

QE IN THE NEWS



Dear Families

Welcome to our latest school newsletter.

In the second half of Spring Term we have had a strong focus on giving students the opportunities to enjoy and achieve during their time at school. We have been preparing students in the older year groups for the upcoming public GCSE and A Level exams and ensuring that our younger students feel able to approach their assessments with confidence. The breadth of academic, sporting and creative experiences that our students have participated in and are detailed within this round-up is staggering. We are always struck by the enthusiasm, humility and willingness to 'have a go' that our students bring to school life at QE. This doesn't go unnoticed by our community – staff, local residents, volunteers and service providers often take the time to talk or write to me about how ours is a favourite school to be involved with because QE students are warm, friendly and kind. Our students make us feel very proud as a school.

One highlight this term has been reading the comments that our students submitted as part of our student survey. Students continue to report that they feel safe in school and while travelling to us each day. Other points that stood out from the survey are that more students would recommend our school and the majority feel that school is place where they feel comfortable making friends.

With our dispersed community (and limited bus services!) positive interactions with peers and the relationships our students form is an important feature of school life and for their social development. Our Year 11 students are currently considering what they wish to study in September and our applications for study in our Sixth Form are at a five year high. It is great to know that students feel that they belong and want to stay on to study at Post-16 with us. Students have also highlighted what they want more of, less of and what we can do to improve school for them. Much of this is around their experience of learning in the classroom; they would like more time to improve their work during the lesson before moving on and for teachers to give them clearer feedback while they are working. We will address these issues by planning in more structured improvement time and with a training focus with teachers on effective classroom feedback strategies.

I hope that you enjoy this glimpse into the richness of school life here at Queen Elizabeth's and wish you all a relaxing Easter break.

Paula Smith

Headteacher



Battle of the Bands Winners!



Huge congratulations to Pariah - Jess, Sam, Joe and Amy - who won this year's Devon Music Education Hub Battle of the Bands at the Phoenix Arts Centre! Competing against some fantastic bands from across Devon, Pariah stood out with their outstanding musicianship, powerful vocals and an incredible stage performance that truly set them at the top of their game. An absolute triumph! Huge credit also goes to Lucy Welsman for bringing these talented students together and recognising the spark of something very special in them.





Team Maths Challenge



+-x÷= Our amazing team of four students, Reuben and Toby (Year 9) and Sabine and Isaac (Year 8), competed in the UK Mathematics Trust Team Maths Challenge for the South West earlier this term. They placed second overall, beating numerous local schools, and did it all on their first ever competition against many experienced teams. They embraced every challenge, worked brilliantly together, and represented the school with real pride. A fantastic achievement, well done team!

Building Skills

During February half term, QE students Edward, Toby, Owain, Ed and Joe undertook a construction work experience week at Exeter College. The students got to try their hand at carpentry, brick-laying, roofing, paving, and painting and decorating. It was a brilliant, although tiring, week, well-organised with knowledgeable and encouraging tutors, and offered an amazing opportunity to gain some practical skills and insight into the construction industry.

Ed said, "My favourite part was learning about roofing. On the last day a roofing company showed us what they do and I was so surprised at how quick one person can build a roof!"

Joe added "I loved my week and carpentry was my favourite skill. I learnt to make joints. If I was telling someone else about this week, I would say do it as it was just brilliant."





Rewards Activity

We continue to be blown away by the ambition and kindness shown across our school community. To celebrate these fantastic qualities, our Year 7-10 students enjoyed a visit from Sporty Stars, who put on a wide range of different activities for the students to get involved in, from Archery Tag, Zorb Football, Dodgeball, to an Old School Sports Day!

Students spent a well-earned day celebrating, being active, and creating lasting memories with their friends

Keep up the good work!



 SportyStars





ISSUE 58 SPRING TERM 2 2026

Kick Start Art

Introducing the Padlet Platform

Through the Padlet homepage, families can:

- View the full Mid Devon Monsters exhibition, organised by school
- Access resources and information about the project
- Take part in our new 'Just for Fun' challenges, perfect for holidays and home creativity
- Keep up to date with upcoming projects, including our next challenge: Cosmic Creations

Kick Start Art - All in One Place!

We've created a brand new Kick Start Art home page on Padlet - a space where you can explore everything in one place.

