



Pastoral Newsletter

Issue
06
September
2018

WELCOME BACK

A warm welcome back to everyone from the Pastoral Care team. We have started the new term very positively and look forward to continuing in this way.



One of our key focuses this year is consistency – we will be looking to ensure that the high expectations regarding uniform and attendance are met and that all students feel confident with the Collegiate's daily routines. We also have another great THRIVE@QE programme which we will publish shortly and invite you all to look at and encourage students to use. We aim to ensure that student wellbeing is at the heart of all we do and with that in mind, we will shortly have our first awareness week, which will focus on e-safety and the importance of thinking carefully about what is posted on social media. More information on e-safety week will be sent out soon.

For more information about what is happening in Pastoral please visit our website : <http://gestudent.org/pastoralcare/>

Cultural Awareness Week : 17 September

Queen Ethelburga's Cultural Awareness week was aimed at celebrating the diversity of cultures represented in our school, as well as understanding students' local communities and fostering inclusion, acceptance and open-mindedness.

Students learned about the notion of culture and its aspects. They also took part in a QE World Portrait project and were asked to choose an inspirational person in their community, print out their photograph or draw a portrait, and write a short paragraph to describe how this person benefited their community, inspired or led others. Their work will be presented on the QE World Portrait display.

E-Safety Awareness Week : 24 September

This year's E Safety week will focus on online slander, with the view to keeping students aware of the longevity of what they post online and how this can affect their future as well as their reputation. Our guest speaker, Youth Officer Paul Stephenson, from North Yorkshire Police will meet with year groups across the Collegiate to discuss this important issue.

Other planned activities for the week are designed to engage the students in promoting safe use of the internet as well as looking after their wellbeing when considering the online world and reality.

THIS TERM'S DATES:

- 17 September
Cultural Awareness Week
- 24 September
E-Safety Week
- 28 September
Deadline for Peer Mentor Applications

New Team Members



Mr B Kirk
Pastoral Senior Leader



Miss L Ennis
Pastoral Senior Leader



Mr E Mason
Pastoral Co-ordinator
(Wednesday)



Pastoral contact details:

Email: Pastoral@qe.org
Behaviour Office: 3743
Welfare Office: 3473

As always, any Child Protection issues to be emailed to cp@qe.org

The Pastoral Team



Remember to visit the website!



News In Brief

Pastoral Website

<http://gestudent.org/pastoralcare/>

Staff login: qeteacher / teaching

Student login: student / student13

THRIVE@QE

Look out for the new timetable being launched soon. If you have any suggestions for what you would like to see as part of THRIVE@QE please come and speak to The Pastoral Team or let your Form Tutor know.



Hens for Hire



This year, QE will be the proud owners of two new additions. The new chickens will be arriving week commencing 24 September and a small group of staff and students will be trained to look after them. They will be a great addition to the school and the THRIVE@QE Kitchen Garden sessions. The chickens will be used to engage students in looking after them daily, help with responsibilities towards caring for living things, and understand the life cycle and where eggs come from.

Peer Mentor Recruitment

This September we are in the process of recruiting a new cohort of Peer Mentors from Year 12. The Peer Mentoring System is a very positive aspect of school and boarding life for students to get involved in. Peer Mentors are Sixth Formers who support younger students in the Collegiate who may be struggling with specific issues. They are allocated Mentees based on their strengths or past experiences. For example, an international student may require the support of a Peer Mentor who is the same nationality as them if they are struggling to adjust to being away from home for the first time. Or a student who has a parent in the forces may find it helpful to talk to someone older who has also been through this and understands how they feel. Other concerns that a Peer Mentor may support with include: low self-esteem, friendship issues and organisation. Peer Mentors receive some specific training, including child protection and e-safety, to ensure they stay safe while supporting others. They can use their experiences of school life and growing up to help others and can make a huge difference to the way someone feels, especially as younger students often feel more comfortable speaking to an older student than they would a member of staff. Becoming involved in Peer Mentoring benefits the Peer Mentors as well as the Mentees, as doing something positive improves their own experience at QE. It is also beneficial with regard to their university and prefect applications as it shows that they care about the school community and are willing to volunteer their time to contribute to it.

Chapter House Yoga

Plans are underway to hold yoga sessions for Years 3, 4 and 5. These will be through a 6 week block of weekly sessions for each year group fitted into their timetable and will cover a variety of postures, breathing, practicing stillness, game and activities to help the students with relaxation, working together and feeling mindful.

Anti-Bullying Council

As the Anti-Bullying Council (ABC) enters its second year, we are feeling extremely optimistic about the positive changes we hope to make. Last year our council members came up with some fantastic initiatives, most notably redesigning our anti-bullying poster that is displayed around the campus. The continued aim of the ABC is to provide a student led approach to anti-bullying, liaising with our pastoral team to actively promote an anti-bullying community. Our first meeting will take place on Friday 28 September; we will look to discuss some of our aims for the year, as well as introduce two new Year 6 students to our team.