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Executive Principal's Message

Dear Parents / Carers

As this term draws to a close I would like to thank you for your support of the Quest Academy, your children for working hard and behaving well and our staff

for being committed to support everyone to make the progress that they are capable of.

Partnership remains important to us and we are always looking at ways to strengthen it further in the future. If you want to contribute to the school the best way to do this is to become a member of QAPA, our parents' association. Their details are on our website and they'd be delighted to hear from you with any offers of help, however small.

At this time of year, we are reminded of the importance of family and friends and both looking back at our achievements of the past year and the things we would hope to do better in the new one. One conversation you could have with your children is: "What are their three school new year resolutions that will help them to be more successful next year?" This may help with a positive start next term.

Happy Christmas.

Best wishes,

Mr A. Crofts
Executive Principal

Culture Day 2024



On the last day of the Summer Term 2024, Quest Academy students put together an amazing showcase of the different cultures that make up our school. Students from all years worked together to show their culture to students and staff at Quest.

It was a beautiful day filled with music, laughter, and vibrant colours. Aaliyah wrote a beautiful Poem called "Culture Raised Me" opening each showcase (please see poem below); Neveah, Angel, Filipe and Josemar (Junior) helped to DJ the event, hosting and introducing all acts. There were multiple cultures showcased from Africa vs Caribbean, Kizomba, and an amazing dance from our then year 10 (but now year 11) students with a cultural Bangladesh dance.

Aaliyah's poem:

*Culture weaves it threads, with a unique hue, stories and daily breads
From the cradle of our birth to the path we now trod
Our Cultural traditions which I call a guiding rod*

*Culture raised me
So I must stand with strength reflect to the sun
And let my radiant melanin do the rest. However it's easier said than
done as diversity in culture has digressed.*

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Continued from page 1



*Culture raised us
Through dance, song and tales of old
Cultures is wisdom
A warmth our ancestors left behind to unfold.
In the melody and language spoken or sung
This should be the reason our
community come together as one*

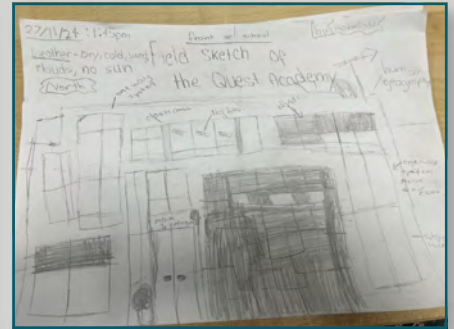
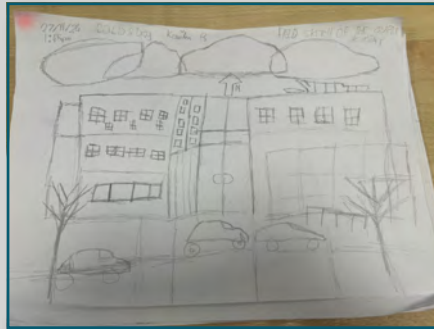
*Culture raised me
So here I stand, shaped by my past
high standards of my rooted morals
I pray, will last
From generation to generation, we
carry on,
The essence of who we are, is an image
brightly drawn.*

*Culture raised us
So it's time to turn the blind eye
And cherish, honour and respect
The diverse culture the interest
From every single dish down to the beat
of an African drum
We let unity and understanding, help us
find our way
The beautiful mosaic of cultures
everyday*

*Never forget your roots because culture
has raised you
In the most divine way*



Map Skills



Year 7 geography students have started their Map Skills topic. As part of this they have been drawing field sketches of the school. This is a very important topic, but also an important skill for students to learn. Within this topic students will also learn how to take grid references, how height is shown on a map, OS map symbols, the use of scale and the different features of a map.

Red Cross Workshop

Quest students were treated to an inspiring and educational day as Sophia, a dedicated Red Cross volunteer, visited the school to deliver a series of thought-provoking sessions. The visit left students empowered with essential life skills and a deeper understanding of critical social issues.



Sophia began her day by engaging Year 10 students from Livingston House with a comprehensive first aid session. The students eagerly participated as Sophia demonstrated vital techniques, including CPR and how to treat wounds effectively. "First aid is a life skill everyone should have," Sophia emphasized. "You never know when you might save a life."

