



Study leave for Year 11 and Year 13 begins on Tuesday 16 May. We would like to wish all the very best to everyone sitting exams over the next few weeks.

# News and information from www.queenswood.org

# Friday 12 May 2023



#ToHelpMyAnxiety

Next week staff and students are marking Mental Health Awareness Week with a programme of activities and talks. Click here for more information, and to sign up for the Kooth workshop, self-defence class and wellbeing talk with Caroline Gruselle.



The 67th Eurovision Song Contest will provide all the fun you need this weekend! Why not support the UK entry, Mae Muller's I Wrote a Song, and throw your own Eurovision party. Here are our fun party ideas including fancy dress, food and lively party games!

#### *Pod* by Laline Paull



Ea has always felt like an outsider. She suffers from a type of deafness that means she cannot master the spinning rituals that unite her pod of spinner dolphins. Leaving the pod after tragedy strikes her family, Ea discovers dangers everywhere. The vastness of the ocean and its lurking predators will alter the course of her life irrevocably. From the bestselling author of The Bees, this stunningly original narrative brims with timely reminders of the fragility of our planet, capturing the raw cruelty of nature and the transcendent beauty of the ocean.

Welcome to the latest digest of news, events and blog posts from the website of Queenswood School. Click on the pink hyperlinks to read more.

#### A Monster Calls: Drama Scholars and Award Holders' Powerful Production



Drama Scholars and Principal's Award Holders from Year 7 to Year 13 came together to present a tremendously poignant production of Patrick Ness's A Monster Calls on Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 May. The production made great use of complex physical theatre sequences, a minimalist set of steps, ropes and sticks, dazzling lighting, projection and the music of Radiohead to convey the emotional turmoil of Conor, the 13-year-old protagonist.

## Highly Commended Award for Queenswood's Sixth Form Offering



We're very proud to announce that Queenswood's one-of-a-kind Sixth Form offering has been awarded Highly Commended in the Muddy Stilettos Best Schools Awards 2023. The judges were impressed by the ambitious and imaginative transformation of the Bellman Sixth Form Centre, and the introduction of the weekly university-style flat experience.

### Head Girl's Team and Senior Prefects: Passing the Baton



The Year 13 Senior Prefect team handed over their gowns, titles and responsibilities to their Year 12 counterparts in a very special Chapel service on Wednesday. We thank the outgoing Head Girl, Sofia, her Deputies, Moni and Olivia, and the Senior Prefects for their exceptional leadership, and welcome Willow and her incoming team as they take up the baton.

### Brassed Off with Cancer: A Triumphant Fundraising Concert in Q Hall



On Saturday 29 April, Queenswood welcomed Potters Bar Town Band and Ware Brass Band for their charity evening in aid of Bowel Cancer UK. The concert, which raised a staggering  $\pounds 6,700$  for the charity, was organised in memory of Steve Munn, a member of Ware Brass Band, who sadly passed away after his battle with bowel cancer.

### Year 13 Leavers' Events: A Fond Farewell



It's been a bittersweet few days of celebrations and goodbyes for the class of 2023. On Thursday Year 13 enjoyed an elegant afternoon tea at West Lodge Park Hotel in Hadley Wood, and took the opportunity for a photoshoot in the delightful gardens. At lunch on Wednesday, they enjoyed pizza, bouncy castles and ice creams, and the obligatory ritual shirt-signing.

### More County Representation for Queenswood's Hockey Stars



Last week we reported that 10 of our Junior Hockey players had been selected to represent Hertfordshire in the East of England Championships. This week we are delighted to announce that seven more of our players represented Hertfordshire County at the East U13 Finals on the weekend of 6-7 May.

Strong start to the season for Queenswood's Athletics team

#### Art Club: mixed media seascapes



## **GSA Creative Writing Award 2023**



#### Poetry by Heart



Year 7 girls have been inspired by the Girls Schools Association poetry competition to 'shine a light on their friendships'. There have been a range of beautiful poems entered this year and we are excited to see if any of our entries will be successful. Click on the link above to read a few examples of the fantastic work that has been produced by our very talented Year 7 poets.

This year a number of students in KS3 took part in the Poetry by Heart competition. This is a national competition that requires students to learn modern and classic poems off by heart. We now have a 'Poetry by Heart' club that runs every Friday in F1 with Mrs Folan. If you are interested then please do come along and develop your love and passion for poetry.

### **School Council Report Form**

Pupils can use this form (anonymously if they prefer) to share any issues or praise with members of the School Council.