



Q | REVIEW.



QEGS

BLACKBURN

A look back over the year 2011 | 12

INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to introduce our annual record, Q-review, which details in the space available as many as possible of our pupils' activities and achievements in the last academic year. It has never been a comprehensive catalogue of distinctions or news; such a volume would need to be bulky indeed! Fortunately though, as we live in a digital age, I would remind you that some of the stories here and many more are covered in considerable detail in the 'news' section of the school's website, which I commend to you as a source of all sorts of useful information.

Following on from last year's grand opening of the impressive extension to the Sports Hall at Lammack, which many parents have now seen first hand, this term will see the first intake into our new Nursery. Looking to the future, as we continue to do very positively despite the economic circumstances in which all schools and other institutions are operating at the moment, the nursery will accommodate two-year olds and toddlers and there will be a baby unit too. A successful Ofsted accreditation visit took place over the summer holidays and it is excellent that this colourful addition to our provision will be up and running by the time term starts. We will be offering sessional care at this level, responding to parents' need for flexibility while they juggle their various commitments.

The school's core purpose, of course, is academic work, and there is a detailed commentary on our results, which by and large were extremely encouraging. What they do not reveal are the many debates, educational visits, field work, trips abroad etc that underpin what we do here and which have an intangible but nonetheless very real benefit as our pupils develop intellectually and personally.

This personal development, which was rated very highly by our visiting inspectors last year, stems partly of course from the depth and breadth of extra-curricular activities in which all pupils are encouraged to participate. There is plenty of evidence, both verbal and pictorial, in the following pages as to the variety of experience that continues to be enjoyed by our pupils on a daily basis. I am always impressed not just by the standards they achieve in sport, music and drama, but by the fact that alongside all of this, and the many clubs of which pupils are members, they also find time and the will to raise so much money for a wide range of really worthwhile charities: £19,500 this last academic year alone: a breathtaking sum and yet another increase, irrespective of the economic pressures to which many of our families are subjected at the moment..

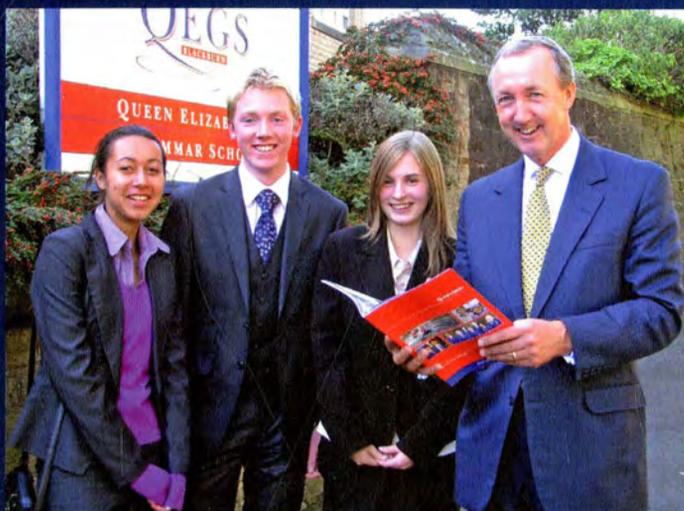
I am sure you will find as I do each year that there is a great deal in this magazine to remind us of what an extraordinarily positive, humane and dynamic place Queen Elizabeth's is and that many of our pupils' achievements are humbling indeed.

Simon Corns
Headmaster

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Queen Elizabeth's Star Search



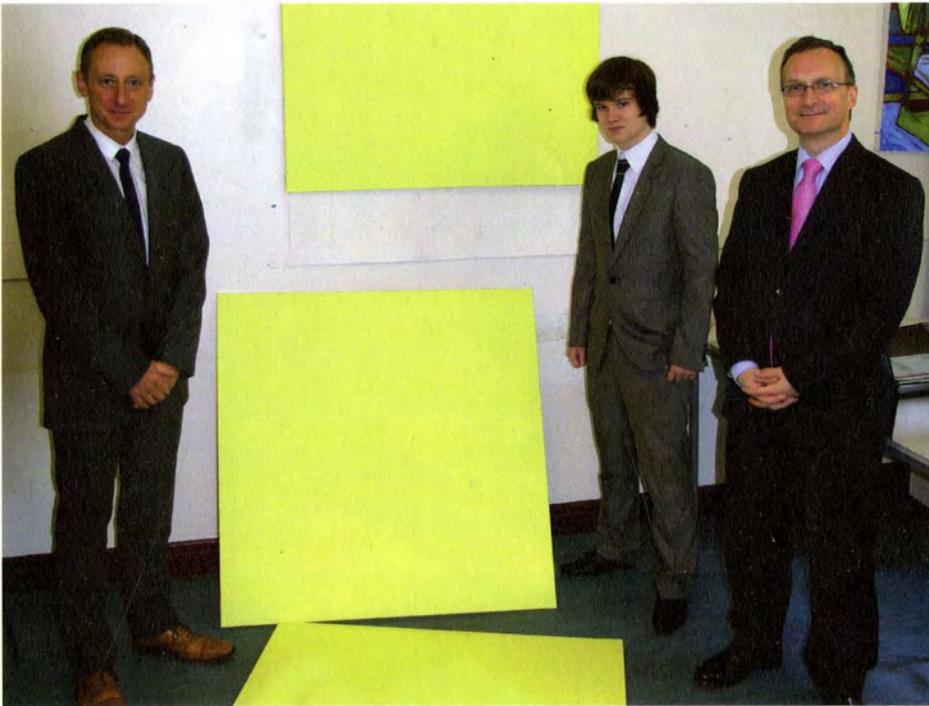
The School is inviting applications from Science and Language stars to compete for Scholarships to earn a place in the Sixth Form starting in September 2013.

Applications are being encouraged from able linguists, who are planning either to take one or more Modern Language A levels, or from future Scientists from state schools only who want to study Physics and Maths, to continue their education in the Sixth Form at Queen Elizabeth's. Through the generosity of a former pupil Steven Blakey and the Ogden Trust, Queen Elizabeth's is able to offer means-tested scholarships worth up to 100% of school fees for the two years of A level study.

For more information on Scholarship opportunities at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, please contact the Development and Admissions Director, Mr Paul Oliver on 01254 686307.

ART & CREATIVE WRITING.

Royal Academy Success



It is often true in life that the simple things can make the most impression. The humble Post-note is a classic example, and it has proved to be the inspiration for a budding art student Philip Corns, whose work is one of only forty to be selected out of over 1450 to feature as part of the A Level online exhibition at the Royal Academy.

Son of the Headmaster at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Philip produced a work that represented a significant move away from his more traditional style of painting. Head of Art, Mr Tim Birtwistle commented, "Philip has produced a very simple contemporary piece of work that has obviously impressed the judging panel. We are all very proud of his achievement, as is his Dad!"

If you would like to see the painting it is on the Royal Academy website.

Comic Art Masterclass

The School welcomed Kev F Sutherland on Monday, 26th March to undertake a Comic Art Master class. Kev is a comedian, writer, producer and comic artist and is proud to be light entertainment's Renaissance Man. His comic strip The Beano and he is possibly the world's fastest caricaturist. His Comic Art Masterclass visits schools nationwide. During the day Kev worked with the Third Year to learn the art of comic strip and produce a comic book in a day.



Charles Dickens Competition



On the 7th February, institutions and organisations from all over the world commemorated Charles Dickens' 200th anniversary. Although a writer from the Victorian era, Dickens' work transcends his time, language and culture, hence his continued popularity.

Researching Dickens' life and works, Jake Aspden (2AMD) won First Prize in a competition run by Capita - Education Resourcing. The prize was a £20.00 WH Smith gift token and certificate presented by the company's representative, Ms Fotheringham. Well done Jake.

Blackburn Rotary Club Poetry Competition



Thank you to everyone who submitted poems this year! Over 70 pupils entered the competition, whose theme, 'Olympic Dreams' produced some very thought-provoking pieces. All six winners received a Book Token and a certificate from the Rotary Club of Blackburn, with the works of Gabriella Martin, Christopher Richardson-Dulling and James Bate also submitted to the District Final.

Intermediate (First Years)

1st Prize - Gabriella Martin
2nd Prize - Harry Newman

Intermediate (Third Years)

1st Prize - Christopher Richardson-Dulling
2nd Prize - Inaam Alam

Senior Prose

1st Prize - James Bate
2nd Prize - Uzair Patel

Award for Dilip Gosall

Dilip Gosall (Year 2) entered the Shake Up Shakespeare competition for which young writers were invited to submit their poems inspired by the bard to celebrate the anniversary of his birthday.

Dilip's poem entitled 'Who Am I?' was chosen for publication in Shake Up Shakespeare The North, available from September 2012. Work was selected based on perception, imagination, expression and creative use of language.

The publishers, Young Writers received a great number of entries from all over the UK and overseas, emphasising Dilip's achievement.

DEBATING.

The Oxford Union School Debating Competition 2011-12

Three Queen Elizabeth's teams competed in the North-West regional round on the 22nd February, with 25 other teams, hosted by St Francis Xavier College, Liverpool.

Our teams consisted of: Lucy Midgley and Dean Ward (Upper 6th) Helen Duckworth and Kerry Ramsbottom (Upper 6th) Euan McKeating and Sam Westwood (Lower 6th).

The competition debated two motions: "This House would impose a 100% inheritance tax" and "This House would hold parents criminally responsible for crimes committed by their children".

Our teams spoke really well, with each speaker using rebuttal especially well and having some excellent purple patches (and some less good patches!).

We out-performed several teams present but were out-gunned by some extremely strong teams.

The three winning teams came from Parrs Wood High School, Manchester and St Francis Xavier College. **All three Queen Elizabeth's teams deserve congratulations.**

Durham School Debating Competition 2012

Queen Elizabeth's Debating team consisting of Ben Proos, Sam Westwood, Alex Gunn and Jonathan Khan competed on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th of March in what is the largest schools debating competition in the world with 140 teams, held at Durham University.

The motions were challenging and included the following topics:

- The banning of homeschooling
- Abolition of permanent membership of the UN Security Council
- State funding of political parties
- Life-time bans for sports players found guilty of racism
- Support and funding for minority languages
- The return of cultural treasures to their countries of origin

Our debaters performed really well, often against strong opposition, and all improved their debating skills dramatically over the course of the weekend.

Special commendation goes to:

- Alex for giving two speeches in one debate, having lost his partner through illness
- Jonathan for competing while trying to recover from illness
- Ben and Sam for progressing to the (novice) semi-finals, a truly excellent achievement!

All four debaters are to be congratulated warmly for representing Queen Elizabeth's so well.



Midgley Debating Report June 2012

This year has been an excellent one for Queen Elizabeth's debating with an eclectic mix of Sixth Formers debating motions from serious topics such as "This House would make parents responsible for the crimes committed by their children" to the lighter hearted and sexist "This House believes that a woman's place is in the home!".

This latter debate caused particular controversy with each side arguing the case for their opposing gender. We also tackled some important topical issues, including the summer riots, obesity and racism in football, as well as running some more philosophical debates on creationism and voluntary euthanasia.

Christmas time saw Singleton in an elevated state of being as it temporarily became home to superheroes including Cat Woman, Batman and Wolverine for the annual Balloon Debate. Queen Elizabeth's own Spiderman managed to accomplish a feat no comic book villain had ever quite achieved and defeated all others, throwing them from the balloon to their untimely death and declaring his superpowers supreme.

The first round of the ESU Schools Mace Debating Competition, hosted by Queen Elizabeth's, saw Dean Ward and Christian Brown demolish a floundering team from Burnley College, on a

trickily worded motion, arguing against the abolition of the provision of life-saving medical treatment to critically ill patients. Dean in particular argued in an extremely heated fashion, giving not one, not two, but twenty-two points of information, leaving the other team gasping for breath. In the following round the Queen Elizabeth's duo came up against our old adversaries Manchester Grammar School, and performed exceedingly well, proposing the apposite motion that the torture of suspected terrorists can be justified. Robbed of victory by a novice and ill-informed jury, the experience was nevertheless both instructive and enjoyable for debaters and audience alike. Mr Cave took his irritation at the unjustified loss out on the accelerator pedal.

The team left in a cloud of dust and made it back to school in record time.

Queen Elizabeth's sent a team to the Cambridge Union competition consisting of Helen Duckworth, Kerry Ramsbottom, Lucy Midgley and Adam Van Cleef where, although we didn't get through, the teams still gave very impressive performances, discussing varying themes such as nuclear weapons, the percentage of women on company boards, and racism in sport. In particular Helen and Kerry were highly commended by the judge for their entertaining style of debating. Mr Cave wasn't sure whether or not this was a good thing; nevertheless they were given another opportunity to show off their comedy-duo skills as they formed part of the team for the Oxford Union Competition. Our other team consisted of Lucy Midgley and Dean Ward who took the risky step of insulting the judge's Liverpuddlian accent - in a courteous way, of course!

The Lower Sixth debaters were also busy this year spending a weekend in March at Durham University to compete in the largest schools debating competition in the world with

140 teams. The teams consisted of Jonathan Khan and Alex Gunn, Ben Proos and Sam Westwood. The four spoke on a range of challenging topics including the banning of home schooling and the state funding of political parties. The team really showcased their talents as they overcame a number of difficulties; Jonathan fell ill but his driving debating spirit did not let this defeat him and he was still a formidable opponent. So too was his partner Alex Gunn, who stepped up to the plate because of his partner's illness and gave not one but two impressive speeches in one of the debates. Our other team of Sam and Ben were very well received by the judges and progressed spectacularly to the novice semi-finals.

All in all the weekend was a huge success and all four performed exceedingly well, and improved their skills dramatically.

Mr Cave comments that this year's committee of Christian Brown, Lucy Midgley and Kerry Ramsbottom worked really well together, deciding on motions, promoting and organising debates and leading from the front with some first-rate performances. Not only did they encourage students from their own year group to participate, (with

some arm-twisting!), but they helped many L6th Year students to speak with increasing confidence and effectiveness. Some L6th debaters came to the fore in the House Debating competition in May, with some

fiercely contested debates on Syria, the pricing of alcoholic drinks and the returning of cultural treasures: Hawkins House won overall.

To draw the year to a close we held an Upper Sixth farewell balloon debate this year. The garden outside Hartley House was bedecked with streamers and flags as Queen Elizabeth's saw representatives from Uganda, China, Great Britain, The Dominican Republic, Greenland, North Korea and South Africa all jostling for position in the 'balloon' to be granted the Majestic title of 'The Greatest Country in The World'. In what Mr Cave described as a battle of style over substance, all countries' leaders were jettisoned from the balloon to meet their early watery graves apart from the leader of North Korea. He was dubiously crowned with the appellation; although he spent the majority of time in the debate forming an evil plan with Uganda, only to stab him in the back as the two went head-to-head in the final round. Nearly every Upper Sixth former and many teachers turned up to watch this extremely entertaining final debate and bring this successful year to its finish.

This year of debating would not have been possible without its legendary leader Mr Cave. Everyone who has ever been encouraged to take part in a debate, not just this year but for many years spanning the past sixteen, has been inspired by Mr Cave's guidance and leadership. I think I speak for everyone when I say he will be greatly missed and on behalf of everyone who has debated this year we would like to thank Mr Cave for all his hard work and wish his successor the best of luck.

Lucy Midgley
Secretary of Debating Society

This year of debating would not have been possible without its legendary leader Mr Cave

HOUSE.

Drake House Retain The Marsden Merit Trophy

As well as retaining the Marsden Merit trophy for another year Drake was runner up in both the Holden Trophy and the overall Cockhouse Trophy.

In the sporting sphere there has been an extremely hard effort to edge into second place and improve on our third place finish last year. Everyone has played their part; over 95 % of pupils have participated in House Events for Drake, this year. The role of honour impressively reads:

- **3rd and 4th year Cross Country 2nd**
- **1st and 2nd year Rugby winners**
- **Senior Rugby 2nd**
- **Junior Basketball 2nd**
- **Senior Basketball 2nd**
- **3rd and 4th year Table Tennis 2nd**
- **3rd and 4th Year Cricket 2nd**
- **Junior Swimming 2nd**
- **Senior swimming 2nd**
- **Senior Table Tennis 2nd**
- **3rd and 4th year Football 2nd**
- **Senior Football 2nd**
- **Golf winners**

As the above results suggest the house has consistently been competing for the top honours often just agonisingly missing out. This consistency though meant that our second place overall was richly deserved.

The star turns have been scattered throughout the year groups. In the senior's George Huck has been a hugely helpful House Captain, giving up his time for both Swimming Galas, he was a role model to the younger members of the House. Alex Gunn and Emeley McGuinn-Ashworth were unofficial deputies and could always be counted on to organise and step in for almost any activity. All of the above were part of some of the success listed above and George will be missed next year. As will Becky Barnes, Ben Dunford, Lillian Chungu and Faheem Musa who all earned their senior colours this year.

Following behind this year group are some outstanding contributors to House sport. Sam Chadwick won the junior athlete award at Sports Day and won all his events. He also led both the football and rugby teams with distinction. The second year were led admirably by Benji Carrera-Knowles. Christopher Richardson-Dulling was a great organiser in the 3rd year and the talented Katie Gaffing led a strong 4th year group.

The girls also played their part. Gabriella Martin, Lauryn Graham, Nicole Nuti and Abbie Turner were keen to contribute when called upon. They played Netball, swam and ran. They made light of their lack of numbers and we would not have had the success we had without them. Well done girls, keep up the good work.

It was in the Marsden Merit where Drake really excelled again and edged out the other houses by consistently scoring well in activities and also winning the 5th Year credits competition, the Intermediate Maths Challenge and the General Knowledge Quiz.

In the credits competition we had 3 first year pupils with over 100 credits in Gabriella Martin, Sam Chadwick and Kimlam Nguyen. They were joined by Mohammed Adnan and Tom Walsh in the second year. Tom actually received the most in the

school with a massive 248 credits. Mohammed Sheth also deserves a mention for his efforts in this competition.

The biggest competition in the Marsden Merit is without doubt the General Knowledge Quiz where 18 pupils represented the house and we gained a 1st place in

the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year competition and a 2nd place in the 4th, 5th and 6th Quiz. Special mentions must go to John Martin, Tom McCluskey, Jamie Storm, Nathan Mann, Lucas Martin, Joe Westwood, Sam Westwood and Jonathan Evans who contributed to this success.

I would like to finish by thanking all the pupils for their hard work and dedication to the house system this year you have all contributed to the success Drake has experienced. It is not only the pupils that need thanking; Mr Sagar, Miss Kellock, Mr Taylor and Mr Oliver have all been on hand to help organise teams and speak to the house on occasion so many thanks for your help.

I look forward to another year of hard work next year you will undoubtedly all be needed even more next year so be prepared to be asked to contribute and I am sure you will do your best.

Mr Hindle

I would like to finish by thanking all the pupils for their hard work and dedication to the house system this year you have all contributed to the success Drake has experienced

Frobisher House Report 2012

Hopes were high at the beginning of the year after narrowly missing out on the Holden trophy by one tantalising point in 2010/11. However, it has been a case of 'second season syndrome' this year, where as a collective we have battled admirably but ultimately finished with a hat-trick of 5th places in the Holden, Marsden and Cockhouse competitions.

That said, I have been impressed by many of the performances in events this year and the new first year pupils have shown impressive enthusiasm and were successful in a number of events.

The highlight of the year has to be, once again, winning (and retaining) the Junior House Swimming Gala, the flagship event of the House calendar. It was proof of the commitment and dedication to the cause of those team members who took part and continued our successful tradition in the event. Perhaps the team was inspired by the presence of Mr Paul Howard, former Frobisher Head of House, who was invited back to present the prizes at the gala; it certainly made the victory all the more sweet. Fortunately, controversy was avoided this year in what was a very fair fight!

The strength in depth in girls sport was underlined by victory in the inaugural House Netball competition, with girls from all years taking part.

Marsden Merit points were won with victory in the Senior House Quiz as

well as year group victories in First and Fourth Year. Meanwhile I witnessed an impressive performance by Uhzair Ahmed and Samyan Patel to claim second place in Junior Debating.

Leading credit earners in each year were:

- Samantha Hepworth (127, 1st Year),
- Uhzair Ahmed (184, 2nd Year),
- Alasdair McKie (175, 3rd Year),
- Joe Dwyer (4th Year),
- Alice Schofield (5th Year).

The highlight of the year has to be, once again, winning (and retaining) the Junior House Swimming Gala, the flagship event of the House calendar

At Sports Day there were some fantastic individual performances, though we finished a disappointing 5th overall. Again, Frobisher girls led the way: Georgina Mackenzie won all four events she took part in, breaking her own long jump record in the process and collecting the best individual girl athlete's award; Annabel Harvey broke the record for the girls cricket ball throw for the second year in succession; Cara Dootson won the Fourth Year shot putt, while the Junior Girls won their relay convincingly. House Captain Adam Rowland, single-handedly competing for the boys' senior team, gained three podium finishes while Third Year pupil Elliot Gaughan won a field event double

of both shot putt and discus. First Year Hal Collinge won his own double of 800m and Long Jump while Sarah Pickles and Alvin Choondiyani won their respective 200m races. Some impressive results and a great effort from all who took part.

The end of the year included three House events in three days (Golf, Sports Day and Cricket), with Joe Davies and Ryan Walsh competing on all three occasions. Our best result came in the Third/Fourth Year Cricket with two wins from three games achieving 3rd place.

House meetings this year included some memorable contributions from all Frobisher staff, as well as an unexpected address from the Mayor of Blackburn with Darwen, Mrs Karimeh Foster, which was a privilege indeed.

Alongside the other Houses, we helped to raise money for the school's sponsored child. House Captain Adam Rowland and Vice-Captain Matthew Bennett also played their part, and my thanks go to them for their input this year.

I would like to thank all members of Frobisher House for their efforts this year, both staff and pupils. Although we did not quite achieve the same heights as last year, I have been very encouraged by the enthusiasm of the newcomers who have shown that we have a very competitive future ahead.

Mr SP Heald



Grenville House Report 2012

This was certainly the hardest year yet for my young Grenvillites. We have fought off tough opponents from Raleigh and the new and improved Howard, but, sadly, to no avail. Our saving grace has been our Grenville spirit. It is ensured that we have at least lost some of our events with a smile on our faces!

