



QUEEN'S GATE
SCHOOL

QG NEWS

SUMMER 2023

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S STUDY

Dear Parents,

Undoubtedly one of the greatest strengths of Queen's Gate is our diversity – of nationality, of age and of opportunity. The pages you are about to read reflect this so vividly, with Mr Molero's report on the Junior School Recycled Fashion Show immediately preceding two of our UVI girls describing their visit to Buckingham Palace to receive their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Elsewhere we find Remove at the BBC Earth Experience, LIV in Paris for the French Exchange and III Form in the Isle of Wight.

As we move towards the end of the school year, the Summer Term is always a busy one for celebrations, and this year was no exception. In recent weeks we have enjoyed our Sports Days and a whole array of concerts, our annual Garden Party, the Junior School Celebration of the Year - complete with guest speaker Laura Mucha - and our farewell to our Sixth Form Leavers. Of course, we can't conclude the term without mentioning a particularly special event – our coronation picnic, as the School celebrated the crowning of HM King Charles and Queen's Gate alumna, HM Queen Camilla. From the gasps of awe as the girls came down to the Dining Rooms and caught sight of the sumptuous spread of treats prepared by our wonderful new caterers, to our Sixth Form volunteers dancing with our Age UK visitors, it really was a wonderful occasion. We were so grateful to have this opportunity to come together as one School – so grateful, in fact, that we hope a May picnic will become an annual QG fixture in the years going forward.

I hope you will enjoy the articles and images included in this issue of QG News, and do look out for the dates of events already planned for 2023/24. It's not long now until the start of another school year, and one for which we have high hopes already.

For now, I hope you are enjoying a sun-kissed, rest-filled and book-laden summer.

With warmest wishes,

Amy Wallace
Principal



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During the Summer Term, Queen's Gate hosted a series of musical events that left a lasting impression on students and the audience. These events celebrated talent and creativity, providing memorable moments for the School's musical community. The term began with Ms Van Dromme's vocal concert, featuring performances from both Junior and Senior School girls. It set the stage for a summer filled with wonderful music, showcasing the impressive vocal abilities of the talented students. The captivating string concert was a symphony of enchanting sounds, with the harmonious interplay of violin, harp, and cello. The students' mastery of their instruments and musical styles left a lasting impact on everyone present.

Mr Georgiou's intimate vocal concert took place in the cosy setting of the Senior School music room. The performances created a unique connection between the students and the audience, with heartfelt renditions of various musical genres that resonated deeply with everyone attending.

Next, Mrs Haynes's piano concert showcased the musical prowess of students from all grades. The audience enjoyed a delightful array of piano performances, each capturing the dedication and musicality of the students. The concert was a testament to their hard work and commitment.

The Leavers' Concert marked a bittersweet moment as girls leaving at the end of this year performed solo pieces before embarking on their next chapter of education. The finale, our Summer Concert and Ms Sansun's Vocal Concert were held in the last week of term. As the school year comes to a close, the musical events of the Summer Term showcased a busy music department showing the hard work put in by the girls and the instrumental staff. The girls always rise to the occasion, and I look forward to next year as they continue their music journeys.

Mr Webb-Taylor
Director of Music

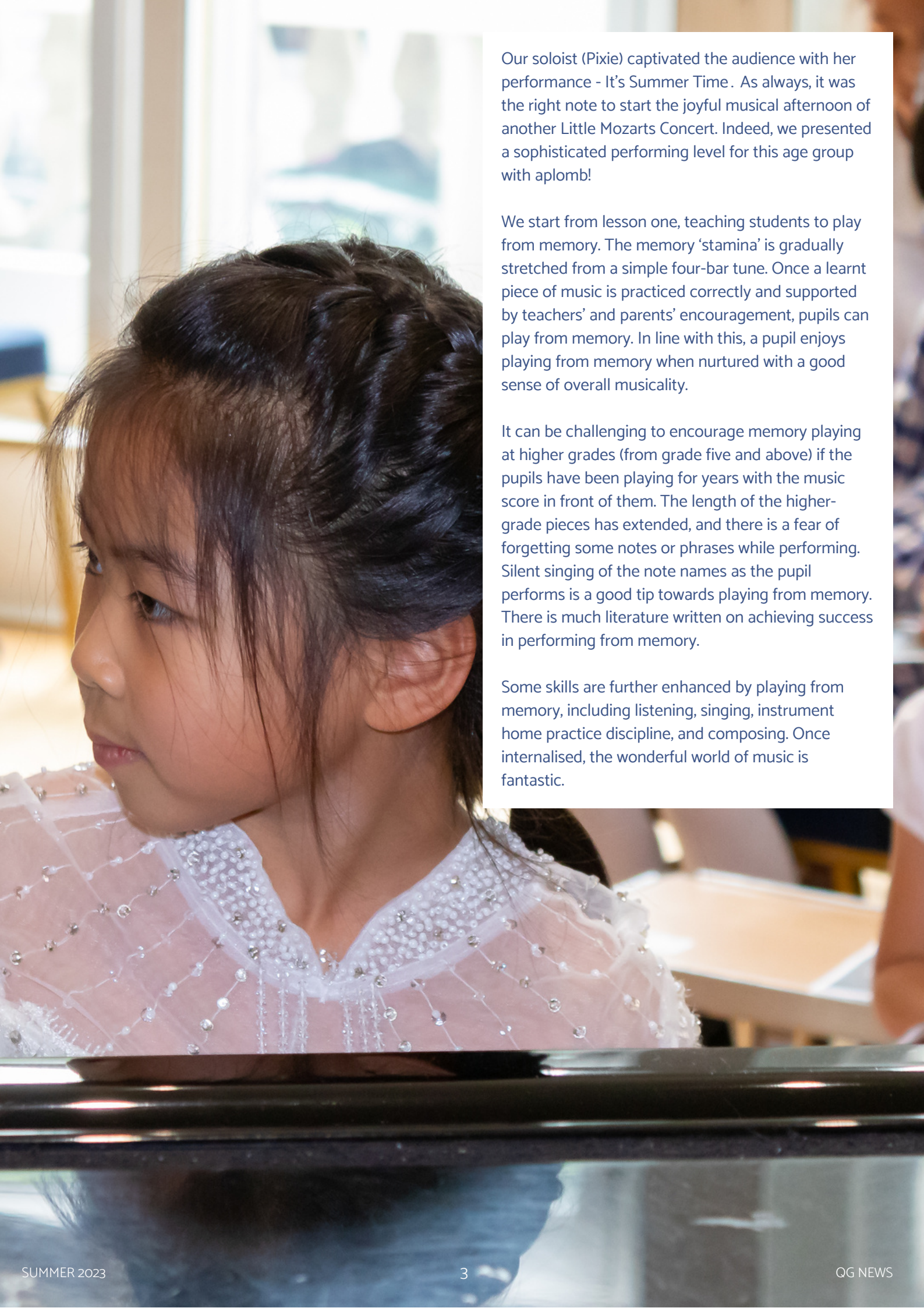




LITTLE MOZART'S SUMMER CONCERT

Little Mozarts Summer Concert 2023 showcased the musical talents of Junior School. Congratulations to everyone for their hard work and practice.

