



The Quest Connect!

16.01.2026

Issue number 7

Assistant Principal: G Chenery

Headlines

Welcome! It's hard to believe now that we have been back a full 2 weeks already. Year 11 must feel the countdown to exams is getting quite real now. This time of year can often be quite hard with the dark mornings and nights, and no Christmas lights! The weather hasn't caused us any major issues yet, unlike some parts of the country. Our website will inform you of any major or urgent changes. [The Quest Academy | Part of The Collegiate Trust](#). Well, there is plenty happening across the Academy. This week there is a real theme of our creative opportunities with **panto trip** to the **Peacock theatre** in London, **Quest Talent** show and opportunities for **music lessons**. Our amazing **Quest Choir** continues to go from strength to strength.

Celebrations and Events!

This week assemblies have been focussing celebration our Attendance which continues to be really positive (see the attendance section). Thankyou to parents for all your support and communications with us.

Our Year 12 BTech students and Year 13 A level students have sat their mock exams this week and again its been great to see their hardwork paying off.



Quest Academy Talent show – all ages and acts welcome. Auditions are **Tuesday 20th and Thursday 22nd of January** – (only need to audition on one of these days). The 'act' they are doing doesn't have to be perfect yet, as it is just the first round!



The actual talent show will be in the **evening on Thursday the 19th of March**, so there is lots of time to perfect their acts!

See Ms Erwee for more details / questions.

How to sign up for music lessons:

We have so many talented musicians at Quest: if you want to learn and instrument or just get better at one you play already here is how to sign up through Croydon Music and Arts (CMA). Go to <https://www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk/> - select 'Learn with us' ->'Learn an instrument in school'. Or use the QR code below.



The poster features a vibrant background with illustrations of various musical instruments including a trumpet, saxophone, violin, guitar, and piano keyboard. It includes the Croydon Music & Arts logo, the Arts Council England logo, and the Croydon website. The main text reads 'LEARN AN INSTRUMENT WITH CROYDON MUSIC AND ARTS'. A QR code is prominently displayed, and a small photo shows a group of students playing brass instruments.

- Learn the instrument that interests YOU at YOUR school
- Choose between Group, Paired, and Individual 20 or 30-minute lessons
- Make progress with highly trained staff working towards recognised grades
- Scan the QR to find out more at [croydonmusicandarts.co.uk](https://www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk) and sign up!

We currently have a teacher who does piano and singing, so if students sign up for one of those two, they can start next term. If they sign up for any other instrument, we will need a certain amount of sign ups before CMA provides us a teacher for that instrument (guitar, bass, etc). Next week in the Quest Connect we will hear from some of the many students who are already benefiting from these lessons.



Yesterday **Thursday 15th January** was Year 10 parents evening where there were plenty of productive conversations to prepare students for their formal exams next year. We would like to thank all our families for their continued commitment to attending these important events. Our students' success is built on strong home/school partnerships, and your involvement makes a real difference.

Reminder of other parents evenings (4-7pm) are:

- Year 7- 21st May 2026 Parents evening
- Year 8 – 7th May 2026 Parents evening
- Year 9- 26th February 2026 is the Options evening and fair.
5th March 2026 Parents Evening
- Year 10 -15th January 2026 Parents evening
- Year 11 26th March 2026 Parents evening (Virtual)
- Quest 6. Year 13 12th March (Virtual)



FOOD BANK: Thank you!

A delivery was made this week to the Monks Hill Food Drive Project: ~Thankyou!

We want to make this a continuous partnership not just for Christmas so please continue to donate either by dropping at reception or students handing to Ms Chenery . Thank you in anticipation for your generosity to our wonderful community.



Achievement Leaders

Each student is collecting **merits** for their own records and for the Year competition! Keep watching here for more on our Rewards! All shout out students to be entered into a raffle! More on the prize for this next week!

