

# QEMS INSIDER

March 2019: Issue 4

## QEMS Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 27 March Year 8 Parents'/Carers' Evening

### April

Fri 12 April - Mon 22 April Easter Break

### May

Wednesday 1 May	Celebration Evening
Monday 4 May	School closed for Bank Holiday
Tuesday 14 May	Year 7 Parents'/Carers' Evening
Friday 24 May	Term Ends

## **A special well done to.....**

### **Science stars:**

Year 7	Harley A & Poppy A
Year 8	Katlyn H & May Sam Y
Year 9	Lucas T & Beatrix B
Year 10	Libbie Z & Will M
Year 11	Michelle S + Faye Y



### **DT stars:**

Food Preparation & Nutrition Year 10 students:

Megan A  
Ethan P  
Will G

Well done for an Excellent NEA investigation task!

### **Child Development**

Mrs Berg would like to congratulate all of her year 11 Child Development girls for making 'Excellent progress with their revision techniques.'

### Attendance

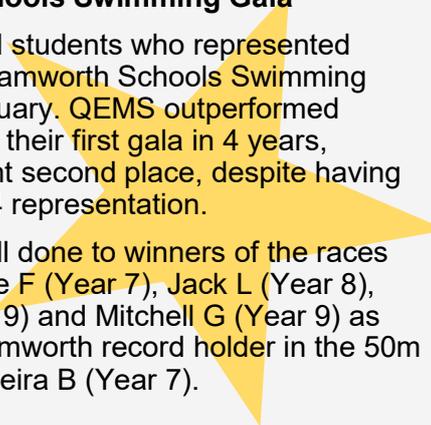
The whole school attendance to 15th February 2019 is 95.3%.

Year 7 – 96.4%	Year 8 – 94.4%	Year 9 – 95.6%
Year 10 – 94.4%	Year 11 – 95.7%	

## **Tamworth Schools Swimming Gala**

Well done to all students who represented QEMS at the Tamworth Schools Swimming Gala on 4 February. QEMS outperformed expectations in their first gala in 4 years, achieving a joint second place, despite having no Key Stage 4 representation.

A particular well done to winners of the races including: Abbie F (Year 7), Jack L (Year 8), Adam W (Year 9) and Mitchell G (Year 9) as well as new Tamworth record holder in the 50m breaststroke: Keira B (Year 7).



The next gala is on Tuesday 2 April with QEMS aiming for the top spot.

Well done again to all who represented QEMS!

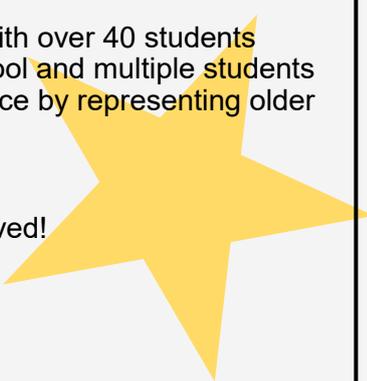
## **Tamworth School Football Tournament**

Well done to all students who have represented the boys 7 a-side football teams at the annual 7a-side Tamworth School Football Tournament.

Places are as follows:

Year 7 – 1st  
Year 8 – 4th  
Year 9 – 3rd  
Year 10 – 3rd

An overall positive, with over 40 students representing the school and multiple students gaining vital experience by representing older years.



Well done to all involved!

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**Baking Club!** Students prepared Swiss Rolls using electric hand whisks and careful rolling methods.

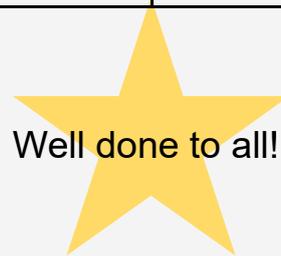
Then they had to decorate, using their own choice of method. There was a lot of melted chocolate and lovely decorations - a nice Christmas present to take home before the holidays!



## 9M FOOD SAFETY AWARD — RESULTS

<b>Izobella B</b>	<b>PASS (100%)</b>
Peter B	<b>PASS</b>
Bradley B	<b>PASS</b>
Fiorella C	<b>PASS</b>
Jordan E	<b>PASS</b>
Will F	<b>PASS</b>
Emily H	<b>PASS</b>
Luke H -B	<b>PASS</b>
Dylan H	<b>PASS</b>
Morgan H	<b>PASS</b>
Dylan H	<b>PASS</b>
Toby J	<b>PASS</b>
Lauren L	<b>PASS</b>
<b>Amy M</b>	<b>PASS (100%)</b>
Lottie M	<b>PASS</b>
Igor N	<b>PASS</b>
Rose P	<b>PASS</b>
Emma P	<b>PASS</b>
Vanessa S	<b>PASS</b>
<b>Kyle T</b>	<b>PASS (100%)</b>

Well done to all!

