

# QCG NEWS

SUMMER 2024

MAGAZINE

## Features

Beauty and the Beast  
Sports Day  
The Art Exhibition  
Prizegiving  
and much more...

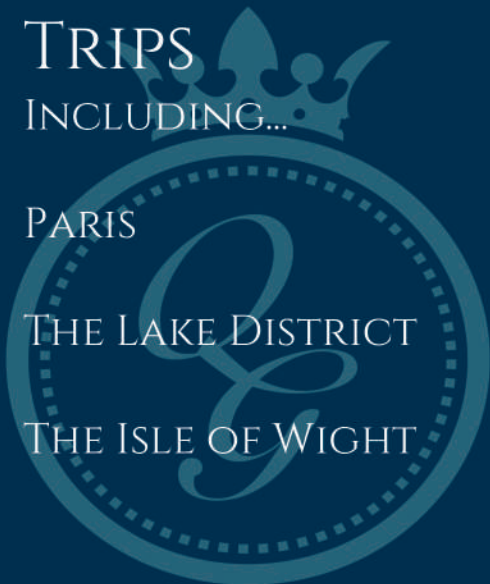


TRIPS  
INCLUDING...

PARIS

THE LAKE DISTRICT

THE ISLE OF WIGHT





# IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 From the Principal's study
- 2 Trips
- 15 Drama
- 21 Science
- 22 Music
- 24 Sport
- 27 Art
- 31 Classics
- 32 Geography
- 33 Cookery
- 34 UCAS and Careers Talks
- 36 QG Events
- 38 Prizegiving
- 40 Future QG Events





QUEEN'S GATE  
SCHOOL



## From the Principal's Study

Dear Parents,

Welcome to this, the final edition of QG News. We hope you will enjoy once again the opportunity to review the many highlights from a characteristically busy term. From the various residential trips to all the normal end-of-year festivities, I have no doubt you will find many an event which featured your daughter, as well as getting to find out what the rest of the School has been up to.

While this is the last edition of QG News, fear not, as we will be offering a 'new' magazine-style publication to celebrate all that goes on here at Queen's Gate. As you may be aware, not least from the many nautical references in my addresses and communications to you, Queen's Gate has a long tradition of linking our endeavours to those on a seafaring voyage. Writing in 1899 about the first school magazine, Miss Douglas (our first Principal) wrote: "Let it be a nautical name, for the school with its youthful crew sails sometimes with the wind, sometimes against it, but it sails, it does not drift or lie at anchor." And so she proposed the title 'The Log', and it is to that moniker we return for our new publication, which will be produced on an annual basis. We look forward to sharing more information with you in the new term, and to sharing with you a truly stellar record of each academic year.

For now, I thank you for all your support and encouragement for the School over the past term and beyond, but particularly in the final weeks of term when it was a pleasure to welcome so many of you to our various events and celebrations. The Queen's Gate family is a very special community of which to be a part, whether as parent, pupil, staff member, governor, alumnae or just associated friend. That it is so special is down to the warm engagement and good heart of its members – for which I offer my thanks.

I wish you and your families sunny, restful and joyful summers.

With all best wishes,

**Amy Wallace**

# LIV TRIP TO PARIS

On 12 June, Mme Collombon, Mrs Scott and Frau Kreuth accompanied a group of 17 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 of the school took us to the roof terrace where pupils can play basketball while enjoying stunning views on 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, co-ed, 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!

Our pupils were warmly welcomed by their exchange pupils and 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 or saw the famous collections in the Louvre Museum.

Miss Wallace joined us for the last part of our Parisian stay. We enjoyed guided tours of The Conciergerie, The Sainte Chapelle, The Carnavalet Museum and The Opera de Paris. We also experienced a typical lunch in a Parisian brasserie and a lovely walk along the River Seine during which we could admire the preparations for the Olympic Games.



We were due to visit the Carnavalet Museum but a major strike throughout the museums of Paris meant that only two out of 144 rooms in the museum were open and our guide had not been informed of the strike. Luckily, after hearing we were from London, one of the managers decided to open the museum just for us, and we ended up treated to an exclusive visit with no other visitors around!

