



Founded in 1888

Volume 2019| Issue 11

September and
October

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



This half term, we warmly welcomed our new students in Years 7 and 12. The emphasis on administration at the start of any academic year, together with the earlier than usual Half Term break has resulted in this combined Newsletter as we approach the holiday week.

Early highlights for the school this year have included receiving a special award from the London Mayor through his Schools for Success programme, being included in this year's Parliamentary Review publication as one of ten schools nationally with best practice to share with all other secondary schools and our published Progress 8 score, the government's performance measure for schools in England and Wales. The Performance Tables were published on 17th October. Our score of +1.11 ranks us Joint 26th out of 6489 secondary schools, nationally. We are the top, wholly non-selective Girls' School, nationally. In the borough of Barnet, we are the top Girls' School, out-ranking both the Girls' Grammars and other state Girls' Schools. In fact we are ranked 2nd in Barnet after a small, mixed, selective on grounds of religion, school, Bishop Douglas. Their GCSE cohort this year was less than half of ours. I make no apologies for sounding competitive; our students, your daughters are phenomenal scholars and everyone in school is justly proud of them.



I would particularly draw your attention, as a reminder, to the [Staff Wellbeing Day on Friday 22nd November when the school will](#)

be closed to students. Staff will be engaged in a number of wellbeing activities of choice.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and enjoyable autumn half term break with family and friends. I look forward to seeing you all in due course, during the academic year.



Press Release from the Schools for Success Programme:

Outstanding achievements of Queen Elizabeth's London

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, has celebrated the outstanding performance of Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School in Barnet with an awards ceremony.

The school was honoured for its work to reduce educational inequality and achieve exceptional results for children who were previously behind in their studies, at a Schools for Success awards ceremony.

Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School has been recognised for arguably closing any gap in performance between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students, for ensuring there are no underperforming identifiable groups and for its phenomenal Progress 8 score this year and in the preceding two years. The school shares its practice widely through the SSAT network of Leading Edge schools. It is one of only three London schools to win the award successively over three years.

The Schools for Success programme was created by the Mayor in 2017 to improve the support given to children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The programme recognises primary and secondary schools that ensure strong progress for their lowest attaining pupils, has a strong overall performance and shares their work with other schools.

The ceremony was hosted on Friday (27th) by Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare Joanne McCartney.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said: "I'd like to congratulate the staff of Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School for their excellent work. Schools for Success was created to celebrate the difference that teachers, teaching assistants, support staff and governors are making every day to support children and reduce inequalities, and this school's inclusive and supportive learning environment is a great example of this. London has the best schools and teachers in the country, and by working together we can make sure that no young Londoner is left behind."

ENDS.



We are delighted to be included in this year's publication of The Parliamentary Review which provides commentary and articles on education, politics and society that are currently shaping the work schools do with young people. The Review highlights ten schools who have a narrative of sustained success and a unique style deemed worthy of communication to all other schools. The publication in hard copy is circulated to every Secondary School Headteacher in England and Wales and to every MP and Lord in the Houses of Parliament. Hard copies are also distributed to leaders in relevant industries.

A Message from Lord Pickles and Lord Blunkett on Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School's best practice article

The ability to listen and learn from one another has always been vital in parliament, in business and in most aspects of daily life. But at this particular moment in time, as national and global events continue to reiterate, it is uncommonly crucial that we forge new channels of communication and reinforce existing ones. The following article from Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School is an attempt to do just that. We would welcome your thoughts on this or any other Parliamentary Review article.

Rt Hon The Lord David Blunkett, MP

Rt Hon The Lord Eric Pickles MP

Please access the article on the school by typing in to your browser, the following:

<https://www.theparliamentaryreview.co.uk/organisations/queen-elizabeth-s-girls-school>

The full online version of the document is accessible using:

<https://www.theparliamentaryreview.co.uk/editions/2019/secondary-education/secondary-education-greater-london>

Mrs Walker, Headteacher

Women in Economics Conference, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge University 25 September 2019