I started the new year as Head of Grenville House, optimistic as I always am. I was particularly pleased about the sporting calibre of my new Sixth Form and felt that we had a strong chance to achieve a less embarrassing position in the race for the Holden Trophy. I was not wrong: the first event, the Senior Basketball Tournament, was absolutely incredible. Mr Lockwood and I watched each game with avid trepidation, but the likes of George Oxley, William Paton, Jonathan Khan and Henry Bleasdale dissolved our concerns and in the close race for victory, they completely smashed the other Houses. Our winning picture even made it on to the school website- certainly a first for our House!

The Junior House Basketball tournament told a very different tale. We struggled to maintain a full team for the duration of the tournament and we drew bottom place with Frobisher. A disappointing contrast to the Seniors' achievement.

The cross country tournament highlighted an interesting point - our Grenville members are capable runners and we managed a strong hold on third place across the year groups. Why, if we can run relatively well in this event can we not do better in the other sporting events? One of life's little mysteries to me.

The rugby competition followed and was heavily disrupted due to snow but, nevertheless, our teams soldiered on and we achieved a second place and two third places. Well done to our hardy rugby players. At this point in the term I was still hopeful but the prospect of the dreaded Junior Swimming Gala was hanging over my head.

Our mathematical ability as a House leaves a lot to be desired; two last place positions in the Senior and Intermediate Challenges. Thankfully, our Juniors saved the day with a second place finish.

The Junior House Swimming Gala soon crept up on us and as usual, I had to force, cajole and convince pupils to compete until they succumbed to my charms. This year was better than in the past to be fair, but I still did get the odd letter about sons/daughters who could not compete. I really did not realise that so many of our pupils' grandparents had birthday meals booked on the swimming gala day. Sadly, we finished in fifth place. There were some outstanding individual performances from the likes of Theo Roberts, Thomas Flanagan and Mariam Goorani-Nejad and I congratulate those pupils, well done.

By Christmas time, my hopes were well and truly dashed. Despite some tremendous fund-raising for charity and lots of cakes, I really didn't feel the House was giving it their all. How wrong I was!

I saw some improvements in the General Knowledge Quiz. The Junior teams of Alexander Schofield, Matthew Roe, Luke Robertson, Maddie Brighthouse, Mariam Goorani-Nejad, Tom Southern, Mariam Seedat, Cara Murray and Sam Hargreaves did a stupendous job of achieving second place against a very tough Drake House team.

Table tennis soon followed and our Senior team of George Oxley and Jonny Khan completely smashed the competition to gain a first place win.

Then along came Miss McCreddie's House Netball tournament and, despite not having a huge number of girls in our House, we achieved a joint third place position with Raleigh.

As usual, Grenville House was amazing at raising money for charity. The Third Years, in particular Mariam Seedat, ran a Valentine's Campaign to raise money for the African 'Help the Child' Appeal. We baked biscuits in heart-shapes and sold chocolates and romantic gifts. It was a raging success and our House, once again, were crowned fund-raising House of the Year.

Well done, Grenville.

The Football Tournament soon followed and once again the incredible Senior side were a force to be reckoned with. They were triumphant and gracefully victorious (or so they informed me!) in defeating all the other Houses. Well done, boys. In addition to their fantastic football prowess, the Seniors steamed to victory in the Senior House Swimming Gala with their skills. Many thanks to the team of Daniel Watts, Jonny Khan, William Paton, Oliver Roberts and George Oxley who have shown tremendous commitment to the House all year.

Regarding credits, our House have not been as fruitful and this has had a detrimental effect on our position for the Marsden merit. The only year I would like to congratulate is the current Third Year who gained a first place position for their credit results. A particular well done to Cara Murray, who achieved an outstanding 190 credits, and to Mariam Seedat who achieved an incredible 160 credits. Well done, girls.

The year was soon in the rear view mirror and we were speeding towards the finale of the House events: School Sports Day. The weather was muggy and heavy; my Grenvillites had only trained in arid, dry, mountainous regions so were already at a disadvantage. We were short of a number of Seniors but had roughly enough pupils to put out a relay for each year. Despite our fighting spirit, we really were atrocious. Our field ability let us down terribly and we finished in bottom place in the morning.

Once the rest of the school had arrived in the afternoon, Grenville had to put on a brave face. Thankfully, the Senior boys did manage to motivate and raise spirits with a couple of first place wins along with a number of juniors, but it was to no avail. Well done to Tom Lawson, Maddie Brighthouse, Theo Roberts, Lucas Chan, Tom Southern and George Oxley for achieving first place victories in the individual events. After a long session of data analysis, it seems consistency is key, and, of course, having successful relay teams. Next year, we really must put more thought into the relays and take advice from the current Seniors who absolutely stormed the final relay.

So the final results were surprising, our Holden position was, as we've become accustomed to, fourth place with 85 points. Our Marsden Merit position was humiliating to say the least: sixth place. Our overall positioning for the Cockhouse trophy was a mediocre fourth place. If only we'd swotted up on our maths a little more; if only we'd handed in more credits; if only we'd trained harder in our P.E. lessons. We will take our final position on the chin and come back bigger, stronger and, hopefully, a little brainier in the tournament 2012-2013.

Miss NJ Eggleston

Hawkins House Report 2011-12



This was a year of great endeavour and enthusiasm that brought us some of the results we would have liked. There was some cause for celebration; we finished 2nd in the Marsden Merit Trophy for academic competitions. Just like last year we were very close behind Drake. They had 53 points and we accrued 49.5 so just a few more points would have made such a difference. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts we ended up one place below, 5th in the Holden (physical activities) competition. We won quite a lot of events as you will see in this review, (if you read the rest of it), but everyone else did a little bit better.

The first big competition was the cross-country in which we performed well. There were some impressive individual efforts especially from the first years. Alex Townrow won his race and William Fryars (4th) and William Harfield (5th) were close behind him. The third year team managed 3rd place. Other years weren't quite as successful but it wasn't because we weren't trying. Well done, those that gave of their best, running that course can be a gruelling experience but you did it for Hawkins.

Two prestige events in the House calendar are the two swimming galas. A terrific effort by the members of the House meant that lanes were full, even though swimming is not our favourite

event. Only the fourth years let us down (no swimmers). That made it difficult for us to finish anything but 6th. Well done to 5th and 6th years on achieving 3rd place in their event. Our basketball teams performed very well. The Junior team reached the final after a stunning semi-final win 12-6 against Raleigh only to lose the final 4-12 to Howard. The Seniors won a game (18-8 against Frobisher), and that hasn't happened for a number of years so there was an abounding of great joy. However, no more wins came so we shared 3rd place, but that still made us happy.

The tag rugby competition went particularly well this year, 1st years were third, 2nd years were second. Well done 4th years who won their tournament, (again!). The achievement of note in the football was the fourth year team (4 wins and 1 draw) who were champions of their tournament. Otherwise it was a disappointing mixture of 5th and 6th places. Our table tennis teams were 5th, (now when did you hear that before...).

In the summer sport we started with golf in which we achieved 6th position. At the track and field meeting at Witton Park Hawkins had quite a few highly placed results and a healthy collection of competitors in third place. That meant that overall we ended in 4th place on the day, and that made us happy too. Special thanks go to the participants

who would not describe themselves as athletes and yet represented Hawkins with enthusiasm and determination. Every point earned was crucial. The cricket competition yielded 5th place for the 3rd/4th year team.

Colours were awarded as follows: FULL SENIOR to Will Storey and Dean Ward, HALF SENIOR to Kerry Ramsbottom and Angus Quinn, JUNIOR CREST to Lewis Cumpsty, Uzair Patel and Hisban Raja, DOUBLE FULL JUNIOR to Suhayl Bahadur, Ben Ellison, Farid Sarodia and Tom Storey, FULL JUNIOR to Tom Dodd, Sean Hogg, Hassan Iqbal, Bethan McKeating, Dominic West, Joe Ashworth, Idreiss Ahmed, Luke Thompson, Ishak Hassan, Aaron Green, Safeer Sheikh and Jonny Edge and HALF JUNIOR to William Fryars, Alex Creamer, Alistair Gordon, Will Jones, Ross Liddle, Mohammed Natha and Kalvir Sohal.

Mr P H Wooldridge

Well done this year Hawkins House, it has been statistically proven that the dark days are over! No more 6th place for us! The other Houses are frightened because the sleeping giant has awoken. All we need is for all members of the House to continue to participate fully and enthusiastically, and our trophy cabinet will be full again!

Howard House Report 2012

It has without doubt been a year of hope and glory for Howard House. As I began in September, full of ideas and enthusiasm, I was ready to take over the role of Head of House and hopefully put Howard back in the running, competing for victory and winning trophies in abundance. I was delighted to inherit such a talented and friendly group of pupils. A team that would pull together and give the other Houses a run for their money and that's what I got. Winners of the Arthur Holden Trophy 2012, 3rd place in the Marsden Merit and winners of the Cockhouse Trophy, what a fantastic year we have had. I could not be more proud and grateful to the staff and pupils for their enthusiasm, participation and competitive approach to each and every aspect of the House system this year.

Special mention must go to our Year Captains and in particular our Senior House Captain Georgina Chatburn-Jones and her Deputy Matthew Ringland. Their fighting spirit and ability to enthuse others to take part and give things a go has been to their credit. They have been a tremendous support during my first year as Head of House and have taken on their responsibilities like the true professionals they are. We wish them well in their future studies.

From the start of the Michaelmas term the Arthur Holden Trophy was our main goal for the year. It had been five long years since Howard had appeared on the Honours Board and in 46 years (recorded on the board) we had only featured 6 times. Considering the many fine sportsmen and women in the House it was time for the tables to turn. Our up and coming 1st year team, captained by Richard Newman got us off to a promising start gaining 2nd place in the Tag Rugby competition while the Seniors battled their way through to the final of the Senior Basketball to be defeated on the day by Grenville. The team fought hard to keep ahead of the game with great passes and side steps; they really did give it their all. Strong performances from Joseph Halstead, Goe Parkinson, Jonathan Womar, Ali Ahmed, Adam Sweeney and Oscar Metcalf were exhibited in the Cross-Country all of whom come in the top 10 competitors in their year group which kept us in top position for the Holden Trophy as we headed into the Lent term.

As we continued to play to our strengths the Junior Basketball team secured us our 1st victory against Hawkins. This was quickly followed by a succession of 1st place achievements. The Intermediate Tag Rugby competition, the Intermediate Table Tennis played by Michael Mathias and Dylan Smethurst and the Intermediate Football competition. Our 3rd and 4th Year pupils were certainly not going to let the other year groups take all the credit this year. The girls competed in the first House Netball competition organised by Miss McCreddie; a superb event which was enjoyed by all. The team captained by Georgina Chatburn-Jones progressed through to the final with ease, however, due to the absence of two of our star players Frobisher stole the match. Well done Frobisher; it was a great game. The Junior and Senior Swimming Galas proved more of a challenge. I would personally like to thank all those who turned up and competed in these events. You were a tremendous support to each other and your contribution to the House was impressive. I would like to applaud Harry Newman, Goe Parkinson and Matthew Ringland for gaining 1st place in their individual events. Well done, boys!

With three events remaining we were in a strong position to win. We headed into the Trinity term with confidence. Sports Day was upon us and although the weather was disappointing the rain held off and the Howard members chosen to represent their House put in a dazzling performance. For the last four years Raleigh has been the overall Champions of Sports Day but this was all about to change. There were many outstanding performances in the morning field events with 1st place going to Harry Newman, Faisal Hanif, Olivia Sweeney, Goe Parkinson, Jonathan Womar, Zak Dardouri, Matthew Jackson and Matthew Ringland for their individual events. What a superb start to the day. With many other pupils gaining 2nd and 3rd place we became overall winners of the field events. The afternoon became much more competitive, tension was mounting and although we had gained a number of 1st place awards the other Houses were creeping in front. It was all down to the final relays. These double point events were definitely the highlight of the day. I have never seen such determination on their young faces as they sprinted around the track. With wins from the 1st and 2nd Year teams and 2nd place for the 3rd, 4th and Senior teams we really did put in a knockout performance which ultimately left us in 2nd place for the track events but overall winners and Champions of Sports Day 2012. What an achievement, well done! The fight for the Arthur Holden Trophy was on. We battled our way through the last two sporting events which included Golf and Cricket to secure 1st place with 99.5 points.

Special mention must go to our Year Captains and in particular our Senior House Captain Georgina Chatburn-Jones and her Deputy Matthew Ringland. Their fighting spirit and ability to enthuse others to take part and give things a go has been to their credit

In the Marsden Merit competition, we improved significantly on last year's performance coming 3rd overall. Congratulations

must go to Drake and Hawkins who came 1st and 2nd respectively. Throughout the year we had many highs and lows during our academic pursuits and for a while we thought we might be in with a chance. However, we decided to leave this trophy for next year. Much praise must go to our 1st, 2nd and 4th Year teams for achieving the highest number of credits per pupil. In the 1st Year Carl Trinder set a new school record after receiving a staggering 270 credits. Amazing work Carl, well done! The highest number of credits in the 2nd Year went to Timothy Cuffe (168 credits), in the 3rd Year Shwuaib Malik (90 credits), 4th Year Edward Watts (84 credits) and in the 5th Year Conor Hamilton.

Our Senior and Intermediate Maths Challenge teams did us proud gaining joint 2nd on both occasions whilst our Senior debaters, Lucy Midgley and Ben Proos put forward a strong argument proposing the motion 'This House would set a minimum price of at least £1 on the sale of one unit of alcohol' receiving much needed House points. Many pupils enjoyed taking part in the General Knowledge Quiz, answering a mixture of cryptic questions and identifying well known TV characters, sporting icons and celebrities.

Finally, we say farewell to Mr Lead and Mr Westworth. We shall miss their wit and charisma during House assemblies. Their support and participation has been most appreciated and we wish them well as they leave us to start their new adventures.

Mrs R J Cox

Raleigh House Report 2012

Wow, I can't believe another year is through. How time flies when you're busy, and we certainly have been busy! You have all given so much again this year, in terms of effort, commitment and indeed charity. You have made me very proud with all that you have done either on the sporting front or academically with the collection of credits.

I would particularly like to thank the staff in Raleigh House and the Year Captains who have helped tremendously with the organisation of events and team sheets. A huge thank you has to also go to our fantastic Senior Captain. James Gaffney has been truly inspirational to the younger members of the House and has entertained with his heartfelt reflections in assemblies. James would be the first to say he's not the fastest in the pool or the most agile on the football field, but he never let that stop him doing everything that he could throughout his seven years as a member of Raleigh House. He competed with the Seniors in every event and encouraged the Juniors, in both lunchtime and after school competitions throughout the year. James was certainly in full voice the evening of the Junior Swimming Gala, cheering and applauding all of our young swimmers, many of whom were competing for the first time. James, thank you so much for all that you have done this year especially and we wish you all the best with your future studies.

This year we may not be the delighted owners of any of the silverware but we certainly have a lot to be proud about. The academic competition was fiercely contested this year, and despite really strong performances in the Maths Challenges, Quizzes and Debating, together with some highly commendable credit scores we unfortunately only finished in fourth position. The highest number of credits in each year group was in the First Year, Harry Bedford scoring 113 credits, the Second Year Razanne Bacchus (167), the Third Year Annie Johnstone (127), the Fourth Year Sohail Namaaji (65) and in the Fifth Year Zakir Fozdar (5). Overall it was a sound performance by most, with a few really exceptional achievements such as Edward Priory in his first ever debate and Lukas Mason and Razanne Bacchus in the Junior Maths Challenge. However, I think we can certainly push ourselves much more on the academic front next year to ensure we finish much higher in the highly acclaimed Marsden Merit competition.



On the sporting front, things went much better. We fielded a full team in every event and scored consistently well throughout the year. With strong performances in the football, cross country, netball, rugby, table tennis and basketball, things were looking good. Although the sun wasn't shining on Sports day, you certainly were. We had exceptional performances from many of you but in particular I would like to congratulate Nick Riding, Ben Souter, Killian Armour-Hamill, Robert Buckley, Jack Entwistle, Max Stirpe, Luke Penswick, Edward Holmes, Patrick Bedford, Annie Johnstone and Matthew Walsh for each winning their events. It was a shame not to have retained the sports day trophy for that fifth year but you certainly did show that true Raleigh grit and fighting spirit that we all love. Sadly we were just pipped at the post by Howard House on the day. Overall in the Holden Trophy we finished in third place just half a point behind Drake House, with Howard House in front by a safe margin of fifteen and a half points.

It has been a tremendous group effort this year and you have certainly impressed me with your positive attitude, spirit, perseverance and strength of character

It has been a tremendous group effort this year and you have certainly impressed me with your positive attitude, spirit, perseverance and strength of character. I am delighted to lead such a happy and vibrant House and can't wait to see what we can do next year. Its going to be a packed one, with new events to look forward to such as bowling, table football, baking, spelling and creative writing to name but a few. Well done to each and every one of you who took part in any of our House events this year and played their part.

Dr. Z. Saunders

SPORT.

Aviva Sportshall Athletics Competition – 8th Dec 2011

Queen Elizabeth's First and Second Year took part in the Aviva Sportshall Athletics Competition held at Blackburn College for all Blackburn with Darwen schools. Track events included sprints, relays, and distance races ranging from 2 to 6 laps. Field events included standing long and triple jumps, shot put, vertical jump and the speed bounce.

Notable performances from the girls included Sarah Pickles (1st in the 4 lap race), Anna Sumner (2nd in the 6 lap race) and also top performances by Sophy Fletcher and the girls relay team of Rachel Walsh, Lucy Hargreaves, Corinne Duckworth and Gabriella Martin.



The boys proved to be just as strong, with Alex Townrow and Sam Chadwick winning their events and excellent performances from 2nd Year boys Tom Southern and Goe Parkinson.

The overall results were:

- 1st Year Girls - 3rd
- 1st Year Boys - 3rd
- 2nd Year Boys - 4th

Well done to all athletes involved - a great result for the school!

Basketball Report

Every Thursday, a group of second year boys head off to train straight after period six. Dr Butler leads the training sessions, they are physically demanding but enjoyable at the same time.

We played our first tournament in January on Monday 16th which was tough because it was our first real game as a team. Unfortunately we didn't win the tournament but it was a very good experience for the team.

Our second tournament was on Monday 23rd and had a positive outcome. We played well and managed to get second place.

The two final games we played were against Beardwood School and they were both fast and exciting games. In the first game we won 36-8 and in the second game we won 38-12.

Although we have only played as a team together for a few months we all contributed well and hope to continue our late success next season, with the help of our great coach Dr Butler.

Howard Run Out Basketball Winners

Howard went one step further than their senior colleagues, when they beat Hawkins in the Junior House Basketball competition. Taking an early lead in the final, they quickly built up a gap against their opponents and in truth the result never really looked to be in any doubt.

Pictured below is the winning team who were supported in the earlier rounds by Matthew Jackson, Libby Brew, Tori Evans, Jake Room and Kate Morris.



Olympic Day is a great success



Pupils at Queen Elizabeth's have had an amazing end to the summer term.

Having already had their traditional Sports Day, they ended the term with an Olympic Day in which they competed in 17 Olympic and Paralympic events.

The Olympic Day started off with an opening ceremony which outlined the Olympic ethos and the development of the Paralympics.

Each class entered pupils in each of the 17 events which were a combination of Olympic and Paralympic sports, including water polo, trampolining, BMX and tennis.

Pupils from Longshaw Community Junior School SEN department joined in some of the events with the QEGS pupils including blind Football, cycling using trikes and boccia, which was originally designed to be played by people with cerebral palsy but now includes athletes with other severe disabilities affecting motor skills. In 1984 it became a Paralympic sport, and in 2008 was being practised in over fifty countries worldwide.

Boccia is governed by the Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CIPISRA) and is one of three Paralympic sports that have no counterpart in the Olympic programme.



This link with Longshaw School reinforces the work the school has done in the local community at its Lammack Sports ground, where it recently opened a new facility which is used by the Blackburn Community Sports Trust. It includes a sensory room which was a great hit!

The day of sport culminated in the award of medals which had been produced in the design technology department as part of the cross-curricular aspect of the whole week.

Sports Awards Presentation Evening

We held our inaugural Sports Awards Presentation Evening at Mytton Fold Hotel on Thursday, 26 April 2012. With over 250 people in attendance, the purpose of the night was to recognise the sporting success of the School and to acknowledge individuals who had excelled at sport both inside and outside school.

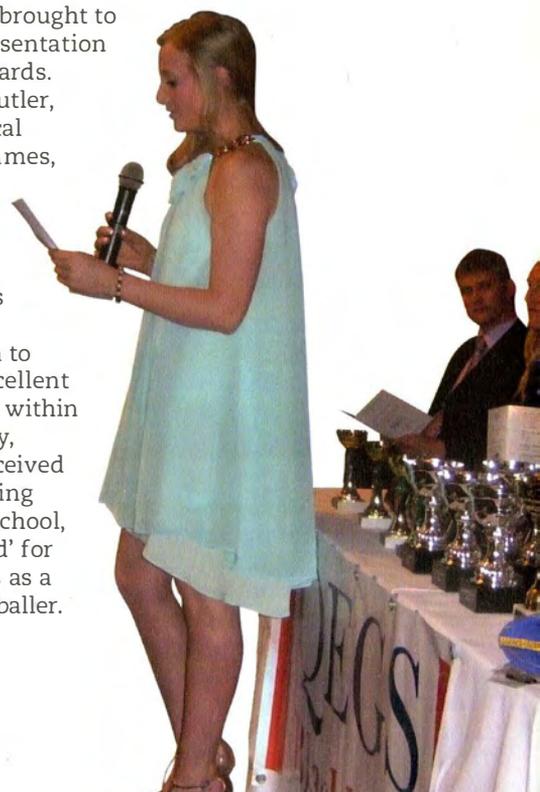


The School was extremely proud and honoured to have as its Chief Guest former Queen Elizabeth's pupil Frank Fielding, the current No1 goalkeeper at Derby County. Frank, a product of Blackburn Rovers Academy, made his England U21 debut in November 2008 against the Czech Republic and received his Senior England call up in August 2010 for a friendly against Hungary under Fabio Capello.



The evening commenced with a review of the year by the Senior Sports Captains, with trophies presented for the Players' Player and Manager's Player at each age level. Following a break for a hearty meal, the presentation continued with the 'Sporting Recognition Awards' for the following categories: Lancashire Schools Representation, National Honours, Special Recognition Awards and Professional Honours.

