

# QE GIRL



Of the pupils by the pupils and for the pupils

## INSIDE THIS EDITION:

The Dordogne Trip

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your phone in a glass?  
Life Hacks

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Will **YOU** design the  
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Which  
*Fantastic Beast*  
are you?

**QE Girl Magazine is  
running a school wide  
competition to see who  
can design the best logo  
for our magazine.**

**Will it be yours?**



Students celebrating another year of amazing exam results!

*This magazine is written by QE Girls for QE Girls. In it you'll find every type of item - from photo-journalism, news and serious opinion pieces to funny quizzes & satirical cartoons.*

Our aim is to tell you something new, show you what a brilliant school we go to, and make you laugh. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Journalism Club is open to everyone - so do come along to Room 214 on Wednesdays after school.






# This Term in Pictures




 Activities Trip to Western France




 QEG Students working with The Girls' Network




 Year 10 Romeo & Juliet Theatre Trip



 Girls Net and Stylist Magazine for article interview and "style the model" photo shoot




 Ms. Myrtle presented UK's research work at University of East Finland.







 Year 12 Hardy trip to Dorset



 Fabulous turn out at the Christmas Fair

 Year 7&8 competed in the Barnet Indoor Athletics Tournament




 The Eco Council are up and running promoting sustainability and a reduction in waste at school.



 Mentoring Programme




 Yoga Sessions



 A Level Photography students' visit to The Photographers' Gallery



 Prevent Training



# Soggy Sandwiches and **Pink** Jumpers!



At the beginning of the summer holidays a handful of students from year 8, 9 and 10 went to Dordogne, France on a fun filled water sports activity week. We interviewed Sky Meears-Driscoll who went on the trip.



By Priya Lad and Danielle DeCoteau, 9EMO

**What skills did you learn from the trip and how do you think they will help you in the future?**

I learnt loads of team building skills and how to canoe.

**What, in your opinion, was the best activity you did?**

We did canoeing with Mr Haines it was really funny to see him in a swim suit!

**Would you recommend this trip? If so why?**

Yes, it is a good experience, you can learn so many valuable life skills and make fabulous memories.

**What was your favourite memory from the trip?**

Seeing Mr Haines in a pink unicorn jumper, it was hilarious.



**Why did you want to go on the trip?**

I wanted to meet new people and to create new memories.

**Were there any embarrassing moments which are worth sharing?**

There were only a few showers and they were at the end of the hall. One time someone left their clothes behind and everybody saw them in a towel.

**What did you eat?**

Soggy sandwiches and loads of French foods like croissants and baguettes.

**What was the scariest thing you did?**

I thoroughly enjoyed the trip but found the massive zip line really scary, it was part of Go Ape.

**If you could change one thing about the experience what would it be?**

The sandwiches were disgusting and somehow, the bread was soggy.

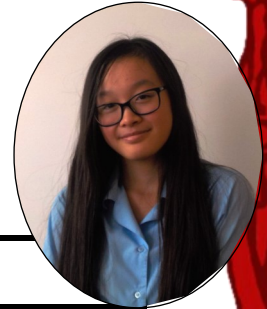




# Theatre Review

## Romeo & Juliet

**On the 20th of November myself and ninety-nine other girls took a trip in the evening to see Romeo & Juliet, performed by the Royal Shakespeare Company to help us understand the play better. Two feuding families, Romeo meets Juliet, Romeo dies, Juliet dies. If those things I've listed are the only things you know about it then I'll try and change your mind about this play.**

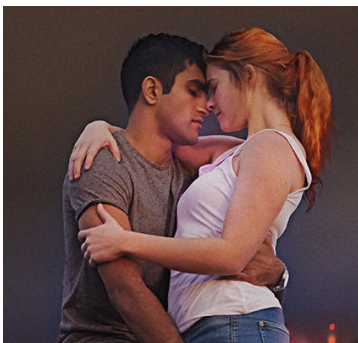


By Sienna Siu 11HRS

For the entire performance, there was only a giant metallic box in the middle of the stage. Nothing else other than a few props to decorate it to differentiate between scenes. With this simple layout, it made the actors and actresses stand out more and focus on their words. I enjoyed how many scenes they showcased by using a box, which was very intelligent of the company to do.



