

Queen Mary's Grammar School



A message from the Headmaster, November 2018

Dear parents/guardians

It was great to see so many parents at the Speech Day event in October, as we brought the prize giving back into the evening celebration. Professor Lloyd Peck was a superb speaker and I'm sure all who came across him went away inspired. His seminar in the afternoon was extremely thought-provoking.

I am grateful to all staff and parents who put so much into the organising and running of the fireworks event in early November. It looks as if the profits will top £10,000, which is great boost to our target of purchasing outdoor cricket practice nets and covers.

On the theme of cricket, I am delighted to announce the inclusion of the school in the Cricketer Magazine's *Good Schools Guide 2019*, naming the top 100 cricket-playing secondary schools in England. This is a terrific achievement and fully deserved by Mr Gibbons and all the staff who have put so much into the sport over the past few years.

<https://twitter.com/QMGSCRICKET>

On the day after the fireworks event, I was fortunate enough to watch the remembrance parade in Walsall, of which our cadets played a significant role. Along with our remembrance assembly at school on Monday 12th November, I felt that we paid fitting tribute to all who have lost their lives, especially the former members of the school community.

<https://twitter.com/QMGSCCF>

I have spoken and written a lot over the past couple of years about my mental health focus and I was delighted to take part in an interview, along with Mrs McPhee, for the school's inclusion in a new book by acclaimed educational author Ross Morrison-McGill (aka *TeacherToolkit*). Ross is featuring us for our work on mental health and we look forward to the publication of his book.

<https://twitter.com/TeacherToolkit/status/1064943747123826689>

I hope you've also been following the attempts of the staff to address mental health issues through the growing of moustaches as part of Movember. There's still time to sponsor us at:

https://uk.movember.com/team/2317532?utm_medium=share&utm_source=dynamic&utm_campaign=copy-clipboard

I do hope that you will join us at Walsall Town Hall on Tuesday 18th December for what should be a special Christmas concert (in conjunction with QMHS).



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QMA

The remaining QMA events for 2018-19 are:

Saturday 26th January Burns night dinner
Saturday 29th June Summer ball (in conjunction with QMHS)

It would be great if you could support these events and the raffles which take place before them. If you are interested in being part of the QMA, please contact Judy McCoy at enquiries@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk

Please also follow the QMA twitter page [@qmgs1554qma](https://twitter.com/qmgs1554qma)

Please consider us as part of your Christmas shopping season, through the **Easy Fundraising scheme** – a great way of raising money for the school with very little effort. Make sure you register, if you haven't already, at: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/queenmarysgrammar/>

Changes to email arrangements

We have discontinued the postbox@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk email address and have replaced this with a series of direct addresses for different aspects of school life. Please see the details at:

http://www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=53&Itemid=133

Other news and upcoming events

Please continue to keep an eye on the letters page of the school website:

http://www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=111&Itemid=233

We have also published a list of key school events for 2018-19:

http://www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk/content/2018_sep_calendar_of_events.pdf

The following are upcoming, which you may be interested in:

- **Sixth form open evening** – Thursday 29th November
- **Year 7 academic reviews** - 10th, 11th and 12th December
- **Leavers' event** – Monday 17th December
- **Christmas concert** – Tuesday 18th December (Walsall Town Hall)
- **End of term** – Friday 21st December (at 2pm)
- **Teacher training day** – Monday 7th January (students not expected in)
- **Start of spring term** – Tuesday 8th January

Thank you for your continued support for the school

Regards



Richard Langton

Headmaster

Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall

01922 720696

www.qmgs.org

Twitter: @qmgs1554