The evening was brought to a close by the presentation of two special awards. Firstly, Dr Mark Butler, Director of Physical Education and Games, received an award from the pupils to mark his 25th year in the Sports Department and for his dedication to delivering the excellent standard of sport within the School. Finally, Frank Fielding received the highest sporting accolade by the School, as he was 'capped' for his achievements as a professional footballer.



Rugby Awards

Under 12s & under 13s Rugby Awards

Players' Player – Lucas Chan
Manager's Player – Tyler Rickles

Under 14s & under 15s Rugby Awards

Players' Player – James Garlick
Manager's Player – Thomas Storey

Senior Rugby Awards

Players' Player – Matthew Ringland
Manager's Player – Daniel Watts

Netball Awards

Under 12s Netball Awards

Players' Player – Sophie Fletcher
Manager's Player – Corinne Duckworth

Under 13s Netball Awards

Players' Player – Mariam Goorani Nejad
Manager's Player – Annabel Harvey

Under 14s Netball Awards

Players' Player – Abbie Turner
Manager's Player – Annie Johnstone

Under 15s Netball Awards

Players' Player – Beth Core
Manager's Player – Cara Dootson

Senior Netball Awards

Players' Player – Alice Schofield
Manager's Player – Millie Parker

Football Awards

Under 12s Football Awards

Players' Player – Harry Newman
Manager's Player – James Dutton

Under 13s Football Awards

Players' Player – Nathaniel Cunningham
Manager's Player – Luke Thompson

Under 14s Football Awards

Players' Player – Jake Henderson
Manager's Player – Charlie Oxley

Under 15s Football Awards

Players' Player – Kurt Heaven
Manager's Player – Alex Graham

Senior 2nd X1 Football Awards

Players' Player – Ross Cousins
Manager's Player – Niall Fay

Senior 1st X1 Football Awards

Players' Player – Alex Gunn
Manager's Player – George Oxley

Swimming Awards

Under 12s Swimming Awards

Players' Player – Joshua Cruise
Manager's Player – Anna Sumner

Under 13s Swimming Awards

Players' Player – Goe Parkinson
Manager's Player – Henry Hacking

Under 14s & under 15s Swimming Awards

Players' Player – Katie Gaffing
Manager's Player – Chris Richardson-Dulling

Senior Swimming Awards

Players' Player – Nick Riding
Manager's Player – Matthew Bennett

Senior Cricket Captain Award

Adam Keenan

Sports Recognition Awards

Lancashire County Schools

Football – Alex Gunn, Daniel Birchall & Harry Campbell

Rugby – Nick Riding

Cricket – Tom Lawson

Netball – Georgina Mackenzie & Millie Parker

Athletics – Luke Penswick & Robert Buckley

Swimming – Katie Gaffing

Squash – Nick Cooper

Rowing – Euan Davies

Sailing – James Grummett

National ISFA Honours

ISFA U13s Squad – Tom Southern

ISFA U15s Squad – Lewis Cumpsty

Special Achievement Award

Achievement for Sport in the Community – Mohammed Patel

Professional Contracts

Lancashire County Cricket Club – Alex Davies
Bolton Wanderers Football Club – Harry Campbell

Sports Personality of the Year 2011 – 2012

Nominations:

Alex Gunn
George Oxley
Matthew Walsh
Millie Parker
Chris Parkinson
Adam Keenan

Overall Winner – George Oxley

Cricket

Under 12's Cricket Report – Captain's Review, 2012

This year was always going to be interesting and it is fair to say that the team has had a very successful season. We have had some very good individual performances, including Harry Bedford and Dan Rae's opening bowling partnership and Harry Newman's efforts in the field. However, the thing I have been most impressed by is the team spirit. We have shown great desire throughout the season and have always pushed for the win. We have played for each other in all the games and there has been no ill feeling if, for example, a catch has been dropped or a mistake made. We have given encouragement always.

The only disappointment was not progressing to the final of the Lancashire Cup having reached the semi-finals. We picked the worst day to give our worst display of the season. Hopefully, we can all learn from this experience and go further next year.

However, we finished the season strongly with a fine performance against Kirkham Grammar School which featured fine batting from Hal and bowling from Dan. The season has been a big success with everybody contributing with either bat, ball or in the field. My personal highlight was probably the match against KEQM Lytham when, despite strong winds, we put on a very strong performance to win the match.

I would also like to mention Fahim who has not always featured but when he has played, he has never disappointed.

I am very pleased with the boys and will be looking forward to next year's campaign. I would also like to thank Dr Butler and Mr Morgan for their support throughout the season.

Joseph Halstead

**From MEB:
Well done Joe and many thanks for submitting this year's U12's Cricket report.**

This has again been a very enjoyable season with the U12 team despite what will turn out to be, one of the wettest summers on record. The boys were wonderfully enthusiastic and endeavoured to put into practice the team plans and tactics that we had developed in training. Attendance at Monday practices, has been good throughout and our squad of approximately 15 players, have made excellent progress this year; culminating in the team reaching the £ final of the U12 Lancashire cup.

Our cricket has been of a high standard at times. When batting first, which was usually our game plan, we managed on most occasions to secure a competitive score in excess of 110 thereby giving our bowlers an opportunity to pressurise the opposition and make early inroads into their batting. Our season's record reads: played 12, won 10! One of the defeats was a final ball loss to Bury Grammar School in yet another fixture affected by the weather but rescheduled to be played indoors. The other was a missed opportunity to progress into the Lancashire Cup semi finals against a team we had beaten convincingly earlier in the season and who in a previous attempt to play the match, had been reduced to 45 for 6!

It would be remiss of me not to mention a number of key players who have performed consistently this year but all players should be congratulated whether mentioned or not. Our captain, Joe Halstead, has led from the front with both bat and ball. Field settings were appropriate to the type of bowlers used, and his understanding of simple tactics in certain situations demonstrated maturity.

His batting consistently allowed us to reach 3 figures in posting a score; his bowling performances as demonstrated in our final victory over Kirkham, were pacy and accurate. With the bat, he was supported by the efforts of Hal Collinge, Sam Chadwick, Harry Bedford, Harry Nerwman, Adam Jones, Taha Dabir, Alfie Oxley and Edward Priory.

Others were given the chance with the bat and occasionally managed to get into double figures.

With the ball in hand, we bowled consistently well with the seam attack of Harry Newman, Joseph Halstead, Harry Bedford, Daniel Rae and Sam Chadwick taking the plaudits. Useful support was received at times from spinner James Dutton. Alfie Oxley & latterly Hal Collinge, did splendid jobs behind the stumps.

Our fielding was, in the main, very good. Catching was secure and throwing reasonably accurate for boys of this age, and this stage of their cricketing skill development. The 'best fielder' award would undoubtedly go to Harry Newman whose accuracy throwing at stumps is outstanding.

In summary, some very pleasing progress has been made this season and this team has the makings of one which, if everything goes to plan and individual / team progress continues, could challenge for local and county silverware in the future.

Good luck with your cricket fellas and thank you for this season. As ever parents, your support of QEGS school sport is always greatly appreciated!

Dr M E Butler

U12 Cricket Manager, coach, minibus driver, umpire, disciplinarian, counsellor, selector, tea maker.....!

Under 13s cricket report

This year's team was almost the same as last year's, but whereas the season last year started with success, the start of this season was the polar opposite.

We played quite well during the middle of the season winning four out of five of the games, which led to a good cup run.

We had got through to the quarter final of the cup, which was against Arnold away. We played an unexpected 30 over game, a form of the game where we were inexperienced. The game started well and I completed my first job by winning the toss. We got off to a very poor start, with a run out in the second over of the game. I then went in and my partner got out but 'iron gloves' Tom Sumner and I held a 40 run partnership during the middle overs but then I got myself out off a rank long hop and then the wheels came off and we were bowled out for a hundred. The Arnold chase started poorly because of some quick wickets from me and Hashim, our new mystery spinner and new 'finisher'. Arnold were 32 for 3 but they recovered and chased down the total with relative ease and won by five wickets in the end and so we were out of the Cup.

Near the end of the season we got a new addition to the side: a boy from Kirkham, Jonny Smith, who impressed us all at first glance in a victory against the U14s.

In this particular game we battered and outwitted the U14s who were clear favourites but I had a fair amount of confidence and self belief in the team.

We lost the toss and the U14s chose to bat, we got off to a good start taking a wicket early on but then their captain and talisman 'Si' got in and good bowling from Hashim and 'iron gloves' did the rest to get him stumped. These two games were the highlights of my season and I think the rest of the season was not as good. We had a win percentage of 40%, not as good as last year's 50%. I think we were a 'nearly but not quite' team and I'm sure we will improve next year. I know we can!

Well done to all the team for your efforts this season, to Mr Lockwood for being our midweek manager and to Mr Morgan and various others for the Saturday matches!

Tom Lawson

U13 Cricket Captain

Under 13's B team cricket report

On a Friday in late April QEGS under 13 B team travelled to Arnold school accompanied by Dr Butler who was always calling me 'Strauss' as I reminded him of Andrew Strauss who is the captain of England! We arrived there having lost the toss and we had to bat first. The team consisted of 1. Umar Isap 2. Rizwan Suleman 3. Sameer Riaz 4. Uhzair Ahmed 5. Muhammed Natha 6. Idreiss Ahmed 7. Raees Patel 8. Barnaby Whiteside 9. William Fielding 10. Hayyaan Aqeel-Abbar 11. Joe Bridge. We batted a great score of around 115 runs for 3 wickets from 20 overs and there was great batting from myself, Sameer Riaz and Rizwan Suleman. We then went out to field and conceded too many wide balls but still won as they only scored around 65 runs for 7 wickets from 20 overs. There was great bowling from Sameer Riaz, Raees Patel, Umar Isap and William Fielding and amazing fielding by Hayyaan Aqeel-Abbar. We won the match by a great margin but I want to thank Hayyaan and Joe as they volunteered to play at the last minute.

Our second match was in May where we played Beardwood School at Lammack accompanied by Dr Butler. The team consisted of 1. Kalvir Sohal 2. Benji Carrera-Knowles 3. Sameer Riaz 4. Uhzair Ahmed 5. Barnaby Whiteside 6. Idreiss Ahmed 7. Raees Patel 8. William Fielding 9. Kurtis Pasquill 10. Jake Aspden. This time we had to bowl first on an extremely wet pitch and

conceded over thirty balls which were wide costing 60 runs. They started to bat very well and after about 6 or 7 overs we got our first wicket and after that we really got fired up and started to get lots of wickets. They got a score of 130 for 5 off 20 overs. Good bowling came from Raees Patel, Barnaby Whiteside and Sameer Riaz. Then we went out to bat and made a score of just over 80 runs all out which wasn't a bad score. We had great individual performances in batting from Kalvir, Benji and Barnaby. If we hadn't conceded so many wide balls we may have won but our opponents did play very well. I also want to thank Jake and Kurtis for volunteering to play at the last minute on a very wet day.

Finally, I would like to thank the team for playing even in the very cold rain. I also want to thank Dr Butler on behalf of the team as he organised these matches and also took us there and was always encouraging us.

Uhzair Ahmed

Well done 'Captain Strauss' for this terrific report and congratulations on captaining your team so very well. I look forward to more games with you next season!

U13B Team Manager

Under 14's Cricket

A rain-affected season certainly had more highs than lows to look back on with an excellent core of cricketers that possess a great deal of potential backed up by some very keen squad members.

The season started quickly with our assault on the Lancashire Cup where the team were Quarter Finalists this year and two quick-fire wins against weaker opponents left us with last year's losing finalists, Blessed Trinity from Burnley. A defendable target was set over the 20 overs but unfortunately an early missed chance to dislodge their star player resulted in him hitting a fine 79 runs to take the game away from a disappointed team. This was a bitter pill to swallow for the team but they bounced back with some fine wins against useful opponents on our Saturday morning fixtures. During wins against Rossall away and Hutton at home there were some fine bowling performances from Captain Chris Pearson and the other opening bowler Rowan Gornall who at times bowled beautifully. Other bowlers who contributed with

wickets and good spells of pressure were spinners Hassan Iqbal and Joe Davies and the slow but accurate bowling of Mohammed Atif and Sohail Zaman.

At times the team had to really show some fighting spirit to take matches to extremely close finishes or take the team over the line. The epitome of this fighting spirit were Killian Armour-Hamill with his batting down the order and the never say die attitude of Jamie Storm in the field who was a pleasure to work with.

The team was led and captained by Christopher Pearson who had the respect of the team with his cricketing ability. This cricketing ability was backed up with some outstanding captaincy and leadership qualities getting the balance right with directing his team but being able to deal with disappointments and the occasional defeats. This is the way to captain a team! I hope Chris can maintain this level in his senior years as I am sure he will.

I would like to thank all squad members for making it an enjoyable

season and I hope you will stick together next season and improve as there is a great deal of potential there.

A small number of final mentions for names that have not appeared in this short overview of the season.

Charlie Oxley - Valuable runs and wickets.

Chris Dulling-Richardson - Solid behind the wickets and great attitude.

Michael Mathias - Valuable runs and quick scoring. One vital wicket versus Rossall.

Harris Hussain - Real potential with your spin bowling.

Junaid Bhatti, Yasir Iqbal and Hamza Hussain - Thank you for stepping into the team when asked at short notice and your commitment with training. Keep it up next season.

Mr M Hindle

U14 Cricket coach

Under 15's Cricket Report

I think many people will realise that this year has not been our strongest in terms of performance, but no one can say that we gave up at any point in this season, even in the games where it looked doubtful we would win, we always fought till the last ball. It looked good in our first game of the season against Hulme, but we lost very narrowly right at the end.

We had an addition to the squad this year with former Bolton rival Kurt Heaven, who proved to be a vital addition to the squad, taking wickets and catches, five wickets against Kirkham Grammar School was one example of his contribution and the odd run now and again. We did not have a very good cup run this year which was very unlike us but we came up against a strong Arnold team who proved to just be that much stronger batting than we were.

One of my personal highlights of this year was a fantastic 4 wicket haul from Tajammeel Ismail against Lancaster Royal Grammar School. Over the past 4 years, we as a team have grown so much and we have had some brilliant victories where it didn't seem possible, but some losses where it seemed we had it in the bag, but the skill and determination the team has shown over the past few years, I believe, have reflected in our performances. I have been very happy and privileged to captain such a team, but without help from the coaches we have had over the years the team would not have played as strongly as we have done. I hope that all the team will continue to play cricket for the schools 1st team and other teams after leaving QEGS.

Reece Davies

QEGS pupil In World Cup Squad

The good performances with the bat by Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Sixth Former Alex Davies, when playing for England U19 Cricket team in their recent games, has certainly made a good impression with the selectors. Playing against Yorkshire in a recent game he opened the batting scoring 38 not out and top scored again in the second game with 54 and a very slick stumping. He opened in the following games against Durham and has continued to impress behind the stumps.

All this has resulted in Alex, being selected for the England U19 side that will compete in the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup in Australia. This takes place later this summer and will be staged in Townsville, Queensland, with England

facing Ireland in their second group match of the tournament. England start their campaign with a match against hosts Australia on August 11 at the Tony Ireland Stadium, Townsville. The team are set to face their Irish counterparts in a two-game one-day international series at Grace Road, Leicester, on July 18 and 20 before heading off 'Down Under'.

A delighted Alex said, "I've been playing well recently and have been selected as an opening bat, although I can keep wicket if needed. It certainly is a great opportunity and I am really looking forward to it." Director of Sport at QEGS Dr Mark Butler said, "We are immensely proud of Alex and I know that he will certainly be a great ambassador for his country and his school."



Full details of the World Cup schedule can be found on the ECB website.

Football

1st XI Football report 2011-2012

The 1st XI season started in a positive manner with two wins and a draw on the pre season tour to Holland. Two of the most memorable moments were in fact off the pitch, one being Niall, Ross and James being upside down on a rollercoaster, when the ride suddenly stopped leaving them stranded, and another being a log flume ride where the camera captured a bit too much of Will Paton.

It was a season of mixed results for the 1st XI but amongst the high points were two excellent victories, the first a hard fought 2-1 away win at Hulme GS, and the second, an excellent 3-2 home victory against rivals Manchester GS. The ISFA 6s were also a highlight with the team putting together some great victories to reach the last 8. Even though we did not put together the ISFA cup run we would have liked, the defeat to Brentwood was perhaps our performance of the season. A last minute goal in extra time denied us going through to the next round but it was a sensational underdog performance by the team against a very talented Brentwood side. The team battled throughout whilst playing good football of our own at times, and at one stage it appeared as if we would win the game when Harry Campbell put us ahead, but unfortunately it was not to be on the day. The team and I would like to thank Mr. Buckingham for his time spent training the team along with his dismissal of Will from numerous drills, Mr. Hopkinson for his help on match days and to Mr. Hindle for all the time and effort gone into managing the 1st XI this year.

2nd XI Football Report 2011-12

Won 4, Drew 4, Lost 14
37 goals scored, 75 goals conceded

The 2nd XI had a rocky road to travel this year. We had fewer wins than Wolverhampton Wanderers – that shows how rocky it was. The goals scored statistic (less than two per game) was not good enough, given the rate at which we conceded goals at the other end. Also we were plagued with

frozen pitches in January and February which was disruptive to the team's cohesion. But were we ever downhearted? Never! Each match was met with renewed enthusiasm, optimism, determination and self-belief.

The season got off to the best start we could have wished for with a 3-0 victory over St. Wilfrid's. Another five matches went by until our next win, 7-1 against a touring team from Glasgow. In this match Max Collinge (goalkeeper) surprised us all by scoring from a free kick taken in his own half. Over the season James Mitchell was top scorer (7 goals) and was a great asset to the team with his enthusiasm and speed, but quite frequently was taken by the 1st XI. Ben Proos was the player with most appearances (19), closely followed by Jonny Khan, Niall Fay, Jack Pickup, Rob Ashton, Nabeel Ismaeel (all 18 appearances).

Captain Jonny Khan (1 goal) always competed fiercely and led the team with good example and skill. There was some dogged midfield play and tackling from Ben Dunford (4 goals), Edgar Davies (6 goals), and latterly Conor Harrison (4 goals). There were also some redoubtable defensive contributions from Ross Cousins (no goals, but missed a "sitter" away at Bury). There were quite a lot of cameo appearances by first teamers or old friends which meant that altogether 33 players had represented the team during the season.

The lowest point had to be heavy defeats away at Shrewsbury (1-8) and at home to Bolton (0-6). The Bolton defeat came in the same week that Mick McCarthy was sacked from Wolves after they lost at home 1-5 to West Brom. Somehow Mr Wooldridge managed to hold on to his post as 2nd XI manager, QEGS had belief in his recuperative powers. It almost paid off with a close draw 1-1 away at Merchant Taylors' of Liverpool in the last game of the season. Only too late did we discover the power of "Lord of The Rings" trivia questions at half time to revive drooping spirits and tired legs. This may be a tactic we could use next season, although increased fitness and skill will also feature in our list of "desirables".

Mr PH Wooldridge

Mr Buckingham - Manager of the England Schoolboys Under 18s Team



When Mr Buckingham was injured playing football 22 years ago a major part of his sporting life was ended. Unable to play the game he loved, he decided to try and give something back to the sport by becoming a coach. Having taken all his coaching awards he has now reached what is regarded as the pinnacle for any school football coach, by being appointed, as Manager of the England Schoolboys U18 Team.

For the last two years he has been working as the Assistant Manager and has been fortunate to travel to Spain to play La Liga youth teams, to Poland and the far flung corners of the UK, including the Sport Direct Arena Newcastle. Last season the team secured the Home International Trophy, the Centenary Shield, in a thrilling last match held at Brighton's wonderful new AMEX stadium, where they held on for a 2-1 victory over the Republic of Ireland.

Mr Buckingham sums up his feelings, **"I never expected to be able to take on this job. So it is with great anticipation that I look forward to the role which I regard as a great honour, representing England. Fortunately I will have an excellent team of staff to assist me over the coming two year appointment. I would also like to pay tribute to QEGS, who have supported me so effectively as I have moved up the England ladder."**

The coming season kicks off in August, with 72 boys being nominated as being the best players in their County. Daniel Birchall is deemed to be in this category, and as a non-contract player for PNE FC he represented Lancashire SFA with distinction last year. If he can progress through the subsequent trials to be part of the final U18 squad when it is announced in November he could be playing for his country and his teacher.

The team will be meeting Scotland and the Republic of Ireland, away, with both games being screened live on SKY sports. And they are also off to Majorca for winter training where they will be taking on Real Mallorca FC U17s. **"I am really looking forward to the challenge,"** said Mr Buckingham, **"and if I can achieve my aims of selecting and moulding together a group of players that are great role models on and off the field I shall be extremely happy."**

Lancashire Under 18s Football Honours - 9 Jan 2012



Danny Birchall and Alex Gunn both represented Lancashire Under-18s football team against Worcestershire at Squires Gate FC in the 3rd round of the National Competition on Monday 9th January. The team ran out 8-1 winners with Danny Birchall scoring one of the goals.

Under 15's Boys Football Report

The boys under 15 Squad enjoyed a 'rollercoaster' of a season. Their cup matches were most of the stronger performances were put in, but it is with the core of dependable players that was the real success of the season. The team was lead excellently by the captain, Alex Graham. In the ISFA Under 15 Cup the team successfully moved passed Cheadle Hulme School and Ackworth College but were narrowly beaten on penalties by one of the eventual finalists, Bolton Grammar School. QEGS were leading by a goal in extra time until Bolton scored in the last minute with a deflected goal. Their Lancashire Cup run was cut short by a narrow defeat by Montgomery School in Blackpool. The game had to be switched to their ground and the heavy pitch conditions favoured the home side.

The highlights of the season came in the BDSSA Cup where the team beat a strong St Wilfrid's side in the semi-final 3-2. This was a hard fought game and QEGS showed character and determination to reach the final, which was played at Blackburn Rovers's Academy training ground on a fine spring evening.

The team played their best football of the season against a determined Darwen Vale side. After an evenly contested opening 15 minutes, Zak Dardouri struck a firm shot into the roof of the opposition net. Darwen continued to put up a strong fight for the game but James Quigley broke away, just before half time to slide the ball past the goal keeper for the second goal, the first of his hat-trick. The second half was more one sided and Queen Elizabeth's won the contest 6-0.

