of Barnet Council. As you can see

QEGS is not involved in the first wave of Building Schools for the Future. This is because we are a successful school which achieves very good exam results. If there are future waves of BSF, funding for new or improved buildings may come to Barnet. You cannot change the schools which are in wave 1, but you may want to tell the Council (either at the meeting or in writing or via your councillor) how strongly you feel about the need for improvements to the buildings at QEGS.

*If your child is currently at or likely to enter a Barnet secondary school over the next decade, Barnet Council would like to hear from you. Parents are invited to a 'Building Schools for the Future' information evening at Hendon Town Hall between 7pm and 8.30pm on Monday 1 March. The meeting will inform parents of future plans and involve them in a round table discussion on the next decade of secondary education in the borough.*

*Barnet has received 280million to invest in the redevelopment of six secondary schools over the next few years. Work is likely to begin on these schools in 2011/12. Once work on these schemes is completed, funding will come on stream for other schools.*

*Robert McCulloch-Graham, Director of Barnet Council's Children's Service said: "Although we have six schools in the first wave of redevelopment, we hope to redevelop all of our secondary schools over the next ten years. As part of this process, we want to produce an education system that, as much as possible, meets the needs and aspirations that local parents have for their children. I very much hope that parents will come to this round table event and debate how we provide their children such an education over the coming decade."*

*The schools that will benefit directly from the first wave of Building Schools for the Future funding are:*

*Bishop Douglass Catholic School, East Finchley  
Cophall Girls School, Mill Hill, St Mary's Church of England High School, Hendon, The Ravenscroft School, Totteridge, Oak Lodge Special School, East Finchley, The Pavilion Pupil Referral Unit, Whetstone. For further information, please con-*

*tact Jade Asije on 020 8359 7737 or at [jade.asije@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:jade.asije@barnet.gov.uk).*

#### **FREE ARTSDEPOT TICKETS**

A play 'Handful of Henna' will be running at the Artsdepot, North Finchley from 24-27 February. It is based on real stories from Muslim women and looks at homecoming, adventure, fear and joy.

#### **FREE CONCERT TICKETS**

Barnet Symphony Orchestra will be performing their next concert on Sunday 28 March in Friern Barnet. The soloist will be the leading cellist Natalie Clein. Tickets are £8 for adults but FREE for under 16s. Tickets from [www.wegotickets.com/event/61089](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/61089) or by email at [info@barnetsymphony.org.uk](mailto:info@barnetsymphony.org.uk) or call 07990 510102

#### **DIARY DATES**

- 12-20 Feb. Ski Trip
- 15-19 Feb. Half Term
- 24 Feb. Y9 Parents' Evening 4.30-7pm
- 25 Feb. School finishes at 2.05pm for Staff Meeting
- 8 Mar. Y9 Options Evening 6-8pm
- 9 Mar. QEGSA Committee Meeting