



Founded in 1888

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October

# Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School In The News *ITN*



October in school has seen our new students and staff settle into familiar routines. We are all now a real learning community in every sense of the term. Finally, deepest autumn is upon us and we can all enjoy the changing nature of our green environment. Celebration events have come to an end for a little while now; we have been busy with information evenings for families. In September we spent time getting to know each other and this month we have been working at supporting our families to know our work.



## Message from the Metropolitan Police Safer Schools Department re Fireworks

**People under the age of 18 are NOT allowed to buy fireworks, nor possess them in a public place.**

Fireworks = All fireworks except category 1 fireworks - party poppers, sparklers, throwdowns etc. in a public place by anyone under the age of 18;



### **It is also illegal to**

- Possess category 4 fireworks (professional display fireworks) by anyone other than a fireworks professional
- Throw or cast or fire any firework in or into any highway, street, thoroughfare or public space (this would include throwing or firing from a private place into a public place, street, highway etc.)
- To light any fire or discharge any firearm or firework (without lawful authority or excuse) within 50 feet of the centre of a highway which consists of or comprises a carriageway, and as a consequence the highway is damaged

**Please note, you could also commit offences if fireworks are being used to cause a nuisance.** Therefore please let your adults take control of any setting up, lighting and/ or general handling of fireworks.

Remember, have fun but please stay safe.

## News from the National Art and Design Saturday Club

In addition to our partnership with Middlesex University through the National art and Design Saturday Club, the Art Department has this year forged an exciting new link with The University of Westminster. Four of our Year 10 students will be participating in an eight month long programme of animation workshops. The students will have the opportunity to use equipment such as digital DSLR cameras and to use software packages such as Adobe Photoshop, AfterEffects, iStopMotion, and iMovie.

In addition, there will be an exciting master class with Aardman Animation and a visit to the Regent Street cinema, belonging to the University of Westminster, to see an animated film. All of this will culminate in an opportunity for the girls to showcase their work at an end of year show at Somerset House.



## Activities summaries – October 2018

### Health and Social Care Macmillan fundraising event

Sixth Form Health and Social Care students supported Macmillan Cancer Support by raising over £125 as part of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

Students across the sixth form prepared for the event by donating and baking cakes. These were then sold during break and lunchtime in the sixth form area.

As part of their level 3 course students studying Health and Social Care learn about the vital role Macmillan play in supporting any individual affected by cancer. This is the first of a number of events the group will be doing to support this organisation.



### Careers employer engagement talks

As part of QEGS careers provision students can participate in our afterschool careers talks. These talks give students the opportunity of meeting and interacting with employers from a wide variety of different sectors work.

October saw us host our first talk of the year and we were delighted to welcome representatives from Barnet Early Years Alliance who run and manage three local nurseries. We also welcomed two Primary School Teachers from St Catherine's Primary who spoke about careers working with young people in educational settings.

Over forty students attended the talks which focused on pathways into these careers. Students had the opportunity to gain information on the entry requirements, training and skills they would need to enhance their CV's as well as lots of top tips that employers are looking for when recruiting in this area.

Our next talk will be taking place on December 4<sup>th</sup> focusing on careers in finance. All students are welcome to attend.



### Work experience

September saw the launch of our work experience programme to Year 11 and 12.

Thank you to all year 11 students and parents/ carers who attended the information evening on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

If your daughter is interested in a work experience placement and is needing support or inspiration for a placement please see Ms Myatt or Mrs Douglas.

Further information is available on the school website.



### Students learn about the benefits of apprenticeships

On 30<sup>th</sup> October Year 11 and 12 students had the opportunity to meet a representative from Education and Employers, a national organisation who work in close partnership with leading national bodies representing employers, government and third sector.

As part of the day students had an assembly which explored the vast range of apprenticeships available from school leavers to the new degree level apprenticeships. There was also the opportunity to students to drop in and speak with staff from the organisation to explore pathways into different sectors of employment.

"The talk really helped me understand about the benefits of the new apprenticeship schemes. I didn't know that I could do an apprenticeship that lead to a degree whilst getting paid at the same time" (Year 11 student)





## Democracy Day

This was a morning when the sixth form explained democracy to us and we got to vote for our new School Councillors.

It was nice to make the link between how we vote in Britain and how we also get to vote for our school representatives. By the end of the day I think we all understood that it is really important that we are allowed to vote in the UK.

