



Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

We are pleased to welcome back all of our students to the Spring Term although as I write this letter watching the snow falling outside my window this morning, there is more of a feel of Winter!

The first two weeks of term have been busy for staff and students too. The Sixth Form students have been engaged with their Mock Exams and Year 11 received the results of their exams from the Mocks at the end of last term. Our exam group students will be focused over the coming weeks, working with the support of their teachers and no doubt with your support at home, to ensure they achieve the results that at the very least, appropriately reflect their ability.

A large number of our Year 10 students worked toward the submission of STEM projects to a National Competition, The Big Bang. This is a competition that Mr Randhawa introduced to the school on his arrival as a new Assistant Headteacher (STEM) to support the work of the school in developing and promoting STEM subjects and learning. We know that these subjects will offer increasing employment opportunities in the future and in areas of work where females are under-represented. For the competition, students had to work in groups of no more than five students, designing an innovative STEM project that focused on discovery, investigation, design and scientific method. They had to create a website and upload a video of their work to You Tube. The competition is open and highly popular in Independent Schools as well as State Schools. Seventeen teams from our school entered. Their entries were all of an incredibly high standard. I am absolutely delighted to share the news with you that eight of these teams are through to the Finals at the NEC in Birmingham. I am only disappointed that not all of the teams were equally successful. All the students worked hard, developing new skills along the way and problem solving as a collaborative group. The next stage involves twenty-seven Year 10 students who will set up a display of their work at the NEC, engaging with 3000 members of the public on each of two days in March. The winners will be selected by eminent scientists including Professor Brian Cox. Please keep looking at the website where we will be uploading links to the girls' projects, We will also be inviting you in to school, setting up the hall as a mini NEC, to share the girls' work and give them an opportunity to engage with an audience as a dry run for March. More information to follow.

I was privileged to spend last Saturday morning with a number of our families, at the Curzon Cinema, Mayfair, enjoying the Premiere of a selection of short films made entirely by our students in Years 7 - 10. We are fortunate to have Mr Alam on our staff who organises and runs Film Skool as an enrichment activity which supports students to develop and explore a number of creative skills in front of camera and also behind the scenes in terms of editing as one example. The best thing about creating something is the opportunity to share it with others and the girls could not have asked for a more appropriate platform and venue for their work. They were all stars, certainly for the day.



# Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

*Educating Women of the Future*

I am pleased to share news that our new Medical and Wellbeing Officer has started working with us this term. Ms Breskal will be working to support girls' medical needs on a daily basis and also to run wellbeing workshops for students and families on a variety of topics. In addition Ms Breskal will be working with other staff to develop our peer mentoring programme.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely

*Violet Walker*

Violet Walker  
Headteacher