One thing that really stood out at the 'Women in Economics' conference at the University of Cambridge is how economics relates to so many other subjects. We discovered that students study economic history, political economy and mathematical models of the economy. Listening to the experiences of current Cambridge economics students gave us a real insight into the subject at university level. The talk given by the Women's Budget Group was fascinating. It showed how men's and women's economic positions are very different in our society. As a result of the different responsibilities between men and women, with women more likely to have responsibility for care and other unpaid work, there is income inequality between men and women. This means that Government spending policies impact differently on men and women too. More women travel by bus whilst men are more likely to travel by train so a cut in expenditure on buses adversely affects women. We listened to the research carried out by Dr Laura Harvey on gender income inequality on 'sons versus daughters' and how this needed to be understood to achieve a fair, equal and productive society. Lastly, one shocking statistic that we came across was that there has only been one Nobel Prize for Economics given to a woman. We found the whole day very exciting and it has inspired some of us to study economics at University.

Gizem, Year 13, Salome, Maimoona, Saisha and Saba (all Year12)





Association of State Girls' Schools Conference

On the 4th of October, a lucky handful of us attended the Association of State Girls' School Conference held at Central Hall, Westminster. Mrs Walker is the Joint President of the Association. Miss Southwell works with the Sixth Form Network group within ASGS and she gave a Snap presentation regarding our school's work on student well-being. She also provided the conference with information on the ASGS Sixth Form group.

Following the opening address from the Joint Presidents, the conference was opened for the speakers by the ASGS Patron, Lady Brenda Hale, Baroness of Richmond. Her speech captivated the room and even made the weekend's papers for her comments including 'Let's hear it for the girly swots!' Lady Hale's sheer commitment to improving and propelling girls in education sent a buzz around the room as we all felt inspired by the hard work and determination that led her to be the first female President of the Supreme Court. Two of us are A Level politics students, and they were able to absorb Lady Hale's enthralling speech and will certainly be able to put her teachings into practice; which is an amazing opportunity this conference has given us. Further, the three most senior officers in Year 13 who also accompanied us, were given the important role to greet and register all the delegates and the speakers, developing our leadership qualities and the opportunity to represent QE.

As key speakers followed throughout the day it became more than apparent that the fight for the improvement of female education and female professionalism is taking significant strides but as both Professor Jane Clarke, President of Wolfson College, Cambridge and Baroness Hale detailed, it is often the statistics that make the headlines that add to the complacency of a society so reliant on facts and figures to mark improvement. Being surrounded by diligent and motivated women dedicated to education made me realise how privileged we are as a school to be so heavily involved in associations like ASGS because it opens up many opportunities for networking and cooperation. After being utterly blown away by Professor Clark's speech we were able to share a few words and it was clear that her ambition for young women of the future to strive in STEM pathways was 'from the heart', spurring me on to follow in her footsteps of taking control of her own education despite any animosity shown by a male dominated field.

Louisa, Year 12 Student



As a young woman embarking into the world of STEM, I was deeply inspired by the palpable tenacity of Professor Jane Clarke who detailed the challenges of being a woman in the scientific world. She detailed that as a woman, society may project its expectations on you, however, nothing is beyond your reach irrespective of contextual circumstances. Speakers such as Baroness Hale of Richmond served as prime examples of how women can break glass ceilings and make it to the top of their industries. This is something she placed considerable emphasis on, since women are found at entry level of various industries but do not always make it to the top of the hierarchy. Her talk left me feeling motivated to work harder and to always seek better in myself. Overall, the day was greatly informative and helped me understand the various components that will enable me to be a well-balanced successful woman in the future.

Jessica Mtemeri-Head Girl



Barnet School Sports Partnership



On the evening of Wednesday 25th September, Barnet School Sports Partnership (BPSS) held their annual sports award evening at the Arts Depot in North Finchley.

All of the students with the strongest sporting talents from across the borough, came together to celebrate their sporting achievements for the 2018/19 academic year. The evening, hosted by Jo Eames (BPSS Strategic Manager) and Kim Henderson (PE Consultant for Barnet School Improvement), highlighted the key achievements of those shortlisted, before announcing the winners. A highly motivating speech was also given by local resident Emma Hayes, who is currently the manager for Chelsea FC Women.

Our school was delighted to be awarded the Participation Award for 2019 which recognises the greatest variety of events and activities in which a school participates and achieves success. The PE Department would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our students for their commitment to our extracurricular programme.