Ms Chua & Miss Tham



Our soloist (Pixie) captivated the audience with her performance - It's Summer Time . As always, it was the right note to start the joyful musical afternoon of another Little Mozarts Concert. Indeed, we presented a sophisticated performing level for this age group with aplomb!

We start from lesson one, teaching students to play from memory. The memory 'stamina' is gradually stretched from a simple four-bar tune. Once a learnt piece of music is practiced correctly and supported by teachers' and parents' encouragement, pupils can play from memory. In line with this, a pupil enjoys playing from memory when nurtured with a good sense of overall musicality.

It can be challenging to encourage memory playing at higher grades (from grade five and above) if the pupils have been playing for years with the music score in front of them. The length of the higher-grade pieces has extended, and there is a fear of forgetting some notes or phrases while performing. Silent singing of the note names as the pupil performs is a good tip towards playing from memory. There is much literature written on achieving success in performing from memory.

Some skills are further enhanced by playing from memory, including listening, singing, instrument home practice discipline, and composing. Once internalised, the wonderful world of music is fantastic.

GUYS & DOLLS

"The whole show was brilliant. All the actors had the most fantastic voices, especially Adelaide and Nicely Nicely who had the most unique voices I have ever heard live. Their voices blew me away. Not to mention Sky and Sarah's singing skills were absolutely astonishing. I imagined all the hard work and effort they put into all those songs and scenes. My favourite actor was Sky, Adelaide, and one of the extras. Sky was brilliant as one of the main characters. His voice was fantastic, and Adelaide was so pretty and had the most beautiful voice. I loved the whole thing!

The staging design was so thoughtful. The way they had the stage lift and the staff dressed as policemen to make sure you moved out of the way was terrific. I loved all the signs above our heads, whenever one of the actors had a solo, the spotlight would follow them around the stage. And when Sky and Sara were in Havana, I loved the party and the fight scene because it seemed so tropical with dancing, and the lights were so bright, like neon pink, yellow, and blue. It was incredible".

Milana Benson - Remove

"The stage was immersive, and the light effects were incredible as the light constantly followed the performers. And the colours of the stage light were constantly changing.

Tower Bridge was beautiful, and I had a great time with my friends. It was a truly unique day".

Lucie Kron - Remove

"I liked it because you got to be right in front of the characters, and they would also hand you props such as maracas and confetti on a stick. I got confetti on a stick, and I wanted to keep it as a souvenir, but sadly, they had to take it back. I also loved it when the fake police quickly told you to move because the stage would have to rise. When that was about to happen, lights around the stage would switch on. They would also change the colour depending on the mood.

I loved everything - the only thing I did not like was that we had to stand up, but it was worth it, especially being very close to the actors. The stage was very detailed, and I would have never considered myself watching a two-hour show standing up. I really liked being at the front of the stage so you could see all the actors perform and have a better view.

I found it such a fun experience. I loved that we could also have ice cream with our friends. Inside the theatre, mini lanterns dangled from the ceiling, which caught my attention. I heard that the pretzels were terrific. Unfortunately, I am gluten-free, so I could not have one. At least I got to have the mango sorbet. On returning from the theatre, I saw Big Ben, The London Eye and the Winston Churchill statue".

Ameeren Alvisi - Remove

The Guys and Dolls performance was a fantastic experience I will never forget. It felt like a dream, the costumes, the stage, everything was magical. I felt like I was in the play as it was interactive. By far, my favourite actor would have to be Miss Adelaide. I loved her. Her voice was amazing. I loved her outfits and her humour, she was fantastic.

I think the whole vibe of the performance was fantastic. I loved the set, it looked so realistic, every detail felt like New York, well, the nice parts of New York. The stage was so cool as it was so close to us and the actors were speaking to us. The costumes were glamorous, and the ladies' hair was so big and beautiful.

I loved every bit of the whole trip, it was so much fun. I enjoyed getting ice cream and hanging out with my friends. It was so much fun being outside playing, and thank you so very much for taking us to the play, it was even better than what you told us it would be like, thank you!

Nadia Lyle - Remove





It has been a busy term in the Drama department! Girls continue to excel, using their imaginations and dramatic talent during lessons and co-curricular activities.

CURRICULAR DRAMA

Working collaboratively, girls in Remove enjoyed working in role as characters invited to spend the evening in a Gothic manor house. They used physical theatre with aplomb, making Mrs Pajovic and Mr Harvey jump out of their skin as they respectively toured each class mansion.

'The manor was gothic and had an eerie atmosphere. The ravens flew around the east turret, cawing constantly as if they were trying to tell me something, perhaps a dark secret. The night grew cold, and as shivers ran down my spine, I felt more alone than ever before'.

'My night in the manor house was the most frightening night of my life, and I was a nurse in the Second World War! Entering the house, I could feel everything wasn't right, but I just couldn't put my hands on it!'

LIV considered the impact of human behaviour on climate change and animals' natural habitats. Having written monologues from the perspective of the world's wildlife, girls embraced the opportunity to create sock puppets before performing a puppet show to their peers. The facts and figures were sobering, but the performances were a creative delight!

Form IV took the role of theatre critics and reviewed 'The Royal Shakespeare Company's' groundbreaking production of 'The Tempest'. In small groups, girls opted to either analyse the colours and materials used for the set design or discuss how costumes impacted the audience's perception of each character. Others analysed and evaluated the effectiveness of the actor's performances by writing a live theatre review.