Also the actors and actresses wore clothes that we would wear in normal life, like jeans and a t-shirt. I think this conveys how this would be the normal life that Romeo and



Juliet experience as well as remembering that they're teenagers in a world of adult hatred. A fancy dress or a highly decorated background isn't the most important thing in a play, it's the words and actions on stage that matters.

Another aspect of this performance that I found interesting was the diversity between the characters and the gender swapped roles, such as the prince and Mercutio (quite macho roles) acted by women. In the Elizabethan times, you wouldn't have seen women or such diverse people



acting on a stage together. It felt good that this company isn't following the etiquette of Shakespeare's time that closely.

After watching this performance, I think I might have changed my mind on Shakespeare and how there can be different interpretations of Romeo & Juliet. It's helped me get a better understanding of the play which I'll definitely put to good use when I sit my exam next May. So for all the people who think they know Romeo and Juliet already, try watching the play first before reading the book as you'll realise how deep the storyline can become.







## New teachers...new perspectives!

By Aisha Baig & Haretha Kanishkumar 7PMA



Aisha and Haretha have interviewed four new teachers at our school to find out what they think of it and....us!

### Mr. Rodriguez

**What subjects do you teach?**

I teach Spanish and French.

**Have you enjoyed it here so far**

Yes! I think it is great and everyone is friendly.

**Is this the first school you have taught at? If not how is it different from your other schools?**

No it is different because the other school I taught at was an all boys school and it was in the city and the students here have a different attitude to learning than boys.

**What do you like about this school?**

Girls seem to be more mature than boys and take more interest in learning.



### Ms Dixon

**What subjects do you teach?**

I teach PE.

**Have you enjoyed it here so far?**

Yes, I love it here.

**Is this the first school you have taught at?**

Yes, this is my first real teaching job.

**What do you like about this school?**

There are excellent facilities.

**What do dislike think should be improved about this school?**

Nothing I love everything!

**What do you think of the students here at QE Girls?**

The students are well behaved and are enthusiastic about doing PE.

**Do you eat lunch In the canteen if so what are your opinions on it?**

I have never eaten lunch here.





## Miss Lea

**What subject do you teach?**

Science; especially physics.

**Is it the first school you've taught if not how is different from your old school?**

This is the second school I've taught at. The other school I taught at was a mixed school and they had really strict teachers; for instance you had to walk silently at all times and they had very harsh punishments. Prayers also had to be done regularly throughout the school day.

**What do you like/ don't like about this school?**

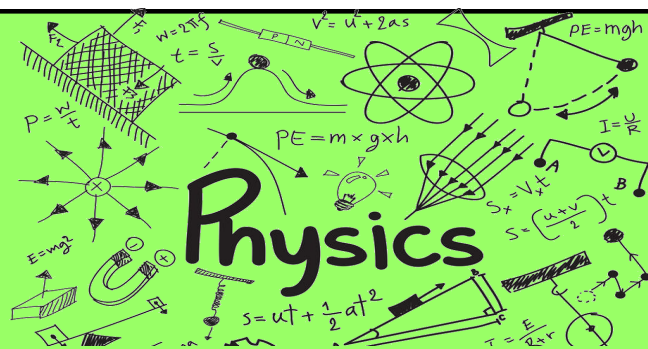
Here girls are more trusting and take more ownership over their actions. As a teacher I like departments, clubs and teachers, there are also really good science facilities.

**What do you think should be improved about this school?**

The technology is very old and slow.

**What do you think of the students here at QE?**

They all seem to be really energetic with a real desire to do well. They take good ownership of themselves.



## Mr Griffiths

**What subject do you teach?**

I teach Religious Studies here.

**Have you enjoyed it here so far?**

Very much, it's a lovely place with lovely children.

**Is it the first school you've taught if not how is different from your old school?**

No it isn't the first school I've taught at. The other school I went to was very much different, this school is a girl's school whereas the previous school I went to was boys and girls. The behaviour is much better here and children are calmer.

**What do you like/ don't like about this school?**

The staff are also very kind along with the students.

**What do you think should be improved about this school?**

The school is a very old school so the windows need to be mended.

