



NEWS

Quintin Kynaston School

No. 21

3rd March 2006

Headteacher's Message

The Parent Forum meeting held on Thursday was well attended: thank you to all who came. I hope you found the information presented beneficial. I intend to hold a Parent Forum on a termly basis.

I regret to inform you that there has been a recent spate of troubles after school hours with outsiders coming to the school with the sole intent of intimidating and threatening our older students.

As I have mentioned before, QK benefits from a wonderful multi-racial and multi-cultural community in which diversity thrives. Through a small group of outside influences, this is at times challenged and division is sought to be created. Fortunately our students are mature and sensible enough not to bow to these people who are intent on creating 'trouble'.

Thanks to the outstanding support of our resident Community Police Officer, PC Iain Glasby, our Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the teaching staff, we have managed to limit the damage these outside influences have tried to create within our school community.

The problems have been limited to upper school students but we are aware that it is not a good example for our younger students to see this sort of behaviour. I have held lengthy assemblies this week with older students to emphasise that we are a multi-racial/cultural community. I will not tolerate anyone within or outside our school community doing anything to jeopardise this harmony. I and my SLT with the help of PC Iain will deal with any outsiders trying to cause trouble. However, please be clear that any of our students who bring outsiders to try and 'sort things out' will be permanently excluded.

The recent problems have been dealt with to a satisfactory conclusion, and the school community is as it should be. I hope I can rely on your co-operation with our school philosophy of respect and tolerance.

Jo Shuter

Dates to Remember in March

Twilight Inset

School will be closing early on Monday 6th March for Staff Training. Students will be dismissed after lunch from 1.50 pm onwards.

Year 9 Parents Evening

Meet your child's subject teachers on Tuesday 14th March between 4.30 and 7 pm and find out about the GCSE options they can take. There will be information and advice about choosing courses. Please return the reply slips to school as quickly as possible.

Science Modular Exams

All Year 10 and some Year 11 students sit external modular exams on Wednesday 8th March. These will take place periods 1 and 2 in the Lower Gyms and Drama Centre. All students should be revising hard at home as these exams are an important point of their final GCSE grade.

Expressive Arts

Talent Show tickets for the 22nd and 23rd March are now on sale from the Drama Office £3 each.

World Book Day 2006

Book vouchers were distributed to every student in the school and special book readings took place on Thursday in the Library to celebrate World Book Day. A big thank you to all those that came to the event ... especially to the staff who gave up their lunch break to read: Anna Peduzzi, Tatton Spiller, Walter Castro, Sharon Worthington and Susan Faulkner-Wiley. Congratulations to Chenai in Year 10 who won a Bart Simpson graphic novel in the raffle.

Year 11 Interviews

Letters confirming places in the Sixth Form will be issued over the coming weeks.

Celebrating Success in Enterprise Education



For a number of weeks some of our Key Stage 3 students have been attending an after school club that has introduced them to shares and how they are traded. As part of a competition that included other local schools, QK entered three teams. Each team was given a virtual sum of £500.00 and traded shares on the world's major stock markets in real time. As a separate assignment, the teams also had to prepare and give a presentation on the financial performance of a major company.

At an assembly this week our Year 10 teams were presented with certificates and prizes for their part in the competition and their excellent presentations. We would like to congratulate Team Bravo – Damilola Sole, Anita Tonooka, Yewande Omotayo and Besart Krasniqi and Team Charlie – Sahena Khanom, Natasha, Khawar and Marigona Metrama.

Our Year 11 team Alpha did spectacularly well and won the overall competition and out performed any winners from previous competitions that schoolbiz has organised. They thoroughly deserved their certificates and prizes and hopefully will be equally successful in their Business GCSE awards.

Congratulations to Anwar Sufi and Selam Ibrahim.

All our students participated in a remarkable way which greatly impressed the facilitators from Schoolbiz who ran the programme along with our business department. Their presentations will be soon available on: www.schoolbiz.org.uk

National No Smoking Day Wednesday 8th March

Do you know that there are 4,000 chemicals in tobacco smoke? Poisonous chemicals include:

- Tar - a mixture of formaldehyde, arsenic, cyanide and others. About 70% of the tar is left in smokers' lungs if they inhale cigarette smoke. This causes many serious lung diseases.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) - an odourless, tasteless and poisonous gas. It makes breathing more difficult by combining with the blood which carries oxygen around the body. Oxygen is essential for our bodies to work properly. Up to 15% of a smoker's blood may be carrying CO instead of oxygen, which means the heart has to work harder. This can cause coronary heart disease and circulation problems.
- Acetone - widely used as a solvent, for example in nail polish remover.
- Ammonia - is found in cleaning fluids.
- Arsenic - a deadly poison used in insecticides.
- Formaldehyde - used to preserve dead bodies.
- Cadmium - a highly poisonous metal used in batteries.
- Shellac - constituent of wood varnish.
- Benzene - used in fuel and chemical production.
- Cyanide - a deadly poison.

Stopping smoking isn't about losing something - it's about gaining a lot! The benefits will soon start adding up. At nearly £5 for 20 cigarettes, stopping a pack-a-day habit is like a £30-a-week pay rise! The money soon adds up when you stop. Think about what you could buy when you quit:

- 1 day: £4.80 = a movie rental or a few magazines
- 1 week: £33.60 = a cheap flight to Europe or some CDs
- 1 month: £146 = a shopping spree or the monthly food bill
- 3 months: £438 = two weeks in the sun or a new computer
- 6 months: £876 = a family holiday or some new furniture
- 1 year: £1,752 = a second-hand car or the start of a deposit for a house

Improve your looks...

Within days of stopping smoking you'll no longer smell of stale smoke and cigarette butts. Clean your clothes, house and car to make your whole life sweet smelling! Your skin will be brighter and your eyes less red and sore.

Get fitter...

Your energy levels will soon soar when you stop smoking, making it easier to run for the bus or play sports with your friends.