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Executive Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of another year at the Quest Academy I would like to thank you for your support as we strive to give your children the best education that we can. I'd also like to thank all of our staff for all that they do every day in this endeavour.

After seventeen years working in our Trust schools we say goodbye to Mr Beecham who is currently Head of School. I'd like to thank him for all that he's done to promote the highest standards for our community and his hard work and dedication to our school. We all wish him the best for the future.

In September I will be resuming day to day leadership of the Quest Academy. Many of you will remember that I began my journey here fifteen years ago as the founding Principal. The Quest is, therefore, something I'm very invested in and I look forward to helping ensure our continued success going forward.

Term begins after the summer on Tuesday 2nd September for year 7 and year 12 students only and for all other year groups on Wednesday 3rd September. Please note that this is at the new start time of 08:40.

I look forward to working with you and your children next year and wish you a very pleasant summer break.

Yours faithfully,

Mr A. Crofts
Executive Principal

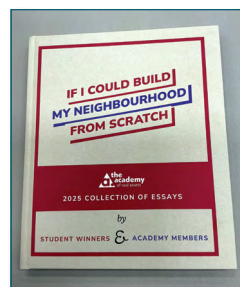
If I could build my neighbourhood from scratch...

How would you complete this statement?

This was the question that marked The Academy of Real Assets' competition for 2025. Gloria in 9S2 accepted the challenge to complete this statement and co-authored a poem with a friend from another Croydon school. The pair successfully demonstrated the creativity that the judges were looking for, and their poem, along with other entries from



students from across the UK made it into the 2025 collection of essays. The collection included essays, paintings, videos, a rap and photos; all creatively crafted by students from diverse backgrounds and social classes.



On Tuesday 15th July, Gloria attended the book launch event held at Legal and General in Moorgate, where she received her own copy of the book. She has made her family and the whole school community very proud of her achievement. She has demonstrated that learning, empowerment, aspiration, resilience and being nice are powerful values which underpin success. Well done Gloria!

Shackleton Star's Shine Bright during Awards Night!



On the last Monday of term, Shackleton House came together for a fantastic celebration of effort, resilience and success at our annual Shackleton Awards Evening. With an incredible turnout from students, families and staff, the event was a true testament to the spirit and community of Shackleton House.

We were proud to recognise the hard work and achievements of so many students across the year. From academic progress and leadership to kindness and commitment, every award reflected the positive values we strive to live by each day.

A special congratulations goes to Ellie and India, who were jointly awarded the prestigious Head of House Award for their outstanding contributions throughout the year. Their dedication, positivity and support for others have made a lasting impact on our House.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the evening such a memorable success.

Livingstone Awards 2025



On Wednesday 9th July, we had a fantastic evening celebrating the outstanding achievements of our students in both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. The hard work, dedication, and spirit shown by everyone in Livingstone House this year has been truly inspiring.

A special congratulations to our prestigious award winners:

- **The Daniel Qevani Award** – Emily Chapman
- **KS4 Student of the Year** – Tasnim Jannet
- **KS3 Student of the Year** – Mya-Rose Gooden
- **Livingstone House Student of the Year** – Peter Martinelli

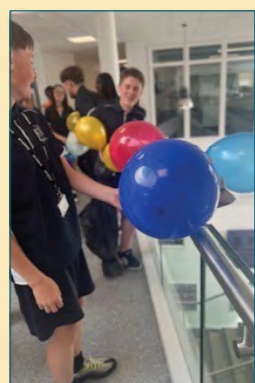
Well done to all our winners and every student who made this such a successful year. Livingstone House continues to go from strength to strength – we wish everyone an amazing year ahead with their new year group Achievement Coordinators.

Hillary House Awards Evening

On Tuesday 8 July 2025, we proudly celebrated the achievements of students at the Hillary House Awards, recognising those who have gone above and beyond in embodying The Quest Academy's core LEARN values. These values form the foundation of everything we do at Quest, and this ceremony honoured the students who truly represent these inside and outside of the classroom. Named after Sir Edmund Hillary, the

pioneering explorer who, alongside Tenzing Norgay, was the first to summit Mount Everest in 1953. Just as Hillary overcame extraordinary challenges to reach great heights, our award winners have shown similar determination, compassion, and ambition in their daily school life. Congratulations to all recipients for representing Hillary House and the LEARN ethos so powerfully.