**What do you think of the students here at QE?**

Great! They're calm, friendly and they all want to do well.





# How have our new year 7s settled in?



**We interviewed some year 7s about their experience at QEGS**

By Sana Ahmed and Esma Horkuc, 7PMA



Do you like the teachers and staff? Are the girls here nice?

The teachers have very high standards. What might also help is, if they put less pressure on us with homework and lessons. – JENNA KHAN

When I ask the older girls where a classroom is they are really kind and tell me. But sometimes some of the girls are quite mean and will just ignore me. -LILA PHILIP



When you wake up how do you feel about going to QEGS?

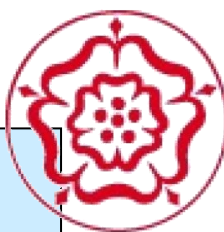
I feel excited, happy energetic and can't wait to see my friends! -K-LAH BRISCOE



How is the food here at QEGS? Is it nice? What's your favourite food?

I LOVE the pizza! At my primary school it was really bad because it was too thick, but these ones are really good! -LAVEEN ALI

My favourite food are the waffles. But, the organisation is awful! -SEMIHAA GBAJA





# Conflict Resolution Workshop

On the 5th October, Year 8 welcomed a group of presenters to look at Emotional Intelligence and Conflict Management. The students took part in workshops which included a drama production as well as discussions about self-confidence and positive attitude.

## What did the students think about it?

*"Overall the day was amazing, it taught me to act better and learn harder"*

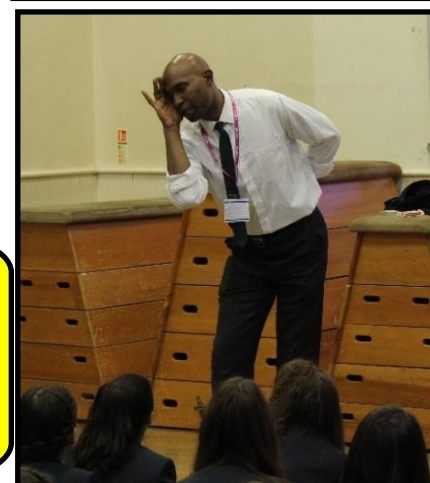
*"The visitors made it a lot more exciting"*

*"I leaned so much about being confident in myself and learning how to deal with other people."*

*"It was very interesting, inspirational and informative."*

*"I loved the drama session—it made me get it more"*

*"The people who came to see us on Friday were really good with helping us understand of how to avoid conflict while making it fun at the same time"*



## BIPOLAR

By Semihaa Gbaja, 7MNA

Bipolar disorder, formerly known as manic depression, is a condition that affects your moods, which can swing from one extreme to another. People with Bipolar disorder experience episodes of depression, making them sad and lethargic, and mania/hypomania, making them happy, excited and fun to talk to.

Bipolar disorder is commonly misunderstood for depression, if the person has only been having depressive episodes instead of a mix of both.



Bipolar disorder affects roughly 1 in 100 adults, in their lifetime, and it usually starts between the ages of 15 and 19 yet rarely starts after the age of 40. People with Bipolar disorder do need treatment, though it has no known cure, yet they can still live normal lives, have children etc. Many people don't even know they have it, and if you believe someone you know, or you yourself, have it, it is your/their best interest in the long run to get medical help.





# Can you help save the orangutans?



By Sophie Nethercoat 8GCR



## Did you know?

Loads of our products in the UK have palm oil in them for example Nutella, Oreo's, Chocolate Galaxy bar and many many more.

The more products we eat with palm oil in, then the more trees will be cut down and we would be losing around 10-25 orangutans everyday.



Palm Trees



Orangutans need our protection

## Critically endangered

About a century ago there were more than 230,000 Orangutans in total but in Borneo they are now estimated at about 104,700 and decreasing every minute! Also in the Sumatran there are only about 7,500 which means they are critically endangered plus decreasing!

## What can YOU do?

There are so many things we can do to help the orangutans like cut palm oil from your food and not buying products with palm oil because if you buy it the people chopping down the trees will think you want more of that product so they will keep on



The Iceland Advert which had been banned

chopping them down. You should always be careful of what you buy because so many products now have palm oil in them.

