

Dear Parents

It's hard to believe that we're almost at the end of our first term. How time flies! The beginning of the year is such a busy and bustling time at school and so much has happened here at QEMS. Firstly, I would like to pass my huge congratulations to last year's Year 11 who opened their GCSE results at the end of August. I am so proud of their achievements. The overall results showed further improvements, with a good number of exceptional performances. We wish all students well in their further studies or training.

We were very pleased to welcome the Year 7 students in September. They are a delightful group of young people, who are settling in really well. We look forward to their Tingling Tango event on the last day of term.

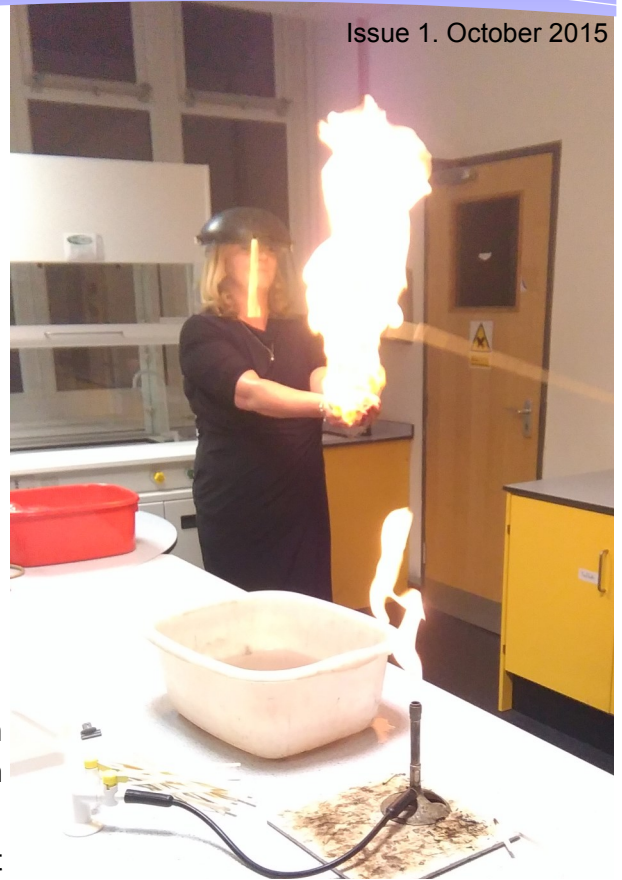
Thank you to all parents for supporting us with maintaining high standards of presentation of uniform. All of our visitors remark on how incredibly smart our students look, and they are right!

Open Evening was a huge success again this year. We wouldn't be able to pull off such an event without the help of the students. They did a fantastic job, helping in so many ways, and were wonderful ambassadors for the school.

There have been a number of trips and events already this term and our sports teams have been very busy and successful. The older students also have exams and mock exams.

I am certain that next term will be just as busy as this term has been. I hope you all have a peaceful and enjoyable holiday.

Ms Evans



Ms Evans bravely participated in a Science methane bubble experiment on Open Evening. What you're seeing is the rapid combustion of natural gas but it isn't hurting the person holding them due to the large amount of energy required to heat up the water covering their arms.



The English department set the scene with an Alice in Wonderland theme on Open Evening.

Guests were invited to join the Mad Hatter's tea party where they got to indulge in treats and a chocolate fountain but they could not be late for a very important date to play Croquet in the Queen's Croquet Ground.



## Wellbeing Centre

Our Wellbeing Centre is a sanctuary and a hub for advice, guidance and knowledge on a range of issues that might be affecting our students. We access support from outside services and channel this to our students via this centre.

The services offered within the Wellbeing Centre provide support surrounding:

Exam stress

Bullying

Relationships

Smoking

Alcohol

Drugs

Bereavement

Coping with family illness

Sexual health

Emotional wellbeing

It is a pleasant and comfortable environment, please feel free to have a look for yourself (it is located next to H1 and H2).

