

Monday 6th January 2020

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

Welcome back to school in 2020, a new decade! Thank you all for your good wishes. I hope you too were all able to enjoy some rest and relaxation with family and friends during the Christmas holiday break.

We had a delayed start for students this morning to enable important continuing professional development for staff. This was a productive session and we were delighted to welcome back your daughters for the start of Period 3 today.

As usual and in most schools, the sixth form began their Mock Exam period today. We wish them well!

On Friday this week we are celebrating Year 11 student Mock Results, issuing certificates and opening up the sixth form for a Taster Day including subject choice lessons. This is always a special day on the calendar.

As always the Year 9 Options process gets under way now and we are looking forward to meeting all families later on this year for our Options Evening and individual meetings to discuss most appropriate pathways.

I am delighted to say that this year, three school teams have been selected as finalists in this year's Big Bang Competition at the NEC in Birmingham, based on their concept projects. Two teams are from Year 10 and one from Year 11. The girls who participate learn a huge amount as they present their STEM projects to judges and over 20,000 visitors per day at the NEC Finals Fair in March.

We have a new Director of Music, Ms Emma Coy, and a new Physics Specialist, Ms Gemma Armstrong. We are pleased to welcome them to our teaching staff body.

Please do keep checking the website for updates on news and events at <a href="http://www.qegschool.org.uk">http://www.qegschool.org.uk</a> where you will also find the school calendar. Please be particularly vigilant for website messages during times of inclement weather. We do always aim to keep the school open even during periods of snowfall. However we are always mindful of the Health and Safety of students and staff and may make alternative arrangements as necessary.

I look forward to seeing you all at events and meetings for families throughout this term and wish you all a happy and healthy New Year.

Yours faithfully

Violet Walker

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Headteacher