All players in the squad contributed to the well-deserved victory but mention should be made of Tom Dodd who made a spectacular and important save at 1-0, Kurt Heaven who organised the unbeaten defence, Mohammed Azam our instrumental 'play maker' and both Zak Dardouri and James Quigley for tormenting the opposition defence.



The captain, Alex Graham who has led the team with commitment and enthusiasm throughout the whole season, collected the trophy. It was a fitting end to their four years together and the progression into a very capable side. We look forward to seeing their continuing progress in the senior squads. **This was an excellent end to the season and thanks are due to Mr Hindle for his support and coaching of the squad.**

Mr Hart

Under 14s Football 2011-2012

Although this was a most enjoyable season for me as regards the effort and enthusiasm which the team displayed, it was a little disappointing from a results point of view. We played 17 games, won six of them and drew three, losing eight. In the process we scored 43 goals and conceded 57. Our leading goal scorer was our captain Chris Pearson with 10 goals and Jake Henderson, whom we welcomed to the squad from his rugby sojourn chipped in with five. The other players contributed two or three each. Jake had a successful season back in the football squad – impressing so much that he was voted Players' Player of the Year

Perhaps the most commonly spoken sentence of the season was "Who is going to go in goal this week?" Johnny Womar went in the nets seven times at the beginning of the season and Patrick Bedford had a good run of six games towards the end. Patrick in fact was on the losing side only once and always performed well. If I had been carrying on with the Under 15s he would definitely have been my number one choice (in both senses!).

Our biggest win of the season was against the Grange whom we beat 8-2, a game that would undoubtedly have been shown first on Match of the Day. Captain Chris, Ryan Walsh (our most consistent defender of the season and one of only two players to feature in all 17 games), Michael Matthias, Rowan Gornall, Declan Bateson and erstwhile keeper Johnny Womar all contributed to the goal tally.

The squad remained mainly the same throughout the season, with versatile Joe Davies playing fifteen games and scoring three times and Henry Bleasdale playing fourteen times.

Our regular substitutes were Ben Ellison. Dylan Smethurst and Suhail Bahadur all of whom made valuable and valued contributions to the team. Suhail in fact forced his way into a regular starting spot in the latter stages of the season.



The Manager's Player of the Season was Charlie Oxley who was our other ever present. Charlie had a silkiness of touch and an awareness of what was going on around him that made him a pleasure to watch. He began the season as our midfield schemer but I think that he found his most valuable position when we partnered him with Ryan in the centre of the defence. A most worthy winner.

To end on a positive note: congratulations to the players on being crowned Blackburn and Darwen six a side champions. This was a most enjoyable and hard fought competition. Well done, boys.

I wish the team every success as they move into the Under 15s with Mr Hart.

J. Grogan

Under 12s Review of the Season

It was very much a season of two halves. There was clearly talent in the squad but a lack of confidence, a little bad luck and the odd injury meant the team struggled against strong opposition before Christmas. Success came in the small-sided competitions as the team progressed through as local group winners in the Lancashire Cup 7-a-side competition. The team eventually lost out to Haslingden HS in the quarter-finals of the Lancashire Cup, no mean feat considering the amount of schools competing. Meanwhile, Harry Newman, Harry Bedford and James Dutton were all selected for the Blackburn Town Team, so there was clearly a promise to build upon.

After February half term, the team suddenly blossomed. A hard fought 3-3 draw against a strong Hulme GS gave us the confidence we needed, Hal Collinge grabbing a late equaliser, and there followed a maiden victory, over Bury GS, a comeback draw from 2-0 down at KEQMS, and an impressive 4-2 away win over Manchester Grammar School. This was in part down to a new found confidence and a settled



formation with Joe Halstead providing Andy Carroll-esque strength and guile up front. The revival was led by regulars Harry Bedford, Daniel Rae, Alex Townrow and Alfie Oxley, but it was also inspired by newcomers to the A Team with Ted Bendell, Fahim Ali and Azeem Sadiq all playing their part. In addition, Captain Harry Newman, goalkeeper Alex Atkinson and Sean Williams, Alistair Simmons and Joe Smethurst helped to ensure defensive solidity. Credit must go to the whole squad for their unerring enthusiasm and fantastic attitude

throughout the year. The revival was completed by two pulsating victories to end the season, a 6-4 thriller at Arnold, and finally a home win with a 4-3 victory over Merchant Taylors' thanks to James Dutton's coolness from the penalty spot.

In the end it was great to end the season on such a high note and it has been a pleasure to see the team make such clear progress. I hope they can continue their unbeaten run well into next year!

Mr S P Heald

Golf

A successful year's golf for QEGS

Golf is played all through the year here, and the boys who represented the school did so with their usual good manners and competitive skills. A defeat to Birkenhead School early in the year, in the HMC competition, was quickly erased by beating Bradford Grammar School's B team in the ISGA team event.

Alex Gunn, Will Paton and Matthew Walsh were the backbone of the school's A team this year. They forged ahead with wins over Rossall and Crompton House in the Lancashire Knockout. By March they had reached the finals of the competition, only to be denied their chance by the staging of the event on the same day as A level examinations. This gave David Parmenter, Matthew Jackson and Declan Bateson, their opportunity to shine. Although they lost in the semi final stage of the finals day, they did so very narrowly. These boys are destined to become the best golfers in the school as they improve their skills.

Individually David Parmenter finished second in the East Lancashire Championships net prize whilst Alex also finished second in the prestigious gross event carding a great 78.



In the British Heart Foundation Competition (making a welcome return after a 5 year absence), second year's, Tom Sumner, James Henaghan and Nathan Mann scored heavily in the stableford event to win the regional section against 10 other schools. Having secured their place in the national finals, to be held at Close House Newcastle, they were denied by freak weather that waterlogged the course. Hopefully, the organisers will make good another date in the autumn of 2012.

The annual trip to Scotland was a massive success. The boys and their dads were blessed with great weather, golf, hotel and food. Peebles Hydro is a throw back to another time period and everyone went home happy.



House golf was played only by 1st -3rd years this time around in the Summer Term. Chris Bate, Jamie Storm and Chris Richardson-Dulling finished top for Drake.

Finally Dr Stephen Gunn was again the driving force behind the Corporate Golf day held in September. Held at the wonderful Pleasington course, his team did not win this time. Mrs Caroline James's team containing Will Paton as their student player took the top prize.

A terrific years golf and for me a lot to be optimistic about. There are lots of younger players coming through, as exemplified when a dozen 3rd years took advantage of some free golf lessons given by Pleasington professional Ged Furey. They all hit the ball beautifully and with practice the school team will continue to thrive.

Mr A Buckingham



Blackburn with Darwen Schools Badminton Competition

The U14 and U16 badminton teams recently took part in the Blackburn with Darwen Schools Tournament.

The School was represented at U14 level by Charlie Oxley, Tom Southern, Rees Parry and Jamie Storm. All of the team had wins in the group section with Rees topping his group, only to be beaten in the semi-final.

The U16 team of Qasim Ali, Sam Cannan, Saif Satvilker and Nick Cooper produced a similar performance to their younger counterparts, with all players achieving wins in their group matches. Sam Cannan topped his group, but found the semi-final one step too far as he lost out to the eventual tournament winner.

Netball

Girls' Netball Tour to Newcastle 2012



Thirty members of Queen Elizabeth's Netball squads went on a Netball Tour to Newcastle. Over the course of the trip they were involved in numerous fixtures against schools from Newcastle and Cumbria, recording some fantastic victories against Royal Grammar School, Newcastle and Austin Friars, Carlisle. The girls were also treated to a tenpin bowling party, shopping and an evening meal out in Newcastle, while also managing to fit in time for relaxing in the Hotel pool and leisure facilities!

The girls, from the First Year to the Fifth Year, all enjoyed spending time together away from school and said they had a fantastic time!



Quotations from the girls!

"Everyone enjoyed the karaoke provided by the 5th years!" 5th year pupil

"It was nice to dress up for the meal at night with all the girls." 4th year pupil

"It was great to spend time with the other girls...it has brought us all together. I loved it!" 1st year pupil

"The Netball Tour was a great experience and I loved the Hotel breakfast! [The Tour] was amazing!" 1st year pupil

"It was awesome...I enjoyed it loads... hope we can do it again." 1st year pupil

"The Netball Tour was amazing...I had a great time in the swimming pool...then bowling plus free time on the dodgems and in the arcade...then a great meal out when we could all dress up! On Sunday we had three hours of shopping which was really good. It was a great trip, thanks a lot Miss." 2nd year pupil

"We enjoyed every moment of it! We had lots of fun activities and the teachers were great!... Spending time with all our friends and the teachers was amazing - they're like a second family!!" 3rd year pupil

"Already looking forward to the next trip!" 3rd year pupil

House Netball Final - Frobisher v Howard

It promised to be a tough final between two strong teams. They had already met in the first round and Howard had ended victorious. However, in the final, despite Howard fighting hard it was Frobisher who ended as House Netball champions winning 12:3 and displaying some outstanding netball. A fantastic effort from all girls involved in the House Netball competition 2012 - well done!



Rugby

QEGS Rugby Report 2011/2012

In reviewing the 2011/2012 QEGS rugby season one can conclude that rugby at the school is still in good health and full of promise for the future. 78 boys represented the school at rugby this season, and despite the weather having its say mid-season, we fulfilled nearly 70 fixtures.

The overall playing record in terms of wins and losses was still in the red, however the enthusiasm, commitment and application of the players never diminished, and as a teacher/coach, one could not ask any more of his players.

Our three major squads were at Senior, Under 15 and Under 13 level. In the junior age groups this meant that the squads included players from the year below. What an asset they were! Each player who stepped up did so with great resilience and determination, and whilst I'm sure there was a little trepidation about playing against bigger lads, it never showed once they got on to the field.

The junior sides also played in the inaugural Ribble Valley League, hosted by Blackburn RFC on Monday evenings. We made a slow start in all three competitions, but by the end of the season, we proved to be a formidable opponent, earning the respect of all teams for the progress we had made. Again, I can only applaud the enthusiasm and commitment of the players, many of whom would have been tired on a Monday evening, having played for the school the previous Saturday and their club on the Sunday.

Our fixture list continues to develop, and traditional rugby schools such as Stonyhurst, Lancaster RGS, Kirkham and Birkenhead still find room for us in their busy fixture lists. We are still not quite strong enough to challenge their first

teams, but every school has renewed their fixtures for next year, and we will be introducing some Anglo-Welsh rivalry as we welcome Rydal from Colwyn Bay to Lammack. (I can promise however that there will be no divided loyalties on that day!)

As always, there are a number of people who need thanking:

1. Parents and family members who supported the players throughout the season. Their support from the touchline, through ensuring the players were ferried to and from venues, and cleaning and drying often very muddy kit is very much appreciated.

2. The teachers and coaches who looked after the teams this year. Mr Northin and Mr Radice, especially played a very significant role in helping the players not only develop their skills, but how to play with a smile. I would also like to thank Mr Priory and Mr Chadwick who also helped with the Under 13s.

3. All the players for their efforts in training and matches, and for the good manners and respect they demonstrated off the field all season. I was always heartened by comments from the catering staff at different schools who were impressed by our players' post match behaviour. The teams were led by four terrific captains, Matthew Ringland, Ben Souter, Christopher Richardson-Dulling and Tom Lawson who always set high standards for the others to follow.

Well Done!

J.Morgan

Under 13s Rugby Report

This year our rugby comprised first and second year pupils and I have to say that the new team members have strengthened our side. The first game of the season at home against Rishworth, we lost 32-17, but once again, if it was down to our second half performance, it would have been a victory.

The second game of the season was Bury Grammar away, where we lost 20-17; I've heard that it was a valiant effort without their leader! The next game was against Lancaster Grammar C team away, where we recorded a very good win, 34-12. This was the game where I realised we would be a very tough team to beat.

We improved on the previous performance, by beating St Bedes Manchester 40-22, where I believe Benji Carrera-Knowles scored a hat trick. The last game in our winning streak was against St Wilfrid's at home, where we dominated and recorded a win of 35-5.

We then took a step back against a very good side, which was Liverpool College, where we lost 36-5.

Through hard training and terrific coaching we were improving at a fast rate. We played against Rossall at home and gave them a very good game. We were getting beaten comfortably by these sides last year but we turned this into a very close game. Losing 24-19 and if we had stuck to Mr Morgan's philosophy of passing and then supporting, I feel that we would have had the edge.

Next, we played against Kirkham which I knew would be a strong side, with players from my club and other sides we have played. We were heavily defeated 45-21.

The weather was the winner in the next game against St Mary's Crosby, which led to it being cancelled. The weather seemed to be on a run and the next match against Bury was called off along with KEQM's.

Due to our win against Lancaster Grammar C, the next match against

Lancaster meant we played the B team at home. We lost 34-10, a step too far it seemed. The weather beat us yet again and we did not have a chance to play West Hill. Against Blackburn RFC under 12's, we won 38-5, a number of our players playing in their club side. The next match against St Bede's Manchester was another victory 39-5.

Unfortunately against Birkenhead School we took a step backwards and got hammered to say the least, losing 50-7. For our final away game we travelled to Hutton and played their B team losing by 22-21. And for those who can't count, we lost by a point.

Our final match of the season was a well earned win again St Wilfrid's at home, winning 49-21.

Our success would not have been possible without the fantastic coaching of Mr Morgan and Dino along with the enthusiasm of every member of the team. Thanks to our supporters and followers of the team who braved the elements every week to watch us.

Under 15s Rugby Report

This rugby season has been by far the best so far in our school rugby career. We have made huge improvements in the standard of rugby that we are able to produce as a team, which is down to the expert coaching of Mr Morgan and Mr Radice. They have done an amazing job of raising the quality of rugby that we now produce, and this has allowed us to play more challenging teams. This vast improvement is shown in our results as we played eighteen difficult games of which we won nine and lost nine and this, I think, is our best score in four years. The Under 15s team was not always

full of Fourth Year players so a few had to be drafted in from Third Year; these players played brilliantly alongside and against people a year older, which can make a big difference in size so takes a lot of courage. Everyone played fantastically this year so it is very hard to single out anyone who played better than anyone else; but the award winners James Garlick and Tom Storey (at the Sportsman's Dinner) were obviously believed to be the best by the team.

Ben Souter

1st XV Captain's Report

My experience of the last seven years of rugby at QEGS have been up and down to say the least, we've had our low points but we've had our fair share of high points.

QEGS hasn't in the past really been considered a rugby school and we haven't always been considered the best team, but we never let it put us down with a lot of determination that extends right down the school through all the teams. As a school in general we have moved on in leaps and bounds in our Rugby during the last 7 years, not just Eddy Holmes' running style, but we are always very happy to try to be the best, and it definitely showed with some nice wins during the season.

Under 13s were a very enthusiastic team - always had a good number in training made up of a mixture of under 12s and under 13s. Highlights - beating St Wilfrid's and St Bede's twice, and also Clitheroe in the Ribble Valley League. The under 12s made a very positive contribution to the team, and the Under 13s really welcomed them in which fostered a great team spirit. Captain: Tom Lawson.

The Under 14s competed in the Ribble Valley league where they improved significantly, gaining victories over Clitheroe and Darwen Vale. But a number of the boys played a big part in the success of the Under 15s.

The Under 15s having a playing record of winning 50% of their matches this season including a double win over St Bede's. They are a very enthusiastic squad which includes 8 under 14s. Captain: Ben Souter.

I sincerely hope this is a sign of things to come as these lads work their way up the school to the 1st XV.

The 1st XV had a winning streak winning against St Bede's, Stonyhurst and Rossall in 3 consecutive matches and coming very close to beating a strong Birkenhead team. My personal favourite win was against Bacup & Rawtenstall GS, when some of my club team members played against me, that was a very sweet victory. The squad is 24 all of whom have played a part in all matches, and the Fifth Years had to mature very quickly - which they did. Special mention: Nick Riding being selected for Lancashire Under 16s.

For me joining the first XV squad was an experience in itself. I don't think I have ever laughed as much on the way to a game, in the changing rooms, on the pitch or on the way home as I did in that first season. The laughter definitely carried on into last season as well, along with the permanent memory of Callum Burke in the showers. One thing I'm personally glad didn't carry on into this season is the curse of the rugby captain; thankfully I have managed to get through the season in one piece and relatively injury free. I did try and carry on the laughter as the rugby captain of QEGS that I inherited from George Godfrey.

It's been a funny year and hopefully the lads have thought the same, I hope that they will continue to enjoy being part of the 1st XV next year.

I think I can speak for everyone in the team who is leaving this year, when I say we are all going to miss the

legendary Welsh dragon, Mr Morgan! I am personally going to miss the banter with him during the 6 Nations.

The Green and Red clash is always interesting for me and Mr Morgan. Wales beat Ireland by 2 points, 2 points - can you believe that? And I had to come into school the very next day!!

If I get into Swansea University, then it looks like I am going to have to get used to it, and put up with the Green and Red banter for some time to come. I wonder if I will meet any more memorable Welsh dragons along the way? I very much hope that the rugby team I join in the future provides me with as many friends.

The team wouldn't have been the same without Mr Morgan leading the way, but I am also going to miss all the lads as well. I wouldn't have liked to have spent the last seven sporting years at school with anyone else. Mr Northin has supported the team brilliantly when Mr Morgan has been unavailable, adding his own banter to the team and bringing along his dry sense of humour. We could not have got through some of the wet, dark and dreary fixtures without him.

Finally, a few words of thanks...

Can I say a huge thank you to all the Rugby lads throughout the school for their efforts over the last year I have enjoyed being part of the team. Thanks to the 1st XV for sharing your laughter with me. Thanks must go to Mr Northin and Mr Radice (Dino) for their support. Thanks to parents and families for their support. Can I also say a massive thanks to Mr Morgan for guiding us all and more importantly sharing your passion for Rugby with us - making us passionate rugby players too.

Matthew Ringland

I sincerely hope this is a sign of things to come as these lads work their way up the school to the 1st XV

Swimming

Swimming Report 2011/2012

Once again, this is my opportunity to say a very big thank you to all the swimmers who have participated throughout the year and who continue to show commitment to the development and progression of competitive swimming in our school. We are experiencing challenging times in terms of fixtures against larger schools that have greater pupil resources than ourselves, at this moment in time. That said, our intentions to keep this sport at the forefront of our winter fixture calendar have never been greater ... and when we have experienced some successes, the taste of victory is evermore sweeter. I applaud those individuals who continue to fight for the cause in both victory and defeat: long may this attitude prevail.

Our junior teams are well stocked with enthusiastic participants and in a number of significant cases, no shortage of talent. This bodes well for the years ahead. That said, simply turning up for matches, whilst always appreciated, will not bring about consistent individual or team success. This is a recurring theme and I said similar last year. A swimmer with some ability will have his/her moments, but it is the hard work put in during training, that will reap the individual rewards in tight competitive situations. Again, and with the exception of a select few individuals, our lunchtime attendance has been lacking. Swimming versus chips on the menu: a difficult choice perhaps!

The following is a brief resume of the successes of our swimming team throughout the season:

- Played 9, won 2, lost 7, 2 cancelled
- Senior Swimming Captain: Matthew Bennett
- QEGS hosted the North West 'John Parry Relays' with over 22 of the best swimming schools from across the region attending
- QEGS finished 4th in the Blackburn Hexangular Gala, 5th in the Bolton Fastwater Gala, 4th in the Bolton Pentangular Gala and 10th out of 12 schools in the Manchester GS 'Sutton Trophy' Relays

QEGS Senior teams attended the Bath Cup & Otter Medley Relays at the Crystal Palace National Sports Complex in London in March. 66 teams from across the British Isles competed:

- Finished 57th / 66 in the 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay; 52nd / 66 in the 4 x 50m Medley Relay
- **Junior Boys Blackburn with Darwen Gala 2011 - 2012 Champions for the 23rd successive year!**
- **Freestyle Relay Champions:** Goe Parkinson, Henry Hacking, Christopher Richardson-Dulling, Theo Roberts
- **Year 8 Breastroke Champion:** Theo Roberts
- **Year 8 Back Crawl Champion:** Curtis Pasquill
- **Year 8 Front Crawl Champion:** Benji Carrera-Knowles
- **Year 9 Butterfly Champion:** Christopher Richardson-Dulling

QEGS boys 1st in the Blackburn with Darwen Senior Boys / 6th Form event v St Marys College, Blackburn College & St Wilfrid's. Championship successes included:

- **Individual Boys Butterfly Champion:** Matthew Bennett
- **Individual Boys Back Crawl Champion:** Oliver Roberts
- **Individual Medley Champion:** Matthew Bennett
- **Girls finished 3rd overall in the Blackburn with Darwen Junior Girls Gala at QEGS in March**
- **Year 7 Front Crawl Champion:** Anna Sumner
- **Girls finished 5th overall in the Blackburn with Darwen Intermediate Girls Gala**
- **Year 10 Champion:** Katie Gaffing

A very big thank you to all swimmers and in particular to Miss Eggleston who has been responsible for girls' team selection. A very big heartfelt thank you and all our best wishes extend to Mr David Westworth who after several years of involvement with swimming, has put away his fountain pen for the last time at a major QEGS sporting event! Whilst not in the performer mould of a Michael Phelps, his work behind the scenes scoring and collating results has taken on Olympic proportions. Thank you David and on behalf of the swimming team, good luck in your new job!

Dr M E Butler

Blackburn with Darwen Seniors Swimming Gala Champions



Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School hosted the Annual Blackburn with Darwen Seniors Swimming Gala again this year. Well done to all pupils who represented the school.

The following boys became Blackburn with Darwen Champions:

- **Boys Individual Medley:** Matthew Bennett
- **Boys Back Crawl Champion:** Oliver Roberts
- **Boys Butterfly Champion:** Matthew Bennett

Other notable performances were:

- **3rd in Front Crawl:** Nick Riding
- **2nd in Breastroke:** Alex Gunn

The Queen Elizabeth's boys' team became CHAMPIONS again for 2012.

Blackburn with Darwen Swimming Gala

We hosted the 99th Annual Blackburn with Darwen Swimming Gala again this year. Well done to all pupils who represented the school; you all swam very well indeed.

