



Queen Mary's Grammar School

A message from the Headmaster, March 2022

First word

It was wonderful last week to be part of the QMA's first event in over 2 years, with over 400 members of the School community coming together for the Taste of the World event. I am grateful to all staff, parents and students who came together to make this possible. Raising almost £7000 was a superb achievement, but it was the bringing together of so many people after such a gap that was the biggest joy.

School life feels almost back to normal and I am looking forward to the music concert after Easter, as well as seeing students benefit from learning outside the classroom on various trips. There are lots of picture and stories, as usual, on the School's [Twitter account](#), including sporting successes from this month.

Spring Music Concert

The Spring concert takes place on Thursday 5th May, at 7.30 pm in the School Hall. Tickets are priced at £3.50 and are available from this [link](#).

QMGs Wellbeing award

Thank you to everyone who has filled in the stakeholder surveys for the Wellbeing Award. I have written a [guide](#) to what this is and would like both students and parents to have the opportunity to take part in this via the stakeholder surveys, which can be accessed from the links below.

[Parent survey](#)

[Student survey](#)

Communications – SIMS InTouch

You may have started receiving emails from Queen Mary's Grammar School 3355404@sims-communications.co.uk

Please note that this is a new communication method replacing emails from qmg@qmg.walsall.sch.uk. Please ensure these emails are not blocked or treated as spam/junk

SIMS Parentapp

The majority of school communication, including Reports, is sent by email and Parent App so it is crucial that you keep your contact details updated. Please check your account and ensure you can access it. If you have any access issues please email parentapp@qmg.walsall.sch.uk for assistance.

Innovate theme day feedback

Our catering company, Innovate, have recently run some theme days and would like some feedback from the students. The link to the survey can be found [here](#).

Walsall Prevent Programme

A Guide for Parents and Carers on the local Prevent programme can be found [here](#).

Y10 Entrepreneurs Day, Tuesday 24th May 2022

We are looking for parents with an entrepreneurial background to be part of an event in May. This will be aimed at Year 10 and 12 Business students and will involve a series of talks and workshops. Mr Sunley is keen to hear from you and can be reached via CEIAG@qmg.walsall.sch.uk

Staff vacancies

We currently have a number of non-teaching staff vacancies, which can be viewed on the [website](#). These include an alumni and fundraising development officer, which would appeal to people with a range of backgrounds. We will also be shortly advertising for some part time exams and data assistants.

Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme



The HAF programme is for children and young people aged 5 to 16 years who are eligible for benefit related free school meals or on a CP,CIN, EHCP or a Young Carer . Children and young people and their families will be able to access free activities during the Easter, Summer and Christmas 2022 holidays. In Walsall we have 15,000 children and young people eligible for the programme Department for Education's (DfE) Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) has provided funding for the scheme.

How do families register? Each eligible child will receive a letter in the post from Walsall Council with their unique code. To book an register and book activities use [link](#); or families can call the HAF team on 01922 653899 (Monday to Friday 10:00- 16:00) Please note families only need to register once for the year! Or you can email WR4C@walsall.gov.uk with;

- The Childs full Name
- Address
- School

And they will send you their code

When do the Easter activities start? The activities will take place over the Easter holidays and will be available from Monday 11 April to Thursday 14 April 2022 and then from Tuesday 19 - Friday 22 April 2022

What will be on offer? There are a wide range of opportunities for children and young people to engage in the Easter offer, with the option to choose from the following;

- One week of holiday club** providing a range of activities throughout the day for children to engage for at least four hours for four days for one week per child with a healthy meal included. (Targeting primary school children)
- Or four pick and mix sessions** offer targeted at young people to provide them with a choice of activities they can engage with, this will also provide opportunities to provide children with specific skills. These could be courses in, for example, dance, music, swimming, sports coaching, youth work training, fishing, mentoring (Targeted 13 + / SEND)
- A letter is available at the end of this newsletter highlighting the offer through the **'Total Insight Theatre'** company

If you have any questions, please contact the Walsall Right 4 Children team by email at WR4C@walsall.gov.uk or call our Holiday Activities helpline on 01922 653899 (Monday to Friday, open from 10:00am to 4:00pm)

Follow them on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) to keep updated on the activity programme

Curriculum updates and information

We have updated all curriculum pathways for each key stage and these can be accessed via the school [website](#). Please take the time to discuss these documents with your child.

