



WELCOME TO QUEEN KATHARINE ACADEMY'S NEWSLETTER

The last few weeks have seen a huge change for people across the nation and the recent government announcement has meant that our academy was closed before the end of term. I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone in our community for your support during this difficult time.

Our staff have worked extremely hard to provide online learning resources and new ways of teaching. Our pupils have adapted impressively to learning from home and our families provide continued support to their children and the academy.

While times are tough, it gives me great hope to see our community come together and support one another in any way that they can, from staff delivering free school meals in their lunch break to our pupils reaching out to support their friends.

It is important to also remember the great things that have happened over the last term, including schools trips, raising money for charity and of course, achieving our first ever Good Ofsted! I hope you have a safe and restful Easter break and enjoy reading about some of the positive and exciting events that have taken place this term.



Pupils and staff celebrate first ever Good Ofsted

One of our biggest highlights this term was receiving our Good Ofsted rating! It was our first inspection since joining the Thomas Deacon Education Trust and the first time ever in the school's history that we have achieved a Good rating. What a fantastic accomplishment and it couldn't have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of our staff, pupils, governors, Trust and community.

The report rated us Good in all five areas including Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development, Leadership and Management and Sixth-Form Provision.

The Ofsted result is a key milestone in the academy's transformation journey. Many people have recognised and celebrated this huge achievement with us, including our MP, Paul Bristow, who visited the academy and the Mayor of Peterborough and local councillors who attended our celebration evening. The BBC Look East even came and filmed a special feature about our progress. Thank you, once again, to everyone for your continued support.





Celebrating our namesake

We were honoured to be part of the Commemoration Service for Katharine of Aragon at Peterborough Cathedral again this year. During the service, schools from across the city sang songs and saw the lighting of four candles to represent Katharine of Aragon's values of Faithfulness, Love, Peace and Forgiveness.

Four of our pupils read passages about Katharine of Aragon's life with one of our language ambassadors reading in Spanish. They were brilliant and we are so proud!

We also took part in a special wreath laying service with Thomas Deacon Academy at the Cathedral to honour Thomas Deacon and Katharine of Aragon. During the service, we heard from the Chairman of Thomas Deacon Foundation, Adrian Peters, our Principal, Mrs Mayes, and Thomas Deacon Academy's Principal, Mr Carroll. The cadets also played an important role, laying a wreath and pomegranate in their honour.



NSPCC Numbers Week

Each year, we celebrate the NSPCC's Numbers Day. It is a great way to raise awareness and funds for the charity and deepen our pupils' understanding of numbers.

This year, we went one step further and held a whole Numbers Week at the academy. Throughout the week, we held a trust-wide number-themed art competition and an awards event at the end of the week to announce the winners.

We also hosted a Numbers Night for pupils and parents. They enjoyed refreshments, bingo and many other numbers-related activities.

It was great to see pupils from across the school get involved. The enthusiasm was amazing and our pupils are even more engaged with their maths learning now as well as thinking about how numbers are used in everyday life.

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped to run and organise the activities during the week and to those who donated to this important cause.

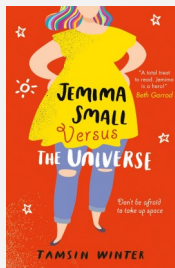
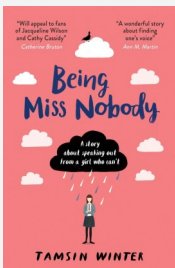




QKA celebrates World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day, we held lots of exciting events based on our theme of Alice in Wonderland. In particular, our pupils enjoyed a Mad Hatter's Tea Party in the library where over 40 pupils ate a delicious lunch!

We also took some of our Year 7 pupils to Waterstones where they explored the store and got to choose a book to take home for free. It was a great trip and our staff looked fantastic dressed up as characters from Alice in Wonderland.



In the week leading up to World Book Day, we held reading competitions and had a reading tree and book exchange stall in the LRC. Some of our pupils also enjoyed a visit from Tamsin Winter, the famous author of Being Miss Nobody and Jemima Small versus the Universe. Tamsin ran an interesting writing workshop for our pupils and talked about her published novels.

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Student Leadership Conference

Our pupils visited CALS College in the Netherlands to attend an International Student Leadership Conference, alongside pupils from Iqra Academy and Thomas Deacon Academy.

Our pupils stayed with host families and enjoyed lessons in the bilingual school, as well as taking in the Dutch culture and local landmarks.

On the final day our pupils attended the conference to share what they had learned with each other and embed new ideas.

It was a great event to be part of and pupils gained lots of valuable insights and experiences.





Inspiring trip to the University of Cambridge

Thirteen of our Year 9 pupils visited the University of Cambridge's Trinity College.

During their visit, they were given the opportunity to take a tour of the campus, listen to a talk about Cambridge University from current students and explore the Fitzwilliam Museum. They especially enjoyed eating in the Trinity Dining Hall, where they felt as if they were in a Harry Potter film!

Our pupils had a wonderful day and enjoyed learning more about life at Cambridge University. They travelled home feeling inspired and motivated.



QKA awarded Community Action badge

We were delighted to receive the Community Action badge from the Diana Award for our efforts to promote anti-bullying in our wider community.

The Diana Award, set up in honour of the Princess of Wales, works to bring about positive change for young people through mentoring and anti-bullying initiatives.

Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have done a fantastic job of raising awareness in school and our local community through awareness days and a kindness photobooth event.

We have also used the academy's social media platforms, school newsletter and trust-wide magazine to share tips to identify and support those experiencing bullying as well as delivering training to all staff.

We have two of the four Diana Award badges including Community Action and Wellbeing, and will now be working towards earning the final two of Respect and Online Safety.





Our top tips for learning at home

Find the best place to work



Decide where is the best place for you to work in your house. Is it at the kitchen table? Or your desk in your bedroom? Make sure its quiet to help you to focus.

As much as possible, try to only use this space during study time as this helps you concentrate when your studying and to relax when you are not.

Plan your day



Establishing a routine can help your learning to be more productive and make the most of your time. A great way to do this is by following a similar pattern to the school day.

You can plan what subjects you will learn each day and what exercises you plan to do.

Create a list and tick off the work as you go to show you how much you are achieving!

Take regular breaks



It is important to take regular breaks, just like you would at school.

After working for a while, get yourself a drink or snack or listen to music for example.

This will improve your concentration when you return to work.

Take time for yourself



Outside of your studies, make sure to regularly exercise, talk with your friends and family and do any activities that help you to relax.

KEY DATES

END OF TERM

Friday 3rd April 2020

TERM BEGINS — LEARNING FROM HOME

Monday, 20th April 2020

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY

Friday 8th May 2020

END OF TERM

Friday 22nd May 2020

SOCIAL MEDIA

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