



QM Newsletter



'Strive, Believe, Achieve'

Friday 22nd January 2016

Dates for your diary	
Event	Date & Time
Arts week	Week beginning 25 th January
Parents learning reviews (Parent's evening)	Monday 8 th and Tuesday 9 th February from 3pm
Reception assembly	Friday 5 th Feb



Special visitors

"QM children are wonderful".

We invited colleagues into school on Tuesday to look at standards of behaviour and achievement. Our professional friends commented that QM has a great atmosphere and that children had excellent behaviour and great attitudes to their learning. They could tell that the staff enjoyed working at the school and that they were proud of the school. They said that children were engaged and on task during sessions and that staff provided a good range of activities. The team noted that we had lots of work in books and that children were provided with lots of opportunities to support their learning. Some of their other comments included:

"You couldn't help but want to learn in there"

"I can imagine being a pupil in that class"

"The staff want the children to do well"

"S/he is the kind of teacher I would want my daughter to have"

"Lovely, lovely, lovely"

"I'd like to work in a school like this"

The team said that children's writing and presentation in books needs to be improved; we will be working on this over coming weeks and ask that as children complete homework they do so using their best cursive writing.



Arts week

The theme for artsw week is 'a moment in time'. Children will be making individual and collaborative representations of a variety of time inspired paintings by famous artists. They will also be taking part in a 'Rio carnival' inspired dance workshop with the Don Rae Academy.

Arts week home learning/ competition

We would like children to create their own piece of artwork based on time – you can use any medium to do this (line drawings/ paint/ salt dough / junk modelling / chalk etc.)and we would like your creations brought into school on Thursday 28th January.

Weekly attendance figures:

Reception	97.7
Class 1	90.0
Year 1	98.0
Year 2	91.0
Year 3	99.3
Year 4	97.1
Class 2	96.0
Year 5	95.6
Year 6	94.8
Whole school	96.0 – it's ok but we can do better!

'Be in on time at 5 to 9' Punctuality Cup: REC

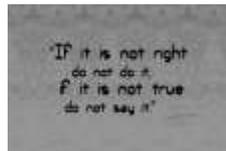


Star of the week

Reception	Evie
Year 1	Emily
Year 2	Megan
Year 3	Ridwan
Year 4	Aisha
Year 5	Isaac
Year 6	Michael
Class 1	Sirine
Class 2	Ilyas
B' Club	Zoe Y3
Q'Club	Rufus Y2

Value of the week – honesty

During assembly this week we have been thinking about the value of honesty; children in KS1 heard the story of the boy who cried wolf whilst KS2 were given a scenario to consider. Here's one for you to think about at home...



Talk homework

You see someone drop £20 in the bus queue; they haven't noticed – what would you do?

Focus on attendance

Days off school add up to lost learning

175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR					
175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments					
190 DAYS FOR BIRTH DATES EDUCATING EACH YEAR	10 days absence 180 DAYS OF EDUCATION	10 days absence 171 DAYS OF EDUCATION	20 days absence 161 DAYS OF EDUCATION	38 days absence 137 DAYS OF EDUCATION	47 days absence 128 DAYS OF EDUCATION
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%
Good Best chance of success. One more child off to a flying start		Worrying Less chance of success. Makes it harder to make progress		Serious Concern Not for the faint hearted. Court order	

Attendance

As we mentioned last year we need to improve our overall attendance in order to meet national standards. We're doing really well but as we didn't quite hit it last year, we need to make sure we achieve it this year and we need your support to make sure we do. As such we are going to continue to monitor individual attendance and ensure children with attendance rates below national average have robust plans in place to support attendance.

Therefore, if attendance is between 93.0% and 96.2% - parents will receive a letter from school warning parents of attendance concerns, no further authorisation of absence will be allowed unless absence is medically substantiated. Attendance between 90% and 93% will trigger an Individual Attendance Action plan with review dates. If attendance is below 90% and this is unauthorised we now have no option but to refer to external support.

As you are aware we do not allow absence during term time for holidays, special days and family trips and to date we have always steered away from penalty notices for such absence. We want to keep it that way so please make sure you check term dates before booking holidays. Children currently have 190 days in school and 175 days out of school – they have plenty of opportunities to have

holidays, visit relatives and enjoy days out.



THAMES21 Year 6 – Thames 21 clean up

Year 6 very kindly agreed to work alongside Thames 21 to undertake a foreshore study (using metre square quadrants to measure the amount of different types of litter pollution) and a litter pick up to support conservation. It was a chilly day and the children were wrapped up warm for some grafting in the outdoors.

“We got to the foreshore of the River Thames right next to the Crabtree Pub. We climbed over the wall with help, and then we split up into our groups and got started with the quadrants. Once we'd finished with the quadrants we spent the next hour collecting litter. At the end we all had hot chocolate to keep us warm and then had a nice walk back to school” (Jack Yr 6).



Yr 6 Wasted

Yr 6 have been very busy recently and last week in addition to the Thames 21 project they also attended a 'Wasted' workshop. Jaden has written a report to tell us more...

“Wasted is a production to teach us about the dangers of drugs. There were about five characters, Ryan, Ryan's dad, Freddie, Bullet and Jules. Freddie was the drugs dealer and gave some drugs to Bullet. She gave them to Ryan and Jules which made her a drug dealer”. The story became even more complicated and at the end the actors had a discussion of the main events with the children and listened to their opinions about the characters, what they were doing and what was dangerous.

Reminders - School shoes

We have noticed that some children are once again trying to wear trainers to school. It is school policy for all children to wear black school shoes. If your child does not currently attend school in black school shoes please can you remedy this over the weekend. We'll be having a full check next week. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Congratulations

Steadman, who has been a TA at QM for some years travelled to Australia with his fiancée Annie to get married in the company of her family. Steadman was presented with a card and voucher during assembly this morning and we would like to wish the happy couple all the very best for their futures together. We always love a wedding at QM so once we manage to get hold of a photo we'll share it with you!

Yr 3 Field trip

As part of their topic Night Zookeeper – year 3 are focussing on physical geography specifically natural and man made phenomena. They went to Bishops Park and evaluated what was natural and what was man made. They came to the conclusion that although the park is right next to the Thames – the lake in Bishops Park is man made; they also noted that the sand area was created as opposed to being a natural feature. They appreciated that the trees were natural although probably planted by man many years ago.

