



Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Summer is here! As I write this letter though, late on Tuesday night, I can see lightening and hear some thunder. However, I am ever hopeful that the warm sunshine will return to grace the weeks ahead. I expect the students and the staff too, will be reflecting on the School year about to pass by and the possibilities that the Summer break may bring. I wish us all as much activity as we can appreciate and as much rest and relaxation as we need to unwind and recoil in time for September and the new School year.

By the time we return to School, our Roofing Project will be under way. Preparatory works are due to start on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July coinciding with the first Site Meeting. We are expecting some works to continue into the Autumn Term and I will write to you again with news of progress in September.

It seems a fitting end to this academic year, to be busy with roof work as we have been busy inside all the buildings during the course of the year and in the School grounds, outside. The School has begun to invest in the longevity of its fabric with allocated expenditure to maintenance that ensures we fulfil our obligations under Health and Safety, with particular regard to Safeguarding and Wellbeing of our School community, students and staff alike. This year we have continued to protect our perimeter, being mindful of security and walking through a *Shelter in Place* protocol. These necessary new concerns for schools to address, make it strange to know that while young people have increasing freedoms, at the same time, they have increasing boundaries. Our students, quite rightly, have strong views on such matters which are very well represented at the weekly meeting of the School Council, to which I am privileged to be invited. The School is planning a number of new platforms for oracy and debate and I hope to bring you more information on those in the Autumn Term.

Of course, our School year could not go by without mentioning the myriad of sporting activities, opportunities and competitions in which the girls have given a strong account of themselves, earning awards, medals and trophies along the way. We saw the launch of *QE Girl*, our magazine for students, by students, with a little help from Ms Hanley, our Chair of the Board of Trustees. This term ended with the Private View of Examination work in Art and Design and Technology; a showcase for the talent, flair and entrepreneurial skills of our students and their teachers. This was followed by Author visits and our Summer Music Concert where students reached new highs and thoroughly entertained all families and friends in the audience. I was especially delighted to meet our new Year 7 families again last week, in a social setting provided by QEGSA, our School Association that develops community, raises funds and models for our students, the important value of service to others. During the course of the year I wrote to you about the successes of our STEM students and our Design and Technology students, finalists and winners in a variety of national competitions. Even this last week has been packed with opportunity for new experiences from a careers carousel event to teambuilding via an assault course in the school grounds and a visit to Boulogne.

These examples of the wealth of activity that goes on in our school, supported by our dedicated staff, ensures the curiosity of our students which is key to their personal development and their academic progress.

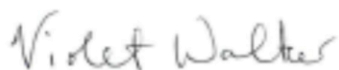
As ever, in all schools at this time of year, we say Goodbye to some staff members and look forward to welcoming new colleagues in September. We have recruited high quality staff who will enrich the team and I will tell you more about them in the Autumn Term. For now, I am pleased that leavers have secured posts that bring promotion or enable staff to achieve a better work-life balance by relocating to schools nearer home or for some to find the right time to contemplate retirement from working. I know you join with me in wishing them all well in the future.

Next academic year's Student Planner covers, for KS3 and 4 respectively, have been designed by Sara Jamshidi Y7 for KS3 students and Mia Selstrup Y9 for KS4 students next year. Remember the Planner contains much of the information you will need to support your daughter in her daily timetable and is also the first line of contact with school, via a note to your daughter's Form Tutor in the appropriate space for each week. By signing the Planner on a weekly basis, you support a dialogue with School that can raise early awareness of any matters you wish to bring to our attention and vice versa. Together with my letter, this week you will have received Mr Duffy's letter with information for next year and Sixth Form families will have received Ms Southwell's additional letter. All of these are available on the School Website together with the School's News and Events Items, Twitter Feeds, the School Calendar and much more besides. In September, we will provide all families with information on how to navigate the Website to access particular details via the most direct route. Please take the time to visit the Website at

[www.queggschool.org.uk](http://www.queggschool.org.uk)

Meanwhile, I have given a flavour of the year in this letter and I look forward to writing to you after the holiday with news of our students' individual and collective successes in Public Examinations. Students, with the support of their families and guidance and teaching from our staff, worked incredibly hard so that they were prepared, appropriately, to demonstrate their learning and progress leading up to the examinations. I have no doubt the girls gave a good account of themselves, presenting on a daily basis in a calm and purposeful manner. I look forward to seeing them all on Results Days in August. Please check the Website regularly for information and any updates on arrangements for collection of results. I look forward to welcoming Year 11 students into our Sixth Form in September and I wish all our leavers, the very best of everything in the future. To all our families, I wish an enjoyable and restful Summer break with your daughters, other family members and friends.

Yours faithfully



Violet Walker  
Headteacher