The second session focused on the importance of empathy for immigrants, encouraging students to reflect on the experiences of those who face challenges when starting anew in unfamiliar surroundings. Through interactive discussions and real-life stories, Sophia highlighted the value of compassion and understanding in fostering inclusive communities.

Rounding off her visit, Sophia led a workshop on coping with challenges both in and outside of school. She offered practical strategies for managing stress, building resilience, and seeking support during difficult times. Students shared their experiences and engaged in role-playing exercises to practice the techniques.

Sophia's visit encapsulates our commitment to providing students with the tools to thrive both academically and personally. We're incredibly grateful to the Red Cross for their ongoing support.

Sophia's visit left a lasting impact on students and staff alike, reminding everyone of the power of compassion, resilience, and practical knowledge in shaping a brighter future.



Combined Cadet Force Corps Dinner



This year, the CCF Corps Dinner was attended by the new recruits. This was an amazing experience that all the cadets enjoyed immensely. The dinner is put on to give all students the opportunity to dine in style with Captain Muirhead and other officers.

All new recruits represented The Quest Academy extremely well and are looking forward to the next one!!

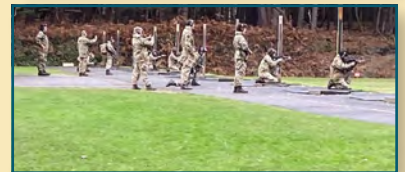


CCF Rifle Techniques at Brunswick

4th year recruits were taken to Brunswick training ground to classify their rifle techniques. This was an enjoyable experience which took place with cadets from Caterham School.

At the end of the competition between the two schools, Caterham school won on averages, but Trinity School with The Quest Academy won on points!

Well done, Questies!



Sociology Research Methods



Year 10 sociology students, led by Miss Tijani and supported by Q6 students (Matthew Harvey, Albert Hooper, and Madeleine O'Sullivan) and Miss Fancett, delved into the practical application of research methods by conducting

interviews and designing questionnaires to explore an aspect of school life.

Year 10 Sociology students worked with the student body to investigate topics such as well-being, academic pressures, and school culture. This hands-on project allowed students to apply key concepts like validity, reliability, and ethical considerations while collecting qualitative and quantitative data to enhancing their understanding of how sociologists study society and its institutions.

Photography Club

The theme for this term was Autumn colours / living things and using zoom.

The students rose to the challenge to find interesting things to photograph, thinking about composition, subject and focus.

They found squirrels and foxes, but were not successful in getting a clear picture as the animals were alerted to their presence (being quiet was a bit of a challenge!)

The students worked in groups of three and shared the use of the camera. They captured some excellent images Well done!





Going for Gold at the Park Theatre

On Thursday 28th November, GCSE Drama students went to the Park Theatre to watch *Going for Gold*. The play explored the exceptional life of former boxer: Frankie Lucas.

Not only did the GCSE students have a wonderful time at the theatre, but this trip also helped the students to prepare for their upcoming written exam!

Furthermore, some of the students were fortunate enough to meet one of the actors from the show, Daniel Francis-Swaby.



The Photographer's Gallery Visit

Students in 10H1 embarked on a trip to The Photographer's Gallery in West London for Academy Day, where they explored the thought-provoking exhibit *Letizia Battaglia: Life, Love and Death in Sicily*.

The visit was hailed as a success, both for the students' exemplary behaviour and their engagement with the striking imagery on display.



The exhibit features the powerful work of Letizia Battaglia, an acclaimed Italian photographer known for her raw, unflinching documentation of life in Sicily. Through her lens, Battaglia captured the beauty, resilience, and struggles of Sicilian society, offering a poignant commentary on themes of love, mortality, and the shadow of organized crime.

The students were deeply moved by the black-and-white images, which revealed a mix of intimacy and stark realism.

Teachers accompanying the group praised the students for their respectful conduct throughout the trip. The students not only demonstrated excellent behaviour but also showed a genuine curiosity about the stories behind Battaglia's work.

During the visit, students learned about Battaglia's artistic process and the historical context of her images.

Selsdon Nature Trail



Year 8 students were 'Livingstone Legends' during the trip to Selsdon Wood.