- 🧩 View all the Mid Devon Monsters entries, organised by school
- ☀️ Try our new Just for Fun challenges at home (including an Easter Holiday Challenge!)
- 🚀 Find out what's coming next, including our Cosmic Creations project

You can view it online or download the Padlet app for easy access on your phone 📱

Take a look 👉

<https://padlet.com/nrm9fgt5hq/kick-start-art-home-page-sclrlbpqvje67rhg>



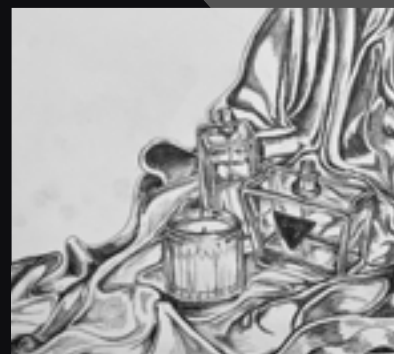
Mid Devon Monsters Art Workshop

Well done to year 9 students for these imaginative and scary monsters! A huge thanks to Linda Williamson from Kick Start Art for delivering a fantastic Art workshop to a group of year 9 students. They enthusiastically explored mono-printing, ink and using masking fluid as they created their Mid Devon monsters.





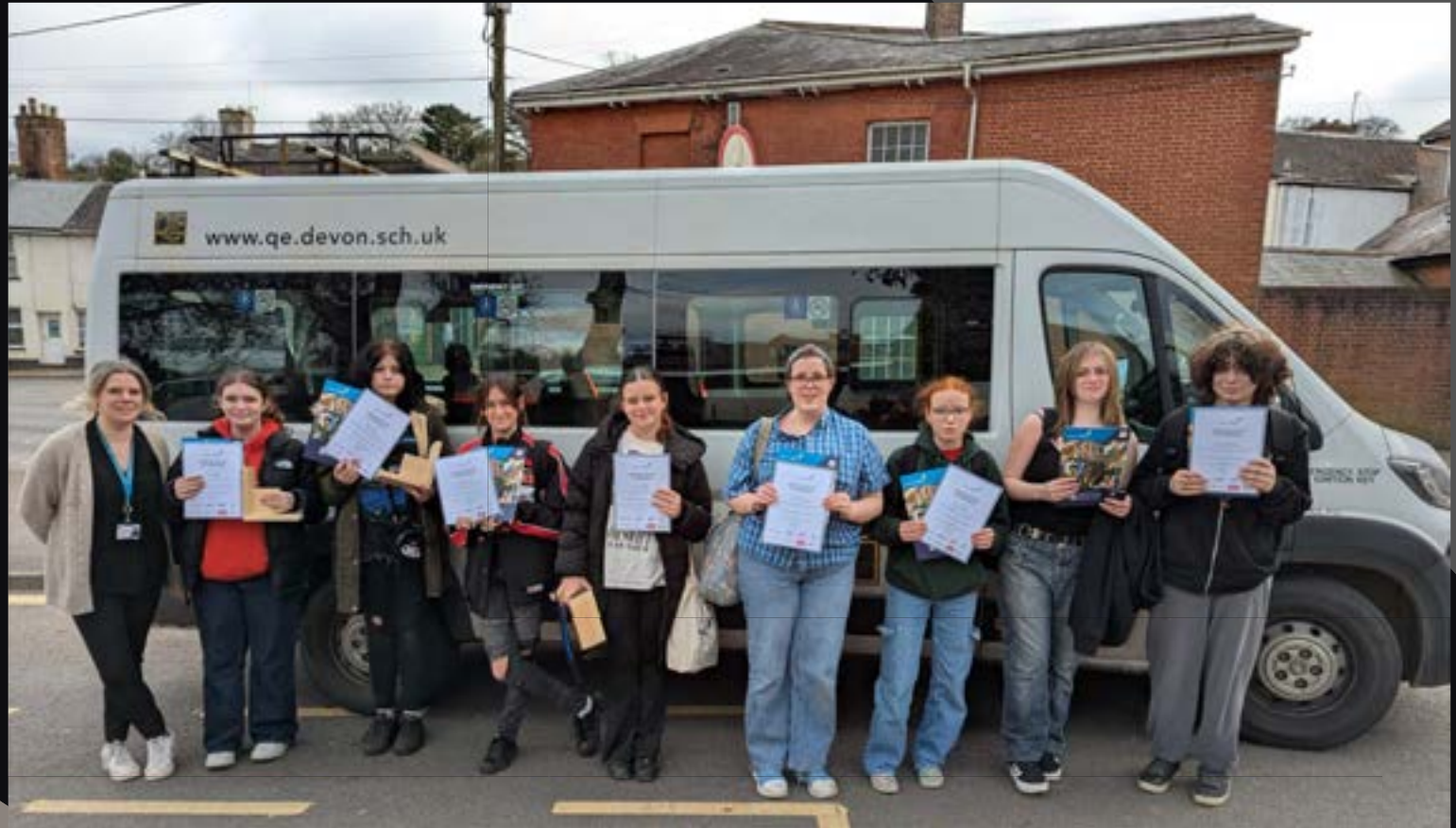
Year 10 Fine Art - Still Life



The Art department are delighted to share a collection of year 10 Fine Art drawings and paintings. The students have been coming on leaps and bounds with refining their skills. These artworks are from the Still Life project where there has been a huge focus on working from direct observation and creating observational studies from their own photographs. Well done year 10!

Careers Corner

Women in Construction event



A group of Year 9 and 10 female students visited Exeter College, to take part in a series of hands-on workshops focused on Civil Engineering, Carpentry & Joinery and Electrical Installation, all delivered by experienced female staff. These sessions gave students practical insight into key industry skills while celebrating the expertise of women working in these fields.

The day featured a Q&A session with female industry leaders from Kier, AtkinsRéalis, Willmott Dixon, LiveWest and Vistry Group. These sessions also gave students the opportunity to meet and talk with other female students, who are completing Apprenticeships.



Rugby Round-up

Well done to Ellie and Ellie who both represented Devon Rugby in a recent match against Somerset.



Huge well done to our Year 9 rugby team who went unbeaten at the Exeter and East Devon 7s tournament held at Blundells school. The boys adapted really well to a format they have never played in before to progress to the Devon 7s.





Year 7 & 8 and 10 & 11 Netball

Year 7 and Year 8 Netball teams - both played really well in the end of season tournaments - well done girls!



Year 10 and Year 11 netball teams, had a great time at their league games, with Year 11 finishing third and Year 10's finishing 4th! Amazing effort girls