## Iceland

The shop Iceland in the high street has announced that they are no longer having palm oil in their products and they have made a Christmas advert on YouTube but it was banned because of what it showed.

If you have watched the video already then you know why they stopped palm-oil in their product but if you haven't seen it then go on YouTube and I'm sure that when you watch it, it will change your mind.

Remember palm-oil is in loads of products like shampoo, some chocolates and more so please spread the word to your family and friends and always look on the label of a product you buy and if it says palm-oil then think about the effects on the orangutans.







# School Council News



By Trixie Smith 10ERI

## All you need to know on the latest agenda

### What's going on?

Welcome to the first edition on all the latest on how the newly elected school council are **amplifying your student voice**. We have currently had four meetings discussing possible issues, new ideas and aims for the ensuing year, as well as setting up the new 'Think Tank' group of budding student voices in addition to the official council as another angle on the school and we have been working closely together to form the mini political dream team.

#### What are our aims this year?

This year, as a council, we are eager to represent everyone as best we can to make your school the best for you. We have lots of ambitions for the year ahead but here are just a few of the big ones

- Canteen: the prices, portion sizes and options for vegetarians, kosher, Halal, vegan etc.
- More charity events/awareness.
- We want to reduce the use of plastic in the canteen too with regards to the environmental impact.
- Better communication of our across all years e.g. in assembly or form times. So watch this space...

#### What's on our agenda?

Here's the main discussion points of the last few agendas:

- How to utilise the school council budget best
- Democracy Day – how can we do it differently next year/make it more engaging
- School trips
- Printer credits
- Themed days and events for the whole school

#### ...And the conclusions...

While many subjects for discussion are still underway, here are some conclusions and solutions we have discussed:

- In terms of **printer credits**, subjects themselves are able to give out vouchers with credits on them for art and technology subjects which require frequent printing. If this is not available then you can speak to your teacher to get it printed!
- For **school trips** to happen, there has to be a child to teacher ratio and this means that for students still at school

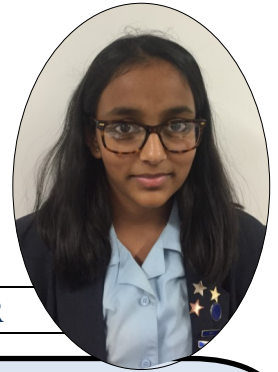


# Life Hacks

## Is your room always messy?

### Here are some top tips...

By Esha Patel, 8GCR



Are your headphones always in a knot?



*Why don't you use a hair clip to hold the wires together!*

Are your clothes always everywhere and you can't be bothered to fold them over and over again?

*Why don't you lie them flat in your drawers then that way they are easy to get to and it doesn't take a lot of time to do.*

Do your keys, letters or even pens go missing?

*Get any tennis ball and cut a slit halfway through the middle and add your item through it.*



Have you ever made the mistake of writing on your hand in permanent marker?

*Go over it in a highlighter and wash your hands!*



Do your earrings or small items get lost?

*At the end of the Hoover, add a sock over it and turn the Hoover on. It's quick and easy!*



Do you ever have bed sheets lying around and do the pillow cases always get lost?

*Well fold the bed sheets and put them into a pillow case that way the pillow case doesn't get separated from the bed sheets.*

Are your keys always mixed up and you can't tell the difference between them?



Have you ever accidentally scratched a wooden table or chair?

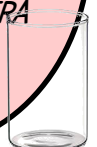


*Rub walnuts on the scratches and they will go.*

*Paint the top of them with different colour nail varnishes.*

Over sleep a lot?

*Set an alarm on your phone then put it in a glass and that will make your alarm EXTRA loud.*



Want to make your favourite shoes water proof so that you can wear them everywhere?



*Rub bees wax all over them and they will be water proof.*

**Do you have any helpful 'life hacks'? If so send them in an email to [v.bunce@qegschool.org.uk](mailto:v.bunce@qegschool.org.uk) or hand it in to Mrs Bunce in the English Office. It will appear in the next edition of QEGIRL!**



## Which...character are you?



By Erin Deasy 8GCR

# Fantastic Beasts

For each question choose either a, b or c. When you have finished, count up your answers. Then check below to see which character you are like!