**If you would like any further information please speak to a member of the Student Support Team.**

## Maths Intervention Sessions

The Maths department is now running weekly maths intervention sessions for targeted Year 10 and 11 students. So far we have covered key exam topics such as finding the nth term, writing a number as a product of its prime factors and expanding brackets.

Year 10 sessions run on a Monday and Tuesday with Year 11 on a Thursday and Friday all during form time with Mr Niland in E4.

We will be reviewing the progress and inviting a new cohort of students this month.

## Child Development

In Child Development we had an outside speaker, Hannah Tuck, come in to school on Monday 21 September. Hannah is a midwife based in Cardiff.

She spoke to the 2 GCSE groups about various aspects of her job including the 3 stages of labour, pain relief, special treatments women sometimes needed and the immediate aftercare of the newborn baby. We had a doll in the class, along with the Science department's skeleton which enabled Hannah to demonstrate the different positions the baby can be delivered.

We had many questions from students - especially midwife wannabes!!

Hannah also talked through the best ways to apply to become a midwife and even showed students various websites to go on for extra career information. She commented on how well behaved the students were around the school and was very impressed with the students in her classes. Hannah even offered to come back to QEMS to speak to the students again around revision time.

Skye Lightwood said 'The talk was really useful. It helped me to understand more about pregnancy and labour. I would like to become either a midwife or to work with children who have hearing difficulties.'

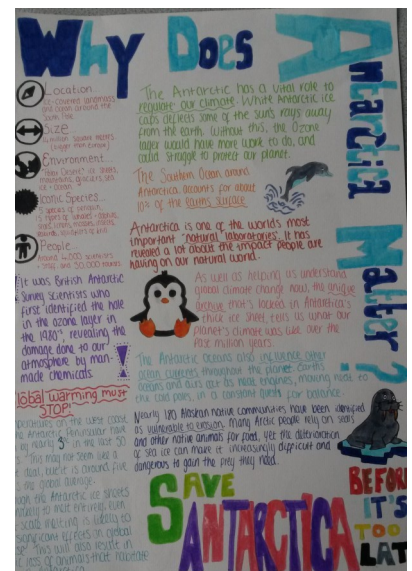
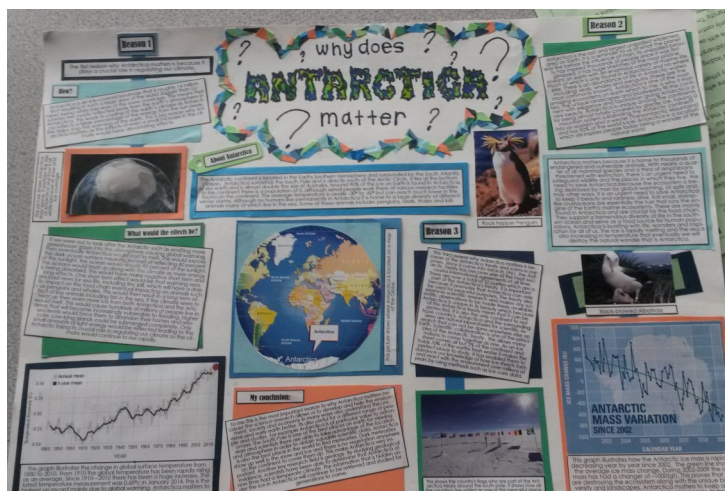
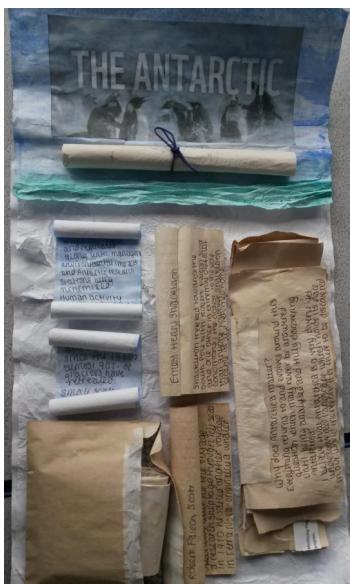
Phoebe Townsend commented 'Hannah has really inspired me to follow my dream of becoming a midwife. She was really enthusiastic and passionate about her job.'