Examination classes continued developing thought-provoking devised performances in response to a range of stimuli. We look forward to watching their final GCSE and A-level pieces next academic year.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR DRAMA



This term, we have been delighted to welcome back several seasoned Remove Drama Society members and some fresh faces, all eager to continue developing their drama skills and forge strong communal friendships. Girls developed their acting techniques and explored a range of scripts while using improvisation to create comedic and dramatic scenes.

Rehearsals for 'All the World's a Stage' continued in readiness for our Showcase at RADA in October. Girls from across the school are excited to share their interpretations of the Bard's infamous villains and heroes! Tickets will go on sale in the first week of the Autumn term.

Once again, we are in awe of the creativity and commitment of our Junior and Senior LAMDA students. This year girls achieved 96 Distinctions and 17 merits, an exceptional set of results! We offer our congratulations to all the girls!

House Drama 2023 was a fun way to draw the academic year to a close! Celebrating the work of William Shakespeare, each House performed extracts from one of his masterpieces! This year's adjudicators had the enviable job of picking a winner, given the inspired interpretations and creative staging. Congratulations to Douglas who won the coveted House Drama Cup for their performances.

Mrs Pajovic
Head of Drama and Theatre.



CHITTY CHITTY
BANG BANG
JR.



It was a huge pleasure and excitement to return once more to the Chelsea Theatre, for our production of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. We were lucky to have the inspirational costume genius of Mrs Clare Lenterman, who quickly crafted and measured some amazing costumes which made the girls look and feel fabulous. We were also blessed to have the backstage expertise of Mrs Scott, who took charge of the girls and made the exits and entrances so seamless. Obviously, with this particular play, there are a few little technical challenges . . . such as a flying car for one and a mechanical hair cutting machine for another! Undaunted, it was a great deal of fun working out how we were going to give the illusion of Chitty flying and it's amazing what sound, fabric and puppetry can do to create imaginative effects. It was a great pleasure to work on and the girls were amazing, rising to the challenge to give a wonderful performance that everyone can treasure. I am now looking forward to next year . . .

Mrs Maklouf - IIB Tutor



SPORT



As another school year ends, the PE Department brings you news from the sporting events of the year, our Junior and Senior School Sports Days.

The Senior School traveled to Battersea Park's Millennium Arena Athletics Track on Thursday, 17 June, for a momentous day out in the baking hot sunshine! Loaded with sun cream, water and sun hats, girls from Remove to Lower Sixth did not disappoint with their participation and determination in all events.

During the morning, there were hard battles out on high jump, discus, javelin, shot put, and the long jump pits, and the track races also did not disappoint with the longer distances runs (1500m and 800m) kick starting the day. A big well done to those who ran and gave it their all in the heat!

We were impressed with the participation levels this year with so many pupils signing up for so many of the events, the more events you enter, the more points you can score for your House and, of course, the more points you can gain for your tally, giving you a chance of coming away as the Year Group's overall winner. Looking across the track, each event had crowds of participants, which was brilliant.

THE 2023 HOUSE CHAMPION

1ST JOHNSTON ON 305 POINTS

2ND – WYATT ON 256 POINTS

3RD – SPALDING ON 239 POINTS

4TH – DOUGLAS ON 222 POINTS

Congratulations to Johnston House; every point matters, so everyone's involvement counts for victory! Well done!

A record was smashed in the Year 8 shot put competition with Adel Timurken throwing a whopping 9m 31cm, stealing the crown from Aurora Agapov with a throw of 8m 51cm back in 2018 – congratulations to Adel!

Much like the last few years, there was a hub of activity and excitement at the rowing tent, where girls fought it out for medals. Where some important extra points were scored for Houses. There were a few teachers getting in on the act too, which is always fantastic.

With the last fun relay completed, the crowds moved to the track. We completed the enormous task of ensuring all points were counted and verified, and the final results were in.



**OUR YEAR GROUP INDIVIDUAL WINNERS
WERE:**

REMOVE – ANDII BERLOUIS WITH 33 POINTS

LIV – LUNA SAADOUNI WITH 25 POINTS

FORM IV – CARLOTA PORTELA-RAMOS WITH
25 POINTS

FORM V – BEATRIX HILLIER WITH 23 POINTS

LVI – SOFIA CATINO WITH 27 POINTS



Well done to all individual winners, but a massive congratulations to Andii in Remove, who, with a gigantic score of 33 points, was crowned this year's overall Champion, taking home the Victrix Ludorum Shield.

Wednesday, 28 June, saw the Junior School Sports Day. The weather was a lot cooler than the Senior Sports Day, and, despite the threat of rain and a few drizzly moments, the weather gods looked down on us. It stayed dry whilst the pupils happily, excitedly, and competitively participated in their events. The atmosphere was enjoyable throughout the day, with cheering and clapping filling the track as the pupils from Preliminary to III Form took part in a jam-packed day of activities.

This year there must have been a record broken for the number of records broken during the day! It was fantastic hearing the tannoy with for another announcement. We saw Lila Ozmen in III Form win in the Long Jump with a jump of 3m 74cm, taking the record from Sienna Percudani made two years ago. In High Jump, the record was narrowly broken by Hannah Chang in IIA, jumping an extra 1cm on the 1m 30cm record that stood before, that extra stretch making all the difference. Anna Walker-Haworth, in III Form, almost doubled the current record with the Vortex overarm throw with a massive throw of 23m 80cm, and our final record break came in the afternoon by way of Inaara Oomerbhoj in the 100m sprint, shaving .13 seconds off the III Form record of 15.38 seconds. Well done to everyone for their strong performances and for getting themselves in the QG record books.

Once lunch break was over, following the all-important KS1 parent's Egg and Spoon race, we held our first presentation for Preliminary, Transition and IB. Each pupil threw themselves into the morning, and all their practice during their PE lessons paid off. A special mention goes to Yanxuan Li from Preliminary, Evelyn Marini-Goodwin from Transition and Alexia Sanders from IB, who each scored the highest points in their Year Group. With 23 points, this year's KS1 Overall Individual winner went to Alexia. A very well done to everyone! With the sprint races and the year group relays filling the track after lunch, the Tug of War rope was stretched out, and the assortment of House battles drew the events of the 2023 Junior Sports Day to a close – and finally, the long-awaited results were ready to be shared with everyone.

Our Sports Days can't run without a massive amount of work and help from many people – thank you to the Junior and Senior School staff for all you do on the day, which ensures events run well, thank you to the site team who help set up and close down on a hectic couple of days, thank you for the PTA for providing some lovely refreshments for pupils, staff and parents, thank you to the Sixth Form and V Form helpers who assisted the PE Department on both days and lastly thank you to all parents, friends and other family who came along to watch and cheer, it really does add to the occasion. It means a lot to have your support. Thank you to everyone, and until next year have a lovely summer break.

