



QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2019

NEW THIS TERM:

Note from The Head

Travel Info Request forms - Half-term
& Easter breaks 2019

Diary of Events - Spring term 2019

Minutes of PLG Meeting held
November 2018

Higher Prelim routines
and timetables

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Friday 8th February - **HALF TERM BREAK BEGINS** Please note, lessons end at 1625hrs.

Sunday 17th February - Half-term break ends. **PUPILS RETURN BY 2000 HRS**

Sunday 3rd March - **OV PARADE SUNDAY**

4th - 7th March
ADMISSIONS BOARD 2019

Friday 29th March -
Parent/Teacher meeting for
S2, S4, S5, S6.
END OF SPRING TERM

FORTHCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Tuesday 23rd April - **SUMMER TERM BEGINS** - Pupils return by 2000 hours.

Sunday 5th May - **PARADE SUNDAY** - Inspecting Officer: tbc

Friday 28th June - **GRAND DAY & END OF TERM**

PARADE DATES 2019:

SUNDAY 3rd MARCH

SUNDAY 5th MAY

SUNDAY 15th SEPTEMBER -
BATTLE OF BRITAIN

SUNDAY 6th OCTOBER -
BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR

SUNDAY 10th NOVEMBER -
REMEMBRANCE

SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER -
ROOKIES



MERRY CHRISTMAS



QUEEN VICTORIA SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Note from the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

Firstly, I'd like to say a big thank you to all parents and families for the support you have provided this year. That support was particularly evident in the last week when we took the difficult decision to close the school a week early due to a lack of hot water in three boarding houses – I am sure the students were absolutely delighted with the speed of your response to this unusual event and I hope they all enjoy the extended holiday. As a boarding school, QVS relies heavily on parental support, in both good times and bad, and it is truly appreciated.

Students have missed a number of fun events due to the early closure but we hope to run as many as possible when they return – for example, Mr Breingan is keen to have a 'Not quite Christmas Concert' to give the students the opportunity to perform and I hope to be able to put on the P7 play at some point – although I imagine some of the children will have forgotten their lines already!

Our Remembrance Parade this year was very poignant, as we commemorated the seventeen Old Victorians who lost their lives in World War One. In the build up to Remembrance Day, S6 student Cameron Crawford, gave a series of presentations at chapel on each of 'The Seventeen' and those were very well received, as was the addition of their names to our Remembrance service. From looking back to your past, we also look to our future and our Rookies parade this year was fantastic, led admirably by Ethan Jones, who gave our Senior Monitor a run for his money in terms of volume. Very impressive indeed.

For S4-S6 students, January means it is time for their Prelims and I would urge each and every one of them to prepare carefully for those prelims – the earlier students can get into a study routine in the new year, the better!

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a great Christmas and all the best for 2019. We'll see everyone back here on January 8th and we look forward with optimism to year ahead.

Donald Shaw
Headmaster



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NEWSLETTER

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HALF-TERM HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

Pupils may leave after classes at 1625 hours on Friday 8th February and are to be back in School not later than 2000 hrs on Sunday evening 17th February. Anyone who cannot leave on Friday evening can stay until Saturday morning.

Please download and complete the half-term travel proforma and return to your son/daughter's House as soon as possible. Many thanks.

PASSPORTS POLICY

To ensure the safekeeping of pupils' passports, the school will provide a secure place of storage, during term time only. The school will accept responsibility for a passport once the pupil has handed it to the Housemaster/Housemistress (HoM) and 'signed in' the passport, using the appropriate documentation.

The HoM will issue passports to pupils, once they have been 'signed out'. All passports will be handed back to pupils at the end of every Half Term/Term, and on other occasions when requested. When the pupils have 'signed out' their passports the school will no longer be responsible for the passports until they are signed back in.

The HoM will remind pupils upon returning to school to hand in their passports, however the school does not accept responsibility for passports that are not handed in. If you wish to sign the passports in/out on behalf of your son/daughter, then please arrange this with the HoM.

If you have any queries regarding passports please contact your son's /daughter's HoM.

EASTER HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

Spring term ends on Friday 29th March - lessons end at 1110.

Pupils may leave after the Parent/Teacher meeting 1330-1800hrs on Friday 29th March or after 1110 at the discretion of their Housemaster or Housemistress if parents are not attending the parent/teacher meeting.