## Geography

The Geography department would like to thank and congratulate all the applicants who entered the Young Geographer of the Year Award 2015.

We are sending off 5 excellent entries to London for the competition this week and wish them all the best!

Photographs of the work will be put up on the board outside G1.



## Football

There were mixed results in the football match vs Landau Forte Amington last week. The Year 7 team won their very first match away at Amington with goals from Harrison Poole and Liam Dawson. The Year 8 team was beaten 5-0 and the Year 9s were humbled 6-1. The Year 10 game was marred by controversy. QEMS were beaten 6-2 on the day after struggling to field a team but the result was reversed due to the fact that Amington had played an over age player. The best was saved until last though with, the Year 11 team winning 4-3 away from home with Jake Puffet scoring all 4 goals. What a hero!!!!

## GCSE Art

During Enrichment Week in July, our GCSE Art students created stunning mixed media expressive face portraits at the Sixth Form Centre. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience and all who participated now have a fantastic piece of art work to put in their portfolios.

In July we also took a group of GCSE Art students to Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford to look at the cultural masks and artefacts on display. This was to gain invaluable first hand experience of sketching and photographing their amazing displays. The visit was to support their coursework project on 'Cultural Masks' which will greatly enhance the students understanding, and in turn enhance their grade.

The Year 7s have recently completed Summer School activities. During this time they created some fabulous Kandinsky inspired art pieces. During the activity, they listened to the kinds of music that Kandinsky was inspired by, 30s and 40s Jazz, Wagner and Schoenberg. They then created pieces inspired by the music. Some very interesting pieces were created as a result!



## Year 7 Camp

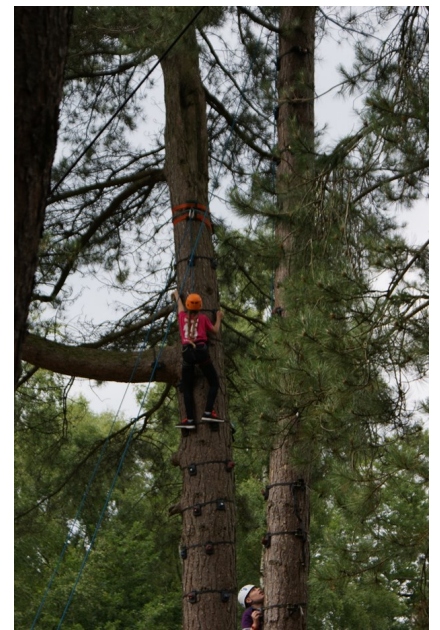
As part of Enrichment Week, held at the end of each academic year, our Year 7 students attended their summer camp at Beaudesert camp site on the edge of Cannock Chase. The aim of camp is to encourage team work, to celebrate the end of a successful first year, to have a go at some outdoor and adventurous activities, and most importantly, to have a bit of fun.

Students got to take part in a range of activities such as archery, abseiling, orienteering, the monkey tree and many more. A highlight of camp is always to see if you can survive the greasy pole! Students sit opposite their opponent and try their hardest to knock them off the greasy pole (with a pillow) into the icy water beneath!

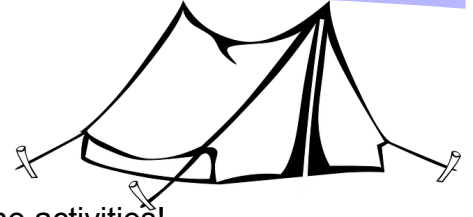
The students were treated to a traditional campfire complete with songs, silly sketches and of course marshmallows. Students are also encouraged to work on their teamwork by having to put their faith in a friend and complete some outrageous team challenges. As always the students were treated to the best grub around, the highlight being a 'chippy tea' from the local chip shop, as well as lots of hot chocolate and of course the odd bacon sandwich.

It's always a pleasure to take students out on an adventure such as this; there are always those moments when they face a fear such as abseiling down the old quarry, or the pure delight of a toasted marshmallow cooked on an open fire. It wouldn't be possible to make such an event possible without a huge thanks to all the staff who give up their week to be an amazing team. At least the weather was good this year!