A hundred years ago women fought for the right to have the vote and were given that right. This is something we should value as we are all girls here at QE. In just a few years' time we will be allowed to vote in elections and Democracy Day helped us to understand that democracy is something which we need.

*DEMOCRACY= A NOUN*

*"a system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state who get to vote for their chosen politicians"*

Written by students in 8JPR



## Child Protection and Student Wellbeing updates

### Health and Wellbeing day

On the 24<sup>th</sup> September Year 11 had a health and wellbeing day. They took part in sessions including:

Mindfulness

Self-confidence

Democracy and the importance of voting

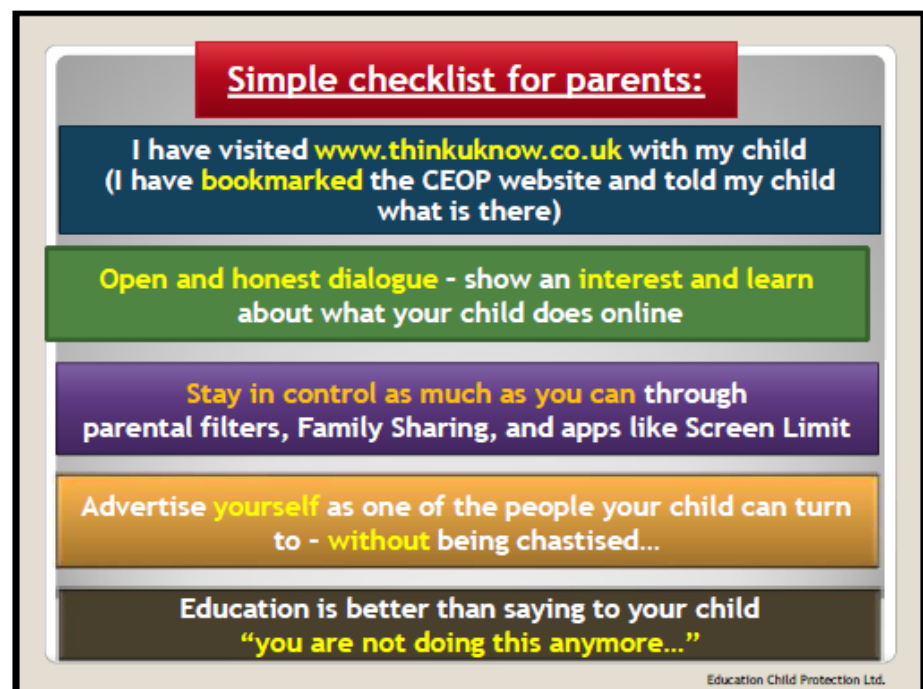
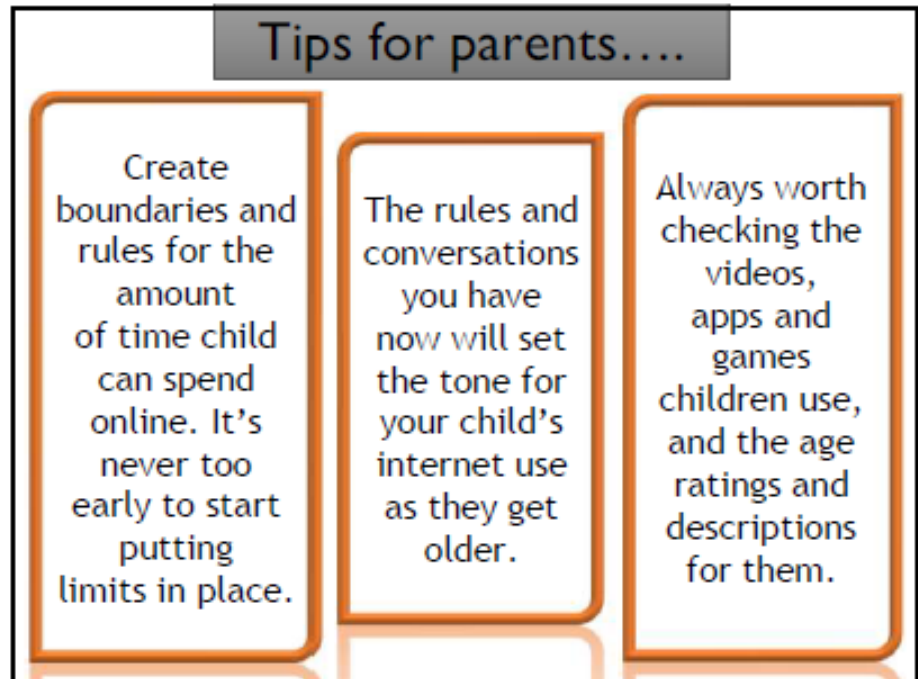
Self-defence .