** Don't forget to sign your daughter up to their Sports Clubs over the summer holidays – an email will be sent out once the pages are ready on QG Buzz and My QG, so keep your eyes peeled! **



THIS YEAR'S INDIVIDUAL WINNERS WERE:

IA – TIAN HAO WITH 18 POINTS

IIB – KIARA OEHL WITH 31 POINTS

IIA – HANNAH CHANG WITH 21 POINTS

III FORM – ANNA WALKER-HAWORTH WITH 21 POINTS

**KIARA FROM IIB RACKED UP A WHOPPING 31 POINTS
ACROSS ALL EVENTS COMING AWAY AS THE OVERALL
INDIVIDUAL WINNER**

**AND FINALLY, THE ALL-IMPORTANT HOUSE WINNER OF
JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS DAY 2023 WAS VICTORIA,
WITH A MASSIVE TOTAL OF 651.**



We opened our annual art show for our GCSE and A-level pupils in June. We are thrilled to showcase our young artists' incredible talent and creativity.

This year's exhibition features diverse artwork, ranging from traditional paintings and drawings to innovative digital creations. Each piece represents its creator's unique perspective and style, and we hope you will be inspired by their vision and skill. We celebrated the power of art to connect, communicate, and transform.

Thank you for joining us on this exciting journey!

Mr Mataya
Director of Art





A-LEVEL PRODUCT DESIGN

The A-LEVEL Product Design course is broken into two distinct study areas:

- 1: NEA – Non Examined Assessment – ‘The Iterative Challenge’ – essentially the coursework, representing up to 50% of the final mark.
- 2: Design technology product design theory, culminating in two written theory examinations at the end of the course;
 - a: Principles of product design, questioning a more in-depth knowledge of design and technology theory and application relating to real life products and design solutions.
 - b: Problem solving in product design, evaluating a real design solution scenario, exploring the student’s depth of theoretical knowledge and its application in real life situations. Both written examinations represent up to a possible 50% of the final mark.

From the start of the course students are encouraged to avoid fixated thinking and are encouraged to individually explore their own ideas using mind-maps, open discussions with peers and possible primary and secondary users and stakeholders etc. The aim is to gradually narrow their options and aim towards choosing one area of focus for their NEA project that will carry them through the NEA coursework element of the course.

Expanding their ideas through initial sketches, model making iterations, exploring potential target markets, incorporating feedback from primary users and stakeholders, each student builds their own individual response to their chosen project direction and writes their own design brief.

Through a process of documented chronological iterative development each student works towards a final version of their product. The creative iterative challenge is for each student to individually explore and show how they have resolved any design problems encountered and to demonstrate their use of technology, design and construction processes available at Queen’s Gate throughout the development of their project ranging from 3D printing, laser cutting, CAD development etc. whilst continually checking and evaluating the product against primary user and stakeholders requirements and their own original brief.

Finally, students evaluate their design project and build solution, obtain final feedback from primary users and stakeholders and present their work for marking by the examination board as a digital document that they have been developing throughout the iterative process.

Mr Manning
Head of DT



GCSE – DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

The GCSE Design and Technology course is broken into two distinct study areas:

NEA – Non Examined Assessment – ‘The Iterative Challenge’ - essentially the coursework, representing up to 50% of the final mark.

Design and Technology Theory, culminating in a written theory examination at the end of the course. Again, representing up to 50% of the final mark.

Students are given a selection of three subject areas or contexts by the examination board. These change each year but are generally relevant to changes in society and technological developments.

After a process of individual exploration of each subject area using mind-maps, open minded, non-fixated thinking etc. students gradually narrow their options and aim towards choosing one area of focus for their NEA project that will carry them through the coursework element of the GCSE.

Subject areas provided by the examination board for the GCSE work on show in this exhibition were:

1. PROTECTION – The safety of people’s personal possessions is important when travelling. Explore the role design can play in safeguarding people’s belongings whilst travelling away from home.
2. TRANSPORT SCHEMES - Electric scooter and electric bike schemes are popular in urban areas across the country. Explore the role of design in ensuring the success of shared transport schemes.
3. PET CARE - Keeping a pet can be very rewarding and also requires a certain amount of care. Explore the role design can play in meeting a pet’s biological and/or psychological needs.

Expanding their ideas through initial sketches, model making iterations, exploring potential target markets, incorporating feedback from primary users and stakeholders, each student builds their own individual response to their chosen project direction and writes their own design brief.

Through a process of documented chronological iterative development each student works towards a final version of their product. The creative iterative challenge is for each student to individually explore and show how they have resolved any design problems encountered and to demonstrate their use of technology, design and construction processes available at Queen’s Gate throughout the development of their project ranging from 3D printing, laser cutting, CAD development etc. whilst continually checking and evaluating the product against primary user and stakeholders requirements and their own original brief.

Finally, students evaluate their design project and built solution, obtain final feedback from primary users and stakeholders and present their work for marking by the examination board as a digital document that they have been developing throughout the iterative process.

Mr Manning
Head of DT





Congratulations to our girls in IIA who participated in an exciting debating tournament at South Hampstead High School this term. A total of three QG teams entered, with 34 teams competing in total. Each team had three debates with challenging motions: adult-focused versus child-focused parenting; abolishing the monarchy; do digital platforms enhance rather than hinder social interaction?

Out of the 34 teams, just four won all of their debates. Out of those four, two were QG teams - a real achievement.

This year, the girls have taken part in a wide variety of exciting inter-house competitions and events, but the Recycled Fashion Show was one to be remembered!

We had fabulous fashion entries from all year groups and I was impressed by the originality and creativity of each design. The outfits were unique and of a high standard, and worth showing at any of the major fashion shows around the world.

Our girls wore their pieces with elegance, confidence and pride and it was wonderful to see the support and cheering of the audience as our models walked on the 'green' carpet.

Congratulations girls on a glamorous and very successful fashion show!