The following boys / teams became Blackburn with Darwen Champions:

- **Freestyle Relay Champions:** Goe Parkinson, Henry Hacking, Christopher Richardson-Dulling, Theo Roberts
- **Year 9 Butterfly Champion:** Christopher Richardson-Dulling
- **Year 8 Front Crawl Champion:** Benji Carrera-Knowles
- **Year 8 Back Crawl Champion:** Kurtis Pasquill
- **Year 8 Breaststroke Champion:** Theo Roberts



Well done to the following who gained places in the finals and received certificates:

Henry Hacking, Goe Parkinson, Ben Dixon, William Jones, Alvin Choondiyani, Thomas Sumner, Nathan Duckworth, Matthew Roe, Sam Chadwick, Alex Afkinson, Adam Desai, Joshua Cruise, Oliver Cass, Adam Jones.



Queen Elizabeth's won the Champion School title for the 23rd year in succession and was the winner of the 'Yerburgh Cup'. Well done to all swimmers who participated and gained valuable points for their school. A terrific team achievement!

House Swimming Gala - 8 Feb 2012

The School's showpiece sports event of the year took on 8th February, as the swimming pool was taken over for the House Swimming Gala. We were very pleased to have back at the School as the Guest Presenter, Mr Paul Howard, who had previously taught Languages at Queen Elizabeth's for five years (including being Head of Frobisher House for four of them) and who is now Head of Modern Foreign Languages at Merchant Taylors' School in Crosby.

As ever, our pupils were a credit to the School with their effort, sportsmanship and commitment. There were many strong performances throughout the evening, but two particularly stood out from Katie Gaffing who won the David Fairbrother Cup (U15 Butterfly) and the Girls U15 Front Crawl, both in new record times.

The Overall Champion House competition culminated in a nail-biting finale with Frobisher House being crowned winners due to their stunning performances in the final 4 events:

- 1st Frobisher 168pts
- 2nd Drake 166pts
- 3rd Raleigh 161pts
- 4th Howard 119pts
- 5th Grenville 86pts
- 6th Hawkins 56pts

Frobisher also took the Relay Champion House prize, winning half of the races:

- 1st Frobisher 82pts
- 2nd Raleigh 68pts
- 3rd Drake 50pts
- 4th Howard 56pts
- 5th Grenville 40pts
- 6th Hawkins 24pts



Table Tennis

Howard pip Drake to Secure the Intermediate Table Tennis Competition

Michael Mathias and Dylan Smethurst swept all teams away in the event. In the crucial game against Drake they were able to secure a 6-2 win in games. Michael Mathias was unbeaten throughout the competition, as was Chris Bate, drawing 1-1 with Mathias.

Raleigh pair Chris Pearson and Patrick Bedford were also on form and they finished 3rd when they thrashed Frobisher 7-1 in what was the deciding match for 3rd place.

Grenville played better than their 5th place suggested, sadly for them Declan Bateson was away from school and it was good of Will Bleasdale to fill in at the last minute.

Final Scores: Howard 34, Drake 31, Raleigh 23, Frobisher 17, Grenville 7, Hawkins 0

Table Tennis Club at QEGS: Welcomes new players

The new first years embraced the great sport that is table tennis, or wiff waff as Boris Johnson calls it. Millions of people around the world really enjoy this fast paced and skilful game. I was delighted to see a number of first years join the club and then stay with it throughout the two terms that it is on after school. James Dutton, Harry Bedford and Alfie Oxley have improved greatly and it will not be long before they are challenging the established members of the club like Chris Bate, Michael Mathias and Dylan Smethurst.

Hashim Ali also started playing this year and he has made rapid progress; he possesses a strong forehand and very spinny serve. This allowed him to reach the last 16 in the Lancashire Schools Individual U-13 Championships. I hope he will develop a strong backhand and thus be even more of a force.

The club will continue in 2012-13 in the Gym after school on Mondays.

House Table Tennis drew in a larger number of players, Howard House and Darake battled it out for the Junior prize with Drake finishing on top. In the Senior event Jonathan Khan and George Oxley were unbeaten in the competition, for Grenville to win the event.

I look forward to seeing old and new players next year, with the Olympics and Paralympic events showing the heights that can be reached in the sport.

Mr A Buckingham

QEGS Junior School Colours Lists Years 1 to 4: Awarded July 2012

Football

M Azam
K Heaven
J Quigley
H Raja
Z Dardouri
T Dodd
M Jackson
L Cumpsty
M Dunford
S Satvilker
R Davies
J Dwyer
A Graham
A Muzaffar
U Patel

Rugby

B Souter
M Tucker
J Garlick
J Shacklady
K Akhtar
J Warburton
A Allan
D Chan
S Harvey
D Kay
M King
T Storey

Swimming

B Souter
K Gaffing

Table Tennis

N Mann

Netball

L Brew
B Core
E Danson
L Edgington
K Gaffing
T Evans
E Dewhurst
C Dootson
K Morris

Cricket

R Davies
A Graham
K Heaven
H Kiani
H Mellor
F Sarodia
J Zahir
T Ismail
S Satvilker
B Dunford
Z Dardouri
H Raja
U Patel

Athletics

J Quigley
L Penswick
L Cumpsty
Z Dardouri
M Jackson
A Brady
R Buckley
M Tucker
L Edgington
K Gaffing
B Core
E Danson
L Brew

Golf

D Parmenter
N Mann
M Jackson

QEGS Senior School Colours Lists Years 5 & 6: Awarded July 2012

Football - Half

A Quinn
W Paton
O Metcalf
S King
C Reeves
D Birchall
A Keenan
N Fay
R Cousins
S Danson
P Corns
G Huck
J Mitchell

Football - Full

C Parkinson
M Walsh

(2nd X1 Captn)

J Khan

(1st X1 captn)

G Oxley

Rugby - Full

A Keenan
E Holmes
M Bury
I Backhouse
A Rowland

(1st XV Captain)

M Ringland

Swimming - Half

O Roberts
A Gunn
O Parker

Captain

M Bennett

Netball - Half

V Jones

Captain

G Chatburn-Jones

Cricket - Half

W Paton
J Peake
A Gunn
M Humberstone
O Sutcliffe

Cricket - Full

A Davies

Captain

G Chatburn-Jones

Tennis - Half

M Walsh

Golf - Half

C Parkinson
M Ringland
A Gunn
W Paton
J Khan

Golf - Full

M Walsh

CHARITY REVIEW.

Uganda Project – 90 mile Sponsored Run



Sixth Form pupils from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, supported by members of the teaching staff, successfully completed a gruelling 90 mile sponsored charity run in order to raise funds for the School's Uganda Project. All monies raised went to the orphanage school in Kampala, which 20 of our Sixth Formers visited and worked at during their visit in July 2012.



The team ran from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Penrith to School in a relay format, with all those taking part running the equivalent of a marathon.



The Sixth Formers taking part were: George Oxley, Adam Keenan, Chris Parkinson, Matthew Bury, Matthew Walsh and Matthew Ringland.

And they were supported along the way by Mark Butler, John Morgan, Sam McCreadie, Paula Wild, Paul Oliver and Jan Buckingham. This was a fantastic achievement by everyone involved and we are extremely proud of the effort you all put in.

Michaelmas Term 2011

The 'Wish Centre' Blackburn



The Michaelmas Term had only just begun when pupils, staff and guests gave generously to support one of the Mayor's charities, the 'Wish Centre', during the Beginning of Term service, held at Blackburn Cathedral. The centre works with women and children in the area, who are currently experiencing problems related to domestic violence or have in the past. The total raised, £323.69, will help the centre continue its important work.

Roald Dahl Day

A 'Colossal Cake Sale', organised by Mrs Dewhurst, was held on the 13th September to support the Roald Dahl Foundation. Pupils and Staff had once again put their aprons on and had been busy, through the night, baking a wide variety of cakes and biscuits, which were very quickly devoured during morning break time. The money raised, £216.53, will go towards the 'Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity'. The charity supports practical help for children and young people (up to the age of 25) with brain or blood-related problems - causes close to Roald Dahl during his lifetime. They make grants to UK hospitals and charities as well as to individual children and their families. The Foundation also supports specialist paediatric Roald Dahl nurses throughout the UK caring for children with epilepsy, blood disorders or acquired brain injury.

The Todonyang Mission

September was definitely a month for treats as pastries, pancakes and chocolate delights were enjoyed by all who supported the Third Year charity event organised by Mrs Tattersall. Annie Johnstone, Farrah Khan and Bethan McKeating were under pressure as they poured, cooked and flipped numerous pancakes during morning break.

Their combined efforts raised £122.45 for the Todonyang Mission in Northern Kenya. The living conditions are particularly harsh, exacerbated by the unreliability of the rain. There are also problems between the Kenyan Turkana tribes and the Ethiopian Dassenech. The work of the mission focuses on trying to bring peace between the tribes, the building of dams and irrigation systems, the educating of the local children and provision of medical and spiritual care.

Macmillan Cancer Care

By the end of September news of the impressive cake sales taking place around the school had reached the ladies in the Bursar's office. Barbara, Tracey and Lynn had caught the bug and on the 30th September they transformed the Bursary into a haven for home-made cake and coffee / tea for the day with all proceeds going to Macmillan Cancer Care. The charity works to improve the lives of people affected by cancer. After consuming thousands of calories and drinking ample amounts of coffee, £238.25 we raised for the charity.

Candle 4 Katy

As we headed into October, Breast Cancer Awareness month, the whole school community once again dressed up in pink.

The non-uniform day on Wednesday 5th October combined with a spectacular magic show performed by Ben Proos, the Magic Circle's Young Magician of the Year, raised £1080.59. Pupils and staff were delighted to be able to help Mr Rose and his daughter Bethany reach the total of £20,000 for the 'Candle 4 Katy' appeal.



Poppy Appeal

During the beginning of November collections were held across the school. The Poppy Appeal - supporting the Royal British Legion - is always well acknowledged and supported. To help mark Remembrance Day Mrs Dewhurst, our chartered Librarian, along with Senior School pupils created a display containing artifacts from the World Wars.



Children in Need - Uganda Fashion Show

Friday 18th November was certainly a night to remember as pupils from the Senior School swapped their uniforms for catwalk outfits and were dressed to impress. The event, organized by Mrs Foxley and Mr Buckingham for the Uganda project, was a huge success, raising £1721.20 for children in need. It was a fantastic team effort choreographed to perfection and enjoyed by all.

Twelfth Night - Shelter

Thanks to the hard work of Mr Westworth and his team of staff and budding actors Singleton Sixth Form Centre was transformed into a set from one of Shakespeare's most loved comedies, Twelfth Night.

The production was set among a group of homeless people and helped to raise the awareness of the growing population who find themselves in the terrible situation of losing their home. The proceeds from the performances raised £567.82

Fancy Dress Netball - Candle 4 Katy



The last week of term got off to a flying start as Mrs Bamber and Miss McCreddie had organized a girl's fancy dress netball competition. All competitors, even the staff team, dressed up. The Christmas Trees played the Snowmen and the Presents played the Reindeers, before the winning team played the staff team who were suitably dressed as Miss Christmas's; you just had to be there! The matches were played with true spirit raising a further £150 for the Candle 4 Katy appeal. Well done girls!

Carol Service

As the Netball competition ended the school choir was warming up its vocal cords for another uplifting and heartwarming performance at Blackburn Cathedral. The Christmas Carol service is always well supported and an enjoyable evening for all. This year's collection supported Help for Heroes, raising £513.59.

Christmas Book Sale

A further £69 was raised during the Christmas book sale which is an annual event organized by Mrs Dewhurst, our chartered Librarian. Together with the offering from the Christmas Carol service the collection of £582.59 was raised to support the members of the Armed Forces.

6th Form Quiz

The end-of-term was in sight and it was time once more for Mr Buckingham and Mr Priory to brush up on their general knowledge as they led the 6th form quiz. This annual event raises money for the Uganda project which takes place in July. This year's lunchtime of cryptic questions raised a further £68.05.

NSPCC - Annual Steps Challenge

For the eighth year running Second Year pupils and tutors laced up their trainers and put on their fancy dress costumes to take part in the 2011 Olympic Steps Challenge. Nothing was going to stand in their way. The severe weather conditions which hit Blackburn that week meant a slight change in location. However,

QEGS pupils certainly stepped up to the challenge, raising £1220.54. Goe Parkinson and Muhammad Lorgat raised well over £100 each whilst best fancy dress went to James Henaghan. The total raised by the Second Years since the challenge first began has now reached over £10,000 for the NSPCC (including gift aid).

Old Boys Tribute

December 17th saw Old Blackburnians come together to support each other and pay tribute to David Fairbrother and Allan Ramsbottom. Football and Rugby matches were played at Lammack sports ground which was covered in a thick blanket of snow. The matches raised £250 for the Royal Marine Benevolent Fund and £250 for the Lymphoma Association. It was extremely moving that over 95 boys came together to honour their friends.

Lent Term 2012

World Vision Sponsor a Child

Throughout January and February collections were held in House assemblies to raise money for Oliva our sponsored child. Oliva is 10 years old and lives in Malawi. The House system has been supporting the work of World Vision for the past 20 years. Together the six Houses collected over £300, making Oliva QEGS' seventh child to receive help via the scheme.

Lepra Workout



On the 5th March the First Year welcomed back Mrs Fairbairn from the charity Lepra Health in Action. Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School has been working with Mrs Fairbairn for the past three years. Each year pupils have taken part in a sponsored workout which has tested their stamina and co-ordination, whilst being quite a giggle at the same time. This year the pupils raised £662.31, changing the lives of 31 people suffering with the disease. The £2312.81 raised over the past three years has cured a fantastic 110 people from leprosy and this has been down to the kind contributions from the pupils, their families and friends.

Uganda Car Wash

The 10th March saw bubbles in abundance down at Lammack sports ground as the 6th form Uganda team were washing every car in sight. Whilst the cars were gleaming less could be said for the pupils who were soaked from top to toe; however, it was well worth it as a further £250 was raised for the project.



Uganda Sponsored Run

March continued to be an extremely busy and challenging month for the Uganda team. Now that their muscles had been warmed up during the Lammack car wash they were all set to complete an exhausting, yet rewarding, 90 mile sponsored run from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Penrith to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Blackburn. The team of six pupils and six staff deserve much accolade for their accomplishment after raising a further £2000.

Uganda Concert

Just one week later and the pupils took off their trainers and picked up their instruments to provide an evening of music and entertainment at what was a splendid, diverse event held in the Main Hall. This biennial concert continues to deliver and display the huge amount of talent which our pupils have. The event raised a further £1000 towards the goal of £10,000. Well done to all who took part.

Infant and Junior Schools

During the Lent term pupils in the Infant and Junior schools were hard at work raising money for two health charities, the British Heart Foundation and Pumping Marvellous. The pupils were put through their paces as they completed health quizzes, sponsored memory tests and took part in a non-uniform day. Together they raised £189 for the British Heart Foundation and £837.30 for Pumping Marvellous. A fabulous effort, well done everyone!

Readathon

The annual First and Second Year Readathon got underway to a flying start with an extra 372 non-fiction books being taken out on loan. The event organized by Mrs Dewhurst collected £656.32 which will be split between three children's charities: CLIC Sargent, Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity and ReadWell. The pupils worked hard to read six books in six weeks collecting sponsorship which will support seriously ill children. This was the largest amount raised in the seven years of running the event.



Trinity Term 2012

Singleton Swings



Friday 11th May was a night to remember down in the Sixth Form Centre as feet were tapping and hips were swaying, Singleton was certainly in full swing with excellent entertainment and performances from the String Quartet, School Jazz Band and the Young Magician of the Year. Given that all this was accompanied with great food and waiter service this is definitely not a night to miss in the future. The £300 raised was the final fundraising enterprise for the Uganda Project.

Over the year the pupils have not only displayed their commitment to the project by organizing many fundraising activities in school but they have also carried out many individual activities from the making and selling of bracelets to spray tan parties and completing a sponsored 76 mile Cumbrian Way walk. Their commitment and determination to raise a substantial amount of funding for the Good Samaritan School in Uganda is commendable. All together the 20 Sixth Form pupils and staff raised over £10,000. We wished them well as they departed to Kampala in July.

Founder's Day Service

During the Founder's Day Service held at Blackburn Cathedral on Friday 22nd June a collection was held to support the Rosemere Cancer Foundation – a local cancer charity raising funds for extra equipment and facilities for cancer patients in Lancashire and South Cumbria.

3rd Yr Sponsored Macarena



The Third Year's fundraising activities for the mission in Todonyang Northern Kenya came to the grand finale on Monday 25th June when all pupils laced up their trainers and completed a sponsored Macarena.

The dance routine was an inspirational idea led by three of the third year girls and was accompanied by many staff including Mr Cave and Mr Hopkinson. Together with the money raised from the pancake sales and chocolate bingo the year team are heading towards their goal of £800. This money would fund the building of a boat which would allow 10 local families to fish safely and support themselves and their families.



Staff Strawberry Tea

What could be better than a piece of cake and a cup of tea to end the school year. Mrs Taberner, Head of Second Year put on a delightful spread in the staff room at morning break for all to enjoy raising £39.75 for Breast Cancer Care.

Thanks go to...

Whether you have baked cakes, dressed up in pink, sponsored a fun workout or attended one of the many evenings of entertainment, we thank you for your overwhelming support this academic year. Together we have supported 20 different charities and raised over £19,500. While the charities have been a mixture of local, regional and international our kindness will certainly make a difference.

DRAMA & MUSIC.

Allan Ramsbottom Memorial Concert, March 17 2012, Blackburn Cathedral

A memorial concert took place at Blackburn Cathedral in memory of Old Blackburnian Allan Ramsbottom and in aid of the Lymphoma Association, involving pupils from Queen Elizabeth's and that of his niece, a pupil at Chethams, the specialist international music school in Manchester.

Allan passed away on October 5 2011. He was aged just 20. He had been to visit the doctor with a sore throat on the Tuesday and by Thursday was on life support having suffered multiple organ failure.

With ten performers from each school they put on a wonderful programme of solo and ensemble pieces among the spectacular architecture of Blackburn Cathedral. The soloists were many and varied with the organ opening proceedings followed by performances on flute, oboe, trumpet, cello, voice and piano. The string quartets from each school combined to play Pachelbel's Canon to close the first half and the schools combined again to close the concert with a jazz quintet which left the audience in a contented mood.

The quality of performance by these talented young musicians provided moments of sheer wonder, aided by the acoustics, which produced a sonorous extravaganza of timbres producing times of soothing tranquillity, when Debussy's Syrinx was played by the unseen flautist, to rousing reverberations from the organ and jazz group.

A truly memorable evening of outstanding musical performance that was a fitting tribute to an outstanding young man whose life was cruelly cut short by lymphoma.



The concert raised over £1,600 for the Lymphoma Association and pictures from the event can be ordered from Tom Gradwell who extremely generously gave his time freely.

Music knows no Boundaries



It was just a short trip down the M65 to Colne for Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School musicians, but the weather was a million miles away from what they had left in Blackburn. Heavy sleet and snow showers greeted them as they arrived at Boundary Mill, Colne, to play festive music for the hundreds of shoppers.

Situated in the main foyer, the Jazz Band played a selection of Christmas songs, much to the delight of the passing throngs, as they collected for the North West Air Ambulance. After a short break, during which some enjoyed refreshments and others 'speed shopped' for their Christmas presents, the Woodwind Ensemble, accompanied by some members of the choir, performed a

selection of carols. The 4-part harmony singing of the chorale group produced many appreciative comments from the crowd that gathered.

All told, a very festive occasion for those concerned. Maybe next time it will be cold and frosty or a winter wonderland. There are not many songs with 'sleet' in the lyrics.

Numbers Count



On Wednesday, 8th February, the Mathematics Department welcomed the 'Say Two Theatre Company' into school to present their 'Numbers Count' production. The play focused on the history of Mathematics and we were extremely lucky to be the first school in the North West to experience this performance.

First Year pupils not only watched the play but took part in workshops afterwards which involved solving problems and acting out their solutions. The dressing up went down well too, especially when Miss Woodcock made her debut on the Queen Elizabeth's stage as a very convincing, and well behaved horse! **A good time was had by all.**



A Tuneful Teatime Treat

The innovative Music Department launched a new concert format with the Summer Teatime concert devised by Mrs Drinkwater. With the sunshine pouring through the windows music scholars performed a varied programme to a packed audience in Big School.

Third-year pupil, Christopher Richardson-Dulling opened the concert with a clarinet version of Acker Bilk's, **Stranger on the Shore**. Fourth and Second Year pupils, respectively Emma Dewhurst and Goe Parkinson, were making their concert debut with their piano solos, Goe bravely choosing to play without music.

Oliver Cass performed **Greensleeves** the composition of which is attributed to Henry VIII who ascended the throne in 1509 in the same year as the school was founded. Razanne Bacchus and Nathan Duckworth demonstrated two very different styles of music with their guitar solos. Razanne chose a classical piece for her acoustic solo and Nathan played a modern classic of **Blackbird** by the Beatles for his electric guitar.



Feet were set tapping to Henry Hacking's Saxophone solo, **Somewhere Beyond the Sea**, by Charles Trenet, accompanied by the Big Swing Band of Robbie Williams (sadly only tape rather than in person!). Pianists, Carl Trinder (First Year), William Fielding (Second Year) and Alexander Corns (Third Year) took us from New Orleans, to Chopin's Prelude and a bit of ragtime as a complete contrast from Alex as his final piece. Corrine Duckworth's and Lauryn Graham's clear singing voices effortlessly reached for the top notes in their individual vocal performances accompanied by second year pupil William Fielding.

Dulling demonstrated consummate professionalism when a little fluff didn't faze them and they were able to re-start their programme. They also proved that the technicalities involved in playing a reed instrument don't get in the way of you grinning at your audience.

Harry Martin on trumpet was accompanied by William Fielding for his rendition Handel's Prelude and Sixth Form pupil, Oliver Roberts took time off from revision to accompany his brother Theo Roberts for the latter's performance of Purcell's composition Halleluiah for Viola. The concert finished with a lively, enthusiastic and fitting finale of the Beatles' **All you need is Love** the student performers now joined by Head of Music, Mr Paul Oliver. In his vote of thanks, the Headmaster also paid tribute to the hard work of Mr Oliver during his leadership of the department during the year. The Queen Elizabeth's musicians truly delivered a tasty teatime treat.

Following an informative introduction flautist Annie Johnstone, accompanied by Mrs Drinkwater, gave a confident performance of her piece **Sicilliene** and Cara Murray's bright and cheeky little number **Boiling Point** by Ledbury brought smiles to the audience's faces. Clarinetists Bethan McKeating and Christopher Richardson-



The West End Awaits

Two of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School singing stars performed in front of the bright lights of the London West End.