## My Camp Experience



The Year 7 camp trip was amazing!

When I got to camp, oh my gosh I could not wait to get started with all the activities!

The activities we did were rock climbing, abseiling, monkey tree climbing, crate stacking, archery, a night hike, low ropes, orienteering, and my favourite the greasy pole! Here is an explanation of each activity.

**Rock climbing:** basically climbing up a wall!

**Abseiling:** you go to the edge of a rock face, lean back and abseil down the rock face!

**Monkey tree:** this activity is basically a monkey puzzle tree that you climb (it's a bit like rock climbing but on a tree).

**Crate stacking:** you have two people clipped into chest harnesses and the rest of your team have to try and attempt to stack as many crates as possible.

**Archery:** shooting arrows at a target and going through basic safety.

**Night Hike:** the night hike is as loop around the camp site and also a wilderness part. The teachers will go through the history of the camp site and how it came to be. You could also grab a sneak peak of red deer.

**Low ropes:** low ropes in easy words, is basically an obstacle course on ropes. You get into pairs, one will do the course and the other will stabilise their team mate.

**Orienteering:** you have a map, and a sheet. You have a starting point and you have to orienteer your map as you go along. You go around the campsite with a time limit (best to have a watch).

**Greasy Pole:** this activity is in a pool of water, with a pole over the top. You and your competitor have a pillow each and have to hit each other with it until one falls in! Sounds fun, right?

On the second night we had a camp fire, along with some songs and toasted marshmallows. However, to help our teachers out, it was only fair to do some wood collecting. It sounds boring but it was actually quite fun.

Even with all of these activities you do get free time to go and play around the site (with boundaries).

One of my favourites was the wide games. Wide games are when you can run within the boundaries! Some of the games are fox and hound, the three witches and cops and robbers.

The camp was brilliant. I am so glad I went on the camp and I am sure many others did too!

By Leonie Colbourne





## Geography Field Trip

Earlier this term, Year 11 GCSE Geography students visited the picturesque Peak District Town of Castleton. The purpose of the visit was to collect data and study the impact of tourism on the area for their controlled assessment (coursework).

Castleton is one of the Peak District's most popular honey-pots. Honey-pots are areas which attract many tourists. They are so called because tourists flock to these places like 'bees around honey'. Castleton receives over 2 million visitors every year. This large number of tourists causes many problems in and around Castleton. These problems include –

- Litter.
- Traffic congestion - This is a problem in the village to both locals and visitors. There is a large car park, with space for coaches, and public toilets but at peak times (Summer Sundays or during the Garland ceremony) the parking provision is not enough and the congestion spoils the character of the village and affects its enjoyment by all.
- Footpath erosion resulting from overuse. This is particularly the case around popular natural attractions such as Mam Tor and Winnats Pass.
- Conflict with other land users, e.g. farmers and walkers.

Whilst visiting, students had to complete environmental surveys, traffic and pedestrian counts and field sketches. The most nerve-racking moment is when students have to interview visitors to find out their views on the impact of tourism in the area.



## Music



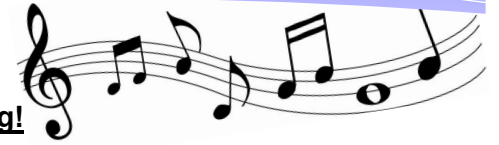
### The Strawberry Prom

Our annual celebration of musical success, The Strawberry Prom, took place on Thursday 9 July. The students should be commended on their outstanding performances during this evening, many of which were entirely student-led. A range of soloists performed on their instruments, including two violins, a trumpet and many vocalists. There were also small ensembles, who combined their excellent instrumental skills with vocals. Our Concert Band and String Ensemble also performed their well-rehearsed pieces and the choir sang some popular favourites, including 'Budapest' by George Ezra and 'These Days' by Take That. There was even a tap-dance duet this year, who impressed the audience with their outstanding skills. A special thanks should also be given to Emma Calverley, Year 11, who accompanied many of the ensembles and solos during the night.

The DT department should also be thanked for chopping an immense amount of strawberries, ready for the evening!