Before setting off, the group were briefed on the route and the task at hand and

provided with clipboards to aid their note taking throughout the day.

Students took part in a Nature Trail with the aim of finding a range of plant and animal species typical of the Autumn season.

They showed 'resilience' through the muddy areas of the woods and exercised 'aspiration' to find all of the species in their work pack.

Students also enjoyed putting their photography-skills to the test and took part in a photo competition.

Treasure Trails in London

On Thursday 14th November, Year 9 'Livingstone Legends' embarked on a treasure hunt across London.

Upon arriving at London Bridge, we split off into four groups with maps and clues on our quest to find the treasure.

Along the way, we visited Southwark Cathedral (where the students shared their messages of hope), wove our way around Borough Market, visited site of Chaucer's The Tabard Inn and saw where Charles Dickens' father was imprisoned.



Although we didn't manage to finish the trail as we ran out of time, the students were impeccably behaved and very tired after walking over 15,000 steps.

We ended the day by having lunch in the beautiful surroundings of Hays Galleria before heading back to school.



What Next? At Olympia

Lucky Year 10s had the opportunity to visit Olympia Events to discuss 'What Next?' with their future career and university choices. The venue was packed with a multitude of companies such as Coca-Cola, Prospects, PGL, British Army and more. The venue also had multiple university choices including American universities, De Montfort University, East Anglia University, The University of Law, Oxford University and Cambridge University alongside many more.



The students had multiple opportunities to communicate with students from different schools as well as employees and student ambassadors for universities. The students were tasked with speaking to as many university and company representatives as possible to boost their knowledge and understanding of the opportunities available to them.

With the help of Miss Tijani and Miss Deallie they collected prospectuses which will be made available to all students and accessible in The Quest Academy library.

Rochester Castle Visit

Year 7 Shackleton visited Rochester Castle for Academy Day. They explored the Norman castle and ruins. They enjoyed the views of the River Medway and Rochester from the top of the castle.

Students were lucky enough to spot a steam train! They were well behaved and engaged with the day.



Trip to Tate Modern

The trip started off following registration and an update from the teachers around 9:30. In the update we were given some information about the Tate Modern along with some questions. We went down to our local tram station. At this point, everyone was behaving themselves and the weather was perfect!

We were asked to think about the following questions during our travels:

What do you expect when you think of Modern Art? What ideas would you like to explore during your visit to the galleries?

Here are some people who answered those questions:

- Wahaab had thought it would be quite good.
- Dashan thinks modern art is like fashion.
- Imaan would like to see races (as in skin colour).
- Evie said she expects a lot of different colours and shapes.
- Oliver P wants to explore some eye-catching pieces.

From London Blackfriars, we walked to Tate Modern. We started with the

tanks and then went into a red room which was unusual. On the next floor, there was information on some artists. We were asked to think about these questions:

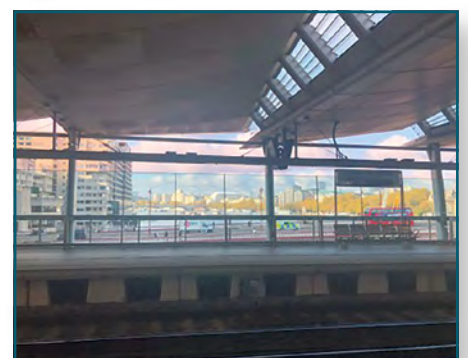
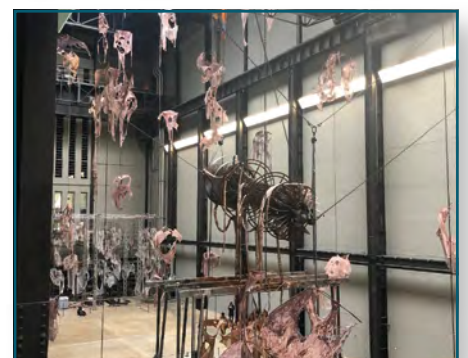
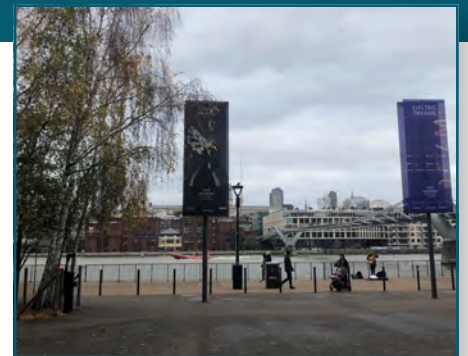
What sounds do you hear in the gallery? What do you think of the building? What shapes can you find?