## 1. On your way to school, you see a dangerous looking beast in a tree. Do you...

- Pick it up and hide it in your bag. You need to check if it's alright.
- Report it to MACUSA (the Magical Congress of the United States of America).
- Run away from it, screaming at the top of your lungs.



## 3. You have a big test coming up. Do you...

- Chill. You have got about a hundred pets to look after. A test is nothing.
- Revise like crazy. You are not going to fail this test.
- FREAK OUT!!! You feel totally unprepared for this one.



## 2. Your friend is feeling down in the dumps. Do you...

- Give them something cute and fluffy to make them feel better.
- Ask them what is making them upset and try to figure out the problem.
- Pat them on the back and tell them a joke.



## 4. You have finished your homework and there is plenty of time to relax. Do you...

- Write about something you have discovered recently. E.g. something to do with animals
- Check through your e-mails. You must stay organised.
- Get out the popcorn. Its movie time!



### Mostly A's You are Newt Scamander



Like Newt, you are relaxed about everything!

You love animals and nothing will stop you from looking after those in need (Even if it IS a dangerous beast on the loose).

### Mostly B's You are Tina Goldstein



You are Tina because you are kind and organised all the time. When some thing goes wrong, you are ready to sort out the problem.

### Mostly C's You are Jacob Kowalski



Like Jacob, you are a bit of a scaredy-cat. However, your friends can count on you to make them laugh.



*This is the page where we shall keep you updated on things going on in art and technology!*

## Shredding Banksy

By Eloise Wilson, 7HNA



Banksy hit the headlines when a piece of his art shredded itself at an auction, just after it had been sold for more than £1million! Banksy usually displays his art on public surfaces. They are so famous and amazing that the wall is often removed so that it can be sold for millions of pounds. He first made himself known on the Bristol Underground scene. Banksy says that he was inspired by 3D, a graffiti artist.



## Camera lens made of ice takes cool photos

A photographer (Mathieu Stem) has taken some surprisingly clear shots using a camera lens he made out of ice. Mathieu Stem travelled to Iceland where he hoped to find the clearest possible ice. When he did, he moulded chunks of ice into lenses for his camera. While the lenses only lasted about a minute each, he was able to take a series of surprisingly clear photos and videos. He found the pictures "perfect!" even though they were a bit blurry.



Picture taken by the camera.





# How to... write a story

Nabila has been writing short stories since she was able to hold a pen and has entered many short story and creative writing competitions. Read on for her hints and tips for writing interesting, descriptive and effective stories.



By Nabila Uddin, 9VBE

Writing a story can sound quite challenging but it is actually quite easy once you are organised and on track. If you are thinking of an idea, don't sit there with a pen and paper wasting time, go and explore! Exploring will help you find ideas. An ideal place to check out would be the park because there are lots of people and nature to inspire you, e.g. you might start setting your scene near a tree you have seen, for example:



*It was a crisp autumn morning; the grass glistened with dew and a giant oak tree sat on a hill, overlooking the passers-by...*

Even the home environment can get you started. One day you might come home from school and find there is no food left. Maybe in an alternate fictional world, you could be living in poverty, trying to get by.

Once you have an idea, DO NOT make a plan. That's the last thing you want to do. They just make life more confusing. I'd say go with the flow but have a rough idea of what's going to happen before you begin.

Once you have a rough idea, think about the characters you want to feature in your story. You could have a main character who your story focuses on; or lots of different ones who alternate between chapters. Next you need to think about the people in your characters' lives, e.g. friends and family. Also, think about where your character is living.

Another thing to keep in mind is the person you're writing in; first or third usually as second person is mainly used for writing recipes.

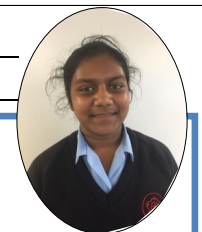
The last step is to start writing. Remember your story needs a beginning middle and an end. Good luck and enjoy writing.



## Riddles

Answers on page 19

By Luxnavi



### Number 1

I can't be seen, found, heard or smelled. I lie behind stars and under hills, I fill empty holes, come first and follow after.