Alice Schofield and Cara Murray are part of a choir put together by local company DJ Theatre Productions who appeared at Her Majesties Royal Theatre as part of the 1640 Productions Sunday night concerts in the West End. Their Showstoppers West End Challenge is designed to give each troupe a chance to compete in front of a live audience and independent judges, for their chance to win 'best overall troupe performance of the night'.

For Alice and Cara it was certainly a great opportunity. "The audition was a bit nerve-wracking; but once that was over it has been very exciting, but hard work. Having the chance to perform on a West End stage is not something that happens very often. The sound and lighting effects that they had made it an amazing experience." said 15-year-old Alice.

The audition was a bit nerve-wracking but once that was over it has been very exciting...

Cara said, "We have been practising hard for a few weeks now and although there are only 12 of us in the group, it came together really well on the night."

The girls travelled down to London on the Saturday, before a final rehearsal at the theatre on Sunday morning and the show in the evening. It was certainly good practice for their roles in the forthcoming school production of Oliver! Which were held in the Main Hall at Queen Elizabeth's on 22nd and 23rd March, when Cara played Widow Corney and Alice played Nancy. Let's hope the bright lights of the West End give them plenty of inspiration to bring back to Blackburn!

Nigel Ogden entertains at Organ Recital

Over 120 people, including distinguished guests the Mayor of Blackburn with Darwen and the Mayor of Ribble Valley, were entertained by Nigel Ogden, Star of 'The Organist Entertains' on BBC Radio 2 at the inaugural recital of the School's restored Phoenix Digital Organ.



The 'new' organ was put through its paces, as Nigel's particular style of music-making, combined with his varied concert programme of popular and light classical music, ensured all but the most extreme musical tastes were catered for.



During the welcome to the evening, Mr Barry Brown, President of the Old Blackburnians' Association and recently appointed School Governor, explained the history of the organ at the School and the project that had been undertaken to transform it to its new magnificent state thanks to donations from The Elizabethan Association and The Waddington Trust. Barry also took the opportunity to highlight the work that Dr John Bertalot, Organist Emeritus at Blackburn Cathedral had undertaken in voicing the organ and Dave Bostock from Phoenix Organs for carrying out the restoration.

Senior School Production - Oliver!

The Senior School production of *Oliver!* surpassed all expectations, which was particularly pleasing as a significant amount of new blood was introduced this year into the young cast. Based on the Charles Dickens novel on the 200th anniversary of his birth, the production told the well known story of the orphan boy 'Oliver!'.

His mother dies at his birth and his formative years are spent in appalling workhouse conditions, before his escape leads to many adventures resulting in him finding happiness eventually with his long lost family.

William Fielding's innocent portrayal of Oliver was matched by his beautifully clear voice, which was a magnificent contrast to the strong, but far from innocent performance of Nancy by Alice Schofield. The introduction of humour and impudence by Sam Westwood as Mr Bumble and Joe Westwood as The Artful Dodger, contrasted well with the violent antics of Bill Sykes who was played exceptionally well by Sam Danson.



However, the more surprising performance of the night went to Adam Townsend for his portrayal of Fagin. Adam made the part of Fagin his own, with no end of surprise and delight in his performance which boasted a brilliant rapport with the boys in Fagin's gang, including a good jig or two!

The Chorus and Band supported the production wonderfully which resulted in a complete performance.

Special thanks must go to the staff that made the production possible; none more so than Mrs Arkwright as Director, Paul Oliver as Musical Director, Anna Drinkwater as Vocal Coach and David Westworth as Stage Manager, Oliver was his last production as he left us in the Summer.

Jazz Band Perform at the 11th Annual Health Mela



An invitation from Dr Myers, a member of the Lancashire Gujarat Health Users' Forum, and parent, resulted in the School's Jazz Band performing in the Guild Hall, Preston recently at the 11th Annual Health Mela.

The Lancashire Gujarat Health Users' Forum is based at the Gujarat Hindu Society in Preston and is supported by Preston Primary Care Trust. First established in October 2001, it organises a series of Health Mela events, which are attended by various agencies and health care providers and are supported by practitioners of alternative medicine, who provide workshops and seminars on subjects such as reflexology, holistic living, aerobics, yoga and meditation.

The Health Melas are intended to be informative and fun, with events and attractions for all the family. The Jazz Band was introduced by School Governor, Professor I Singh as part of the entertainment on stage that was taking part throughout the day, and they proved to be very popular.



With over a hundred exhibitors providing advice and information and complimentary medicine workshops, the event proved to be a huge success.

The Lancashire Gujarat Health Users' Forum recognises the Health Mela as a resource for the continual improvement in health awareness and sustainability of its local community. It has strengthened partnerships and alliances with community professionals, and has allowed the integration of a positive approach towards health education with an improved understanding of services offered by the health service.

It proved to be a great forum for the band and they will certainly be hoping to return next year.

Singleton Swings!

The use of Singleton House Sixth Form Centre as a venue for a musical event recently proved to be most successful. Billed as 'Singleton Swings – an evening of music, mirth and magic' it turned out to be a very popular event of high quality entertainment in support of the Uganda Project.

The mainstay of the evening was Queen Elizabeth's Jazz Band which played in a variety of styles showing their versatility and proving to be a fine ensemble. The programme of the evening was varied in both music and entertainment. The opening numbers were followed by a solo piano performance by Oliver Roberts who helped to set the mood of the event with a Gershwin piece in syncopated rhythms.

The music department continued to show the versatility of their pupils with the String Quartet, Choir and Pacific Lamppost, the school jazz quartet, all performing a selection of light music. Alice Schofield, singing with the Jazz Band was a new venture, which will hopefully be repeated in the future.

In a move away from a normal 'concert' situation, the venue was set out with tables and chairs, food was served and waiter service from the bar was available. The relaxed atmosphere was ideal for the dexterous skills of Ben Proos, the Young Magician of the Year, who bemused the audience with a range of magic that confounded explanation. Added to this was the stand-up comedy of Alex Gunn who regaled the audience with tales and observations of family life.



This blend of music, mirth and magic certainly proved to be a popular recipe for success judging by the mood of the departing audience. For many of the Sixth Formers performing this was also their 'departing' it being their final performance as a Queen Elizabeth's pupil. Their talent will be missed, but the service they have given to school will be long remembered and appreciated. They have been a shining example for those following on behind and we hope that they will continue to develop and enjoy their talents, and return to school in the future to entertain us once again.

The evening was the final fundraising initiative for the Uganda Project which departs for Kampala in July. In total, a magnificent £10,000 has been raised through the various events that have been held during the year and through the individual fundraising activities undertaken by the 20 Sixth Formers who will be making the trip to work at the Good Samaritan School.

JUNIOR SCHOOL.

Hoodwinked



The Main Hall was transformed into Sherwood Forest last evening as the Junior School production 'Hoodwinked' told the story of Robin Hood and his fight for good over evil.

Anyone who has ever been involved organising young children, even at a birthday party, will appreciate the tremendous amount of dedicated work that the staff has to put in to produce such a show. Such was the quality of the performances by all of the children; it was easy to forget that this was a Junior School show and not a dedicated theatre company.

A sign of a good musical play is the standard of the music and the acting. On both accounts this show was a success. The acting that was taking place by those not speaking was very impressive and made sure that the stage was always full of action. The singing was confident throughout, both the soloists and chorus, with some songs including two part harmony, not easy for such young people.

Overall an evening of thoroughly good entertainment, delivered in a very professional manner to, by the end of the evening, an audience of many proud parents.



Junior School Art Exhibition

The Junior School held their inaugural Art Exhibition in Big School on Wednesday 25 April 2012, featuring over 100 pupil exhibits. During the year, each class had studied various different artists including Kandinsky, William Morris and Andy Warhol. The children then produced their own work in the style of the artists they had researched. At the beginning of the exhibition, pupils from each class introduced the themes they had been working with, before showing the parents around the gallery. Well done to everyone involved.



Deputy Lieutenant Visit – 23rd April

As part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the School was extremely pleased to welcome the Deputy Lieutenant of Lancashire, Professor Christopher Carr.



During his visit Professor Carr took time to speak to the Junior School and First Year class about the history of the monarchy since it was established over 1,200 years ago. He explained how the role and powers have changed over the past 800 years and how this has resulted in Queen Elizabeth II being the 'Head of State' and the 'Head of the Nation'.

Pupils took the opportunity to ask questions about the role of the Deputy Lieutenant and the forthcoming local celebrations as part of the Diamond Jubilee.

Junior Prize Giving

The Prize Giving Day for any school is a major event on the calendar, and so it was at our Junior School when the guest of honour was Vice-Chairman of Governors Mr David Peat OBE who presented the prizes.

It was as much an occasion for celebration as awarding of prizes, as each one presented reflected the hard work of the individual and often their contribution to the school community.

Prizes for Arts, Sport and Academic achievement were presented in front of a gathering of proud parents and governors, including the Chair of Governors Mr Jeremy Gorick the High Sheriff of Lancashire, who certainly impressed many of the pupils with his uniform and sword.



Mr David Peat OBE, Mr Jeremy Gorick DL and Mr Jonathan Cave retiring Deputy Headmaster of the Senior School.

Junior School Swimming Gala



The 25th Junior School Swimming Gala took place on Thursday, 15th March 2012.

Before any actual swimming took place, the children paraded their House banners around the pool in front of a supportive audience of Parents, Grandparents and friends.

Every child took to the pool to achieve points for their respective Houses. Not only were there the traditional races of front crawl, breaststroke and backstroke, there was the added excitement of the seahorse challenge. The competition was fought to the end, and as the relays were for double points the tension continued until all the points were added.

Grenville and Frobisher Houses were the triumphant winners with 208 points

Mr Peat reminisced about his own days in school, and commented on how impressed he was by the many and varied awards, and the choice of literature chosen by the prize winners. He closed by reminding them to make the most of their opportunities as they moved on to secondary school in the coming months.

Prizewinners

Form Prizes

- Year 3 - Esme Wilcock
- Year 4 - Zakariya Bux
- Year 5 - Jessica Walsh
- Year 6 - Max Dawson.

Effort Prizes

- Year 3 - Evan Cunningham
- Year 4 - Daria McCarthy
- Year 5 - George Lewis
- Year 6 - Conrad Smith

Musician Of The Year -

Conrad Smith

Artist Of The Year -

Edward Whiteside

Scientist Of The Year -

Edward Whiteside

Footballer Of The Year -

Hussain Sarodia

Cricketer Of The Year -

Max Dawson

Swimmer Of The Year -

Charlotte Hepworth

Athlete Of The Year -

Adam White

Best Prefect -

Lewis Taylor

Best Junior School -

Natasha Hartshorne-Evans

INFANT SCHOOL.

Canine Class!



On Wednesday the 14th of September a very excited year 2 class met John and his guide dog Logan. The children were fascinated to hear that Logan was a seven year old male Labrador who had been trained to help blind people. The children were amazed to learn that it costs £49,000 to train a guide dog but only costs a blind person 50p per week as they are given lots of help in order to feed him and look after him.

We discovered that at six weeks old Logan went to live with a family and, in order to socialise, accompanied them on bus rides, train rides and into school playgrounds. When he was one year old he went to school and had lessons just like us! Unfortunately at school he wasn't allowed to play football, as guide dogs are not encouraged to chase balls. The children were delighted however to learn that at school guide dogs have sand pits and play areas, just like we do. At two years of age he passed all his examinations and was presented with his white harness with a reflective strip.

During the course of the morning we examined some Braille books, wrote sentences in Braille and explored what it would be like to be blind or partially sighted by trying on "spectacles" which showed us differing degrees of "blindness".

Mrs K Taylor

Infant School Nativity - 7 Dec 2011



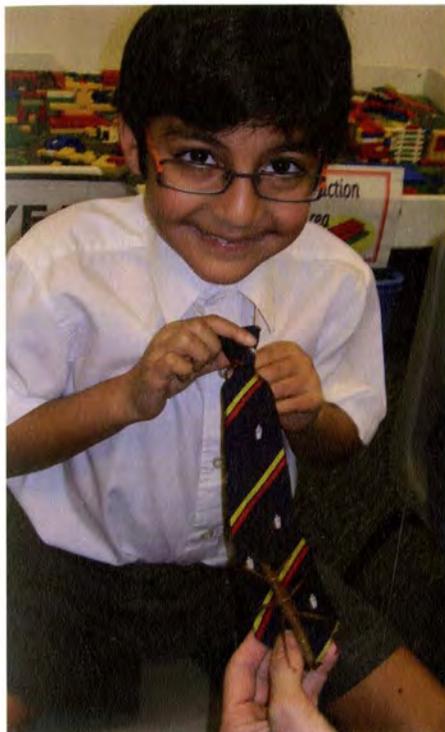
Congratulations to all of the pupils of the Infant School for their wonderful performance and singing in the Nativity 'Is There a Baby in There?' The performance was spectacular, with excellent narrating from the Creepy Crawly Insects, the Shepherds and the Cockerel; combined with wonderful dancing by the Star, and who could forget the three Kings riding around the audience on their camels!

All the children looked amazing in their costumes and thanks must go to all the parents and staff who had obviously worked extremely hard to ensure the show went without a hitch. **Well done to you all.**



Brilliant Bugs!

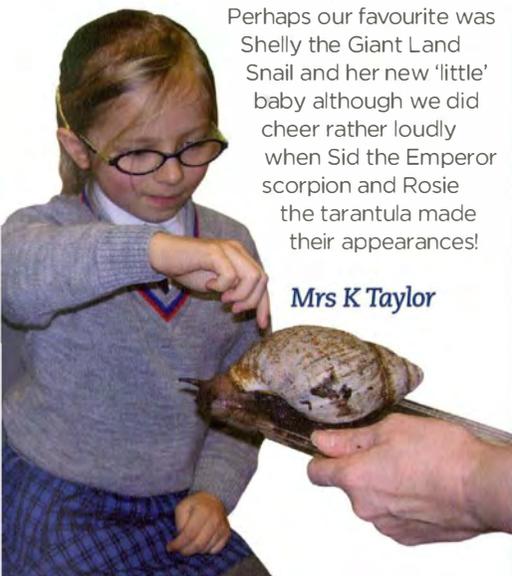
In February, Year 2 were very excited as they eagerly awaited the arrival of "The Bug Lady" with her exciting collection of invertebrates. Fearlessly, each child in turn, took out an insect from the bug box.



Beetles, crickets, millipedes, grasshoppers, giant land snails, stick insects, praying mantises, scorpions and tarantulas very soon appeared, as we watched spellbound. We met a leaf insect who looked very similar to the stick insects but was a yellow or orange colour and was found in Australia. It often made itself look like a Scorpion in order to defend itself from predators! Even though it had been adapted to defend itself it was however still quite fragile, yet lots of very brave Year 2 children were very quick to volunteer to carefully handle him. We learnt a lot of incredibly interesting facts about the insect world and had a super day handling them all.

Perhaps our favourite was Shelly the Giant Land Snail and her new 'little' baby although we did cheer rather loudly when Sid the Emperor scorpion and Rosie the tarantula made their appearances!

Mrs K Taylor



Brilliant Butterflies & Terrific Tarantulas!

In May, Year 2 excitedly set off to Williamson Park in Lancaster, intent on exploring the wonderful world of butterflies, birds and mini beasts. At school, in our science lessons we had been studying life cycles and focusing on the diversity of animal life.



We were therefore all very interested when our guide showed us the actual stages from egg to butterfly in the tropical butterfly house. We really enjoyed feeding the fish whilst standing on the bridge and ducking whilst free flying exotic birds sped towards us in the outdoor area! Our guide, Tony, was very interesting showing us examples of invertebrates, reptiles and birds in order to demonstrate differences in body structure and life cycles between species and also to highlight the diversity within particular animal groups.

The children loved the small mammal garden and mini beast centre where we were allowed to stroke the animals and handle the tarantula skins but probably the most exciting area was the reptile room where we were all thrilled to be able to handle a very special reptile. (Some with more trepidation than others!) Babs the python was introduced to us! She seemed very friendly as we all stroked her or tentatively allowed her to lick our hands with her long forked tongue. What a wonderful experience.

Mrs K Taylor

Green Fingers! EYES!



As part of our science unit entitled "Plants in the local environment" year 2 carried out an investigation and discovered that flowering plants produce seeds which grow into new plants. The class then planted their own seeds, tended them over a period of time and made observations which they recorded.

All of the children discovered that plants need light, water and heat in order to grow and that we must treat plants and the environment with care and sensitivity if they were to survive. An interesting and enjoyable few weeks.

Mrs K Taylor

As part of our Geography topic, "The Global Eye," Year 2 had a visit from a very special optician. Mr. Nuttall came to talk to us about his work as an optician.

The children were fascinated by his vast collection of lenses and ophthalmoscope. We were all very interested to learn the differences between long sightedness and short sightedness and then look at and try out, the huge variety of lenses which were used to correct these conditions. After discussing colour blindness and taking a variety of "eye tests," we did many experiments and discovered that our pupil goes larger in the darkness, in order to let in more light and smaller in the light, in order to shield us from bright lights. The children were fascinated by Mr. Nuttall's collection of contact lenses, which we were all allowed to handle, especially the coloured contact lenses!

Wow, what a fascinating afternoon.

Mrs K Taylor

FIRE!

All the children in year 2 were very excited as the big red fire engine, complete with firefighters arrived at school. The objective was to enable the children to explain, and also to demonstrate through interactive play, what to do in the event of a fire.



By looking at and experimenting with smoke detectors we discovered that it was imperative to have a working battery inside! We discussed the purpose of smoke alarms, how to get out of the house safely in the event of a fire and the need for a fire plan. Through the cartoon characters, Freddie and Filbert we discovered that in a house fire, smoke would probably be the thing that killed us. We therefore tried crawling very closely to the ground and shouting FIRE! as loudly as possible. Some of us were even lucky enough to be given real firemen outfits to use; even if they were a little on the large side! Finally, we climbed into the fire engine and had a great time finding out what each piece of equipment was used for. The highlight of the day was when we formed a line, some of us wearing the firefighters' helmets and each of us in turn squirted the very heavy hosepipes as far as we could with just a little help from the firemen of course! What an interesting and really enjoyable morning!

Mrs K Taylor

A Visit By Warburton's Bakery

In February, the whole of the Infant department excitedly awaited the arrival of, "The Lady from Warburton's."



After washing our hands and putting on our kit of red aprons and pale blue hairnets we prepared to tackle the dough! Shortly after discussing health and safety regulations we set to work kneading our dough into wonderful hedgehog shaped loaves, carefully using scissors in order to make decorative spikes. After placing currants in strategic positions for the eyes and nose we brushed our hedgehogs with beaten egg and milk in order to achieve a glaze. We took note of what the dough looked like now, before it was cooked, as this fitted in very well with our science topic on "Changes in Materials". We then did some quality control, tasting a variety of different kinds of Warburton's bread in order to see which ones we liked the best. All of the breads were delicious! Finally, we used all of our senses in order to describe the bread accurately. After such a lot of hard work, we were allowed to take home our very own freshly baked hedgehog.

We Are Not Scared Of Dentists!

Thank you so much to Jo Charnock and Raisa, her dental nurse, for visiting Year 2. After naming and identifying different teeth and their functions, by passing around a variety of sets of teeth, we were amazed to learn that some of the braces on the teeth could be ordered in any colour that we wanted!

After arming ourselves with dental masks and rubber gloves, we all used mirrors in order to make it easy to look at teeth. We discussed acid erosion and the dentist showed us x-rays of children's mouths. We were amazed to discover that we could see 'grown up teeth' in the jaw bone and that they were underneath our baby teeth. After learning how to clean our teeth correctly, we discussed good and bad foods and put pictures of them in the correct place on a wall chart. Having



discussed the sugar content of different foods, we were amazed to learn that Lucozade has approximately 21 level teaspoons of sugar, closely followed by Ribena with approximately 13 and Pepsi with 12! We all vowed to try to eat more healthily in the future.

Mrs K Taylor

Young Swimmers Gain Awards

Children in our Infant department have certainly been making a big splash lately. They have been working towards a variety of swimming awards in our pool during their swimming lessons.

The girls and boys, some as young as three, have successfully completed the ASA National Plan for Teaching Swimming Awards which is the national syllabus produced by the ASA to assist and support the delivery of swimming lessons.

The NPTS has been developed to use fun and games to take children from their first splash to full competence in the water via 10 Stages but is underpinned throughout by Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) principles, with clear progression between each stage. The programme fully encompasses all aquatic disciplines, and incorporates

Rookie Lifesaving in conjunction with the Royal Life-Saving Society.

The National Plan for Teaching Swimming (NPTS) is an all-inclusive programme which takes the non-swimmer from his or her first splash to developing confidence and competence in the water. The National Governing Body for Swimming, the ASA, has produced a national syllabus for aquatics, in order to equip learn to swim providers with the training and tools to deliver a multi-aquatic, multi-skill programme.

The swimmer's journey through aquatics following the National Plan for Teaching Swimming will result in the development of a wide range of skills. These skills are a jigsaw of pieces and when put together result in a competent, confident and safe swimmer

who has the skill base for developing technique in a wide range of water based sports. **We are certainly very proud of them!**



Back row from left to right - Niamh Hamilton and Alex Jones.
Middle row - Sreya Uppalapati, Umar Ahmed and Ben Clark.
Front row - Arianna Sultana, Dan Clark, Ewan Saunders and Daniel Saunders

Infant School House Competition

Winners! Left to right - Tassia Chan, Ben Clark, Toby Fairfoot, Mackenzie Cunningham, Daniel Luxton-Blakeman, Yusuf Toheed and Hamaad Khalid. Front two children are Dan Clark and Inaayah Balapatel.

As term has been drawing to a close the tension has been mounting in the Infant School as the points towards the final House Cup begin to add up.

The House Cup is awarded to the House with the most points over the whole year and covers all areas from sport to good work and behaviour.

This year's winning house in the Infant School is Grenville. Each child has also been presented with a medal that will, no doubt, take pride of place at home and be shown to every relative and friend!



Dick Whittington – Oh no it's not!

One of the Infant Department's end of term surprises was a visit to King George's Hall to see the pantomime Dick Whittington. We were not to be disappointed as the crazy cast kept us all laughing throughout, with their energetic dancing and slapstick gags. We sympathised with Dick Whittington and his sidekick, Tommy the cat, as they set out on their great quest to London, the city paved with gold.