- Dominik could hear some echoes and voices.
- Oliver M can find circles, semi-circles, triangles, rectangles, squares, pyramids, triangular prisms, crescents and diamonds.
- Akira would tell someone that they looked a little weird (the art).

By now, it's been over an hour since getting to Tate Modern and we had done a lot of walking. A lot of pictures, photos and creations were seen. There were a lot of people there and you could see that quite a few were from other schools.

It was really enjoyable as it definitely allowed us to bond with each other and the whole day was a good experience.

Written by Louie 8H1



Goldsmiths University Visit

Year 9 and 10 students visited Goldsmiths University on Academy Day. The students were engaged, enthusiastic and actively participated in all the activities throughout the day.

During a final teamwork challenge all the students worked very well together, communicating and

collaborating to confidently produce innovative and thought-challenging presentations. Upon hearing the presentation, the learners asked their peers questions to challenge their ideas, and all the presenters nimbly responded.

They all did extremely well, displaying confidence and intellectual curiosity,



and should be very proud of themselves. All students were given goody bags for being proactive the whole day.

A Level Geography Residential

Year 13 students headed to Minehead for their week residential.

Day 1 - After a 4 and a half hour journey we arrived at Nettlecombe Court. After getting settled, we headed into Minehead to be introduced to place geography in the field. Having looked at narratives, 8 ways of thinking and mood-mapping, we undertook fieldwork across Minehead. Back at the centre, students had a GIS workshop in the evening using the data we had collected to look at trends and plot their data. After dinner we played some games to unwind.

Day 2 - After breakfast, we had a briefing before heading to Porlock Bay to look at coastal processes. Students undertook a vegetation analysis, beach profiles, sediment analysis and a field-sketch. Due to the bad weather we headed back early. Back at the centre we had a

session on statistical analysis looking at how data can be analysed using Chi Squared and Mann Whitney U tests.

Day 3 - We were focusing on coastal management today so after our briefing we headed back to Minehead. We looked at the hard and soft engineering that had been implemented before trialling some field techniques. Students did a cost benefit analysis, bi polar survey, flood risk mapping and Hudson's equation. After lunch and some free time, we headed back to the centre where students started to work on their field questions and methodologies ahead of collecting their data tomorrow. They worked incredibly hard until 9pm sorting out their methodology, sampling strategies, data collection sheets, risk assessments and making sure they were ready for the following day.

Day 4 - Today was the most important day - students were collecting data for their individual NEA. They spent 6 hours in Minehead collecting questionnaires, field sketches, groyne profiles, beach profiles, flood risk mapping, cost



benefit analysis, bipolar surveys, clone town surveys, mood mapping, footfall data and non-participant observation. It was important they collected enough data to be able to answer their fieldwork question. After a week of poor weather, the sun made an appearance even if it was still freezing cold! On our return to the centre students wrote up the limitations they had found with their data collection. We then headed up the hill behind the centre to have a go at making a fire and roasting some marshmallows. It was a nice way to spend our final evening.

Day 5 - After packing up we had a final session looking over the data collected and deciding which statistical tests they would use to analyse their data before our drive back to school.

It was a pleasure to take the students to Minehead - they were a credit to the school and I look forward to reading their completed coursework in a few months time!

Miss Berry





Roehampton University Trip

Our Year 12 students had an exciting opportunity to visit Roehampton University, where they gained valuable insight into the university application process and experienced a taste of student life on campus.

The day began with a workshop on UCAS and personal statements, led by Roehampton's admissions team. Students learned about the key steps involved in the university application



process, from choosing courses to submitting applications through the UCAS system. The session also covered the art of crafting a compelling personal statement—a crucial component that allows students to showcase their unique skills, experiences, and aspirations to prospective universities.

After the workshop, the group enjoyed a tour around Roehampton's beautiful campus. The students explored the university's modern facilities, including the fully-equipped gym and spacious library.