What am I?

### Number 2

I am something that you always have but always leave behind.

What am I?

3. How do you know carrots are good for your eyes?



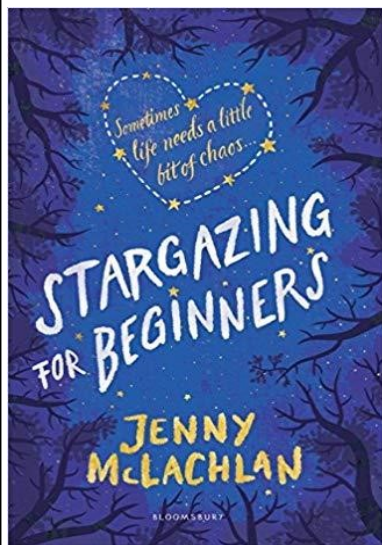
4. If I stand on top of a hill and ring a loud bell between two houses. Which house will hear the bell first?



5. I am the tree that we all carry in our hand? What am I?



# Book Reviews



## Stargazing for Beginners

By Jenny McLachlan (11+)

By Erin Deasy 8GCR



Stargazing for Beginners is a book about a 15 year old girl called Meg, who has a passion for space.

One day, her mum sets off for another one of her "great causes" leaving Meg and her baby sister behind.

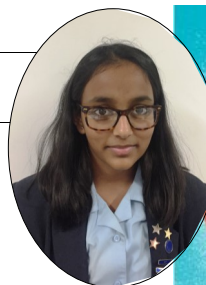
I loved this book because it was funny but emotional at the same time and it felt totally relatable.

I rate this book ★★★★★

## Truth or Dare

By Non Pratt (12+)

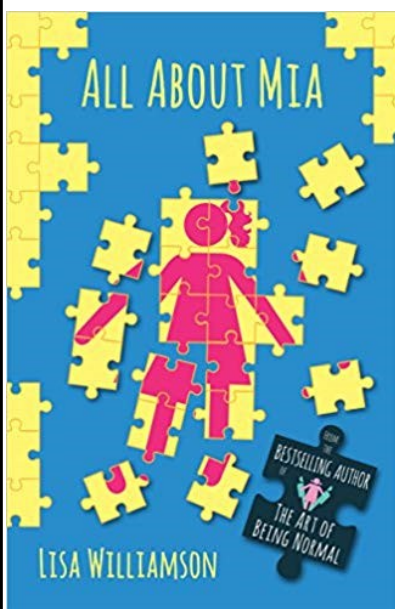
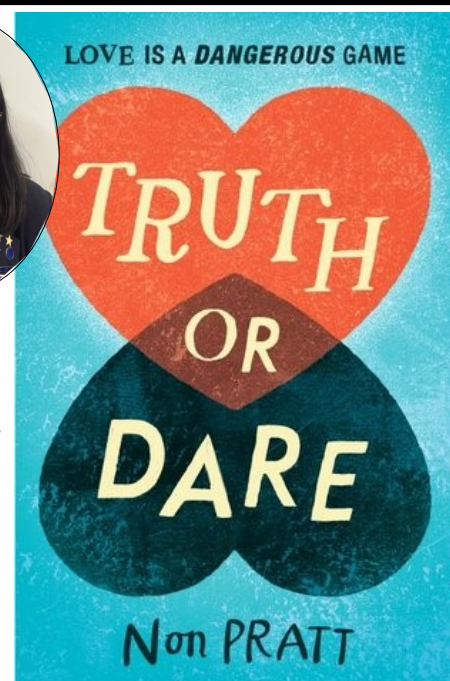
By Esha Patel 8GCR



Claire absolutely despises being the centre of attention especially after an incident that makes everyone know her name and nickname.

However she gets given an opportunity to read to boy who has met with an incident. Claire meets the boy's brother- Sef. Together they create a YouTube channel because Sef's family could not afford to keep his brother in hospital. Will they make enough money to save Sef's brother's life?

