



NEWS

Quintin Kynaston School

No. 12 2nd December 2005

Headteacher's Message

During the Progress Review Evening some parents raised concerns over student toilets. When I came to QK the toilets were in an extremely poor state of repair. In the last three years complete refurbishment of student and staff toilets has been completed at a considerable cost. The decision to open the toilets only at break and lunchtime was taken because a small minority of irresponsible students (both male and female) vandalised them on a regular basis. Some students were also caught smoking. A considerable amount of additional, unnecessary and unpleasant work for the site staff is being created by this abuse by a small number of students. I am considering the idea of discreetly installing CCTV cameras in the student toilets (not of course in the cubicles!). Until I can be sure that this kind of disappointing behaviour is not repeated, I regret to say the toilets will remain closed during lessons and only opened at break and lunchtime. If a student does need to use the toilet during lessons, they will have to obtain a key from my Personal Assistant.

Next week sees the start of internal examinations for students in Years 11-13. For Year 11 especially, these are very important as the results will give a strong indication of predicted grades for their public examinations in the summer. I am sure you will all do extremely well. However, last minute revision is always useful. Good luck.

Jo Shuter

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch, complete with party hats and crackers, will be served to staff and students on Tuesday 6th December. This is always an event enjoyed enormously by everyone.

Progress Reviews

Thank you to all parents who attended the meetings last week. The attendance was very high and it is fantastic to see so many parents and carers supporting their children at school. You will have discussed the Action Points for your child with the Tutor; we hope that you will continue to remind students about these. If you were unable to attend Progress Review, please ensure that you contact the school to receive information about your child's progress so far this year.

Mock Exams

Good luck to all students in Years 11, 12 and 13 for their Mock exams.

Please make sure that your child arrives at school on time for all their exams and has the correct equipment.

If students do not have an exam, they are not expected in school. You should have received a copy of the exam timetable at the Progress Review meeting; if not, please check www.qkschool.org.uk

Mock Exams run under rules and regulations. Please ensure you bring the right equipment and turn up at the correct location: please see timetable for details.

WARNING – Mobile phones and other electronic equipment are prohibited in examination halls. You are advised not to bring these with you but if it is essential you have a mobile phone with you, it must be turned off and handed in!
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The World of Work

Year 11 spent Monday morning listening to presentations about different careers. The talks were given by people representing a range of employment areas and our students found them interesting and useful. Thank you to all who helped organise this.

End of Term Arrangements

We break up for the Christmas holiday on Friday 16th December. Normal lessons will continue until then and all students should be in school every day. The school will not authorise early holiday requests.

During the last week, there will be some fun for students when they will watch the QK Christmas Pantomime. This was a roaring success last year featuring Ms Shuter as a very naughty student!

Behnam and family must stay!

As many of you will know by now two of our students, Behnam in Year 13 and his younger brother, together with their mother, are at risk of possible deportation to Iran where Behnam and his mother face prison and severe punishment for political reasons. They are a wonderful family who have been caught up in a terrible situation. All those who know Behnam and his family, and many others, are completely shocked by the injustice of the threat hanging over them

Staff and students at Quintin Kynaston School are determined to support the family and to do everything possible to prevent their deportation. There has been a fantastic response to the petition started recently and the family really appreciate the support. There is also a letter writing-campaign, there will be an exhibition of Behnam's artwork and much is going on behind the scenes. A demonstration that was to be held this week has been postponed but will be re-scheduled.

A big thank you to all those involved in the campaign, especially those Sixth Formers who have responded in such a swift, positive way!

Pauline Levis
Refugee Coordinator

Dates to Remember

Monday 5th December Year 11 Mock Exams start
Thursday 8th Dec Years 12 & 13 Mock Exams start
Friday 16th December Break Up for Xmas!
Wednesday 4th January Staff Training Day (INSET) no students
Thursday 5th January Return to school for normal registration

Mad Hair Day Postcard Exhibition

December 7th 5-7 pm in the Library

The exhibition is taking place to raise money for Childline and QK. You can wear Mad/Bad Hair for the day for a small donation. To enter the competition, get a blank postcard from Sharon Worthington in Inclusion. Do a postcard on the theme of MAD HAIR and write your name on the back. Your entry may be purchased for £5 and you have the chance to win a prize! Good luck and may the best coiffure and artwork win!

World Aids Day

There are 38 million adults and 2.3 million children living with HIV. During 2005 some 4.9 million people became newly infected with the virus. Around half became infected with HIV before they are 25 and are killed by AIDS before they are 35.

HIV is a threat to men, women and children on all continents around the world. World AIDS Day is not just about raising money, but also about increasing awareness, education and fighting prejudice. It is important in reminding people that HIV has not gone away, and that there are many things still to be done such as support and understanding for people living with HIV/AIDS and the need for education and prevention initiatives.

The red ribbon is an international symbol of AIDS awareness, worn by people all year round to demonstrate care and concern about HIV and AIDS, and to remind others of the need for their support and commitment. It's easily done - just use some ordinary red ribbon and a safety pin!

For further information on HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and contraception:

NHS Direct: 0845 46 47

Terence Higgins Trust 0845 1221 200