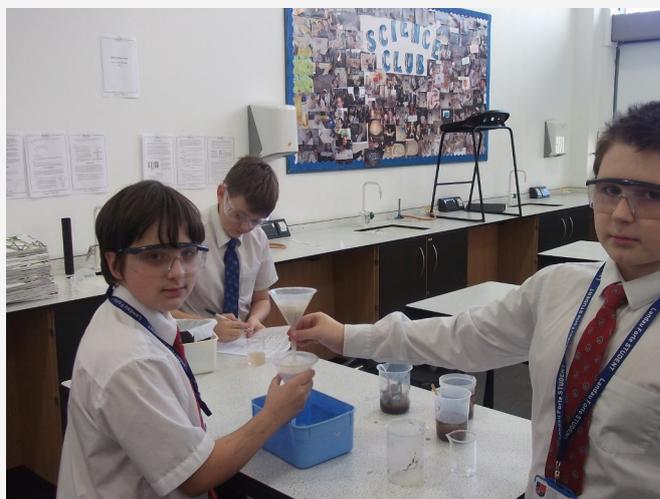


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## Science Club News!

Our KS3 Scientists have been meeting after school on Wednesdays to complete a Bronze CREST Award. They have been researching and designing a water filter before testing them to see how science can help countries to access clean and safe drinking water. We will be presenting our findings in the last week of term and all students who complete a project will receive a certificate for the bronze award.



KS3 Science catch up sessions will take place every Tuesday (Red Week) at 3:00-3:30 pm in D02.



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On Tuesday 15 January, a group of 50 Year 9 students participated in a STEM activity funded by Higher Horizons and delivered by Smallpeice. Students had to compete in teams to design, build, programme and market an autonomous vehicle which could successfully follow a track. All students were enthusiastic and creative throughout the day whilst they learned about various careers in engineering and how to access them. They also met John Ward a local employer who talked to them about his business in event timing which utilises many of the skills the students developed on the day.



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## More Sports News!

Year 7 and 8 students have competed in the Tamworth Sports Hall Athletics competitions held at Tamworth Enterprise College. The students participated with great effort and skill, resulting in some fantastic placements. Highlights included the Year 7 girls and Year 8 boys both finishing 2nd respectively. Well done to all students who took part!

A huge well done to our Netball teams. Year 10 beat Rawlett 11v7 on Wednesday 30 January and our Year 7 team continued their unbeaten run with a 10v1 win over Rawlett. Well done to all teams involved!



Year 7 boys played in the Tamworth Schools 7aside on Wednesday 30 January where they beat both Rawlett and Amington 2-0 and drew 1-1 with TEC thanks to a last minute goal from Kian J!

Top performances all round.