Shout outs!! for amazing work and being the best you can be goes to:

Maharlie LM Year 11 – constant contributions showing clear knowledge in sociology (Ms Chenery)

Evie E for enthusiasm and commitment to Antibullying Ambassador project. (year 9)

Benjamin S. School Leadership teams who are working hard to build a legacy for the future.

Tommy B Year 7 – Returning and making stella progress in all areas! Well done (Mr Brett)

Kyra G Year 9 for excellent contributions to the Diana Award (Ms Waterhouse)

Student Leadership

The President and Vice president have been busy so now we have our full Student Leadership team with Year Leaders being elected. They had to apply and undergo a rigorous interview process. I am so proud of their commitment and determination to be involved with every aspect of life at Quest. Here they all are!

Form	Member 1	Member 2
7H1	Kasiah	Sofia
7H2	Aliza	Semi
7L1	Tobias	Holly
7L2	Rosie	Dan
7S1	Mariam	Jake
7S2	Jack	Elizabeth
8H1	Ahmad	Faith
8H2	Leyla	Ayub
8L1	Logan	Mikayla
8L2	Diamant	Zack
8S1	Maygol	Stanley
8S2	Heston	Joel
9H1	Oliver	Odia
9H2	Blessing	Evie
9L1	Lily	Evie
9L2	Arham	Shazy
9S1	Albert	Amelia
9S2	Malachi	Thomas

10H1	Kane	Ayub
10H2	Asma	Abdurahim
10L1	Abdul	Danailia
10L2	Alex	Isabella
10S1	India	Tianna
10S2	Jacob	Verkan
11H1	Kalista	Bella
11H2	Cassie	Raiyaan
11L1	Gianna	Hayden
11L2	Asianae	Essarar
11S1	Colby	Abdi
11S2	Antonella	Alana
12.1	Michael	Chealsea
12.2	Abigail	Brandon
13.1	Alina	Joella
13.2	Juhitha	Benjamin

The year leaders have then been busy electing their deputies, and the Wellbeing Rep was invited to be present at our Antibullying ambassador meeting. This week they have contributed to a survey on behaviour and attendance.

One of the exciting and excellent suggestions from students is "twinning" our school with others around the world. This will support our learners to be excellent Global citizens. To begin with a school in Jamaica has been suggested by students as we have many students who have Jamaican and Caribbean heritage. Also, with the damage from Hurricane Melissa at the end of last year and our fundraising this seemed a natural step. I hope we can then look to twin with schools in other countries and continents in time.



Sports and clubs

The inclement weather has continued to cause

See the PE department to be part of the action and to know when fixtures are.



Safeguarding spotlight

Pastoral Director Ms Waterhouse continues to support us with Safeguarding.

Physical Safety

This week our Year 9 students have participated in Safe Travel workshops, run by TFL and the Met Police, with plenty of advice on staying safe. Being alert if using crossings ie not on a phone!. A key number for us all on the train is 61016 for the British transport police to report anything suspicious.

Antibullying: Our ambassadors met this week and have decided on areas to work on for their Community badge. They have organised themselves into roles and have some amazing ideas. They are working on and Antibullying statement for the Academy as our starting point, along with some other really exciting ideas to roll out over the year.



**Badges for our Ambassadors will be given out as soon as they arrive!
Next week I will update on our progress.**

Parental Voice!

Thankyou for continued feedback: We continue to try and find ways to communicate with you all and each other better. We are reviewing how we can cut down the email alerts for all the merits to reduce the deliveries to your inboxes.

The Astro rota continues: Here it is! The student suggestion of Key stages appears to be working well (assuming no snow!) each year gets 5 days on the Astro over the 2 week cycle.