We all booed the evil Queen Rat and her wicked cronies as they attempted to frame poor Dick for theft and cheered as Fairy Bow Bells used her magic in order to create a happy ending. It was so realistic when our hero set off on his epic voyage across the rough and dangerous sea to the exotic East that we all began to feel a little seasick! The sparkling sets were truly dazzling and were made even more brilliant by the technical effects, especially

the fluorescent dancing puppets. Of course, the rat epidemic was swiftly halted by our favourite character Tommy the cat and everyone lived happily ever after!

The staff and children would like to thank Mr Hopkinson, Mrs Fairfoot, Dr. Gosall and Mrs Ougradar for their invaluable help.

Mrs K Taylor

Year 2 at Ewood Park

On a very rainy day in October, 14 very excited Year 2 pupils arrived at Ewood Park. During science lessons they had been studying the topic, Healthy Eating. This was a chance to meet, "The Very Hungry Footballer" and decide which things would be good for him to eat. We began with each group putting the appropriate picture cards on the interactive whiteboard in order to provide David Dunn with a healthy meal! The children soon began to consider the importance that diet and exercise can play in order to keep a footballer healthy. We began to classify foods into different groups and also to plan a balanced breakfast and lunch for our "Very Hungry Footballer". We then used the centre's ICT facilities to carry out further research and report our findings.



The children also enjoyed a tour of the stadium and particularly enjoyed a trip to the cells where disruptive supporters are held during the course of a match! After a healthy lunch, the children participated in a football coaching session in the indoor centre. This culminated in a football match, where of course we all scored lots of goals! What a super day we had.

Mrs K Taylor



Electro City Workshop!

On a bleak and cold December morning, 15 year two children eagerly awaited the arrival of "Lego Man." Our topic in science this term had been electricity and we had had great fun in class, working out how circuits work and how electricity needs a pathway to travel along.

We had identified why some circuits worked and others didn't and had made some complex circuit drawings. The challenge now was to build a Lego city complete with buildings which were to be illuminated using wires, bulbs and batteries. We were free to design and construct our own weird, wacky and complex structures! Fifteen budding architects eagerly set to work. The boys and girls used their knowledge of electrical circuits gained in their science lessons to illuminate the city, which included switches to turn the lights on and off in their multi-storey buildings.

It was fantastic to see so much Lego in a vast variety of shapes, sizes and colours, including vehicles, traffic lights, bridges and complicated road systems. The highlight of the day was when we switched off the classroom lights and blacked out the room. Our illuminated Lego city looked fantastic. **Well done everyone!**

Mrs K Taylor



CLUBS & OTHER NEWS.

Chairman Of Governors, Mr Jeremy Gorick, Sworn In As High Sheriff Of Lancashire



Following his recent appointment, Mr Jeremy Gorick was sworn in as High Sheriff of Lancashire at the County Hall in Preston on Thursday, 19 April 2012. The appointment is a great honour to Mr Gorick and a matter of considerable pride to us as a school.

Please see the report below from pupils who attended the historic event.

'We left school at 1.40pm in order to arrive at the County Hall in Preston for 2.30pm. The ceremony began with the Under Sheriff reading out a number of documents. The retiring High Sheriff gave his thanks for his year and wished the best for Mr Gorick's coming year as High Sheriff of Lancashire.

Mr Gorick made a speech of appreciation, during which he gave thanks to his family for their support. He said he was

very grateful and proud that he had been selected by the Queen herself for the position of High Sheriff.

It was a very historical ceremony, dating back to 1265 when Henry III was the King. The documents used during the ceremony were also of historical value, such as the red seal on the Sheriff's patent document. The red seal was first used in the 11th century to prevent forgery and was also used last year by Her Majesty the Queen.

The ceremony ended with a prayer from the High Sheriff's chaplain, followed by tea and biscuits in the Assembly Hall, where we had a photo taken with the retiring High Sheriff and the new High Sheriffs of Lancashire. We all thoroughly enjoyed this historical ceremony, especially as it is not something that would happen every day.'

Leigh Edgington (4FP) & Ton Evans (4RJC)

Professor Iqbal Singh Awarded OBE In Queen's Birthday Honours List

Rubbing shoulders with the likes of Gary Barlow, Kate Winslet and Kenneth Branagh as a beneficiary of the Queen's birthday honours list, Professor Iqbal Singh, consultant physician in medicine for older people at Royal Blackburn Hospital and NHS East Lancashire, has been awarded an OBE for services to healthcare.

One of almost a thousand people to be honoured by the Queen as part of her birthday and Diamond Jubilee celebrations, Professor Singh has been a leading contributor to healthcare and medical regulation in the UK for over 25 years – as founder commissioner of the Health Care Commission and as Council Member of the General Medical Council.

Professor Singh is a former chair of the Expert Reference Group on Patient Safety (which helps develop standards of assessment of safety in healthcare), is a member of the General Medical Council's Undergraduate Board and Fitness to Practice Panel, and also chairs the Equality and Diversity Committee.

As if these were not enough, Professor Singh is also chair of Diversity Partners – a consortium of leading professional, regulatory and health organisations, focusing on equality, diversity and human rights issues. Medical vice chair of the Advisory Committee on Clinical Excellence Awards for the North West and

governor of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, are other prominent positions he has held.

He has contributed to the development of healthcare, through the University of Bolton, for ethnic and culturally diverse communities nationally and internationally and to the development of medical regulation in South East Asia.

"Iqbal has been an excellent and committed Governor of the School, all three of whose children attended Queen Elizabeth's, Neena becoming Joint Head of School in 2008. I am delighted to hear of this well-deserved honour to Professor Singh, which follows on from the Chairman being made High Sheriff of Lancashire, Mrs Ann Dean becoming a Deputy Lieutenant and David Peat being awarded an OBE: a distinguished Board! We congratulate Iqbal and his family on this huge honour." commented the Headmaster.



TEA Christmas Fair – Nov 27 2011



The School's Christmas Fair, organised by The Elizabethan Association, was another huge success this year. The Main Hall and Big School were crammed with a mix of handmade crafts and traditional stalls, offering something for everyone. There was even time for a special magic show by Mr Lead and Sixth Form pupil Ben Proos.

OBITUARY Sudden death of former teacher John Byrne - 28th Dec 2011

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of former Queen Elizabeth's Latin teacher John Byrne who has died at the age of 73. John Byrne was a former mayor of Bury and was currently serving as deputy mayor. Councillor Byrne had represented Labour on the council since 1984 he was up for re-election in the East Ward next year. John held positions on the board of NHS Bury and was Chair of Groundwork Bury and Bolton.

Mr Byrne left Queen Elizabeth's in 1965. Our sympathies go to John's widow Brenda and all his family and friends.



Times Spelling Bee Championships



A First Year team comprising Carl Trinder, Sophy Fletcher, Faisal Hanif and Alastair Simmons took part in this year's Times Spelling Bee competition. The aim of the competition is to make spelling fun and to help teachers to raise the profile of spelling and develop their pupils' abilities.

The Championship is aimed at the 11 to 12 year-old age group and is open to full-time pupils in schools in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Since it was launched in 2009, hundreds of schools have taken part and more than 12,000 children have represented their schools in Spelling Bee Championship teams. This year the local heats of The Times Spelling Bee Championship were held online and the winning teams progressed to the semi-finals in May. The climax was the Grand Final, which took place in London in June 2012.

There are prizes for the winning teams, for individual top spellers, and for the schools taking part. The team scored 24 points – with Sophy in particular performing extremely well, gaining us 14 of those points.

GCSE Business Studies Visit to Graham & Brown

Towards the end of term, the 4th form Business Studies class, accompanied by Mr Clark and Mr Russell, enjoyed a really excellent visit to Graham & Brown's Stanley Street operation.

The company is a highly successful, industry leader in the international wall coverings market and we were lucky enough to be given a fantastic insight to the design, marketing and production function of the business under the guidance of Mr Ian Brown, Company Director and former pupil of QEGS, and his very accommodating and hospitable staff team. It was great to see the real world of business in the context of such a creative, dynamic and globally competitive business that has its roots firmly in Blackburn and we are very grateful to Mr Brown and his colleagues for giving us such an informative and inspiring tour.

Oxford Places for Talented Linguists



Two high flying students from the Sixth Form at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School have been accepted to study at Oxford University this year. Dean Ward, who is studying Maths, Further Maths, Physics, Chemistry and French at A level, is to read Chemistry and Olivia Lalude-Haworth who is studying French, Spanish, Latin and Maths at A level is to read Classics at Queen's College.

Both Dean and Olivia are Blakey Language Scholars at Queen Elizabeth's, benefiting from the extreme generosity of an Old Blackburnian who enables the School to provide a free place to gifted linguists within the Sixth Form.

Olivia, one of the Deputy Heads of School and who joined Queen Elizabeth's at Sixth Form said:

"I was delighted at receiving my offer from Queen's College. I was unable to study Latin at A level at my previous School and so I applied to join the Sixth Form at Queen Elizabeth's through the Blakey Languages Scholarship. This allowed me to take the subjects that I really wanted to study, which will hopefully enable me to achieve my ambition of teaching Languages and Classics."

Lower 6th Form Economics Class Visit To The 'Enterprising Britain' Conference

Held at St Peter's School in York. Last term the Lower 6th Economics class was invited to attend an excellent conference on the future of enterprise in the UK.

Speakers included John Cridland, Director General of the CBI, Paul Grimwood, CEO of Nestle in the UK and Eire, Richard France, Managing Director of Oakgate Property PLC and Jim Reilly, co-founder of the ever popular educational website Tutor2u. The audience of students and staff were treated to a great range of perspective on the UK economy, the state of UK manufacturing, the art of entrepreneurship and how to run a successful business.

The day was enriched by participation in small seminar groups where students discussed how the future needs of the UK economy and business community could best be served by schools, colleges and the academic and vocational courses on offer.

This was an extremely interesting and informative occasion and much enjoyed by students and Mr Clark and Mr Morgan who accompanied the visit.

Society Of Biology Quiz Event Results

A team of four Lower Sixth Biologists (names below) visited UCLan to participate in the Society of Biology's annual schools' quiz for the North West region.

After completing a range of Biology-based activities the points were totalled and the QEGS team came second! This is an excellent result and a real achievement, beating 20 other schools from the area. They won some ecology textbooks and the teams were given a mini lecture on the importance of science in sport.

The top four teams were: 1) Lancaster Girls' Grammar School 2) QEGS 3) Stonyhurst College 4) Manchester Grammar School.



QEGS team:
Euan McKeating, Adam Van Cleef, Sam Exton, Anna Watson.

Chemistry Club Hit Manchester

The 2nd year Chemistry Club went to the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester on the train. At the museum we started in the air hall with huge planes in it!



Our group then crossed the road to the main part of the museum where we visited the gift shop! Exhibits included lifting a Mini using gears and an interactive computer that simulated flying an old Avro plane from one-hundred years ago. After Mr. Sagar had rounded us up we went into the 4D cinema to watch Robin Hood. The effects were superb and it was hugely enjoyable. After a two minute walk to the Printworks Mr. Sagar went to buy tickets for 'Snow White and the Huntsmen', unfortunately it had been cancelled due to lack of interest, instead we ended up watching 'Men in Black Three' which was a good film with a fantastic plot, executed brilliantly by the actor Will Smith. After a hugely enjoyable day we left the Printworks and headed for Manchester Victoria.

We arrived back at Blackburn at 6:15, tired but happy after a wonderful day. Thank you Mr Sagar!

Thomas Walsh

Laboratory Study Day At MMU



The U6th took part in a laboratory study day at MMU in December. They prepared biodiesel, purified it and ran various tests including infra-red spectroscopy,

mass spectrometry and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy as an exercise in extending their knowledge of organic chemistry and analysis.

Top of the Bench competition



The QEGS Chemistry team who represented Lancaster and District region in the National finals of the Top of the Bench competition, held at Imperial College.

“The Salters’ Challenge”

The 2nd Year Chemistry team of Benji Carrera-Knowles, Goe Parkinson, Uhzair Ahmed and Lukas Mason recently visited Bradford University to take part in the Salters' Chemistry Competition.

“The Salters' Challenge”

is a competitive, practical activity, for which no advance preparation is required, chosen by the University.

The team emerged as worthy winners and they were also, of course, a real credit to the School with their behaviour.

UK Senior Mathematical Team Challenge

On Friday 25th November, Queen Elizabeth's entered a team into the UK Senior Mathematical Team Challenge hosted by Lancaster University.

The team consisted of Lucy Midgley, Qiyang Chen, Benjamin Proos and Sam Exton, pictured here with their certificates.

They performed very well against 22 other North West schools and colleges finishing in 8th place; an excellent achievement.



Success for Qiyang Chen!

Qiyang Chen took part in the British Mathematical Olympiad against the brightest Sixth Form mathematicians in the country. 1414 students in total were involved and Qiyang performed extremely well gaining a Certificate of Distinction and placing himself in the top 25% of students taking part.

He is pictured below with Mrs Gammon Head of Mathematics.



Liverpool Mathematical Society Competition Success

Last term, three pupils from Queen Elizabeth's entered a prestigious Mathematics competition run by the Liverpool Mathematical Society. As part of the competition entrants had to complete a series of puzzles in their own time and hand in their written solutions to be marked by Liverpool University.

Kimlam Nguyen, 1PCW, entered the Challenge 12 section for Years 7, 8 and 9, and he performed extremely well and was awarded a certificate for Best in School.



Edward Watts, 4PTH, entered the Senior Challenge 12 for Years 10 and 11. As with Kimlam, he produced a very strong performance and was also awarded a certificate for Best in School.



Qasim Ali, 5AMR, entered the Open Challenge which was aimed at Years 12 and 13, and he came joint 6th out of 600 competitors. Qasim was invited to attend an awards evening at Liverpool University on Wednesday 25th April hosted by the Liverpool Mathematical Society, where he was presented with a certificate praising his highly commendable performance and given a monetary prize. He was by far the youngest student in this category to obtain a prize and, during the evening, impressed several of the Mathematical Professors with his ability. **Congratulations to you all.**

Mrs Gammon

UK Senior Mathematical Challenge

The Lower and Upper Sixth performed extremely well in the recent UK Senior Mathematical Challenge.

Silver Awards were gained by:

Dean Ward, Olivia Lalude-Haworth, William Storey and David Winter.

Bronze Awards were gained by Matthew Ringland, Lucy Midgley, Jonathan Evans, Sally Lofthouse, Jacob Grundy and Benjamin Proos. They are pictured here with their certificates.

Dean Ward also gained a certificate for the Best Result in School.



LIBRARY.

Second Year Pupil Librarians – Going for Gold!



Second Year Pupil Librarians received their bronze award in a special achievements assembly. Six pupils who have all worked extremely hard during the term were awarded with their certificates, a book of their choice and a Christmas selection box. Pupils moved onto their silver award at the start of Lent term, followed by their gold award during Trinity term – well done to Uhzair Ahmed 2AMD, Haarith Mulla 2SAS, Rees Parry 2AS, Rachel Myers 2AS, Asad Gulnawaz 2AS and Mohammed Adnan 2AS.

Mrs Dewhurst

Book Week – Celebrating World Book Day



We welcomed writer/teacher Dave Cryer into school to help us celebrate World Book Day. Dave spent a full day with us – and what a fantastic day it was too! Dave worked with a range of pupils; in the morning both Upper 6th and Lower 6th English Literature groups enjoyed workshops on creative writing, the stories that developed from this workshop, were amazing!

Mrs Dewhurst

National Storytelling Week – Final Day, Friday 3rd February



Today was our final day of celebrations for National Storytelling Week. Members from our Carnegie Club joined together to discuss and read some of their favourite books from past Carnegie book awards.

A great week, packed with events – a brilliant contribution from pupils who have taken time out to join in and be a part of this special week. A very special thank you to all pupils and staff for taking part and supporting this key event in school.

Mrs V B Dewhurst

VISITS & TRIPS.

4th Year Trips to UCLan & Blackpool Pleasure Beach

Monday July 2nd saw the whole Fourth Year visit the University of Central Lancashire in Preston where they were given a tour of the university facilities, had a free lunch in the refectory and opted for two workshops chosen from a list of five.

So they may have heard about factors which influence social behaviour in a psychology lecture, seen what a typical day in the life of a paramedic was like or observed small scale fires and explosions in a laboratory. The Law workshop in the Court Room was enjoyed by many where they were given a case to argue with some of the students playing the role of the judge but perhaps the most surprised students were those attending the Forensic Science workshop. On arrival they were presented

with a box of human skeletal remains and asked to reassemble the skeleton - after some initial reticence the students really enjoyed this. The trip has certainly helped the students consider what is important in choosing a university.

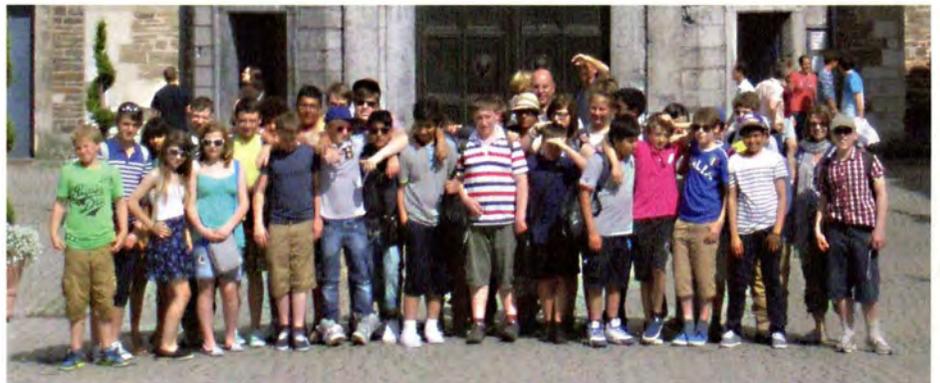
The hard work done on Monday at UCLan, Tuesday saw the Fourth Year 'mob the rides' with a vengeance at Blackpool Pleasure Beach. Doughnuts and chips were consumed by the bucket-load, large cuddly toys were won and, although it didn't rain on the day, students were dripping wet after 'Valhalla' (despite the rain capes). Indeed, one student was so wet through that a change of clothing was necessary! The staff even went on the rides so all in all, a good day was had by all.

The Aachen Study Trip

The Aachen Study Trip left these shores with thirty five 2nd and 3rd year pupils on 29th June bound for Germany and happily returned with the same number on 3rd July, albeit a little more exhausted than when they set off but hopefully all the more enriched for it.

They undertook a wide variety of activities including ordering themselves a luxury ice cream in German (no German = no ice cream!), interviewing members of the public about their views on Europe and the Euro, ordering staff delicious cakes from a patisserie (on this occasion they were forgiven if they resorted to English!).

There were also guided tours of the German Olympic museum where pupils were able to play football on the rooftop with the impressive River Rhine as a backdrop, Cologne's chocolate



museum and Aachen Cathedral where pupils excelled themselves with their perceptive range of questions which certainly made the guides earn their money. With the weather set fair pupils also spent the last afternoon luxuriating at the local outdoor pool although their task masters, aka teachers, made them complete their trip diary before they could venture near the water.

Apart from the Eurotunnel train breaking down for an hour within touching distance of the platform in France the trip ran extremely smoothly thanks to the fantastic attitude of the pupils and the sterling hard work of the staff Mr Sagar, Mrs Taberner and Mrs Tattersall.

Mr A M Rose

Brussels Educational Trip



High flying linguists from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School swapped Blackburn for Brussels for a week. More than 20 Sixth Formers jetted out to Brussels for an educational trip organised by the Modern Foreign Languages and Maths departments.

During the five day trip, they were thrilled to have the chance to visit the René Magritte museum, a jazz concert and the world famous Grande Place in Brussels city centre. They also had the chance to get a behind the scenes glimpse of European politics during visits to the European Parliament and the European Commission. But for most students, the highlight was a visit to a Belgian school, where they got the chance to chat to students of their own age and to spend the day in lessons with them.

"We enjoyed the opportunity to visit a real Belgian lycée and take part in

a Maths lesson." recalled Dean Ward, Head of School at Queen Elizabeth's and keen linguist and mathematician. **"I especially enjoyed seeing some of the maths teachers out of their comfort zone teaching in French!"**

"It also gave the opportunity to learn more about translation and interpretation in the EU institutions" added student Olivia Lalude-Haworth.

French teacher Lionel Barré who led the visit was delighted with his students' immersion into Belgian life. He said **"The idea behind the project was to prepare the students for adult life. They gained a lot of cultural and linguistic enjoyment from this trip."**

Claire Gammon, Head of Maths, added: **"In order to take part, the pupils had to work hard and show a willingness to adapt to a different environment; and they delivered on both accounts."**

Pupils Remember



Any history trip to the battlefields of the World Wars is bound to contain some poignant moments.

For members of school who toured of the battlefields, one such moment was when they managed to locate the grave of former head boy George Rigby, near Ypres. After a short service of remembrance a wreath was laid by departing 6th former Christian Brown.

Members of the trip are indebted to former Governor Mr Jeremy Stirrup, for helping them to locate George's grave.

Ski Trip to Montgenevre

On the 31st March 2012, thirty-six Queen Elizabeth's students and 3 staff arrived at Manchester Airport bleary eyed and raring to go. Their destination? Grenoble, where they would continue their journey for four hours on a coach through the beautiful scenery of the French Alps towards Montgenevre. After unpacking, everyone got their boots and skis sorted.



The next morning, the gang of 39 set out to the slopes and, once sorted into their groups of beginner, lower intermediate, higher intermediate and advanced, they branched off and went to explore the world of skiing. Due to the professionalism of their instructors Bruno, Thibaut, Francois and Mathew everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and got the most of both their time and money as each instructor was fantastic by not putting anyone out of their comfort zone but by pushing them enough to improve their skills.

After a long day of skiing, the group would settle down to the evening activities. Throughout the week the activities ranged from a pizza night all the way to a skidoo ride in Italy! Each activity was met with gusto and enthusiasm, especially the big prize bingo on the last night. Tensions were high through each of the games as prizes were won, however the big prize, the £60 prize, was won by Katie Gaffing in the Fourth Year.

So all in all the week in Montgenevre was a success, no real injuries and even though Stan Melville got lost twice on two separate days we found him both times, there was no sickness in France nor on the plane home and luckily no-one lost their passport. The ski trip could not have worked if it hadn't been for the staff, Dr Butler, Mrs Wild and Mr Heald, and the good nature of the group.