Well done to all involved; we are already planning next year's concert!





## Concert Band's Summer of Music Making!

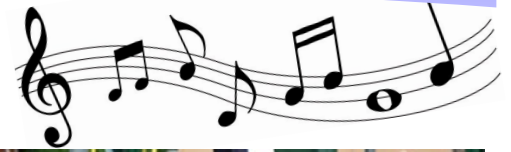
The Music Department had an extremely busy summer term! The Concert Band were privileged to be asked to play at lots of different fetes and concerts in the area and as always, did an amazing job at representing the Academy.

The Concert Band started off their performances on 20 June at Harlaston Open Gardens. They played their usual repertoire of favourites, along with some new music which included 'Hairspray' and 'Party Dance Mix', which were popular with the audience that gathered. In usual Harlaston tradition, the band were again visited by a heavy rain storm, but they managed to continue playing throughout! Small groups of students became 'wandering minstrels' and also visited houses around the village, to play chamber music to them.



The Band then travelled to Burton-on-Trent on 27 June, to William Shrewsbury Primary School, to perform at their Summer Gala. The sun stayed out for this event and the music really added to the 'Seaside' theme of the Gala. The Band were congratulated on their fabulous playing by the school, who were all a credit to the Academy.





Millfield School's Fete was the final concert outside, where the band were again greeted by sunshine, although lots of pegs were needed to stop the music flying away! The students all love playing here each year, as many of them attended Millfield School. It has become a regular event in the Band's calendar! The Band enjoyed playing some regular favourites, such as 'The Lion King' and 'Gimme Some Lovin', as well as their new piece 'Gangnam Style', which went down well with the Millfield students.



Finally, the Concert Band were extremely privileged to be invited to play at Mrs Veal's retirement concert at Flax Hill Junior Academy. Landau Forte Academy QEMS has worked alongside Mrs Veal in coordinating music events for many years. She has also worked with many of our students over the years, inspiring them to take part in music; a lifelong enjoyment that began with her. Many of them wanted to thank her for this, and were extremely excited to be involved in this event.

Congratulations to Bethany Davies on passing her Level 1 bell ringing.

Bethany has been having lessons on Wednesdays from 4-5pm with a group of students at St Editha's Church in Tamworth. These students will ring at the school carol service in December.

## Upcoming Events

Christmas Carol Concert: St Editha's Church Thursday 17 December

Annie The Musical: 18-19 March 2015




Association of  
Ringing  
Teachers



**Learning  
the Ropes**

**Bethany Davies**  
ringer at  
St Editha, Tamworth  
completed  
**Level 1**  
Bell Handling



10<sup>th</sup> June 2015  
Teacher: Andrew Elise

Supported by 



## Spelling Bee

Students from primary schools across Tamworth were invited to take part in the annual Spelling Bee at QEMS on Thursday 18 June 2015.

Teams from Flax Hill, Two Gates, Saint Elizabeth's, Coton Green, William Macgregor and Moorgate Primary schools battled it out to be the Spelling Bee Champions of 2015. They had to spell challenging words such as Machiavellian, photosynthesis and proxemics.



The competition went to a 'sudden death' round for the first time, with teams from Coton Green and Flax Hill striving to become the champions. Coton Green were finally beaten by the word 'manoeuvre', to make Flax Hill the winning team. Well done to all students involved.




### *Upcoming Events*

Harriet Goodwin (author) is working with our Gifted and Talented Year 8 students on Thursday 12 November  
House Music - Main Hall, Thursday 19 November

## Celebration Day



Our  reading group attended the annual **Young Teen Fiction Celebration Day**, alongside many other schools from across the county. These and hundreds of other Staffordshire teenagers have been part of the selection and voting process, for the book award, throughout 2014/15. ***Girl Online* by Zoella Suggs** was voted this year's winning book.



We watched presentations from other teenagers about all of the short listed books. Then we listened to Bali Rai talking about being a British Asian teenager from a challenging background, growing up in Leicester and how he went on to become a world famous novelist.