Year 9 Rugby & Football



The Year 9 Boys Football team had 2 tough nights in a row, on the road - away at St Peter's and then against Clyst Vale, in the East Devon Cup. Despite finishing second, they played incredibly well, with real dedication - well done boys!

A huge well done to the Year 9 Rugby team, who went unbeaten at the Exeter and East Devon 7's tournament, held at Blundell's School.



BASKETBALL



SEVEN FOUR

BASKETBALL COACHING

FROM PRACTICE TO GAME TIME

No matter where you are in your basketball journey, just starting out or chasing the next level, Seven Four with Big Mike is here to help you grow.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP TODAY
U13s JUST £35 PER MONTH



QE School
sports hall



15:45-16:45,
every Tuesday

SIGN UP HERE



SIGN UP HERE

SIGN UP HERE

SIGN UP HERE

We sharpen skills, improve game IQ, and boost confidence through high-energy, purposeful training that translates to real game performance. This is structured development parents can trust and the kind of work young athletes feel proud of.

CONTACT - sevenfourcoaching@gmail.com

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SEVEN FOUR

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No matter where you are in your basketball journey, just starting out or chasing the next level, Seven Four with Big Mike is here to help you grow.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP TODAY
U16s JUST £40 PER MONTH



QE SCHOOL
SPORTS HALL



15:45-17:45,
EVERY WEDNESDAY



SIGN UP HERE

SIGN UP HERE



SIGN UP HERE

SIGN UP HERE

We sharpen skills, improve game IQ, and boost confidence through high-energy, purposeful training that translates to real game performance. This is structured development parents can trust and the kind of work young athletes feel proud of.

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Learn 2 Live



Our Sixth Form students took part in an informative session delivered by Learn 2 Live, focusing on road safety and the real-life impact of road traffic accidents.

As many of our young adults begin their journeys on the roads as new drivers and passengers, opportunities like this are invaluable in helping them understand the facts, risks, and responsibilities that come with being behind the wheel.

We're incredibly grateful for the powerful and thought-provoking session — supporting our students to make safe and informed choices now and in the future.