I rate this book ★★★★★



## All about Mia

by Lisa Williamson  
(12+)

by Kirsty Boye Doku 8SKT



Mia (the main character) is a wild, daring 16-year old who feels like the black sheep of her family. When her supposedly perfect big sister, Grace, comes home and drops a bombshell, Mia takes it as a chance to make things all about Mia. But is making things all about her putting everything she loves at risk?

My rating: ★★★★★



# School Subjects Word Search

By Nina Savich, 7MNA

u b s e q m v f v b x o i s n c r d n x j f  
 f h y n o j r m x l c h h q i q i r x e i z  
 d h w g b j n p t v u t d s j j c v b m k v  
 g q c l p o r c p z a q u y i z v x t g a s  
 o m y i n s k c j m o f u v j n c k o w z v  
 i u t s y r o t s i h h g b t n a h q n b b  
 a h z h w z i m y m x c t j v l r p i w v o  
 c v g e e g k p f l j n m r z x r z s s c i  
 t o m x s h e i h d x e k h x t t b j e g h  
 s j m b v g i g e o g r a p h y s t k c l s  
 y j e p a r l g f g p f s p z c r o t s m o  
 z n s d u p x x r y h z c u i l n q f q y q  
 j o f f x t t o i d l r y e z d w s x a u m  
 x d h t f e i i h x j k n k t m e z q j f c  
 v m c v s x u n d v j c c i b r r j x j y t  
 m q m o g i q n g h e o g w s e y t n q e m  
 i h z t t t v a t i o o k f v c t k s k e e  
 k r t s j g w a r t i b o f m c i t r i h e  
 a x d c e y p d u y g o u m m w c y x z r z  
 b i p m x o p q h e t m a o l g l g n r m o  
 u r l d r d p e h g o p m t f m j o u b a t  
 d n k q k h s e t r p p l o z k j k d g g n

☒ computing

☒ maths

☒ science

☒ history

☒ french

☒ spanish

☒ English

☒ geography

Answers to the Riddles

1)The Dark 2)Fingerprints 3)Cause rabbits don't wear glasses 4)None of the house won't hear as they don't have ears 5)Palm

# Competition Time!

**QE Girl Magazine is running a school wide competition to see who can design the best logo for our magazine.**

A logo is defined as a symbol or other small design adopted by an organization to identify its product. This is ours.



**We think you'll agree that it's a bit on the bland side!**

If YOU think you can design a better one (and we're sure you can), you can either hand draw it or use a computer to design it (we like both) and send it in either by email to:

[v.bunce@qegschool.org.uk](mailto:v.bunce@qegschool.org.uk)

OR

hand it in directly to the English Department Office to Mrs Bunce.

It will need to keep the title 'Q E Girl', but you can design any logo you wish and use any colours and font, as well as being imaginative and creative with images and borders.

The winner of the competition will get their design on the front of all subsequent issues as well as receiving an appreciative prize from the magazine, which will include your photo (if you wish) in the next issue.

## Happy Designing!



# Cartoon Corner

By Donya Mohajer, 7MNA





# QEGSA



The Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School Association (QEGSA) is the parent teacher association of the Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School. Throughout its 30 year history, QEGSA has been fostering stronger links between the staff, parents and the community through fundraising and community events.

QEGSA organises a number of events throughout the year including fairs, quiz nights, raffles, new parent welcoming events and others. Parents, carers and staff are welcome to volunteer when approached occasionally to help with an event or activity



Part of the QEGS Christmas Fair, organised by QEGSA and school staff

QEGSA also runs the Project Fund which allows for regular donations to support projects within the school. In recent years, QEGSA has contributed money for:

- New furniture for the Dining Room
- Computing equipment for the media and music departments
- The renovation of the Learning Resource Centre
- Rock Challenge uniforms
- New digital lighting and sound equipment for the Hall
- New suite of computers
- Sewing machines
- Graphics tablets
- Walking track

## Register your interest

Whether you want to contribute some time to help or simply want to come along to events and be a part of the school community, register to be sure you don't miss out.

If you would like further information about QEGSA or the Project Fund, please feel free to contact QEGSA at [contact@qegsa.org.uk](mailto:contact@qegsa.org.uk) or by telephone: 020 3778 0403. Also, be sure to check the school calendar for future QEGSA events.