Thank you to Kimberley and Vanessa, Year 10, for attending the event and collecting the award on behalf of the school.

Mrs Campbell, Head of Year 9



Eastside British Film Industry Academy

Lola and Alice in Year 12 applied to a course with the Eastside BFI Academy earlier this month, and they have been successful in securing places. An impressive achievement. They will be working with highly skilled directors, working towards producing their own film. The department is excited to support them both on this journey over the coming months and everyone looks forward to the unfolding progress of their work. Good luck girls!

Mr Royden and Mr Alam, Joint Heads of Film and Media



Cherie Blair talk at Harrow School

We visited Harrow School to listen to 'Women in Education', a talk discussing gender equality, delivered by Cherie Blair. The Speech Room was filled with students from North London schools and colleges, as well as Harrow School itself. Our Year 12 students who attended, enjoyed the subsequent debate in which a range of insightful questions were posed by the audience members sparking discussion around single gender education and representative recruitment.



Cherie spoke about the importance of education and the role that law firms and businesses have to play in ensuring gender equality in the workplace. She also discussed her work for her own Foundation which works in low and middle income countries, to set up schools and mentoring schemes, to enhance women's life chances.



Ms Ward, Deputy Head of Sixth Form

School Council Elections

An important highlight of the start of every academic year, is the democratic voting process to select the school representatives on the School Council. The Council is chaired by one of the Sixth Form Officers, appointed to the role through a robust and appropriately rigorous selection process. We are pleased to announce the results and look forward to the first meeting straight after the half term break.

School Council 2019/20



Year 7:-

Perlah

Emilia

Year 8:-

Simona

Zahra

Year 9:-

Sophie

Melissa

Year 10:-

Hillary

Sama

Year 11:-

Lorine

Temi

Year 12:-

Mia

Amnah

Our Voice counts....



Congratulations to all the girls who stood and to those selected in this year's election to represent their peers.

Miss Piper, Teacher of RS, School Council

Safeguarding and Wellbeing Update

Emergency procedures



SAFEGUARDING

Fire

So far this term students have taken part in fire drill to ensure that everyone on site knows how to exit the building quickly and sensibly so that in the event of a real fire lives would not be put in danger.

Lock down

Students have been reminded of our lockdown procedures including the sound of the alarm. In the next half term we will carry out a lockdown drill.

Mobile phones

We ask all parents to continue to monitor their child's screen time.

One suggestion we have explored with students is using the pomodoro method when completing homework. This method encourages students to focus on one thing at a time for 25 minutes. In this time students set a timer and aim to complete a piece of homework and/or revision without the distraction of looking at their phone or any other screen. At the end of 25 minutes the student would have 10 minutes screen time before doing their next 25 minutes.

Information Advice and Guidance

Thinking ahead for the week of half term, a reminder of available resources:

Support for Young People:

[Childline](#)

[Young Minds \(Information and Advice\)](#)

Support for Parents:

[Family Lives](#)

[Young Minds \(Parents Helpline\)](#)

Support for Teachers:

[NSPCC Child Protection Helpline](#)

[Mental Health Foundation \(Mental Health Guide for Teachers\)](#)

If you have concerns about the immediate safety and wellbeing of a child contact the police using 999 (emergency number).

Mrs Parker, Assistant Headteacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead

Safeguarding is everybody's business



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

Josephine de La Baume

Dates for Your Diary

**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>

October

21 - 25

- **Half Term Break**

29

- Our Sixth Form Open Evening from 6.00pm

November

4

- Year 12 Conference Safe Drive Stay Alive 1.00pm – 4.00pm

7

- Year 7 Pastoral Evening 4.30 – 6.30pm - Come and meet with the Tutor Team
- Year 11 Drama students visit the National Youth Theatre 6.30pm – 10.30pm

11

- Year 11 Computing Group visits NMOC Bletchley 8.00am – 4.00pm

20

- Young City Poet's Experience Day 9.00am – 3.00pm

22

- Staff Wellbeing Day – School Closed to students

25

- Sixth Form Art students attend the Royal Academy of Art for the Anthony Gormley Art Workshop 5.30pm – 9.30pm

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

Follow us on Twitter @qegsbarnet and @VioletWalker13

Contact the school via office@qegschool.org.uk