Exploring Future Pathways



Earlier this term, our Year 12 students had a fantastic opportunity to attend the UCAS Discovery event at Exeter Westpoint. The event is designed to help students make informed decisions about their next steps and our students made the most of every opportunity! They were able to:

- Chat with universities and colleges about courses and student life
- Speak to employers and apprenticeship providers about career pathways
- Gain advice from qualified careers advisers
- Attend expert-led talks
- Get dedicated support from UCAS specialists

It was an inspiring and informative day, helping students explore their options and feel more confident about their futures. We're incredibly proud of the curiosity and engagement they showed throughout!





Ten Tors



Thirty-seven miles. Two days. Working as one incredible team.

On a recent Ten Tors practice expedition, our students set off from Ivybridge on Saturday, crossing the stunning Dartmoor moors. With perfect walking conditions, clear skies and a light breeze, they made great progress towards Princetown where they stayed overnight.

Sunday brought a tougher challenge, with wet and testing weather for their final stretch — but spirits stayed high and determination carried them through!

Covering over 37 miles across the weekend, they're feeling strong, prepared, and ready to take on the Ten Tors event at the beginning of May.

We couldn't be prouder of their resilience and teamwork — bring on May!



A 'Wright Palaver'



Congratulations to Ella, Freya, Poppy and Willem - the winners of the Wright Palaver 15. Contestants had to use their mathematical prowess and logic to navigate a series of tasks and competitions. This included a lateral thinking round, an orienteering challenge, a maths shuttle round and finished with a terrifying navigation of Frankenstein's dungeon with a monster in full chase mode!



Year 11 Summer Ball



SUMMER BALL

THURSDAY | **25** | JUNE 2026

6.30 PM ARRIVAL
BUFFET SERVED: 7.30 PM CARRIAGES: 10.30 PM

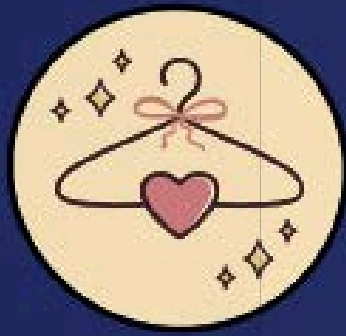
DRESS CODE: TO IMPRESS

THE ROUGEMONT HOTEL
QUEEN STREET, EXETER

A magical evening awaits. We present
QE Traitors: a thrilling game of intrigue,
secrets, and hidden clues. Which team will rise
to victory, and who will be undone by the lies?



Don't forget we have lots of preloved prom dresses, accessories, suits and shoes, available through our Preloved Prom initiative.



Pre-Loved PROM

Why buy new when you can look just as stunning and help save the planet at the same time?

We have an incredible selection of **over 150 dresses** and **50 suits** ready to hire for the Summer Balls.

Saving the planet, one prom dress at a time.

Our amazing 6th form are currently getting the collection ready and will be sharing details of the outfits over the next few weeks — so watch this space!

To keep updated on outfits, open days and times when families can come in and try on outfits together, follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/qeecothreads or email us at ecothreads@qe.devon.sch.uk

**Outfits are £20 to hire
with £10 refunded
when returned**



ECOTHREADS





ISSUE 58 SPRING TERM 2 2026

Mobile Phones

As a school, our priority is to ensure that all students feel **safe, connected and successful** during the school day. Mobile phones can be extremely useful tools outside of school, but their presence during the school day can create safeguarding, wellbeing and behaviour incidents.

Why mobile phones can cause difficulties in school

When phones are accessible during the school day, we see an increase in:

- **Distraction from learning** - impacting concentration and academic progress
- **Social media issues** - including online conflict spilling into school.
- **Safeguarding concerns** - such as inappropriate content, filming or image sharing
- **Heightened anxiety** - particularly when students are in constant contact with home
- **Behaviour incidents** - often linked to refusal to hand over phones when asked

Mobile phone policy

To support a calm and safe learning environment:

- Mobile phones should be **"off and away"** on school site during the school day.
- Phones should be **switched off and kept in bags** from arrival until the end of the day.
- This includes **breaktime, lunchtime** and **waiting for the bus**.
- Phones may only be used **after students have left the school site**.

If a phone is seen or used during the school day, it will be confiscated for the remainder of the day.