One of the highlights of the tour was discovering Roehampton's on-campus chickens! The students were delighted to see these



feathered residents, who have become a quirky and beloved part of the university community.

The trip was an eye-opening experience, giving our Year 12s a clearer vision of university life and the steps they need to take to get there. We're grateful to Roehampton University for hosting us and equipping our students with valuable knowledge and inspiration for their future paths.

Livingstone Mini Sports Day

On Academy Day, our Year 7 Livingstone students participated in a fantastic Mini Sports Day, which provided them with an opportunity to showcase teamwork, resilience, and their ability to embody the school's LEARN values. The event was not only about athletic ability but also about collaboration, perseverance, and positive interactions among peers.

Morning Activities: Team Sports

The day began with an exciting array of team sports, including:
Netball: Students demonstrated excellent coordination, passing skills, and strategic thinking as they aimed for victory.
Football: Energy levels soared as



teams collaborated to score goals.

Dodgeball: Agility and teamwork were key in this fast-paced, high-energy game, where students strategized to outlast their opponents.

Basketball: Students showcased their dribbling, shooting, and communication skills in a dynamic and competitive environment. Each match awarded points to teams based on performance, collaboration, and demonstration of sportsmanship, ensuring that every team member contributed to their success.

Afternoon Activities: Athletics

The afternoon brought a shift to athletics, with a variety of events designed to test speed, coordination, and teamwork. These included:
100m Sprint: Students competed in a test of speed, pushing themselves to cross the finish line in record time.



Relay Race: Team spirit shone brightly as students passed batons with precision and raced towards victory.

Wheelbarrow Race: Laughter and determination filled the air as students relied on their partners to maintain balance and speed.

Three-Legged Race: Coordination and communication were key in this fun and challenging event, fostering a spirit of camaraderie among teammates.

At the end of the day, points were tallied, and the winning team was celebrated in a brief awards ceremony. However, the true victory lay in the skills, friendships, and memories built during the event. The Mini Sports Day was a success, showcasing the talent, spirit, and values of our Year 7 Livingstone students.



Year 7 Netball

The Year 7 netball team played their first-ever match at home against Woodcote on 21st November, and while the final score didn't reflect the incredible effort the girls put in, the game was a fantastic demonstration of teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship.

From the very first whistle, the team showed great enthusiasm and focus, applying the skills they had been working on in training. Despite the strong opposition from Woodcote, the girls gave it their all, working tirelessly to create opportunities and defend against some skilled play.

Throughout the match, their team spirit stood out, with players constantly encouraging and supporting one another on the court. There were moments of excellent passing, impressive intercepts, and determined attempts at goal. Although the team struggled to convert their chances into points, they showed great resilience, never giving up and fighting hard until the final whistle.



Special mention goes to Genesis, who demonstrated fantastic resilience and Darcy, who kept the team's spirits lifted! The leadership and communication between teammates were also commendable, especially given this was their first competitive game.

While the girls didn't come away with the win, they left the court with their heads held high, proud of

their effort and eager to learn and improve for the next match. The experience will undoubtedly help them grow as a team and prepare for future challenges. The Year 7 netball team should be proud of their performance, and we look forward to seeing them develop their skills and enjoy many more matches ahead.

Well done, girls!

Important dates for your diary

TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2024

End of Autumn Term – Friday 20th December

Christmas Holiday

– Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January 2025

SPRING TERM 2025

Monday 6th January 2025 – Friday 4th April 2025

Half-Term

- Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February

Easter Holiday

- Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April

SUMMER TERM 2025

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 – Friday 18th July 2025

(Monday 5th May – Bank Holiday

- Academy closed to students)

Half-Term

Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May

End of Summer Term

– Friday 18th July

Summer Holiday

– Monday 21st July to Friday 29th August

DECEMBER 2024

Yr11 Face to Face Parents Evening

Thursday 12th December 4-7pm

Yr10 Face to Face Parents Evening

Thursday 16th January 4-7pm

Yr9 Face to Face Parents Evening

Thursday 6th March 4-7pm

Yr13 Parents Evening (virtual)

Thursday 13th March 5-8pm

Yr11 Parents Evening (virtual)

Wednesday 26th March 2025 5-8pm