The students enjoyed all the sessions and felt they had learnt valuable techniques to help them stay calm before and during exams as well as how to keep themselves safe.

## Parents E-Safety talks

Education Child Protection came to our parent's information evenings to talk about some of the on-line risks that exist for students.

The main points to remember are:



Slides from the full presentation can be found on our school website.

Useful websites include:

[CEOP](#)  
[Childnet](#)

## Staff training

All school staff had a Child protection briefing on the first INSET day, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, this outlined school procedures and some of the work we are doing with students to help them cope with any difficulties that arise.

Also on the INSET day Jeremy Shackleford from Oxford University talked to staff about the Mindfulness research programme in which the school is taking part. We have four members of staff that are trained to teach the Misp .b mindfulness course. Four Year 7 forms have started on their Mindfulness journey. Ask your child to talk you through a .b or later this term a FOFBOC . If you would like to learn more please go to [Mindfulness in schools project](#)



During one of Tuesday meetings, the whole staff had a briefing on female genital mutilation, including how to report any concerns.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> October Education Child Protection did refresher training with all staff on the four types of abuse and common indicators, as well as peer-on-peer abuse and child sexual exploitation.



## Emotional Intelligence and Conflict Management

On the 5<sup>th</sup> October, Year 8 had a group of presenters in to look at Emotional Intelligence and Conflict Management. The students took part in workshops which included a drama production, discussion about self-confidence and positive attitude.



## Prevent training

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October we welcomed back Me and You Education to talk to students about radicalisation and extremism.

Irfan Christhi MBE and Ivan Humble were the presenters and spoke about identity and how the need to feel part of something can be used to draw young people into extremist groups, whether these be far right groups, extreme religious groups or animal rights groups etc.

Ivan was recently featured on BBC3 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p05tyfrp/a-tattoo-to-change-your-life-series-1-6-putting-my-far-right-past-behind-me>

Irfan is the Co-founder of Me and You Education which is one of the training providers on the governments training list.

This year's presentation included the video 1:32Cheddar Man: DNA shows early Briton had dark skin - BBC News.

The sessions evoked a lot of discussion and student surveys showed that 100% understood how race can be used to divide people. A further 98% said they felt more knowledgeable and had increased their understanding of extremism.

The presenters were impressed with the engagement of our students, their curiosity and willingness to take part in discussions.



## PSHE Rolling programme

Every half term we suspend the usual timetable for students to take part in activities based around personal development.

The first session in September was a two hour session looking at democracy in the UK, finishing with students voting for their school council representatives.

On 1<sup>st</sup> November we have our second rolling programme:

- Year 7 start looking at on line safety using Think You Know resources from [CEOP](#)
- Year 8 continue with E- safety using the Crossing the line resources from [Childnet](#)
- Year 9 have a presentation from the Police cadets
- Year 10 have a lesson about on-line grooming and will watch Kayleigh's Love Story, parents are invited to watch this video [Kayleigh's love Story](#)
- Year 12 and 13 have a speaker presenting about the risks of drugs.

## Thought for the week and Assemblies

Each day our students start the day with the thought for the day which is a quote based on our Thought for the week. For the autumn term our themes are:

- At the Starting Line
  - British Values
  - Democracy
  - ‘The right to Peace – Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70’
  - Having Faith
- 
- Being Grateful
  - Respect
  - Focus on one school value – Form Assembly on Courtesy
  - Focus on one school value – Form Assembly on Remembrance
  - ‘Choose Respect’ – Anti Bullying Week

## Year 11 Drama Trip to Chickenshed Theatre

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October the Drama Department took 54 Year 11 Drama students to Chickenshed Theatre in Southgate to see their new production of Jekyll and Hyde. This musical adaptation saw Robert Louis Stevenson’s classic tale of man’s capacity for both good and evil revitalised with youthful vigour and attack. Jekyll and Hyde is set in a smoggy, dark and dingy Victorian London which was brought to life by Jonny Morton’s unique decision to use traverse staging. GCSE Drama students will have to write a review of the production in their upcoming Drama mock examination. This performance certainly gave them ample examples of unique staging, acting and directorial decisions to review.





