

# Queen Mary's Grammar School



## A message from the Headmaster, July 2019

Dear parents/guardians

As we draw to the end of another academic year, it is with a sense of pride and astonishment at what has been achieved in 2018-19. There have been a huge amount of activities for the students and I am grateful to all of the staff who have made this possible. The international offering of the school is particularly impressive and trips have taken place this term to Belgium, France and Spain. There are currently students out in India and China and we look forward to hearing about their adventures.

July is also a time for farewells and we say goodbye this year to two members of teaching staff. Miss O'Neill leaves us for new challenges overseas after 2 outstanding years in the History department. Students very much appreciate her meticulous approach. Mr Gibbons has been appointed as the Head of PE at Newcastle-under-Lyme school and leaves a tremendous legacy from 5 years in the PE department. I can't put into words what he has done for cricket and sport in general and I wish him all the very best for his future career. Both of these staff will be sorely missed.

Mrs Swain left her post as French FLA at the school back in May, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all the work she has done over so many years for the school. Mr Saran is staying with us, but steps down from the SLT after 4 years to become a full time teacher of physics. I am grateful to him for all that he has done and value hugely his support and care. Mr Fadden also steps down from his post of HOY after 10 years. I have always felt privileged to have had him in the pastoral team.

7 years after retiring as a member of the teaching staff, Lt Col Law steps down from the command of the CCF. His service and dedication to the cause has been remarkable. We shall miss him, but know that he is never far away!

Finally, 2019 sees the end of a 39 year association with the school for Mr Swain. After 7 years as a student, Mr Swain joined the staff in 1987, working his way up to headmaster in 2008 and then to the CEO of the Mercian Trust in 2018. We celebrated his legacy on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July with a fantastic evening and all at QMGS wish him an enriching retirement.

### End of term circulars

You should have already received a full report (Years 7, 9, 10) or list grades (Years 8, 12), along with a number of other paper circulars at the end of term. Please complete the reply slip for the start of next term.

With this email, I attach:

- QM Observer summer term edition
- QMA newsletter
- Privacy notice (to be completed for the start of the autumn term)

### QMA

Thank you to everyone who made the summer ball event (in conjunction with QMHS) possible. The event and accompanying raffle has raised several thousand pounds for the school, bringing together a total of over £20,000 for the year. We are looking to install the cricket nets during 2019-20.

If you are interested in being part of the QMA in 2019-20, please contact Judy McCoy at [enquiries@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk)

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Please also support the school through the **Easy Fundraising scheme** – a great way of raising money with very little effort. Make sure you register, if you haven't already, at: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/queenmarysgrammar/>

## Key dates for the diary coming up

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

- **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July** – school finishes for the summer at 2pm
- **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August** - A Level Results day
- **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August** - GCSE Results day
- **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** – Staff training day
- **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** – Staff training day; Year 7/12 induction (other year groups not in)
- **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September** – First full day back; school days starts at 9.45am for students
- **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September** – entrance exam (school closes early)

**The live calendar and term dates for 2019-20 are available on the School's website:**

<https://qmgs.walsall.sch.uk/school-live-calendar/>

<https://qmgs.walsall.sch.uk/term-dates/>

Thank you for all of your support throughout the year. Have a great summer!

Regards



**Richard Langton**

Headmaster

Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall

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[www.qmgs.org](http://www.qmgs.org)

Twitter: @qmgs1554