Joe Dwyer (4TJC)

Uganda Diary

Tuesday 3rd July

Our students are immersing themselves in teaching and painting the walls of the hall that our money built as a result of the last expedition in 2010. Mrs. Sarah Murphy mother of QEGS student Declan, had bags made by her textiles class at Turton High School, and the reaction of the children was amazing.

We are still getting used to just how poor these children are, and the bags were received as if they were so much more. Every pupil in the orphanage school was given a bag. Other items have also been purchased of which two large cooking pots used to make the children's lunch of maize flour, dumplings and beans (this is what is on the menu every day! Tomorrow we shall get on with decorating the Hall/classrooms with murals drawn and painted by our students.

Wednesday 4th July

Today was a hot one with sun overhead it reached over 30C. We bought paint for our students to do the murals in the hall, elephants and lions seemed to be prevalent. We gave out 60 plus pairs of shoes to children and the teachers (who were just as keen to receive them too).

Below are Matt Bury Emeley McGuinn and Charlotte Wright fitting a reception child with theirs. Other students spent time teaching children parachute games to classes and the teachers. At lunchtime we beat the primary children in a game of football! We are all fit and healthy ready to go out for tea (which will involve some form of goat I imagine).



End of second day in the Good Samaritan Primary school

Thursday 5th July

Today we spent time sorting out all of the donated clothes that we brought out in our suitcases. We plan to give them out next Tuesday. The main focus of the day was getting on with finishing the murals of the African

animals in the new hall/classroom. They are looking splendid. We also taught more classes how to use the parachute games. Euan MacKeating and Adam Van Cleef found out what it was like to deal with a boisterous Year 7 class. They actually coped admirably, and the children had a lot of fun! Georgina Chatburn-Jones and Charlotte Wright helped teach the little children how to play games with the parachutes too.

At lunchtime Mrs Foley turned back the clock and led a mass hokey cokey in the space in front of the classrooms you see in the picture. The day ended with the Headmaster of Mackay School challenging to us with a football match against the teachers and older boys in the school. The field is not very flat to say the least, but we came out 4-3 winners, thanks to goals from Chris Parkinson, Adam Keenan and Matt Walsh. So our pride was held intact, as we prepare for the game against the secondary school next week.

Overall this was a terrific day, as our students start to bond with the school's children. They are already intimating that they would like to help some of the pupils with their school fees of £40 per year!



From left to right: Matt Bury, George Huck, Adam Keenan, Niall Fay, Alex Wallbank and Chris Parkinson

Friday 6th July

Friday has come around quickly our students have done a great job of brightening up the Hall and they have engaged with the schools children wonderfully well.

We have seen real poverty, but also witnessed many smiles and happy children. The trip emphasis moves to seeing more of this beautiful country with a trip to Jinga (the source of the Nile, an old colonial settlement)



Niall Fay, Chris Parkinson, Matt Walsh and Matt Bury taking a break!



Saturday 7th July

Today was a chance to see a bit more of Uganda. We went to the Old Colonial town of Jinja. Passing through the tea plantations and bits of rainforest as we reached the source of the Nile, the place where the river flows out of Lake Victoria. The journey was a good 2 hours on what were pretty good roads for this country. Matt Ringland, our song leader, kept spirits up with a version 100 green bottles that everyone joined in with. We also ate out at a pleasant outdoor restaurant that contained a mini golf and a pool table this went down well.



Mr B, Oliver Roberts, George Huck, Niall Fay, Adam Van Cleef, Sam Westwood and Euan MacKeating at the source of the River Nile. Only 6400km from the Mediterranean Sea so we were told.

Sunday 8th July

This was another productive day here in Kampala. We spent the first part of the morning buying a big array of textbooks that the teachers wanted. On arrival at the school, there was the usual excitement. We are being greeted like the Bay City Rollers in their prime (I am getting old).

Our students finished their paintings in the Hall and each animal was named after the main artist. Other activities included more teaching. I grappled with a Ugandan version of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves including the actions. Oliver Roberts spent a lot of time filling holes in all the blackboards. Matt Ringland found a new friend to carry around for most of the day.



Monday 9th July

We visited the secondary school at Mackay, Kampala. This was a packed day of activities.

We were in classes observing and in my case teaching A level Economics "Structure of the UK economy". I hope I did Mr Clark proud. This was followed by a greeting in the traditional way with much singing and dancing by the Mackay students, who were amazingly good. After lunch Euan MacKeating, Sam Westwood, Oliver Roberts and Adam Van Cleef were challenged to a very formal debate on domestic violence in the home. Speaking in front of the whole 6th form, they were able to articulate their points with great effect. This was more remarkable because they had prepared the proposing viewpoint the night before, and then were informed that they were actually opposing! Nevertheless they adapted brilliantly and more than held their own. The judge declared an honourable and diplomatic draw.

Following this we played first volleyball and then a football match in front of the whole school of over 1000 students. With a mix of footballers and non-players we finished 0-0, thanks to Matt Ringland's heroics in goal. We lost the traditional penalty shoot-out (GK saved my spot kick) but it was a great day we learnt a lot, and made some new friends. MacKay is a terrific school, and our students saw that there is some real hope here in Uganda, in places like this.



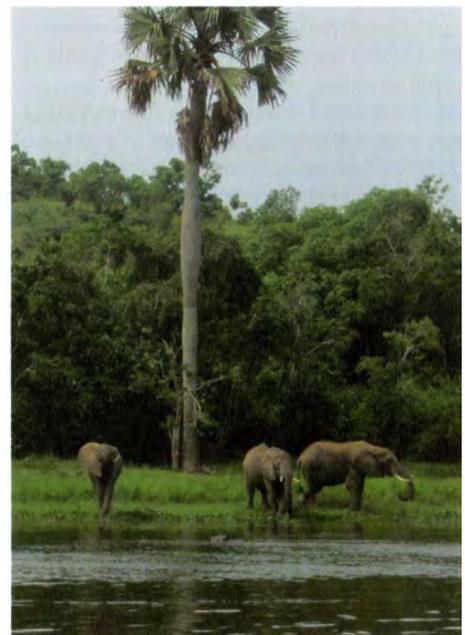
Charlotte Wright being interviewed at MacKay for a National TV children's programme that will be aired here on Saturday

Tuesday 10th July

Today we gave out all the remaining clothes to the children at Good Samaritan School. It was an emotional affair; the children were delighted with what they had been given.

We brought enough out to give every child in the school two items of clothing. Julia Shekelton and Niall Fay managed to find good homes for their Burnley FC shirts! This was our last full day in the school. Early night tonight as we head off on Safari to Murchison Falls tomorrow.

We are back in Kampala now, after a superb trip to Murchison Falls National Park. Staying at Paraa Lodge, we were treated to 5 star luxury. The rooms were typically Colonial and the food choice was amazing, everyone ate like kings and queens.



The real highlight though, was the wild animals that we were able to see. There were a lot of giraffes, elephants, warthogs, baboons and crocodiles. We were able to see many of these from the comfort of a boat trip up the River Nile, which took us to the foot of the mighty Murchison Falls



(see picture of Adam Keenan and Matt Bury at the top of these Falls). The River Nile is channeled through a gorge only 9 metres wide, a truly awesome sight. The group also visited the sister resort at Chobe for a swim and lunch, which they enjoyed, giving them a chance to top up those oh so important sun tans.



All in all a great three days, although a lot of travelling on roads like the one you can see in the picture above. So it is slow going. Tomorrow is a bit of a lie in, with a chance to buy their loved ones some Ugandan mementos in the local Kampala markets.

Andy Buckingham Blog

Uganda Updates

I've just returned from taking the group to Entebbe Airport for their long journey home (I'm here for another two weeks) and it seems very quiet back at the hotel. It's been a real privilege to be with the young people on their trip to Uganda; they have seen and experienced so much from the poverty at Good Samaritan School to the "non-stop madness", as our friend Peter Bitarabeho calls it, of Kampala and the beauty of the Murchison Falls National Park.



Goodbyes!

I hope that the memories last for a lifetime and have an effect on how they look at the world, but most of all I think they will remember the joy and vibrancy of the people who often have so little in material possessions.

QEGS should be proud of the real and lasting difference this and the last group have made to Good Samaritan School and the children there; I'm sure that in the coming months they will tell more through assemblies and displays. Here are a couple of pictures of the emotional farewell at the school this morning and the finished painting in the Hall.

Paul Wright signing off.
With thanks to all the students from QEGS and Mr Buckingham and Mrs Foxley



The completed Hall



VALEDICTIONS.

M Lionel Barré

Life won't be the same outside the corridors of power (aka the Common Room) after the departure to Shrewsbury School of M Lionel Barré. No longer will pupils be cajoled in to making their requests to see Mrs X or Mr Y in French or Spanish before their wish will be granted. No one could show the same all-embracing passion as Lionel for the languages that he loves to teach and that he loves youngsters to learn and to use at every opportunity.

Having an office next to his teaching room I have been able to vouch first-hand on a daily basis for the hive of lively, linguistic activity that characterises Lionel's lessons. Whenever I had a moment and had spent too much time at my desk I enjoyed nothing more than to pop in to his 6th Form lessons to witness and take part in a spot of animated debate on whatever the topic of the day was.

Lionel's love of languages led him to initiate a European Club at School which in turn led to his helping to lead the inaugural 6th Form trip to Brussels last October. He also led a number of trips to Paris for 4th form pupils. Even more so than in the classroom (if that is possible) Lionel came to life on these trips, impressing staff and pupils alike with his knowledge, wit and unwavering trust that the French public transport would get them there and back despite the inevitable rail strikes that they were subjected to. All part of the experience, mes amis.

Of course, Lionel will be greatly missed for these and all his other contributions to school life and in offering my personal gratitude for all that he has done for the modern languages department over the years I know that I express the thoughts of all of us in wishing Lionel and his family all the best for his time at Shrewsbury School.

Mr A M Rose
Head of Languages

Fiona Pook

Fiona was at QEGS for over 15 years and contributed a great deal during her time with us.

She is an extremely intelligent individual and there is no doubt that she clearly loves Mathematics. It is this enthusiasm for her subject that has inspired many students, with all pupils benefiting from her patience and conscientious manner. Fiona's Maths was not restricted to the classroom and for a number of years she was Treasurer of the Common Room Committee collecting staff subs with menaces and ensuring cheques were made for exactly the right amount.

However, Fiona went far beyond being a Mathematics teacher contributing to many other areas of the school life. She

was a First Form Tutor for many years and could be relied upon to calmly and efficiently guide our new pupils onto the right path. Over and above her role in the classroom, she gave freely of her time to cast and rehearse several First Year shows and pantomimes. She was even persuaded to play a small part on stage in a couple of the shows – just to show the pupils she was prepared to 'put her money where her mouth was'! Fiona was also a regular on numerous trips, First Year Discos and many other school events.

She assisted with the organisation of the school photographs at the start of every Michaelmas term, making sure that every pupil from Reception through to Upper Sixth looked their best.

She will be remembered fondly for her sewing skills, making costumes for various school plays and productions, as well as emergency repairs to many a pair of school trousers, and for helping to keep the green room calm from opening night nerves.

Her baking skills are legendary, contributing fully to the Maths Cake Fridays and never missing making 18th birthday cakes for any of the students she taught.

Fiona will be greatly missed by both staff and pupils and we wish her happiness in her new role as mum to Imogen.

CY Gammon

Jonathan Cave



Jonathan Cave was appointed by my predecessor sixteen years ago to take over as Deputy Headmaster at a time when a great deal of change was being undertaken. Jonathan was instrumental in developing new reporting and assessment procedures which got us as close as any school is ever likely to get to achieving consistency and fairness in these controversial and endlessly debatable areas. Needless to say, this was not always easy; it never is when there are entrenched views and traditions, all of which had seemed to each individual to have functioned perfectly well.

It is greatly to his credit, however, that he managed both to innovate and to drive through these crucially important changes in a way that kept people on side and ensured that the school continued to move forward.

Keen to encourage all pupils, from the obvious Oxbridge applicants (he studied at New College, Oxford himself) to those who are not especially intellectually gifted but have talents that can be brought out and used to their advantage, Jonathan was prepared to give endless time to further the prospects of every pupil at the school.

To say that Jonathan Cave was an efficient administrator is an egregious understatement but he would be horrified if that is how he were to be remembered, as he always managed to put people before paper and spend time on those human elements that do not necessarily fit even with the best thought-out and sophisticated of systems. This, above all else, I suspect, is the reason he commanded such respect amongst his colleagues, pupils and parents. The ability to work in the grey areas, where a black and white perspective just does not help, is essential for any effective deputy and Jonathan had the trenchant intelligence, patience and ability to understand people's emotions to do this, day in day out, in a way that was effective and ensured that all sorts of potential difficulties were avoided.

How he did this, given the routine demands of his job is, of course, a source of wonderment to his colleagues. The problem for deputy heads is that no-one sees every facet of their job; one notices the bit that impacts directly on

oneself. So, there would be few people who appreciate that he: controlled the school roll and associated administration (huge and complex); supervised and was responsible for construction of the timetable; oversaw internal and external examinations (each of these a job for one person!); did the daily cover rota when teaching staff were absent; dealt with all aspects of teacher training, induction, review and development; co-ordinated and checked administration for school trips; chaired several committees, including the Heads of Department (vitally important). I could go on, and could add just when everyone thought they might have some sense of the parameters of his job, the fact that he was our Fire Officer!

If this were not enough – and for most people it would be more than enough to compromise their sanity and future survival – Jonathan continued to teach a pretty hefty timetable, run the debating society in which we have performed to extraordinarily high standards, both locally and nationally, and still managed, in our activities week, to teach pupils croquet!

That Jonathan Cave will leave a huge hole, therefore, goes without saying. The hours he put in for the sake of the school would be difficult to count, and impossible to pay. He did so in a way that was uncomplaining, determined and dedicated at all times and even when, just occasionally, it looked as though things were likely to prove incendiary, he managed, having counted to ten or beyond, to find a way of reconciling the irreconcilable, pacifying the uncontrollable and resolving the insoluble. For this, and for his exemplary commitment in his many years of service to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, we are deeply indebted to Jonathan, who takes with us our very best wishes for future success and happiness as he embarks on the next stage of his career, pursuing his own educational interests. I think we can all be confident that this will be very far from an idle time but let us hope he will make time to enjoy his many hobbies, including his deep love of music and theatre, walking and no doubt all sorts of other interests we do not even know about.

Simon Corns

Brian Lead

Brian joined the English Department in September 2006, coming to us from St Wilfrid's. I remember the moment well: I was a newly-appointed Head of Department and into Jonathan Cave's office, for my first interview, walked Brian. Would someone with Brian's experience as a senior examiner and Head of Department really want to work with someone as inexperienced as me? Would he be judgemental? Would he make me disappear in one of his magic tricks? Well, Brian reassured and kindly promised to support and help me throughout – and he's been as good as his word ever since!



Brian has been an inspiration to so many people during his time with us. The pupils loved his lessons and really appreciated the care and attention which he was always willing to give them. His real art as a teacher was to communicate information and teach skills, sometimes without the pupils realising how much work they were doing! They could be lulled into thinking they were having a 'fun lesson', while underneath it all lay a carefully constructed message and lesson objective: those skills of manipulation have been truly transferrable from magic! He has also always been a loyal and enthusiastic supporter of everything they do: I know he's a regular at school concerts, exhibitions, productions: you name it, he'll support pupils in it! I think one of the things he will be most celebrated for is his involvement in Magic. I lost count of the number of eager First Years determined to join Magic Club and his support for Ben Proos has been second to none. That, coupled with two appearances on North West Tonight must raise his celebrity status, somewhat: it certainly added to his huge appeal to the pupils, particularly the younger ones, who held him in such fond regard.

Brian has also been a valuable, and valued, member of the Department. He has guided several students through their placement term with us with a subtle, caring hand. Natalie and Simon have barely known working life without him, and I'm sure that they have learned much from his wit and wisdom. Not to mention his help and support for his two Heads of Department, who have always been able to rely on him to get the job done efficiently and thoroughly! We will all miss you terribly.

Brian has never been afraid to put himself forward for seemingly impossible tasks. He is incredible at making contacts and persuading people to come into school – I genuinely don't know how he does it! A visit from GP Taylor, Tea with Gervase Phinn, his wonderful magic show ... but the one I will always remember, perhaps for the wrong reasons, was Poet Laureate, Andrew Motion. In itself, this was a remarkable achievement and a wonderful event for the school's Quincentenary Year, but whenever I hear Motion's name, I will always think of Brian! In a typically generous gesture, Brian offered to be the taxi service to and from Preston station.

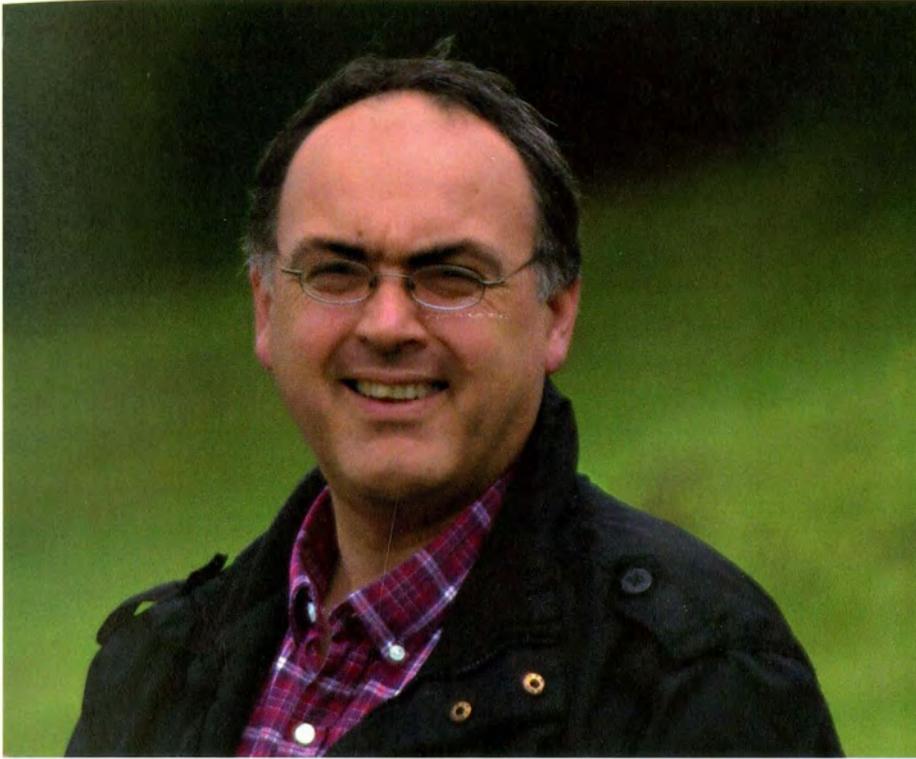
Unfortunately, on the return journey, traffic came to a standstill due to an accident on the M6. Motion needed to be back in London to judge a literary award but the traffic wouldn't budge. Imagine the scene as Brian attempts to placate and make small talk with an increasingly frustrated poet laureate! Now if anyone could cope in that situation, it's Brian: words may have failed the poet laureate but I'm sure they couldn't have failed Brian. How I would have loved to have a webcam in that car! True to form, Brian returned to work ready to go and professional as ever – if slightly frazzled by the experience!

From our fateful first meeting, neither of us could ever have guessed that we would become partners in crime! Brian, I will miss you being my 'other half' (I don't think Steve will mind me referring to you like that!), and we all hope you enjoy your new lease of life in retirement – which should not be confused with cessation of activity as I'm sure that you'll have plenty to do with your interests, your magic, with Sheila and as a lovely Grandad to Oliver. We wish you every happiness and will insist that you come back and visit us soon. **Brian Lead: pure magic!**

J V StJean

David Westworth

To say that the members of the department were shocked to learn that David was applying for the post of Head of Department at CRGS is putting it mildly. There was no surprise at all, however, to find that he had been offered the post! We knew that Clitheroe would snap him up avidly!



Having previously taught at Malvern College, David joined the QEGS Classics Department in 1993 as a replacement for the retiring Margaret Adams. The Head of Classics at this time was Colin Wilson, whom David succeeded as Head of Department for the last five years of his time at QEGS. Colin speaks very warmly of David, although he remembers that he had little to do with his appointment, David being offered the post by the then Headmaster, Philip Johnston, without any other candidates being called for interview! Time has proved that PFJ did know a thing or two about appointments. Colin says that David soon started to put his own inimitable stamp on the pupils that he taught and that there was no stopping him – razor sharp humour, profound erudition and a genuine care and concern for those he taught or tutored proved to be an irresistible combination for so many who came under his spell. Colin also says that he is forever grateful for the fact that David made him seem tidy. Anyone who has ever had cause to visit the Classics office will see what he means!

It was not only in the classroom that David made his contribution to school life at QEGS. He has produced and directed six plays (Macbeth, Amadeus, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Twelfth Night, Medea, and The Importance of Being Earnest) bringing his own individual slant and interpretation to each of them. Apart from his teaching, it is probably for his contributions to school drama that most people will remember him. As well as producing his own plays, David also acted as stage manager for other productions – most notably the musicals.

David's love of quizzes is also well known and the team he was in was always the favourite to win the annual Sixth Form Quiz down in Singleton House – and it usually did so! His wide general knowledge is amazing and he was always going to be the "phone - a - friend" if ever any member of staff got onto Who Wants To Be A Millionaire. I think his only weakness was Far Eastern Football Teams of the 1960s!

In his time at QEGS David has also been editor of the school magazine, The Blackburnian, has organised and managed the school bookshop, and has been Chairman of the Staff Common Room. He has also been an invaluable help to Doctor Butler as the scorer for school swimming matches.

I have enjoyed David's company for almost twenty years and never more so than when we were on the Classics Department Italy Expeditions. I have been with David in Pompeii and Herculaneum, in St Peter's Basilica, on top of Mount Vesuvius and on the Isle of Capri and I have many happy memories of these trips. David brought his own expertise to these trips and, even more importantly, his humour. We had many a good laugh together and I am sure there is the basis for a book on the lines of the David Herriott volumes!

It has been a pleasure to work with you these last twenty years, David, and we wish you every success and happiness in the new stage of your career at Clitheroe.

J. Grogan

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