

NEWS FROM Queenswood



We send our best wishes to all students sitting mock examinations this week and next.

News and information from www.queenswood.org

Friday 12 January 2024

Drama Archive: *The Post Office Scandal*



In recent weeks, the nation has been gripped by the ITV drama, *Mr Bates vs the Post Office*, and the subsequent developments in the news. Back in 2022, our Year 12 Drama students devised their own powerful piece of documentary theatre based on the same story. We thought it would be very timely to share their work, which was inspired by the techniques of Paper Birds Theatre Company.

Weekend fun: yoga with Adriene



If the wintry weather and dark evenings are leaving you feeling a little less energised at the moment, why not try a yoga session at home to help you relax and restore your equilibrium. There are lots of instructional videos to choose from online, and one of our favourites is 'Yoga with Adriene'. Click [here](#) to watch one of her videos particularly suitable for teenagers. Wishing you all a restful weekend. Namaste.

This week I am reading...

One Life: The True Story of Sir Nicholas Winton by Barbara Winton



Sir Nicholas Winton rescued 669 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia at the brink of World War II. Most never saw their parents again; nearly all left behind were murdered. This is his story. In 1938, 29-year-old 'Nicky' cancelled a ski holiday and instead spent nine months masterminding a seemingly impossible plan to rescue hundreds of Jewish children and find them homes in the UK. Over 6,000 people are alive today because of his efforts. This most poignant biography illuminates Winton's extraordinary humanitarianism and inspired the film *One Life*, currently showing in cinemas.

In brief

[Big Garden Birdwatch](#): join the world's largest garden wildlife survey

[Goldman Sachs](#): free Excel skills online course for Sixth Form students



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.

Mrs Cameron's New Year Message



Mrs Cameron has recorded a video message for the new term, explaining our new School Ethos statement which challenges us all to live and work together in kindness, honesty, integrity and accountability. She also highlights the importance of Pupil Voice. Pupils are reminded that they can use the link at the bottom of this newsletter to contact the School Council at any time.

Parents' Pastoral: Talk on Healthy Friendships



We have added lots of new content to the [Safeguarding section of our website](#), including details of pastoral talks for parents. In particular we'd like to draw your attention to an [online seminar on Healthy Friendships](#), taking place from 7pm on Monday 29 January. The session will be run by external experts from the Wellbeing Hub.

Major Residential Trips: 2023-25



At Queenswood we value opportunities for international and residential UK school trips. These can bring subject topics to life in a way that enhances and consolidates learning, inspiring understanding and providing memories to treasure. We've put together a brochure outlining the major trips planned for the next two academic years – we hope you'll agree that there's a huge range of experiences on offer.

Year 9 Options Talk



The presentations from Mr Sheldon (Senior Deputy Head), Mrs Brazier (Head of Year 9) and Mrs Barnard (Head of Year 10), given to parents and pupils on Wednesday 10 January, are available to watch via the hyperlink above. There you will also find the GCSE Options booklet, containing a link to submit your subject choices (please wait until after the Year 9 Parents' Evening on Monday 22 January).

A Superb Year for Hockey: The Story So Far



As a new term of Queenswood Hockey begins, it's the perfect time to highlight our players' fantastic achievements to date. Mr Menear, Head of Hockey, has put together this very impressive summary, including news of four players who have been selected for England Hockey's Talent Academy.

An Amazing Opportunity to Exhibit at the Royal Academy of Arts



Calling all artists...Would you like an amazing opportunity to submit work to the Royal Academy of Arts and have your artwork put on display in the galleries and online as part of the big summer exhibition? Would you like your artwork to be seen by a panel of artists and arts professionals? If your answer is yes, then why not get involved now.

House Dance 2023: Performances and Adjudication



We're delighted to be able to share the performances and adjudication from last term's House Dance competition. The routines were choreographed and costumed entirely by pupils, led by teams of Year 12 students, and featured music from Michael Jackson, Beyoncé, Billie Eilish, High School Musical and Barbie, among others.

Newsletter Club: Hold the Front Page!



Mr Kelley and Mrs Leigh were delighted to host the first meeting of the Newsletter Club on Tuesday and to welcome Q's newest reporters, Year 7 students Leah, Maddie, Eva and Ophelia. Please click on the pink hyperlink to find out about the team's plans for future editions of News from Q and for details of how to sign up.

This Week in Chapel: A New Year and Time for a New Start



This week in Chapel both the Chaplain and Mrs Cameron spoke to the students about our new Queenswood Ethos Statement, through which we are to challenge each other to learn, live and work together in kindness, honesty, integrity and accountability. The Sixth Form Prefects also reminded us of our eight school aims and we prayed for opportunities to live out our school ethos.

Artist of the Month: Zahra's Oil Pastel Christmas Tree



Congratulations to Zahra K-E (Year 9), who is January's Queenswood Artist of the Month. Zahra's oil pastel study of Christmas baubles was the winning design in December's House Christmas Card Competition. It is now on display in Mrs Cameron's office.

Flying the Flag for Queenswood...in Antarctica!



Flags designed by some Year 7 and 8 Geographers have made it all the way to Antarctica! The flags, created by Larissa K, Jeanie J, Caitlin F and Kate R (amongst others) travelled with Dr Liz Thomas, a paleoclimatologist who is in Antarctica drilling ice cores.

PUPIL VOICE: 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.