Egg Drop Competition



Year 8 students showed off their creativity, teamwork, and scientific thinking in this term's exciting Egg Drop Competition!

The challenge? Design a device that could protect a raw egg from a dramatic fall, using only everyday materials. From parachutes to padded boxes, students put their knowledge of forces and materials to the test.

We saw some cracking designs (and a few cracked eggs too!) Prizes were awarded for the safest landing, most creative design, and best use of scientific principles.

Year 7 Geography Tourism Adverts

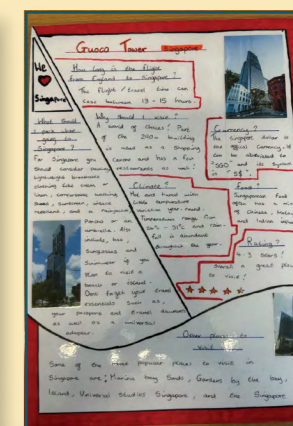
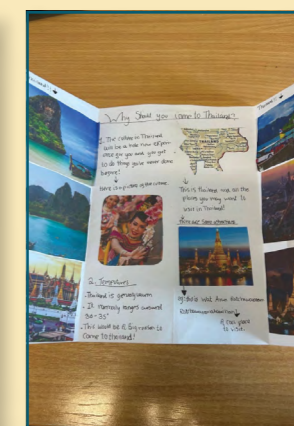
Year 7 Geographers have studied the concept of tourism as one small part of the 'Discovering Asia' scheme of work.

Students discussed ways that countries attract tourists, the impacts of global pandemics like COVID on tourism, the social and economic benefits of tourism, as well as the social, economic, and environmental consequences of the tourist industry. We looked at this in detail using Thailand as our case study.

To widen our knowledge, students were given a home learning task

to create an advert, poster, or brochure to advertise one of the tourist destinations in South East Asia. Students chose a variety of countries such as Vietnam,

Singapore, and Indonesia. They focused on ways to draw tourists in using colours, font, formatting, pictures and even cost of flights and popular activities.



Year 8 Geographers Investigate: Where's the Best Place for a Weather Station at Quest?

Last half term, Year 8 geographers took part in an exciting piece of fieldwork to answer the question: "Where is the best location to put a weather station at Quest?"

Students visited a range of potential sites around the school, carefully collecting data through environmental quality surveys and direct observations. They considered factors such as type of surface, shade, accessibility, water sources, accessibility; all important elements

when deciding on a suitable location for accurate weather readings.

Back in the classroom, students transformed their findings into radar charts, allowing them to visually compare the strengths and weaknesses of sites. Through analysis and discussion, students then came to a justified conclusion about the most appropriate location for a school weather station.

This project not only helped students



develop key geographical skills such as data collection, presentation, and decision-making, but also showed how geography can be applied to real-life challenges in their own environment.

Year 7 Geography Project – "Natural Hazards"

As part of their Natural Hazards topic in geography, Year 7 students have been diving deep into the layers of our planet to understand what lies beneath our feet and how it shapes the world around us.

Throughout this topic, students have studied the structure of the earth, plate boundaries, earthquakes and volcanoes. Students brought their learning to life by creating informative posters, building erupting volcano models, earthquake models and more! Well done Year 7, some fantastic work!





Year 10 Students Visit The John Ruskin College



On a recent visit to John Ruskin College, our Year 10 students took part in an exciting and engaging Taster Day, exploring a wide range of vocational subjects including Carpentry, Electrical Installation, Plumbing, Hair and Beauty, Business, and Media.

The day provided a valuable opportunity for students to experience hands-on learning in specialist environments, helping them make meaningful links between their current studies and potential future careers. With expert staff on hand, students were able to ask questions, gain insights into the pathways available after Year 11, and begin considering which routes might best suit their interests and skills. Staff at John Ruskin College praised our students for their enthusiasm, curiosity, and exemplary behaviour throughout the day.