SEND Multisport Camps sessions

Please see the flyer below about SEND Multisport Camps sessions which the Albion Foundation are offering for pupils with disabilities over Easter.

For further information on these sessions families should contact the Albion Foundation directly. This can be done by emailing Chris Price on chris.price@albionfoundation.co.uk or Ajay Gill on ajay.gill@albionfoundation.co.uk

The flyer is a promotional graphic for SEND Multi-Sports Camps. It features two photographs: one of a child in a red vest playing football on a field, and another of a child in a blue shirt leaning over a large green ball. The background is a collage of words related to health and wellbeing. The flyer is divided into two main sections for different weeks, each with its own details and contact information.

WEEK 1	11 - 14 APRIL 2022
WEEK 2	20 - 22 APRIL 2022
Portway Lifestyle Centre Newbury Lane, Oldbury, B69 1HE	
10:30 _{AM} - 3:00 _{PM}	
8 - 12 YRS OLD - FREE	
13 - 18 YRS OLD - FREE	
19+ YRS OLD - £7 PER DAY	
ENQUIRES CONTACT AJAY GILL ajay.gill@albionfoundation.co.uk	

WEEK 1	11 - 13 APRIL 2022
Streetly Academy Queslett Road, Sutton Coldfield, B74 2EX	
10:30 _{AM} - 3:00 _{PM}	
8 - 12 YRS OLD - FREE	
13 - 18 YRS OLD - FREE	
19+ YRS OLD - £5 PER DAY	
ENQUIRES CONTACT CHRIS PRICE: chris.price@albionfoundation.co.uk	

Ambitious Youth Network are running autism peer support sessions.

This network is a space for autistic young people, between the ages of 16-25 to meet other autistic young people, take on new paid opportunities and join the group panels. Please click on this [link](#) for further information.

Queen Mary's Association

The remaining event for this year in the Summer Ball, on Saturday 25th June.

Thank you to all those parents who have signed up to help the different QMA committees at the beginning of this year. Each event has a committee to run it and we have a separate group who manage the running of the bar. We also have a separate group to support Farchynys. If you are interested in supporting the work of the QMA, please contact Judy McCoy (alumni officer) at: alumni@gmgs.walsall.sch.uk Also, please contact us if you can provide a good quality raffle prize for any of the events. Please see p6 of this newsletter for information on the Easyfundraising initiative.

Careers and work experience

We are continually looking to expand our offering of work experience and careers links. If you are able to offer any input, or particularly a placement for a Year 12 student in the summer of 2022, please contact Mr Sunley via the CEIAG@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk address. If you are a parent of a Year 12 student, please do encourage them to follow up on the information given out in school about signing up for their placements.

Covid – important information

Please continue to follow the guidance around self-isolation and communications with the school, which can be found from this [link](#).

Home-school agreement and MS Form

We wrote to parents at the end of November, highlighting that we have made some changes to the Home-School agreement. The new document is available on the [school website](#). If you haven't already done so, please complete the [MS form](#) as your part of this agreement.