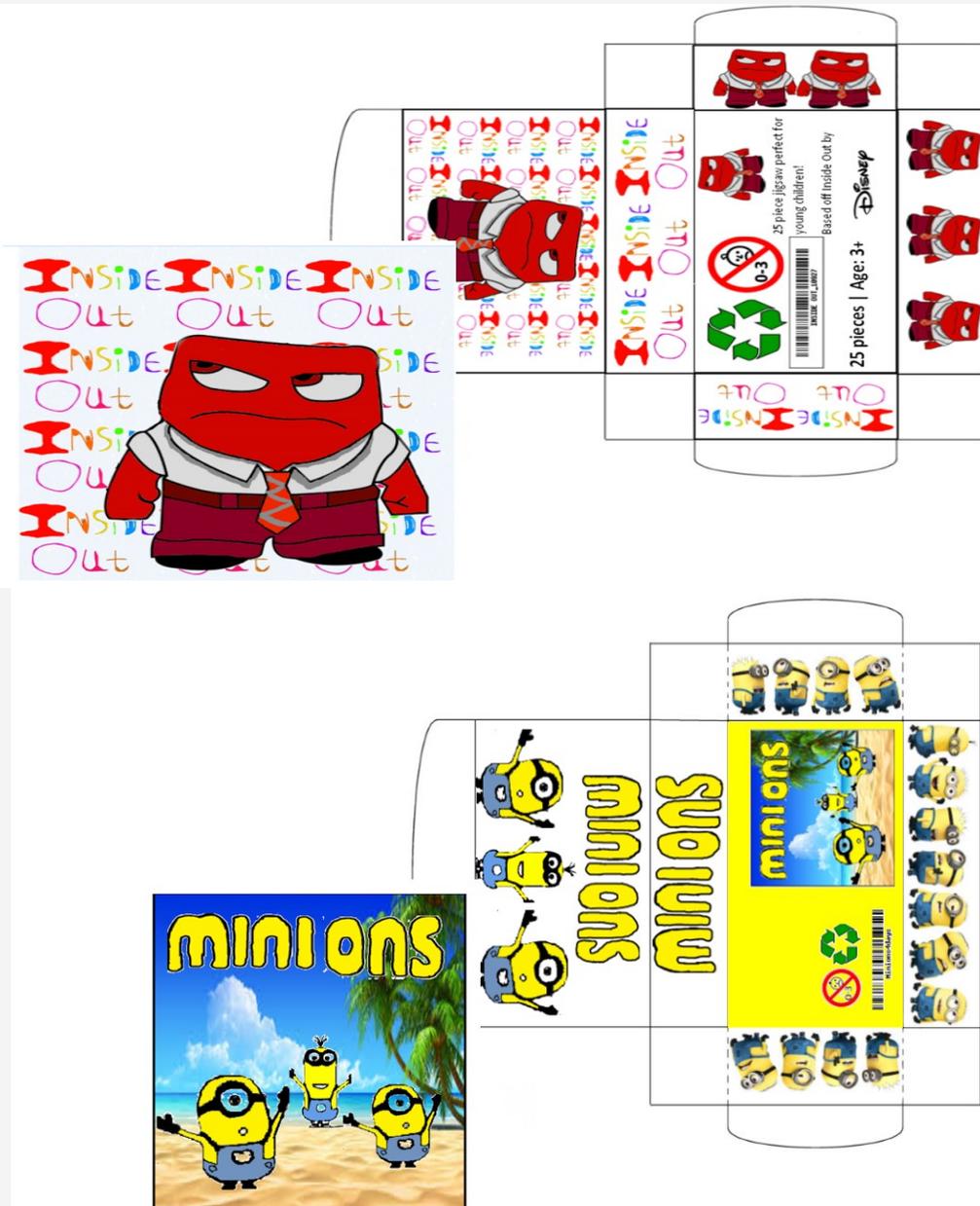
**Team QEMS, we are proud of you!!**

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## Year 8 Design Technology

Students have been designing and making their own jigsaw and packaging based on a children's film. First, they had to use design packages on the computer such as Paint or GIMP to design the jigsaw. Then a range of packaging is analysed to find out what information goes onto packages to help promote the product. Students then used this knowledge to design their own packaging to advertise and hold their jigsaw. Finally they constructed the packaging and had a go at building the jigsaw themselves. They have worked really hard and produced some fantastic pieces!



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Year 9 students were involved in an Options Fair on Wednesday 14 February which provided them with an opportunity to find out more information about subjects they are interested in studying in Years 10 and 11. The atmosphere in the hall was buzzing!

This was an idea that came from our Student Leadership Team so we trialled it this year. Students could get information from subject teachers and Year 10 students who were already studying the subject. It was a great success and was really well received by students!



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## QEMS students meet popular teen author Katherine Webber



Students from QEMS travelled to KEGS in Lichfield to attend a presentation and book signing by popular young adult author, Katherine (Katie) Webber. She spoke about her life, growing up in different countries around the world including Hawaii and Hong Kong. She described what it was like moving around the world and how she did other jobs before she decided to write full time.

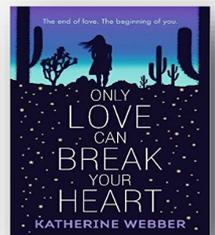
Katie now lives and works in London, a place she chose to live in and described it as being '*an important literary centre*' in the world. She encouraged students to face their fears and barriers when facing challenges and not to be put off from being courageous. Students engaged well with the Q & A session at the end of her presentation; many were interested in the publication process and how you actually go about getting your book published.

Students queued to buy her books and get them signed. Mrs Emery, librarian at KEGS, who organised the event, thanked students for being so attentive. She said, "It is such a pleasure to see so many young people inspired by meeting Katie. It is so important to bring readers and authors together." Our own librarian, Mrs Clayton reports that more students are now visiting the library to borrow Katie's books.



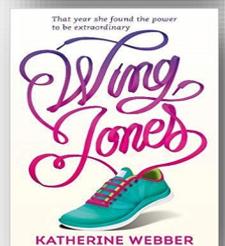
### Only Love Can Break Your Heart

Reiko loves the endless sky and electric colours of the Californian desert. It is a refuge from an increasingly claustrophobic life of family pressures and her own secrets. Then she meets Seth, a boy who shares a love of the desert and her yearning for a different kind of life. But Reiko and Seth both want something the other can't give them. As summer ends, things begin to fall apart. But the end of love can sometimes be the beginning of you...



