



18 April 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you all enjoyed a restful and relaxing holiday from school with your daughters. From conversations with lots of them in school during the last two days, I am aware that many of you also had a fun filled and action packed break away from school. The girls have certainly returned full of positive energy and the weather yesterday and today has done much to lift the spirit. We can tell it is the Summer Term!

I have been waiting before writing to you all, to receive some news that I am pleased to share here. You will be aware of the Government funding we received through competitive bidding last year for our Roof Project. I am happy to announce that we have been successful in this year's bidding round too. We will receive funding to enable us to fast track our Asbestos Management Programme for priority works and we will also receive funding for a second project this year, to upgrade our Fire Alarm system and upgrade Fire Doors around the school site. The nature of these projects means they will need to be done while we are off site so the plan is to use the whole of the Summer holiday. I will update you of developments as we receive further information.

During the Spring Term holiday, works were completed to change the lighting system in the Sports Hall. Many lights were no longer working and so we took the opportunity to switch to LED lighting. This had made the Sports Hall considerably brighter to the benefit of our students when taking part in sporting activities and also to our students when taking Public Examinations. We will also of course benefit from the longer life that LED lights bring and look forward to halving our energy bills for the Sports Hall. The school is thankful to its Parents, Carers and other friends of the school who have supported QEGSA fundraising events or made Direct Debit donations. QEGSA supported the school to pay for the Sports Hall lighting and for the recently refurbished heating system in the Sports Hall. This generosity is in addition to that which has already enabled a number of projects to be completed this year to benefit current and future students. Without the active support of QEGSA our environment would be less welcoming and comfortable. In some cases without the timely completion of certain projects, our school may not have been entirely compliant with current legislation.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the next fundraising event on the calendar – An Evening of Indulgence – to be held in the Sports Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> May. It coincides with our next Parents' Evening so plenty of opportunity to combine both events. We look forward to seeing you there. Please watch out for further information ahead of the QEGSA event.

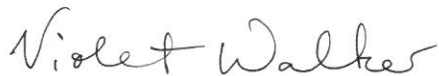
A future date for the diary is Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June when we will be holding a Summer Fair on our grounds for families and friends, to celebrate the 130 year anniversary of the school's foundation. Plans are underway and there will be plenty of opportunities for families, students and staff to get involved in this celebratory event. If you would like to be involved in this event, QEGSA are looking for volunteers so please do get in touch with the Committee via our website or through school via email to Mr Haines. I know it will be a very special occasion and one that will create a fond memory for current students.

Our annual Commemoration Day celebration with the traditional procession to St John's Barnet, will take place this term on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May. We are trialling a new format that will see our Prize Giving Ceremony on a separate occasion in the calendar year. We are planning an event in early September where we will be able to award more prizes across all year groups and celebrate our current Year 13 students' achievements just before they go off to further study, training or employment. We will of course also be able to celebrate the achievements of our current Year 11 students at the same time. I will be writing to you with more details about both of these events in due course.

I hope you all enjoyed the latest edition of QE Girl, received at the end of last term. It was certainly packed full of pictures and interesting articles! The next edition is already in the research and planning stage and will no doubt contain some photos from the successful Canada Ski Trip that took place during the holiday. I hope you were able to enjoy some of the Ski photos, hot off the slopes, which we were sharing via Twitter – a platform that enables us to communicate with you live from the event! Please do follow us for real time news.

As always, I look forward to meeting many of you in person over the coming weeks on different occasions in school.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Violet Walker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Violet Walker  
Headteacher