## Sixth Form Drama and Theatre Studies trip to Park Theatre

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October the Drama Department took Year 12 and 13 Drama students to see a performance of *Bullet Hole* at Park Theatre in Finsbury Park. The play centres on Cleo and her journey of healing following her experience of FGM. The play tackles an extremely difficult but ever so important topic and did so with courage and sensitivity. An eye opening piece of theatre that the sixth form Drama students will be able to both review and take creative inspiration from.



## The A Level Photography students' visit to The Photographers' Gallery



On the 9<sup>th</sup> of October, the students taking A Level Photography visited The Photographers' Gallery in central London to see two exhibitions of work by women Photographers - polar opposites in terms of their careers, locations and lifestyle - yet oddly close in some of the issues their work portrays.

Here are just some of the girls' observations and insights in response to these brilliant shows:



Firstly, '**SILVER LAKE DRIVE**'. **ALEX PRAGER** is an American photographer and filmmaker, presenting meticulously staged, large-scale photographs plus her repertoire of moving image work. Her distinctive technicolour images slice across the worlds of art, fashion, 1960s Hollywood and eternal human nature – unravelling the darker undercurrents behind seemingly glossy subject matter.

### **Mia**

Prager's subjects and style... create a lot of vibrant and lively colours even down to the orange of their skin. There are four films connected to specific photographs in the room... once you watched the short films you then tried to identify the same models/actors and landscapes used.

My favourite of Prager's films was 'Face In The Crowd'... The close ups of the characters create intimacy when the three screens surround you, noticing every wrinkle and crevice in their faces. The busy crowd that the main character must face shows how society is individually dealing with their own problems and are self-obsessed.

### **Sophie**

This film ('Face In The Crowd') included lots of people who had different accents, ages, ethnicities and religions and it starts with some of the people talking about their experiences. For example one man was talking about his belief in true love, another about their relationship with a neighbour and another about divorce and his other hardships in life.

### **Sophie**

The film then moves onto a bustling crowd where Elizabeth Banks, the protagonist, is standing next to a window just watching people go by; nobody notices her standing there.

### **Hannah**

Something I could take from Alex Prager's work is her use of lighting as it helps establish the mood of the piece and convey a clear message to the audience.

### **Sophie**

The overwhelming message of the whole film was that everyone is just another face in the crowd.

### **Elise**

The message I took away from the film ('Face In The Crowd') was that everyone is unique and has experienced different things, shaping them to be the person they are today. However, in society these individuals and quirky characters become lost within a sea of people and individuality is masked by the hustle and bustle of daily life where everyone has a place to be, something to do or someone they need to meet.

### **Marsha**

Alex Prager has made the main character of this film ('Face In The Crowd') a woman, thus showing is the importance of a woman's role in society and how it may not be appreciated in the way that it should.

### **Marsha**

There was a part where the crowd had become still and she was the only one moving. This really shows that no one may be paying attention to her and that she may be isolated from society... through her facial expressions it is clear that perhaps this has affected her deeply and that as a woman it may be harder for her too.

[Prager] also wanted to show the loneliness of Elizabeth Banks and how she may feel out of place... [she] wanted to give the audience a feeling of being distressed – a result she achieved as a result of the cinematic techniques.



The second exhibition, '**WORKS**' charts the remarkable accomplishments of British documentary photographer TISH MURTHA, who lived and worked in the post-industrial areas of South Wales and the North East of England. Her pictures offer a tender and frank perspective on a historic period of social deprivation in Britain.

### **Mia**

In contrast to Prager, the Murtha exhibition was somewhat darker, literally. The exhibition was all monochrome (black & white) and the subject matter matched the tones perfectly... Throughout the exhibition the photographs convey the anger that the subjects felt towards society and problems such as racism, crime and poverty.

### **Elise**

The chilling atmosphere [Murtha's] photographs gave made me feel so sorry for the families experiencing the troubles addressed in each of her photographs... the pain and sadness they were feeling which shot out of the photos.