Mr Molero
IIA Tutor & Teaching and Learning
Coordinator



JUNIOR SCHOOL RE-CYCLED FASHION SHOW



On the 19 May, Tess and I were invited to a garden party at Buckingham Palace to celebrate achieving our Gold Duke of Edinburgh awards. After four grueling years, learning new skills such as rock climbing, backgammon, dog walking, taking part in a play 'The Tempest', expeditions and battling a pandemic; taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh award was certainly worth overcoming such extraordinary challenges, as I was delighted to be welcomed into the Palace. We heard inspiring speeches from Jill Scott, former England football player, and the Duke of Edinburgh himself. We were very fortunate to take many photos around the grounds of the palace and help ourselves to the generous refreshments. It was lovely to enjoy the beautiful summer weather that was in such strong contrast to the rain and sleet we had to navigate on our expeditions. Thats Murphy's law for you...

Amelia Beesley - UVI



Queen's Gate girls were delighted to welcome Dr. Lola Velazquez, who spoke about her career as a consultant psychiatrist and Clinical Director of Specialist Services. I was most interested in learning about the various fields of psychiatry, which made me consider parts of a medical career that I was previously unaware of. Also, I gained insight into the significance of taking a holistic approach to a patient's treatment. She described the rewarding aspects of her role as well as the challenges. She described some of her interesting cases and the ways she helps people. Overall, we appreciate Dr. Velazquez's contribution to our MedSoc programme.

Eleanor Crider - LVI



QGS's Learning Enhancement Dept hosted Jo Grace, a Sensory Engagement and Inclusion Specialist, a globally published author who consults internationally on inclusion. Talking firstly to parents, followed by sessions for our Y7, Y8 and Y9 pupils, Jo explained the neurology of autism and how it presents differently in different people. Jo discussed the significance of autistic identity for physical and mental health and highlight pinch points that might occur and how we can seek to support our school community.

Students were focused and attentive with lots of interesting questions and positive discussions. Jo is the Founder of The Sensory Projects and has won awards for her work promoting a future where difference is understood, and as an autistic woman herself she brings particular insight to the topic she discusses. She is active on social media and welcomes your connections: www.TheSensoryProjects.co.uk/contact

It is such a big topic but Jo created the shape of some questions in everyone's mind that will lead to a bit more understanding and insight in the future.

Jo Grace is an international Sensory Engagement Specialist, globally published author, TEDx speaker, doctoral researcher and founder of The Sensory Projects. Joanna's son is the UK's youngest published author with his book *My Mummy is Autistic* (foreworded by Chris Packham), Joanna followed up the publication of his book with her own, *The Subtle Spectrum* (foreworded by Steve Silberman) which explores experience within the autistic spectrum and documents the journey many people go on from an awareness of difference, through acceptance to an embracing of identity. Joanna spoke to parents and students about the epigenetic nature of autism, myth busting some common misconceptions about the autistic spectrum and exploring 'pinch points' people can experience when trying to navigate a world set up on the assumption of a neurotype they do not possess. There were many 'ah-ah!' moments for people and the students asked questions that showed their insight and their willingness to learn more about neurodiversity.



Miss Lane
Head of Learning Enhancements



This academic year has been particularly important for the French Department as we have been delighted to relaunch our long-standing Paris exchange programme. After a three-year break due to the pandemic, it has been wonderful to re-establish our strong partnership with Saint Louis de Gonzague in Paris.

From 22 to 28 March, Mme Collombon, Mr Solomons and Mrs Fan accompanied a group of 18 LIV pupils to Paris. Our exchange school, Saint Louis de Gonzague often referred to as 'Franklin' is located on the Trocadero, a stones throw from the Champs Elysees. Our first visit to the school took us to the roof terrace where pupils can play basketball while enjoying stunning views of the Eiffel Tower. Our pupils had morning lessons every day, which gave them a fantastic opportunity to experience life as a Parisian pupil in a big, mixed, Catholic school. Among the most commented distinctive features of our exchange school were the fact pupils are allowed to wear jeans every day, class size can be more than 30, and the building is so vast they got lost on several occasions. Having a spacious courtyard despite the central location seemed quite wonderful.

On 22 March, our pupils were warmly welcomed by their exchange pupils and the host families who organised a French-style 'goûter' to celebrate our arrival. The weekend was spent with the families who organised a rich programme of activities to show their city to our pupils. Many visited the Versailles castle, went on boating trips on the River Seine, saw the famous collections in the Louvre Museum.

Miss Wallace joined us for the last part of our Parisian stay. We had guided tours of the Conciergerie and the Orsay Museum. We also had time for some shopping and a typical lunch in a Parisian brasserie. On departure day, major strikes on the Parisian tube made us consider a two hour walk to the station to catch our Eurostar. Fortunately, we were able to board crowded tubes with our heavy suitcases and made it on time for our Eurostar back to London.

In June it was our turn to welcome our Parisian exchange partners to our school. On 22 June we greeted 20 Franklin pupils and two of their teachers. Our schools are very different, and they really enjoyed experiencing life at Queen's Gate. Our teachers designed engaging activities. The exchange pupils had Mandarin and Italian taster lessons, were taught about Napoleon in English and played mathematical games on the iPads. The Franklin girls commented on the convivial, family-like atmosphere of our school, on the beautiful, homely decoration but also on the use of technology in lessons as they use very little in their school. On their last evening, we took the 20 Parisian pupils, their teachers and their Queen's Gate exchange partners to see Matilda the musical at the Cambridge Theatre. It was a delightful show which introduced them to the masterpiece by Roald Dahl as well as the rich tradition of London musical theatre.

As French teachers, we are passionate about enabling our pupils to enrich their knowledge and understanding of the French culture and language. Taking part in our Paris exchange programme is a wonderful way to develop linguistic skills and build bridges with young French people. We are very much looking forward to the next edition of our Paris exchange programme!

