

Queen Mary's Grammar School



A message from the Headmaster, December 2019

Dear parents/guardians

As we approach the end of 2019, it is fitting to look back and reflect on a fantastic year in the life of the school. On Speech Day, we celebrated what had been achieved, but even since then we have witnessed a wide range of activities.

On Monday this week, we welcomed back over 100 of the class of 2019. They have been away from us for a term and had many tales to tell. It was great to see them enjoying the company of each other again.

A highlight of the year for me is the Christmas music concert and Tuesday night did not disappoint. The quality of the music making was spectacular and congratulations go to all of the performers, along with their peripatetic teachers and, especially, Mr Vause and Mrs Watson.

I have been staggered by the amount of charity work that has gone on this year and Wednesday saw hundreds of staff and students wearing Christmas jumpers in support of Save the Children. Thank you for your support on this and for all fundraising events during the year.

End of term circulars

You should have already received the list grades (full reports in Year 8) for your son/daughter. Please take the time to consider these in detail. As with previous years, a number of the usual end-of-term circulars are not being printed and there are some important attachments in this e-mail for you to consider:

- The autumn edition of the QM Observer (printed copies are available from reception)
- A QMA newsletter

In addition, form tutors have given out a Lift Fund donation letter and the usual returns slip (of which we need a 100% return). The returns slip also requests that you consider a number of important documents, which are available on the School website, such as policies, letters to parents and the school calendar.

QMA

Thank you to everyone who supported the QMA's Taste of the World Event on Saturday 7th December. The school hall and dining room were packed and it was a great family evening of food and entertainment. With the accompanying raffle, it looks as if we have raised around £4000 to support the purchase of tablet computers for the Geography department. We look forward to this becoming a regular fixture on the school calendar.

Our next event is the fantastic Burns night ball, taking place on **Saturday 25th January**. We shall be fundraising to support a partial refurbishment of the School's library. Raffle tickets will go out after Christmas and there will be a **non-uniform day** for their return on **Thursday 23rd January**. If you are interested in tickets or supporting the event in any other way, please contact Judy McCoy at: enquiries@qmg.s.walsall.sch.uk

The full list of events for 2019-20 are:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Sat 25 Jan 2020 | Burns Night |
| Sat 27 Jun 2020 | Summer Ball (with QMHS) |

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/>

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Road safety and courteous driving

We continue to receive reports of issues related to dangerous driving and parking. Please be considerate around the school and consider dropping/picking students up a short walk away.

Key dates for the diary coming up

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

| | |
|------------|---|
| Fri 20 Dec | End of term (school finishes at 2pm; Green Bus pick up at 1.30pm) |
| Mon 6 Jan | Teacher training day (no students in) |
| Tue 7 Jan | First day of term; 10.45am start |
| 8-10 Jan | Y11 academic reviews |
| Thu 16 Jan | Y10 parents' evening |
| Sat 25 Jan | QMA Burns night |

The live calendar and term dates for 2019-20 and 2020-21 are available on the School's website:

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

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

Finally, I hope that you enjoy a restful Christmas break. The new term starts for students at **10.45am** on Tuesday 7th January. It will be week 2. We are starting slightly later on this day as the staff are carrying out some essential Health and Safety training.

Thank you for your continued support for the school. I hope you all have a restful Christmas.

Regards



Richard Langton

Headmaster

Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall

01922 720696

www.qmg.s.org

Twitter: @qmg1554