After-school use

Once students have **left the school site**, responsibility for mobile phone use transfers back to families.

We encourage parents to continue discussing:

- Appropriate social media use
- Screen time boundaries
- Online safety and respectful communication

How parents can support

We are extremely grateful for the support of families in helping us keep students safe. You can help by:

-  Not calling or texting students during the school day
-  Contacting reception if you need to pass on an urgent message
-  Reinforcing that phones should remain switched off and away
-  Talking regularly with your child about social media safety and online behaviour
-  Monitoring apps, privacy settings and online interactions

Reducing phone use during the day allows students to focus on learning, build positive relationships and feel more secure in school.



The Big Step

Do you, or someone you know, have a child starting at QE in September?

QE is partnering with The Big Step to offer a transition programme designed to give your child the best start possible, helping them feel at home in their new school before September even begins.

Options to pay in instalments or with childcare vouchers available.

To find out more visit <https://thebigstep.org/school/qe>

"I think this was one of the greatest experiences of my life, IT WAS AMAZING!"

Participating student 2023

LIMITED
SPACES
AVAILABLE

GET
YEAR-7
READY



THE BIG STEP TRANSITION PROGRAMME AT:

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S SCHOOL

3 - 7 AUGUST 2026

**THE
BIG
STEP!**
YEAR 6-7
TRANSITION
PROGRAMME



Communications

As you will be aware, we use a secure online system called Bromcom to send out general information, newsletters and trip messages etc. to parents and carers via email. Please ensure you have added the communications email address - mcas@qe.tedwraggtrust.co.uk - to your safe sender list, this should help ensure you receive communications from us promptly and that your provider doesn't filter them to spam.

My Child At School (MCAS)

We also use a secure online system from Bromcom called My Child At School (MCAS) to keep you up to date. With MCAS parents and carers can:

- Check their child's attendance
- Check their timetable
- Keep track of positives/negatives awarded
- View homework
- View reports
- Send and receive messages.

If you have a smartphone, both you and the school can save money when you download the 'MCAS' app from your app store (Android and iPhone).

MCAS accounts are generated for parents and carers when their child joins the school, if you didn't activate it at the time, please visit

<https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin> or download the app and use the 'Reset Password' link to set up your account using the email address we have on record for you.





Bromcom Student Portal

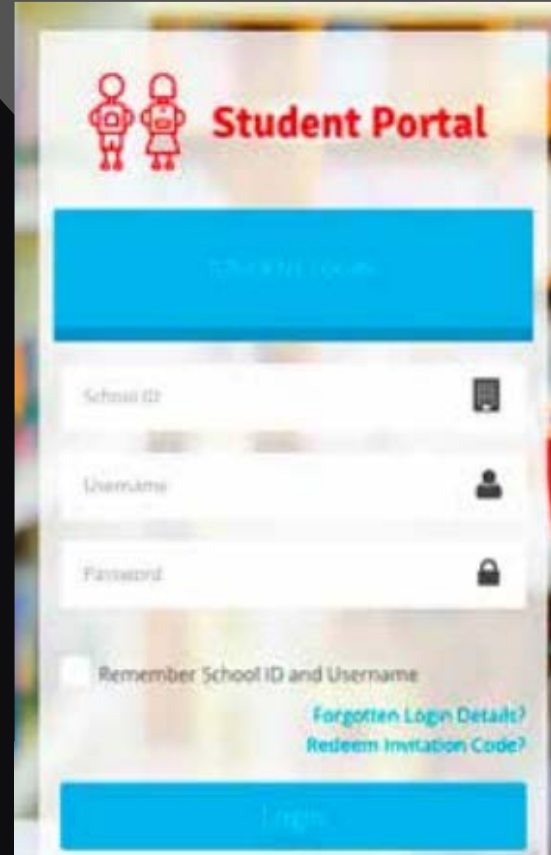
All students were sent an email to their school address containing an invitation code and a link to set up their accounts. They can complete this by locating the email and following the simple steps to activate their Bromcom Student Portal account. Please encourage your child to access their account, as it will allow them to view homework and other important information.

Please note that the invitation code is only needed for students to create their accounts initially, once they've done this they will use the following to login:

School ID: 13768

Username: Unique to the student (usually their surname followed by a series of numbers, it is NOT their email address)

Password: This will be what they chose when they set up the account.