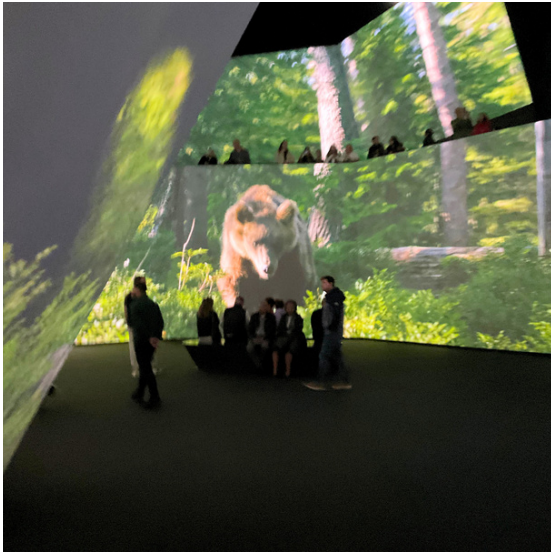
Mme Collombon
Head of French



This year, Earth Day 2023 was on Saturday 22 April and the Geography Department celebrated the occasion with a variety of activities for students throughout the week. It started with a whole school assembly on this year's theme "Invest in our Planet" exploring the beauty of our world and discussing the impact of climate change on our environment. Students then got involved with interactive form time activities, lunch time crafts including creating environmental pledges and 'The Earth is in our hands' signs, and there was a showing of David Attenborough's recent documentary entitled "Climate Change - The Facts". The week ended with a 'walk/take public transport to school day on Friday', as well as an awe-inspiring trip for the Remove geographers to see the BBC Earth Experience at the Daikin Centre in West Brompton. Throughout this period, there was also the Earth Day competition. The overall winner of the Form V-UV category was Larissa Faillace - Form V, for her well thought out, powerful poem on the theme of 'Invest in our World'.

In a world where nature's gifts reside, a tale unfolds, a poetic guide, of a planet
cherished yet in peril's clutch, where voices unite to heal and touch.
Once a vibrant orb of blue, with landscapes rich and oceans proper, but careless
hands and heedless minds brought chaos of different kinds.
With eyes half-closed to beauty's grace, humanity lost in a relentless chase; for
progress, power, and gain, they turned their backs on nature's pain.
Yet a whisper rose from forests old, a plea from creatures, meek and bold,
"Awake, dear humans, open your eyes, for the time to act swiftly flies."
So, poets weaved verses, painters drew, and musicians composed melodies anew to
awaken hearts from a deep slumber, to sow the seeds that the Earth would reap.
An innovator with a clear vision, dreaming of harnessing sunlight's cheer, solar
panels stretched, glistening bright, turning the sun's rays into clean light.
A curious child sought the shores, where waves danced and seagulls soared; with
tiny hands, picked up the waste, and the cleaning beaches, with love embraced.
Leaders emerged, their voices strong; in boardrooms and halls, where decisions
thrive, they pledged to act, to turn the tide, investing in the planet, side by side.
Through cities, forests, and mountains grand, a movement grew, hand in hand, from
concrete jungles to fields of green, a tapestry woven, united, serene.
And nature, grateful, began to heal, a symphony of life, once more revealed, from
blooming petals to soaring birds, resilience ignited in every word.
In this tale, truly profound, our planet's fate in us is found. To invest, protect, and
treasure the Earth, ensuring a future of infinite worth.
So, let us rise in unison's way, embrace the call for a brighter day; investing in our
planet true, me and you today will do.





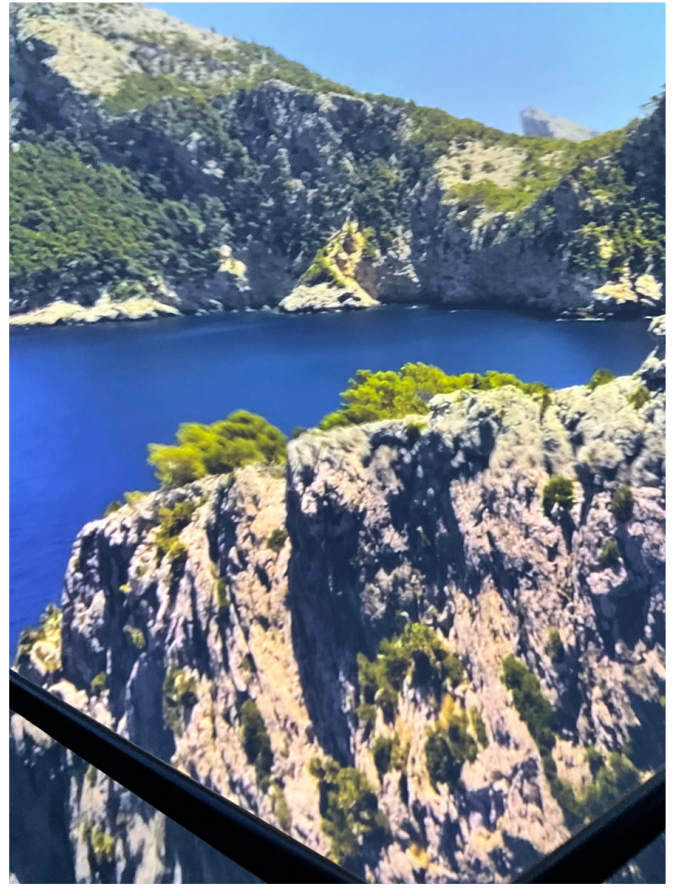
BBC EARTH EXPERIENCE

"Last Friday at the BBC Earth experience, I got to see amazing wildlife as well as amazing landscapes.

During the experience I was smiling the whole time (in the end my jaw hurt a lot) because the animals were so cute ♡

The best part for me was when there was a platform where you could see all the screens where the animals were displayed".

Iona Valansot - Remove



"On Friday 28 April, Remove had the pleasure to visit the BBC Earth Experience. It was a delightful trip which motivated me to keep the beauty of our lovely planet and look after the environment. In my opinion this trip was totally worth it. The way the documentary was presented was unique and amazing. It is certainly an honour that Queen's Gate was the first school to visit The BBC Earth Experience".

Catherine (Katya) Pankin - Remove



BBC earth
EXPERIENCE

On 19 June, IGCSE biology Year 10 students had the unique chance to explore the diverse ecosystems within Hyde Park and observe the incredible array of plant and animal species. Guided by knowledgeable experts, we engaged in hands-on activities such as using quadrats and transects to explore grasslands and ponds. We conducted ecological surveys and analysed data, to develop our scientific skills and enhance our learning experience. Moreover, this trip offered a wonderful opportunity for us to have a deeper appreciation for the importance of conservation and environmental sustainability.

BY LARISSA FAILLACE - FORM V



ISLE OF WIGHT RESIDENTIAL TRIP

I love the Isle of Wight because it is an amazing place; the island was beautiful and full of wonderful people!

We were very lucky to have such a wide variety of activities there and we enjoyed them very much. One of the many things I loved was when we visited Osborne House and we learnt more about Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. I loved learning about what their children did for fun during their summer holiday. The water sports were so much fun, even though we were soaked in the end. The best part was jumping off a giant water slide into the open water. I also enjoyed the Pirate Cove Crazy Golf in the evening; we laughed so much!