Pupils should return to School no later than 2000 hours on Tuesday evening
23rd April.

NB: YOUR SON/DAUGHTER MUST SIGN OUT IN THE HOUSE BEFORE LEAVING IN ORDER TO SATISFY ALL SCHOOL PROCEDURES INCLUDING FIRE REGULATIONS

PARENT/TEACHER MEETING

FRIDAY 29th MARCH FOR S2, S4, S5 & S6

Pupils in the above year groups will be issued a proforma in order to approach their teachers for appointment times. It is important that pupils and parents liaise with each other to ensure pupils know whether parents are attending or not, which teachers they wish to see and preferred timings.

Once proformas are completed, Mrs Nicolson will post a copy to parents with the set timings.

We would be grateful if parents would adhere to the timings set. Thank you.

END/BEGINNING OF TERMS

Please support us in adhering to term dates. Early leavers/late returners cause disruption to the general running of House and School. The holidays are generous and family holidays should wherever possible be organised to fit into these dates.

Thank you for your cooperation with this.





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EMAIL CONTACT

Email contact with parents is very useful, especially in urgent situations. Unfortunately, at the end of last term, after sending an urgent email to all parents re the emergency early closure, numerous emails 'bounced' back to us. Could we please stress the importance of having up to date contact details, whether that be email addresses/mobile or landline telephone numbers. Any change of contact details can be sent to alison.nicolson@qvs.org.uk or head@qvs.org.uk

Thank you for you help with this.



PLEA FROM MATRON.....

For security, please remember to name clearly any new electrical items/games/clothing that may have been received as Christmas presents*.

Please remember that we rely on your support in ensuring that pupils do not bring age-inappropriate videos, DVDs or games into School. These are forbidden under the "Guide to Life in this School Community" as well as having legal implications. We understand that you may allow your son/daughter to use older age-group material when he or she is at home, but this is not something that we can allow in School.

Many thanks for your help with this.

Could we also ask that children do not bring back items of clothing that can't be tumble dried as all laundry is tumble dried by the contractor.

** We cannot take responsibility for expensive items brought to School. Insurance is the responsibility of parents.*



MESSAGE FROM SSM STACEY

If you have a son at the School, please remember to send them back after the holidays with a suitable haircut (as outlined on page 26 of the Boarding School Arrangements booklet).

Thanks for your support with this.



CONTACTING THE HOUSES

Each House has a voice-mail service on its main phone line. Below is a reminder of the House telephone numbers and email addresses:

Cunningham House - Tel: 0131 310 2923 email: cunningham.office@qvs.org.uk

Haig House - Tel: 0131 310 2922 email: haig.office@qvs.org.uk

Trenchard House - Tel: 0131 310 2924 email: trenchard.office@qvs.org.uk

Wavell House - Tel: 0131 310 2955 email: wavell.office@qvs.org.uk



STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Sophie, Maggie, Sebastian and Ross as our Overseas House Assistants/GAP students for 2019 and wish them a worthwhile and enjoyable time with us here at Queen Victoria School throughout this year.



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SCHOOL BILLS

When settling the school bill, you should pay the whole amount at the start of each term. The School's preferred method of payment is internet banking. Our bank details are:

Payee Name: Public Sub Account – HMG4800
(Queen Victoria School is acceptable)

Account No: 10027890

Sort Code: 60-70-80

Should you have any problems with settling the full amount, please contact the Finance Office on 0131 310 2905/2914/2994, in the first instance. Alternatively, you can email the team on admin.office@qvs.org.uk

Parents/guardians with outstanding school bill amounts are requested to settle them immediately, unless an alternative payment plan has been agreed in accordance with the School's debtor policy.

PAYMENTS OF ADDITIONAL POCKET MONEY/ADDITIONAL ITEMS

When paying for any additional pocket money or items not included in the school bill, parents/guardians should pay the sum direct to the appropriate boarding house via cheque. These additional amounts should not be added to any school bill settlement and should not be paid through internet banking.

QVS WINTER TREAT 2018

A very successful event hosted by the QVS MAD (Make a Difference Group) for local elderly residents, who were entertained by our Pipers, Drummers & Dancers, as well as local ceilidh band 'Skelpit Lug'. A good night was had by all.