The event took place on the 10th anniversary of the 7/7 bombings and a minute's silence was observed during the morning at the RAF Cosford Museum, where Celebration Day was hosted.

Teenagers listened intently as Bali described narrowly missing the 7/7 London bombings en route to a school in Putney. He went on to talk about how important reading and education is in a world where liberty is constantly under threat.

The second speaker was teen author Lil Chase. She gave a short interactive workshop outlining the methods she uses to grow her ideas and develop characters and plots in the many books she has had published. Teenagers in the audience participated by contributing ideas.

Lil's book, ***Boys for Beginners*** was shortlisted for the award 2 years ago. The audience discovered she was *only* 13 years old when she wrote this book! She rediscovered her original manuscript a few years ago, developed it and had it published. Inspirational stuff for teens eager to publish their own stories!

The day drew to a close with the announcement of the book Staffordshire teens had voted into 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place this year. They were:-



*"This is an incredible debut novel from YouTube phenomenon Zoe Sugg, aka Zoella"*



*"Bodyguard Ransom - a bullet-proof thriller from Chris Bradford, author of Bodyguard Hostage and Young Samurai"*



*"A topical and moving novel about family, love, community, the tangled roots of history and searching for a place to call home. By the Waterstones Prize-winning author of Artichoke Hearts"*

All available to loan from your school library.

For more information about the award see [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/ytf](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/ytf)

Hollie Chetwynd from Year 8 was presented with a prestigious YTF Reading Champion Award. This is an award given to any student who is an advocate for reading in their own school. Hollie is an active member of the reading club, she read all 6 of the shortlisted titles and is a fantastic contributor to group discussions. This year she ran a session with her English class, called **'Have You Ever Wondered Why Everyone Says Reading is Good for You?'**. We have witnessed Hollie's reading blossom this year and she has been a fabulous role model to her class.



**YTF Reading Group meet every Thursday in the Library at 3.45 for half an hour.**

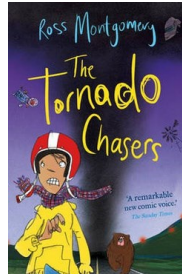
**If you enjoy a good story, want to get your hands on new books, attend extra events and meet a few authors why not come along and check us out!**

## Bookbuzz

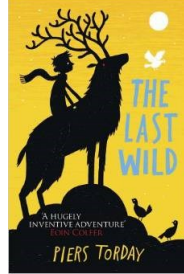
# BOOKS ARE COMING!



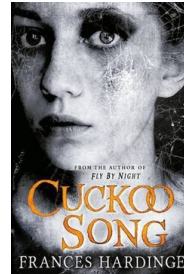
Championed by  
Mrs Stringer



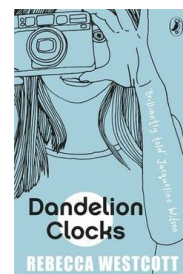
Championed by  
Miss Davies



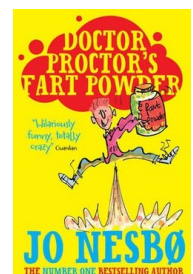
Championed by  
Miss D Jones



Championed by  
Mrs Hutchinson



Championed by  
Mrs Sarjant



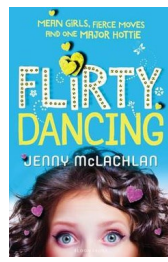
Championed by  
Mr Noon



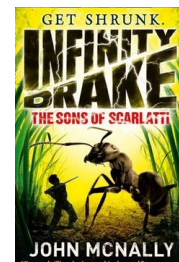
Championed by  
Mrs Cash



Championed by  
Miss Stodian



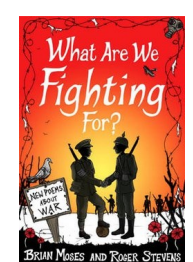
Championed by  
Mrs Clayton



Championed by  
Mr Patterson



Championed by  
Mrs Wilson—Dyke



Championed by  
Mrs Perkins

**Bookbuzz** puts a free book into the hands of each one of our new students in Year 7.

Each book is being championed by a member of staff.