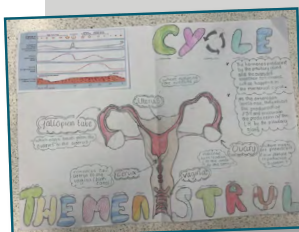
Our students were a true credit to the school – demonstrating maturity,

respect, and a genuine eagerness to learn more about their future options. This visit forms part of our wider commitment to supporting students with high-quality careers education and exposure to real-world opportunities. We look forward to continuing to work with John Ruskin College and other local providers as we guide our young people toward successful and fulfilling futures.



Poster Competitions

Year 10 created eye-catching, informative posters on the menstrual cycle, showing great understanding of biology and thoughtful presentation. Meanwhile, Year 8 explored the theme of global warming, producing powerful and creative posters that highlighted climate change and its impact on our planet.



- Year 8 winners:
- 1st Mekayla
 - 2nd Kayla
 - 3rd Madina

A huge well done to everyone who took part; future engineers and scientists in the making!

Duke of Edinburgh

Earlier this term, a determined group of our Duke of Edinburgh participants completed a challenging expedition at the sun-drenched Ern Croft Activity Centre in the New Forest. Over two hot days, they showed resilience and independence as they navigated woodland trails, carried full packs, and camped overnight.



The heat made things tougher, but students managed hydration, fatigue, and sun exposure with maturity and focus. They mastered map reading, cooked on stoves, and supported each other throughout, demonstrating real teamwork and determination.

Staff were full of praise for their positive attitudes and problem-solving. Each student returned not just closer to achieving their award, but with stronger friendships, lasting memories, and a proud sense of what they can accomplish.

Year 13 Economists Take a Trip to Westfield for Exam Boost

On Tuesday 30th April, Year 13 Economics students from The Quest Academy attended a specialist exam booster session at Westfield Cinema.

The event offered valuable last-minute tips and revision strategies ahead of their A Level exams. Students engaged with expert-

led sessions designed to build confidence and strengthen exam technique in a focused yet engaging setting.

The trip was both informative and enjoyable, giving students a fresh boost in the final stretch of their studies.



Courtwood Pupils DT Taster Day



Year 5 pupils from Courtwood Primary School visited The Quest Academy to complete a Design Technology taster day. During this time, they created an automata wooden toy. The students had a great experience and truly look forward to coming back to the Quest for KS3.



Combined Cadets Force



Quest CCF Cadets successfully passed the Field Craft and Camp and Concealment on their trip to Brunswick Training ground. They worked to solidify their knowledge and will use it for the upcoming Summer Camp.

'Doing it for Daniel' - Staff vs Student Charity Netball



On Friday 2nd May 2025, the 'Doing it for Daniel' committee hosted a Staff vs. Students Charity Netball Match. It was a thrilling and heartwarming event that brought the school community together in the spirit of fun, fitness, and fundraising in honour of the first anniversary for Daniel Qevani.

Taking place over a series of matches against Years 7, 8, 9, and 10, the event was a resounding success both on and off the court.

With a mix of determination and good humour, the staff team showed their experience and teamwork, emerging victorious in all four matches. Despite the final scores, students displayed incredible sportsmanship, energy, and impressive netball skills,

putting up strong performances and making the staff work hard for their wins.

The event was not just about the competition - every match was met with enthusiastic support from peers and staff alike, creating a vibrant atmosphere full of cheers and laughter. Most importantly, the event raised valuable funds for the Qevani family, reinforcing the school's commitment to giving back to the community.

A huge thank you to all the players, staff, and supporters who made the day such a success. We look forward to next year's rematch - students, start training now!

TQA Trampoline Team Achieves Podium Finish at Croydon Schools Event



Their dedication and skill secured an impressive second-place finish in the team event, marking the first time The Quest Academy has reached the podium in this competition.