Absences for appointments

May I remind parents/carers, as per the [Attendance Policy](#), the below process for absences relating to appointments during the school day:

- Medical appointments should be arranged outside of school time wherever possible
- The school must be notified a minimum of 3 days in advance of any medical appointment that have been made. Without this prior notification and proof of the appointment, the absence will be marked as unauthorised
- This notification should be sent to absences@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk with a copy of the appointment notification
- If you are attending the appointment from school you are required to collect your child from Reception and sign them out using the Exeat Book, you will need to sign them back in on their return
- If the appointment is before school you are required to accompany your child back into school and sign the Exeat Book
- Parents are not allowed to drive onto the school site, please park off site legally and with consideration for local residents
- Parents need to ensure that their child is aware of what time he/she is being collected. The student will be responsible for making their way to Reception so that they are ready for collection when you arrive to sign them out.

Traffic and parking around the School

Please continue to work with us in making the school environment a safer place. In particular, please consider the following:

- Not undertaking dangerous manoeuvres (such as U-turns or overtaking) on Sutton Road or surrounding streets
- Not parking inconsiderably near to resident driveways
- Not using access roads or resident only parking areas
- Dropping the students further away from school
- Encouraging the student to use public transport
- Walking or cycling; a helmet must be worn when cycling and students should make sure they are fully visible (through lights and clothing) in the winter months

Mental health and Wellbeing

Any member of the school community can raise concerns via the wellbeing email address well-being@qmg.s.walsall.sch.uk or by using the QR code below.

This account is monitored by the SEMH team and is checked regularly:

- Mr Collins (Assistant Head and DSL)
- Mr Farnell (Safeguarding and Welfare Officer)
- Ms Hendricks (SEMH mentor)
- Miss Weston (6th Form Operations Manager, Girls welfare)



Key dates for your diary

W/B 28 Mar Y13 additional mock exams
Thu 7 Apr End of term (at 2pm)
Mon 25 Apr Teacher training day
Tue 26 Apr First day of the summer term for students at 8.45am
Thu 5 May Spring concert

Regards and thank you for your support



Richard Langton
Headmaster
Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall



We have currently raised £3813.07, from 266 supporters. The top 4 supporters have raised £1303.35 between them!

One supporter has raised a magnificent £423.63 thus far! Just imagine what we could raise if every household signed up, and used, Easyfundraising. It would help us to provide even more opportunities and facilities for our young people. Please support this initiative which does not cost you anything as it is the retailers who donate on your behalf based upon the amount that you spend with them.

We need your help to raise much needed funds!

- easyfundraising has over 4,400 shops and sites which will donate to us at no extra cost to yourself, including lots of big name retailers like John Lewis, Argos, Uswitch, eBay, M&S, Just Eat, Now TV, Domino's Pizza and Audible.
- There are big donations on travel bookings. A small selection is below but there are many more:
 - Trainline 2.5%
 - Travelodge 2%
 - Haven Holidays 2.5%
 - Booking.Com 4%
 - Crystal Ski Holidays 0.5%
 - TUI 2%
 - First Choice 1.5%
- All you have to do is sign up to support us using the link below and the next time you shop online go through the easyfundraising website or App and we'll receive a free donation.
- We really need all the help we can get at the moment and any funds we raise will make a big difference to us!
- You can find our easyfundraising page at this [link](#)

Thank you!

Free creative holiday activities



As part of the Walsall Activities and Food (HAF) Programme, Total Insight Theatre is running a **free** Show In A Week Camp in Walsall for young people aged 12-16 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

When: Monday, 11th April — Thursday, 14th April
Where: St John's Church Hall, Vicarage Terrace, Walsall, WS2 9TR
Times: 2-6pm each day

Activities are open to young people of all abilities and young people will have the opportunity to work with our professional artists to develop skills behind the scenes or on stage, taking part in creative activities that include drama, dance and spoken word to create a show in a week. Young people will also see a live show, which will visit the camp.

All young people will receive a free meal each day.

If you would like to register for our activities, please visit our website to book:

<https://www.totalinsighttheatre.com/walsall>

You can also email creativecamps@totalinsighttheatre.com or call 07858221809 if you have any questions.

Kind regards,
Ella Schwarz
Total Insight Theatre