Year 7 will be choosing their free book shortly..... ask them which one they are ordering and why.

## Year 7

# Which one will you choose?



## THE NEWS SOURCE FOR INFORMED TEENAGERS

- Written for teenagers
- Helps understanding of national and global issues
- Useful for research for every subject

# THE DAY

## NEWS TO OPEN MINDS

- Available to use in school and from home
- Logging on from home requires a username and password

go to	<a href="http://www.theday.org.uk">www.theday.org.uk</a>
Username	lfatq
Password	theday

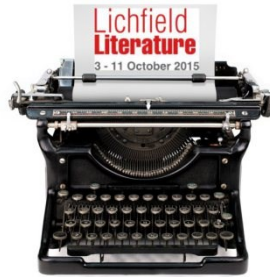
### Why have we chosen to subscribe to this newspaper?

**The Day helps students think for themselves.**

*"The Day plugs the gap between teenagers hungry for an explanation of what is going on in the world, and a mainstream media that either trivialises or overcomplicates the news for them. One of the most enjoyable parts of my Dream School experience was seeing the students engage in real debate. Just as we teach our kids from an early age that family life is important, and sport and healthy eating are good for them, so we should do more to teach that politics is a fundamental part of their lives."*

Alastair Campbell

Former director of communications at No 10 Downing St. Politics teacher in *Jamie's Dream School*



**Literature  
Festival**  
3rd - 11th  
October 2015

Booking opens on Wednesday 2nd September 2015 at 10.00am



Including YELLFEST: Youth Events at Literature Festival 3rd-6th October  
(look for the logo)

## FREE EVENTS



### Just another Chapter...

Alice In Wonderland  
3rd-10th October



### In Wonderland

Children's Art Exhibition  
8th-10th October



### Lichfield's Favourite Poem

Coffee Morning  
8th October



### Literally Live

3rd-10th October



### The Last Post Van

Kilter Theatre  
10th October



### Festival Book Swap

Adopt a Book Today!  
10th October

...and there's more.....

For details, tickets or how to get involved

[www.lichfieldfestival.org](http://www.lichfieldfestival.org)

Or call 01543 306271

## Spanish Club



**Español- ¡Qué fantástico!**

- Learn about Spanish language and culture
- Watch films in Spanish
- Try Spanish food

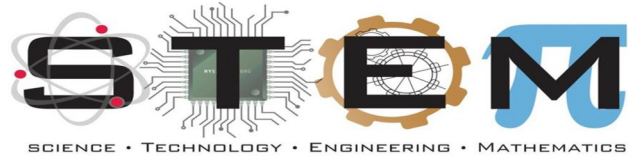
Wednesday • 3.45-4.30pm • L1

See Senorita Atherton

## STEM Club

STEM club at QEMS is an after school session that gives students the chance to explore aspects of science, technology, engineering and maths. The aim of STEM club is to not only promote practical, leadership and team building skills, but to increase confidence and interest in STEM subjects.

Activities in STEM club range from maths puzzles to robotics, engineering projects to chemistry experiments, even investigating the universe through astronomy! Anything that falls within the STEM subjects is a possibility and there is something for all KS3 students to enjoy.



KS3 • Tuesday • S1 • 3:45-4:45pm • Miss Haley

## SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL VACANCIES

School Crossing Patrol on Comberford Road, Tamworth Ref: E305

Hours of work 7.50am to 9am and 3pm to 3.45pm Monday to Friday Term Time Only.

Rate of Pay £6.3932 per hour

Please note you are paid throughout the School Holidays, Training and Uniform Provided, DBS check and Medicals are required.

For further information please contact Caroline Pegg, School Crossing Patrol Area E Organiser.  
Tel 07773 791 502.



Relief School Crossing Patrols in the Tamworth Area

Hours of work will be as and when required Monday to Friday Term Time Only

Rate of Pay £6.3932 per hour as and when working.

Training and Uniform Provided, DBS Check and Medicals are required

For further information please contact Caroline Pegg, School Crossing Patrol Area E Organiser.  
Tel 07773 791 502.



Follow us on Twitter – our username is @LFATQ