There is a tick box to allow students to 'Remember School ID and Username' so that they only need to input their password each time they log on subsequently.

If your child reports to you that they've tried logging on but are getting the message 'no such user found' this may be because they are trying to use the Redeem Invitation Code link again. Please direct them to click on the 'Back to Login' screen and try again. If they're unable to remember their password then they can use the 'Forgotten Login Details' link to reset this.

If you or your child has any issues with logging on, after trying the above, please do contact us via: tellus@qe.devon.sch.uk and we can assist you with this.



Equipment

- Black and purple pens (including spares)
- A pencil
- A rubber
- A ruler
- A Casio scientific calculator

Available from the library



Queen Elizabeth's *School*



BITS AND PIECES



If you have any community events or news you'd like to share, please contact us - tellus@qe.devon.sch.uk

Cookery Hub

The QE Community Cookery Hub were delighted to welcome families from Haywards for the latest sessions.

Wilf and Nicky have created something truly special; sessions that are fun, welcoming, and engaging. It's a fantastic opportunity to learn essential cookery skills and take home healthy, delicious meals.

A big thank you to Cllr Jim Cairney, Ann and the Crediton Lions for all their support with these sessions.



Next term, we return to Western Road, where we look forward to welcoming our Landscore families.

Photo Credit - Will Goddard, Crediton Courier

Crediton Learning Community (CLC) Sports Partnership Events



It has been a fantastic term, welcoming lots of young people from our feeder Primary Schools, to join the CLC and QE, in a range of sport activities. This has included Year 3/4 orienteering, the Year 5/6 Swimming Gala, the Year 1/2 Multiskills event and the Year 5/6 Netball tournament. In the two team events we have had wins for Haywards in the Swimming, and Copplestone and Cheriton Fitzpaine in the Netball (see pictures to the left). We are looking forward to the summer term where we have Handball, Cricket (both Year 3/4) and Athletics (Year 5/6).



Help us build a community that changes everything.

We're launching a brand-new Parent & Community Association at QE and we need you to make it happen. Whether you can spare an hour a term or want a bigger role, every contribution shapes the school our young people experience every day.

The impact we can make together

FUND ENRICHMENT

Trips, clubs,
equipment and
experiences beyond
the curriculum.

IMPROVE FACILITIES

Better spaces and
resources that
benefit every single
student

BUILD COMMUNITY

Events and
networks that
connect families,
staff and students.



PCA
PARENT & COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
QUEEN ELIZABETH'S
SCHOOL

Schools with strong parent associations consistently outperform those without not just in results, but in culture, wellbeing, and the opportunities open to every student.

Interested in finding out more?

Email an expression of interest to Community@qe.devon.sch.uk

All parents, guardians and staff warmly invited.

Ambition + Community + Kindness





National Lottery Funding

Queen Elizabeth's School is proud to share that it has secured a £20,000 National Lottery grant to deliver a range of sustainability-focused community projects.

The funding will support a series of eco-projects delivered over the next 18 months by the school in partnership with the whole community, and culminating in an eco-fair at the school Barnfield site next summer.

The joint project with Crediton Town Council and Sustainable Crediton, newly christened the "QE Crediton Community Collective", aims to strengthen local engagement, broaden opportunities for young people, and support the community's shared environmental and sustainability goals.

Residents, local groups and community members will be invited to contribute ideas for projects. Early suggestions include swapping baby clothes, making "bug hotels" for sale at the farmers' market, and creating a "museum of useless objects" to inspire conversations about waste and reuse.

Tamlyn Fraiquin, QE Community and Inclusion Worker who applied for the grant said: "This funding will allow us to not only support our school and community become more sustainable, but to bring together young people, the Town Council and Sustainable Crediton to make a meaningful impact across the entire community. We're excited to see what we can achieve together."

This work will build on the school's commitment to sustainability and focus on eco-friendly initiatives in recent years. In 2024 the schools eco-club was launched by science teachers Miss Mercer and Miss Owen to inspire a love of the natural world and empower pupils with the skills and understanding to tackle important environmental challenges such as climate change.

"We're thrilled to have secured this valuable funding, recognising our school's commitment to sustainability and community engagement. This offers us a wonderful opportunity to work even more closely with our students, the council and local community to shape positive outcomes for our town. A huge thankyou to Tamlyn and everyone involved in making this possible."