At the end of this fabulous trip, we all danced at the private disco where we danced to our favourite tunes! Too bad that we had to go to bed!

I cannot wait to go back next year for another week of entertainment, fun and bonding with my friends.

Haneesha Lidder - IIA





LVI & FORM V GEOGRAPHY TRIPS

On Saturday 1 July, the LVI and Form V geographers traveled to the idyllic Isle of Wight to investigate a range of key coastal landscape topics. This included an inquiry into “What impact does long shore drift have on Freshwater Bay?” as well as seeing Geography in Action in Monk’s Bay, surveying the variety of hard and soft engineering strategies used to manage the area.

Students enjoyed a classic Fish and Chip lunch down by the coast, and enjoyed the day spent in a very contrasting environment to London. The students worked hard to complete all their aims and should be proud of the efforts they made to make the day a success - well done.

Miss Moor
Head of Geography

On Monday 27 March, the LVI and Form V geographers had a successful field trip to the Olympic Park in Stratford, where they investigated variation in quality of life over an east-west transect. This helped them develop a geographical route to enquiry skills that will valuably contribute to their GCSE and A Level studies. The weather was perfect, and credit should go to the students who worked hard to achieve their aims. Students who joined us summarised the trip as follows.

Miss Moor
Head of Geography

“The geography trip to Stratford was fun! Once there, we observed our surroundings and saw “Robert the tank engine” when we came out of Stratford station. This monument is a reminder that Stratford was once an industrial area, which later became de-industrialised, and then was regenerated during the Olympic Games in 2012. After doing some hard work collecting our data, we stopped at The Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park where we relaxed to eat our lunch. We then continued our journey to the Copper Box, where we did a field sketch of the site and took some notes related to quality of life.”

Ania Jaffke Barrilero - Form V

“On Monday 27 March, the GCSE geographers went on a trip to the Olympic Park, in Stratford. We walked around regenerated and non-regenerated sites discussing how effective the Olympic legacy had been. I found it very interesting to see how quickly the atmosphere of a place changed when walking through different areas. Even though the Olympics were 11 years ago, there is still an abundance of cranes and scaffolding continuing to improve the area. The sun poured down on us the whole time that we were there. This trip was an amazing experience, and I am so grateful to have been on it.”

Beatrix Hillier - Form V



Form V Trip to the University of Sussex and Brighton

We began our day in the wee hours of 7am and, bleary-eyed, staggered onto our buses to make our way down to the glorious south coast. We had been promised a day of sunshine and good weather and as we pulled into the University of Sussex, we were slightly dismayed to find overcast skies and a chilly breeze. Nevertheless, Lewis and his fantastic team of Student Ambassadors gave an informative and well-prepared talk about what student life at the university was like. Covering issues such as course selection, accommodation, transport, making friends, societies, sports, food and of course the crucial topic of budgeting. Form V then had a chance to quiz the student ambassadors on some of these things and asked great questions about the courses they studied and the experiences they had fitting in at university. We then were taken, in groups, on a tour of the very expansive campus. We were impressed by the array of facilities and accommodation provided, including a very modern student union. After this we circled back to our bus, said our goodbyes and headed off to Brighton.

As we made our way towards the coast the mist that hung above the beautiful seaside port of Brighton gave way to a glorious vista of a sun-drenched pebbly beach. The pier stood out in a sea of shimmering waves, but we had one thing on our minds - lunch. Our host for the day was Pam at Captains Fish and Chips who served up a glorious banquet of fish, chips and other sundry items. The crispiest of batter and fluffiest of chips drew gasps of pleasure from our number. This, unfortunately, alerted the local wildlife, and we were immediately beset by a persistent seagull or two. After fighting tooth and nail to beat off our attackers we settled back into enjoying a fantastic lunch, which we then followed up with some time to explore Brighton's iconic pier. Candy floss and ice cream were partaken of. Wares were haggled over. Memories were forged in the melting pot of Brighton's most famous landmark. When we finally returned to our buses, we were exhausted and despite a nearly 3-hour return journey, many saw nothing but the inside of their eyelids. A fantastic day and some good lessons learned!

Mr Cohen
Head of Form V



MedSoc Trip To the Science Museum

I found the medicine display very interesting because we got to learn about how medicine changed over the years, such as new treatments being developed to minimise the death rate from certain diseases and how technology helped transform healthcare.

Eman Tahir - LVI

Biology Field Day

Recently, we had the pleasure of participating in an ecology field trip taken place at The Lookout Centre in Hyde Park. On this trip we investigated the effect of different sampling methods on estimates of the size of populations. This offered a unique opportunity to explore and learn beyond the confines of the classroom. The first half of the day was spent with an introduction to the day including fun and interactive activities to help develop our knowledge on ecological terms and sampling methods. We spent the morning investigating the effect of two types of quadrats to estimate the size of populations. Additionally, in the afternoon we focused on investigating the effect of abiotic factors on the distribution of a species. We learnt how to use various new equipment such as a Lux meter to measure light, penetrometer to measure soil compaction and an anemometer to measure wind and much more. We used this equipment to measure abundance of a species down a belt transect and to see if we could find a correlation between abiotic factors and distribution of species. Finally, we used the data we had collected throughout the day to complete statistical analyses including t-tests and spearman's rank. Overall, amongst the busy day we managed to enjoy some good weather and a nice lunch break in the park. Thank you to the biology department for taking us on this trip!

Victoria Liaudet - LVI





V&A

On Friday 24 April IIB went on a combined Art and Design Technology trip to the V&A museum in South Kensington. Currently girls in IIB are working on tessellations and forming their own unique animal patterns inspired by MC Echer. At the V&A students enjoyed the guided tour around the Islamic Middle East Gallery, where they were taught interesting facts about the Islamic collection. They went around with their clips boards drawing and analysing the interesting motifs, repeat patterns and shapes. Afterwards, girls attended the Pattern and Shape workshop, which focused on everyday patterns, geometry and symmetry. They were able to create their own unique patterns and used a mirror to see the lines of symmetry. Everyone was excited and left the museum inspired.

Miss Sitko
Teacher of Art





We love having members of Age UK join us for lunch and events at Queen's Gate and we were delighted to receive this email from them telling us how much they enjoy their visits. Some members have been coming for lunch for over ten years, including Bree and in this short video she tells Kitty Searle why she loves coming to Queen's Gate.