- Individually, the students also achieved commendable results:
- Violet Foley - 4th place
 - Faith Foley - 5th place
 - Ksenia Nestoros - 13th place

We are thrilled to announce the outstanding performance of our Year 7-9 trampoline team at the Croydon Schools Trampoline Competition.

Representing The Quest Academy in the Novice category, Violet Foley, Faith Foley, and Ksenia Nestoros competed against 34 individual trampolinists from eight Croydon schools.

This achievement reflects the hard work and commitment of our students and the support of their coaches. We are incredibly proud of Violet, Faith, and Ksenia for their remarkable performances.

Congratulations to all three students on this fantastic accomplishment!



Quest Staff Retain the Cup!

Champions second year running... who would have thought?!

The match had been advertised, posters created, cakes baked, (doughnuts purchased), the sun pulled out from behind UK clouds. What an afternoon it promised to be, and what an afternoon it was.

The staff had arrived in all their pomp; bones perhaps slightly frail, some tummies breaching the bottom of shirts, but we were ready to keep the crown of champions. Were the year 13s this year able to pose more of a challenge than last? We were about to find out. Their three teams, each representing a form group, 13.1, 13.2 & 13.3 turned up in all their glory; would any of them be able to top the group and head to the finals?

And as the crowd dripped in, soon the cage of the football pitch was surrounded by the chants of 'Mills and Rooney', so let us begin the match report:

Round 1: was the round robin stage, each form group playing each other as well as the staff taking on the students, games lasting seven minutes. The staff came out on top of their match v 13.1,

a slender 2-1 victory. And after drilling 13.2 something like 3-0, it was a tight game v 13.3, whereby, the charity of the Quest employees, gave them the victory, slotting Quest Staff second in the table (but seeded for the semis). The students had their games, but we were focused on ourselves, and I am sure some goals were scored, dribbles ran and fun had – but really, who was watching?

Semi finals: Having shown prowess in the earlier round, the team staff, led by the misfiring Mr Bevan and the two left feet of Mr Iseghohimen, it was the magic of Mills (Mr Mills) who kept the team in the game, and finally, the winning goals came from somewhere unknown, the staff representatives were in the final once again. Was the sun about to shine on them this year as it had last? Oh and in the other Semis, 13.3 just about managed to get through on penalties.

Final: Tension was high. The cakes were almost eaten. Mr Bevan couldn't hit water in a boat. But there we were, once again facing victory, trying to snatch defeat from it. 13.3 were a strong team, many of their boys having represented the school in



football since their year seven days. But they were no match for men like Mr Frith, Mr Brett and, the ponytail of Mr Reiland. Other staff members were on the side-lines cheering on our (grown up) boys, and it took the effort of the entire Selsdon area to push our guys through. But after letting in a clumsy goal, we were back, 1-1. The final whistle went – it was penalties once again. Would the staff choke?

Of course not. Mr Bevan and Mr I slotted their goals away whereas, the same can't be said for some 13.3 members. Mr Mills once again, man of the match, two years running. What an MVP he is.

And so we went home, basking in sunlight, champions once again. A special thanks to all the staff who contributed food for the sale and to those year 13's who helped collect money. We raised nearly £200 for the charity SUDC UK, and in remembrance of Daniel Qevani whom we lost so sadly last year.

Important dates for your diary

TERM DATES

SUMMER TERM 2025

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 – Friday 18th July 2025

End of Summer Term

– Friday 18th July

Summer Holiday

– Monday 21st July to Friday 29th August

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Monday 1st September 2025

– Friday 19th December 2025

Staff INSET day - Monday 1st September

Year 7 and Year 12 only - Tuesday 2nd September

Open to all students - Wednesday 3rd September

Half-Term

- Monday 20th October – Friday 31st October

End of Autumn Term - Friday 19th December

Christmas Holiday

- Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January 2026

SPRING TERM 2026

Monday 5th January 2026 – Friday 27th April 2026

Half-Term

- Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

Easter Holiday

- Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April

OPEN EVENTS

Open Evening

Tuesday 16th September, 5pm-8pm

Open Mornings

Mondays 22nd and 29th September, 6th and 13th October, 11am-12:30pm