### **Hannah**

[Tish Murtha] works in monochrome to help convey her message. In her photographs she explores controversial topics which include youth unemployment and poverty... as well as the neglect from the government.

### **Elise**

I found the exhibitions of Tish Murtha's and Alex Prager's work to be very inspiring... in a way which makes me want to include certain elements in my work now and in the future. It has enhanced the outlook I have on society and I was touched by Murtha's photographs of

youth unemployment... as it's intensified my view on social deprivation and common issues affecting society tremendously today.

### Hayley

I was of course impressed by both of their works... Alex Prager was blatantly able to manipulate light and other resources, making extremely powerful images in a very professional way. Tish Murtha used minimum resources but created, in my view, impressively powerful and moving images.



### Hayley

Tish Murtha and Alex Prager are undeniably different photographers but then again, they both have one major feature in common; they both are inspirationally moving and... almost brought me to tears.

### Hannah

I have learnt to just focus on one object or thing in my photo to help the audience to focus their attention onto the most important aspect of my piece.

### Hayley

Combined together these outstanding photographers' exhibitions at The Photographers' Gallery have inspired me to approach my own work in a completely diverse and original way.



## Physical Education and sporting activities

The Netball and Cross Country seasons have got off to a fantastic start. The Netball squads have been selected and are training weekly with Miss Gardener and Miss Hendlesby. Each team has played a number of matches already this season, with several victories and draws, as well as close losses, highlighting some key areas where we can focus our training.

In Cross Country the teams have already competed in 2 league meetings, with superb performances from all students. They are now training hard with Mrs Matty for the Barnet Cross Country Championships on 6th December.

Particular mention must go to Evie Redpath, Charlotte McBarek, Anna Reeves and Isobel Parker - all of whom have been selected to represent Barnet in the London Youth Games in late November.

Due to high demand, Fitness club is now running on both Monday and Wednesday after school with Miss Dixon.

We look forward to continued success this half term and will keep you all updated.



## Information from our Caterers



Caterlink Ltd are proud to be the chosen caterers at Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School. Our team is led by Chef Manager Todd Frame. He prides himself on providing a wholesome, balanced and varied menu for the girls to enjoy. At Caterlink we know how important it is for us all to eat a healthy diet. Since September we have introduced a healthy eating loyalty card whereby points are awarded each time one of our homemade main meals or a freshly prepared salad or even a fresh fruit pot is purchased. Once enough points are earned these can be redeemed for a treat like a slice of one of our tasty homemade tray bakes or even a meal deal.

In light of the recent publicity regarding allergens in the food we buy and eat, Caterlink would like to inform you of our approach to ensuring the girls have access to allergen information regarding our products. We display the poster pictured in this article at all times to prompt our customers to speak to Todd and discuss their dietary requirements in terms of allergens in the menu on offer on the day. As a joint approach with the school, we will be working towards updating the till system with the information provided by you regarding your child's specific dietary needs, to alert us at the point of sale. We will be promoting this on our forthcoming marketing bulletin within the school, to further ensure that this message is reached by all. If you have any questions regarding this please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Caterlink team via the school.



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## Dates for Your Diary

*“You can really only enjoy  
life when you're extremely  
busy.”*

*Josephine de La Baume*

**For further details of all events, please visit our website  
and use the following link to the school calendar pages:**

**<https://www.qegschool.org.uk/calendar/?calid=2&pid=6&viewid=1>**

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### November

1

- Sixth Form Open Evening

7

- Half Day Closure for students

8

- Year 11 Progress Evening

14

- Year 12 Parents Evening

20

- Year 11 English Literature students visit to the Barbican Theatre

22

- Year 13 Parents Evening

27

- Year 12 students visit the Arts Depot

### December

7

- Year 12 students visit Bournemouth and surrounding area for context and an immersive experience of Hardy's Dorchester

10

- Year 7 multi-agency presentation to educate young people about the consequences of crime, not only for the offender but also for family, friends, victims and wider community

13

- Christmas Carol Service at St John's Barnet. All are welcome regardless of beliefs – students, families and friends will enjoy a variety of musical and other performance pieces from our students.

19

- Last day of autumn term

## **January 2019**

Spring term starts on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January

The school calendar, news and events items, letters from school, statutory policies, curriculum, governance, exam performance data, inspection reports and other information, the school and the sixth form prospectus are all available on the school website

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

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