Dear Matt,

I hope you are well.

I want to say a massive THANK YOU on behalf of Age UK Kensington and Chelsea and our clients. Queen's Gate students and staff supported over 135 clients every Friday in 2022-23.

Your help was so important for our service. We couldn't have been as a successful term with your involvement.

We received amazing feedback from clients about our Intergenerational activities and event – they said that it is a great opportunity for social engagements and interactions for a common purpose. We appreciate volunteers and everything they do! We can't wait to meet new students in September.

The steering group gave recommendations about our activities and events programme, marketing, and volunteering. They always make sure that our service is 'inclusive' and 'diverse', achieve organisational goals and we provide the best possible experience for all.

Our seniors' staff and commissioners are excited about this new initiative. We were discussing their suggestions and we are trying to implement them in the new term.

We are impressed how students engage with clients and staff and research for our monthly meetings. They became the voice of our clients!

We are so proud of the support we receive from Queen's Gate School, and we recognise the importance of working closely to prevent and/or reduce isolation & loneliness in our local community.

I am excited about the new projects and work together in the new term!

Thank you

Best wishes,

Ximena Chiesa
Activities & Events Team Leader
Age UK Kensington & Chelsea



The whole Junior School community was delighted to gather at St Augustine's Church on 4 July for our 'Celebration of the Year'. Although many of the traditional cups and prizes were awarded to pupils who have achieved something really special, the event took on a fresh complexion this year and was filled with colour and energy! Our guest speaker, poet Laura Mucha, had spent the morning with IA, IIB, IIA and III Form writing a collaborative poem about friendship. The girls performed their poem live at the Church and it was one of the highlights of the afternoon. All girls sang in their choirs, we had wonderful solo performers from many of our musicians, there were dramatic performances and the back of the church was filled with our girls' artwork. Head Girl, Anna, gave an incredibly powerful speech, telling us that happiness is the most valuable product of school life and she explained how QG had allowed her and her fellow III Formers to achieve so highly because of the nurturing atmosphere they have benefited from. What a lovely way to say goodbye to our leaving pupils and to share in each others' success!

Mr James Denchfield
Director of The Junior School





CORONATION PICNIC

On Saturday, 6 May, Queen's Gate became the first school to have educated an actual Queen as our alumna, Camilla, was crowned alongside King Charles at Westminster Abbey. Such an occasion could not go unmarked by the School, and so we were delighted to gather together for a celebratory picnic in Queen's Gate Gardens. Our newly arrived caterers, Thomas Franks, put on a magnificent spread, with treats including coronation chicken wraps, onion bhaji scotch eggs and slices of Victoria sponge cake. There were genuine gasps as the girls arrived in the Dining Rooms to find the tables laden and empty boxes just waiting to be filled with each of their choices. We then proceeded to the gardens which our wonderful Facilities Team had decked out in Union Jack bunting, Junior School first, with the Senior School arriving an hour later, carefully planned to include a half hour of crossover time, during which girls of all ages happily mingled, enjoying the rare opportunity to come together as one community. Extra touches were provided by the Junior School PTA, who so kindly gave up their time to run a number of games for our younger girls, and the presence of our regular Age UK Friday lunch visitors, who had a wonderful time. While we can't quite accede to the request of one pupil to "do this every week!", we do hope to make this an annual fixture. Thank you so much to all those staff and PTA volunteers who made the event possible!

Of course, in true Queen's Gate tradition, we also chose to celebrate the Coronation with a charity initiative, producing beautiful china cups decorated with designs by pupils of all ages. A donation from each cup sold will be sent to a local charity, the Angelou Partnership, chosen specifically to honour our new Queen's commitment to causes relating to women's safety and welfare. We hope those who bought cups are already enjoying showing them off to family and friends. If you have not yet made a purchase, some are still available, and can be ordered by emailing: secretary@queensgate.org.uk

Miss Amy Wallace
Principal



SUMMER 2023



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QG NEWS



LEAVERS' DINNER

Thursday, 6 July saw the time for Queen's Gate to bid a formal farewell to this year's UVI Leavers. We began the celebrations with a champagne reception in the Senior Library, at which parents and staff gathered together with our leaving pupils to toast their many achievements over their time at the School and wish them luck for the years ahead. The girls then moved to the Hall, beautifully decorated with floral arrangements, fairy lights and an extravagant balloon arch, all in colours they had personally selected. A delicious three-course meal followed, including a very popular 'dessert buffet', interspersed with a number of poignant, thoughtful speeches from staff and girls, as well as a highly entertaining round of 'person most likely to', with crowns awarded to each 'winner'. Dressed to impress in glamorous eveningwear, the girls made the most of having a professional photographer on hand, in between delving into fun-filled party bags, before heading off into the night to continue their party elsewhere. It was a truly joyous occasion, and a wonderful way for the girls to come together and celebrate both the end of their A Levels and their departure from Queen's Gate. We wish them every success for the future, and hope to see them soon as guests at our regular alumnae events.

Miss Amy Wallace
Principal



SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

In true British style, the June heatwave broke to shower us with rain on the evening of Thursday, 22 June, but nothing could dampen spirits at our annual Garden Party. Held in Stanhope Gardens, we were delighted to welcome so many parents, staff and friends of the school to celebrate the end of the academic year. Thomas Franks provided another array of delicious canapes, all washed down with a beautiful English sparkling wine from Denbies, a vineyard and winemaker located just outside London in the stunning Surrey hills. It was wonderful to come together as a community once again and toast the year gone by – thank you to all those joined us!

Miss Amy Wallace
Principal





QUEEN'S GATE SCHOOL

Burns Night

FUNDRAISING BALL

Hosted by the QG Development & Fundraising Committee
in association with the PTA

Save the Date
Friday 26 January, 2024
Chelsea Old Town Hall

Supporting the QG Development & Fundraising Committee



UPCOMING EVENTS

QG WOMEN'S FASHION SALE: PRE-LOVED

133 Queen's Gate, Saturday 16 September 2023

OLD GIRLS' PARTY

133 Queen's Gate, Thursday 9 November 2023

CHRISTMAS FAIR

133 Queen's Gate, Saturday 2 December 2023

BURNS NIGHT FUNDRAISING BALL

Chelsea Old Town Hall, Friday 26 January 2024

*Further information regarding upcoming events will be shared
with the Queen's Gate Community in the coming weeks.*



Scan here



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