Paula Smith, Headteacher





ECOTHREADS

ECOTHREADS

WE NEED YOUR HELP

QE Ecothreads: Saving the planet one blazer at a time



**We urgently need donations of
QE branded school wear**



Donations can be accepted at Barnfield and Western
Road Reception, or Crediton Library, Belle Parade



ECOTHREADS

Ecothreads is QE's Pre-loved initiative that aims to keep clothing out of landfill, cut down on carbon emissions and promote a culture of sustainability within our school community.

How to order school uniform from Ecothreads

Contact Ecothreads to check if the item you want is available:
ecothreads@qe.devon.sch.uk
or message: [facebook.com/qeecothreads](https://www.facebook.com/qeecothreads)

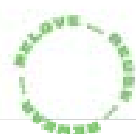
Scan here to email us!



If the item is in stock, it will be sent to the Library - at either **Barnfield** or **Western Road**

The item can be collected and paid for using your **Pick and Pay Card**

Saving the planet - one blazer at a time



Super 1s



AGES 12-25

**ALL DISABILITIES
WELCOME!**

**CHALLENGE YOURSELF
BE MORE ACTIVE
IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS
MAKE NEW FRIENDS**



LORD'S TAVERNERS
Empowering young people through cricket

Registered Charity No. 306864 | OSCR No. SC046238



**DEVON CRICKET
FOUNDATION**

**Free
Inclusive
Cricket
Sessions**

CONTACT

Chris Brown

super1s@devoncricket.co.uk

07498 751676

www.devoncricket.co.uk/super1s

Super 1s Locations

Barnstaple

Wednesdays 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Pilton Community College EX31 1RB

Plymouth

Wednesday's 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Sir John Hunt Community Sports College
PL5 4AA

Exeter

**Thursdays 5:30pm -
6:30pm**

Riverside Leisure Centre
EX4 1AF

Torquay

Mondays 6pm - 7pm

St Cuthbert Mayne School
TQ1 4RN

School aged vaccinations

Did you know children will be offered these routine vaccinations at school?

- ✓ **FLU** - Reception - Year 11
- ✓ **MMR** - Catch-up
- ✓ **HPV** - Year 8 - Year 11
- ✓ **Meningitis ACWY** - Year 9 - Year 11
- ✓ **Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP)** - Year 9 - Year 11

FLU

MMR

HPV

**MENINGITIS
ACWY**

**DIPHTHERIA
TETANUS
POLIO (DTP)**

Did you miss us?

We also have community clinics across Devon for:

- ✓ Home educated children
- ✓ Anxious children
- ✓ Children who missed the session at school

SCAN
HERE



For further information scan the QR code or please speak with a member of the team

Call us on

01392 342678

Kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net



BITS AND PIECES

Changed your details?

Have you moved or changed your email or phone number? Don't forget to update your details with us! Please let us know if any of the other emergency contacts you gave us, when your child joined the school, have changed. You can use MCAS (My Child At School) or email new details to:

reception@qe.devon.sch.uk

Send
us
Your
News!

NEWS



Email Lisa

lisa.gillard@qe.devon.sch.uk

dolce

As you will have seen from the letter which has been sent out recently, Dolce will be increasing the price of some of the items on the menu. Please visit the Catering Page on our website, for further details. An updated price list will be published on the website, over the Easter Holiday.

For your Diary

Apr 2nd: Last Day of Term
Apr 20th: All Students and Staff Return
Apr 21st: Year 12 EPQ Launch
Apr 22nd: Year 7 PCE
Apr 28th: SEN Coffee Morning
Apr 29th: Year 10 PCE
May 4th: Early May Bank Holiday
May 7th: Year 13 Diploma Evening
May 14th: Year 10 PIE Revision Countdown
May 18th: Year 10 4-1 Countdown
May 20th: Year 8 PCE
May 21st: Years 7-10 Rewards Trip

Our latest job vacancies are always advertised on our website.





Ted
Wragg
TRUST

*Thank
You*

Thank you to our parents and
carers for completing our
parent survey 2025-26
Your views and opinions will
make a huge difference in
improving our Trust of
schools





Wishing
all our Students,
Parents and Carers
a very Happy Easter
and restful break.

We are back to school on
Monday 20th April
(Week B)