Next week is week A (19th January 2026)

Week A		Week B	
Monday	Key stage 3 (Years 7, 8, 9)	Monday	Key stage 4 (Years 10 11)
Tuesday	Key stage 4 (Years 10 11)	Tuesday	Key stage 3 (Years 7, 8, 9)
Wednesday	Key stage 3 (Years 7, 8, 9)	Wednesday	Key stage 4 (Years 10 11)
Thursday	Key stage 4 (Years 10 11)	Thursday	Key stage 3 (Years 7, 8, 9)
Friday	Key stage 3 (Years 7, 8, 9)	Friday	Key stage 4 (Years 10 11)

Parent requests:

Regarding requests about preloved uniform:

The Academy does have a limited supply of second-hand uniform items. We can help families by providing them with items of pre-loved uniform such as blazers, jumpers and PE kits. Anyone is welcome to donate pre-loved uniform or collect anything they need, subject to availability.

Pre-loved uniform is available throughout the school year. Please contact the Academy's Pastoral team by telephone or email at inclusion@thequestacademy.org.uk with requests for uniform items, or to make a donation.



Who is who? At the Quest

Parents raised they were aware of some staff changes but would really like to know who is who?

Mr Crofts – Executive Principal

Ms Ogunseye – Deputy Principal

Ms Dean – Deputy Principal

Ms Sami – Deputy Principal (Safeguarding Lead)

Year teams:

Year	Head of Year	Assistant Principal attached
Year 11	Ms Southworth	Mr Henry
Year 10	Mr Falaiye	Mr Houghton
Year 9	Mr Wilder	Mr Frith
Year 8	Ms Millar	Mr Frith
Year 7	Mr Brett	Ms Chenery

Attendance

Here is our attendance data for the first week back- up to Friday 9th January. Well done to those forms highlighted yellow as above the DfE targets.

7H1	7H2	7L1	7L2	7S1	7S2
89%	92.96%	95.43%	96.5%	95.45%	97.49%
8H1	8H2	8L1	8L2	8S1	8S2
95.36%	92%	93.48%	84.18%	92.5%	84.58%
9H1	9H2	9L1	9L2	9S1	9S2
98.67%	97.59%	92.59%	91.29%	97.67%	93.21%
10H1	10H2	10L1	10L2	10S1	10S2
95.7%	87.24%	89.17%	89.97%	94.62%	93.91%
11H1	11H2	11L1	11L2	11S1	11S2
98%	88.52%	91.89%	94.81%	88.75%	82.29%
12.1	12.2			13.1	13.2
85.16%	90.6%			94.5%	85.93%

Well done to the tutor groups highlighted in **Yellow!** Can we get any 100%'s next week?

I know Mr. Henry has already contacted you all but a really big **Thank you!** for all your support with attendance: especially at this time of year with lots of colds and the bad flu which we know has nationally been a problem. Our students again are bucking this trend and we love seeing them every day. It's also really appreciated how many parents are keeping us updated with a date they expect students to be able to return.

Dates for the Diary and other upcoming events

Week Beginning 16th January 2026: (Week A) the focus this week is **empowerment** and Dr Martin Luther King Jr Day (Monday 16th January 2026)

January 21st 2026 Year 7 Panto: 12.30 leave school curtain up at 3pm. Should be back by 6pm. Letter have been sent to parents with all the details.

Head ups of things coming up from our calendar:

January 28th-30th Year 9 exams

February 9- Year 11 Mocks begin

February 12-15th Berlin Trip

February 13th Year 7 Celebration (in assembly event not an evening event) and last day of the half term.

February 26th Year 9 options fair evening

27th MARCH – Academy day!



Term Dates 2025 2026

SPRING TERM 2026

Monday 5th January 2026 – Friday 27th March 2026

Half Term – Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February

Easter Holiday – Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April

SUMMER TERM 2026

Monday 13th April 2026 – Friday 17th July 2026

(Monday 4th May – Bank Holiday – Academy closed to students)

Half Term – Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

End of Summer Term – Friday 17th July (last day)

Summer Holiday – Monday 20th July to Friday 28th August

More from the Quest next week Ms G Chenery

NEXT WEEK 16th JANUARY 2026 is WEEK A