### Wing Jones

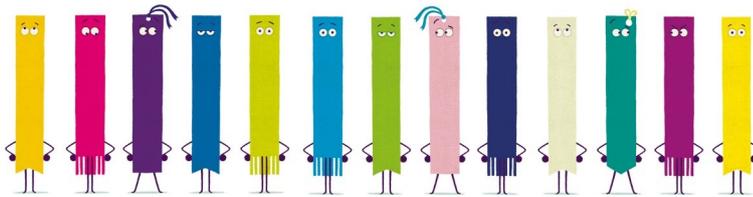
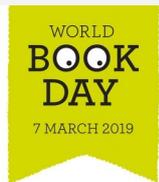
A sweeping story about love and family from an exceptional new voice in YA. With a grandmother from China and another from Ghana, fifteen-year-old Wing Jones is often caught between worlds. But when tragedy strikes, Wing discovers a talent for running she never knew she had. Wing's speed could bring her family everything it needs. It could also stop Wing getting the one thing she wants.



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Students from QEMS Reading Group were invited to Tamworth Library to celebrate Harry Potter Book Night. They had fun in fancy dress completing treasure hunts and participating in competitions and quizzes.



You're never too old,  
too wacky, too wild,  
to pick up a book  
and read to a child.

-Dr. Seuss

We celebrated World Book Day with a number of activities. Students received a WBD token, which can be exchanged at WH Smiths for one of this year's selected books or used as a £1 token towards another book of choice.

Teachers shared passages in each lesson from books that have inspired them or that they have loved from childhood.

During lunch we hosted a book swap in the Library or students could purchase a pre loved book.



A comfy chair was set up in a busy corridor which was occupied all day by members of staff and students, reading a book or magazine of choice. Every person had a 20 minute slot!



Maddie and Ava in Year 7 swapped books and will catch up once they have read it to discuss what they thought about it.

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## Saalbach Skiing Trip

Last month our students, accompanied by Mr Price and Miss Scott, had an eventful, emotional and joyous trip to the Alps.

The coach journey there and back ran smoothly and due to numbers being low we had to share the coach with a school from Bethesda in Wales. Eventually some friendships were formed with the school from Bethesda; the rugby victory for Wales on the outbound journey made those friendships difficult to forge initially, especially for the members of staff.

The accommodation was superb. The food was delicious and plentiful and the dormitories were clean and spacious, at least when we arrived. Saalbach itself was a short journey away but the town of Hintertglem offered some great skiing and some breath-taking views for the first 2 days.

The skiing ability was mainly beginner and boy did this show. There were some comical scenes involving skis, poles and ski lifts. Our students were getting dragged up slopes, they battled with chair lifts and fell back down the slopes! There was lots and lots of falling down slopes! As the week went on, getting up and putting skis on in the morning became tougher and tougher but the students did themselves proud.

For the final two days the students skied in Saalbach and what a turnaround it brought. All students mastered the lifts, most of the time, and the falling down slopes all but vanished. All of the group skied for 6 hours on the final day across the Austrian Alps which is a very tiring experience.

During the evenings there was some fun ice-skating and participating in "Eisstockhiessen", that well known European game! There was a "bar skittles" England v Wales game in which the latter won 351-341 and on Thursday evening a wonderful ski show was taken in at Saalbach.

Apart from learning to ski, the students participated in other new activities throughout the week. They managed to forge new friendships, encourage others that were struggling at times and be able to push themselves through times of adversity; never giving up. The students were resilient in trying over and over again, falling down and getting back up again. They were resourceful, getting from A to B on the snowy Alps is not always straight forward and the students overcame new obstacles and different barriers. They were very, very respectful, not only to each other, the staff, the students from the school in Bethesda but the hundreds and hundreds of other people that they came across during the week.

Queueing is unheard of in Austria, Europe for that matter, so keeping their cool while skiers and boarders of all shapes and sizes pushed, barged and jostled themselves to the front of queues was extremely challenging so a massive well done for keeping their cool, the students were not bad at that too!

Lastly the students were a credit to the academy, their families and themselves. They were a pleasure to take on the trip.

We will be looking to run a ski trip in February 2021. This will be open to QEMS and Sixth form students meaning that current Y10s and 11s will be eligible for the trip if they stay on at Sixth Form. Keep your eyes peeled!

We hope that parents of students involved enjoyed Mr Price's updates, photos and videos throughout the trip!



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