Our Parisian exchange partners visited us earlier in the year from 12 to 18 April, when we greeted 19 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 including Mandarin and Italian taster lessons, a history lesson on Napoleon in English and mathematical games on 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 Thursday evening, we took the 19 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, introducing them to the masterpiece by Roald Dahl along with 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 relations with young French people. We are very much looking forward to the next edition of our Paris exchange programme!

Mme Fabienne Collombon



# REMOVE TRIP TO ROCHESTER CASTLE

We left Queen's Gate at 8:45 am and set off for Rochester. When we got to Rochester Cathedral in Kent, we were split into two groups. Rochester Cathedral has been a place of worship since AD604 and is in the heart of Kent on the bank of the famous river Medway. It is the second oldest cathedral in the UK after Canterbury Cathedral. When we walked in there was a massive painting on our left that was an image of Jesus being baptized by John the Baptist in the River Jordan, which was made in 2004, so not so long ago. The walls of the cathedral, 1000 years ago, would have been tiny and made from wood and hay while now they are made from stone.

As we moved further in the cathedral, we learnt that medieval people would go upstairs by crawling on their knees for religious purposes, and that they would have travelled many miles to get there. We also learnt that most merchants would wear these sorts of cloaks and hats and carried a stick with them for "hiking" and defence. Furthermore, we were told that monks had over 73 rules they had to follow and if they broke any of those rules they would have to, as punishment, lay face down spread their arms out like a cross and stay there for hours and hours and hours, depending on how badly they needed to be punished. Towards the end of our Cathedral tour we were shown a handmade dragon dangling above us that the local artists had made, and it had over 1000 scales!

After our tour we went to Rochester Castle, which we explored in different groups. The stairs were slippery and narrow and there were lots of different rooms. We learnt that a few of the floors had rotted away, that is why on certain floors if you looked over you would just see this big dip. Our teacher, Mr James, told us once we were on the top floor that one of the four turrets was round because if a catapult struck it would cause less damage to the turret itself because it would have bounced off the walls; the reason why that was the only round one was because it had been ruined by King John's armies centuries earlier and so when they remade it they made it round. We also learnt that all the little slits in the castle were for shooting arrows secretly at your enemies. At the top there was an amazing view and from there we could see the river Medway and the Cathedral. After we finished at the Cathedral, we had a talk from a local historian before getting back on the coach back to school.

**Aushka Kapoor - Remove**



# REMOVE RESIDENTIAL

Our Kingswood residential was a trip to make memories with our friends. The trip helped conquer some of my fears and I experienced things I never thought I would, like going on the climbing wall. Many of my friends were so brave and faced their fears! All the activities were really great fun, even with the weather, which made it even more exciting and muddy! It helped me gain many new skills. The trip also let me have an exciting weekend away from school, with my friends. The residential was one of the most fun trips I have experienced, with the help of the staff who made it even better, and to all the teachers who came and made all of us laugh. I think all of Remove enjoyed this trip a lot and having fun with all our friends made it all worth it!

**Inaara Oomerbhoy - Remove**



"A fun trip to make memories with our friends"



The Italian department enjoyed a pizza-making party at Pizza Express, where the IV Italian class learned how to "spin the dough" like the professionals and then enjoyed sitting down to enjoy the fruits of their labour.



# IB AND TRANSITION - TRIP TO KENSINGTON PALACE

When we arrived at Kensington Palace, we first had a tiny break outside on a bench, then we hung our coats on some pegs and put our bags in a box below. After that our teacher, Miss MacDonnell led us to the front of the palace and we walked into a big hall where we were met by a man who asked us lots of questions about Queen Victoria. He was dressed in a very smart suit and had a top hat! He walked us through the palace telling us a lot about the all the different rooms and what they were used for. He also showed us some of the toys that Queen Victoria played with when she was a little girl. There were lots of other people visiting the palace so we went to a quiet room where we played with some Victorian toys. We had a lovely time and really enjoyed playing in the park before we walked back to School.



By Harmony Chen and Aleksandra Fedorova - IB



# IIA RESIDENTIAL ISLE OF WIGHT



Miss Shingles - Form Tutor IIA, Assistant Director of The Junior School

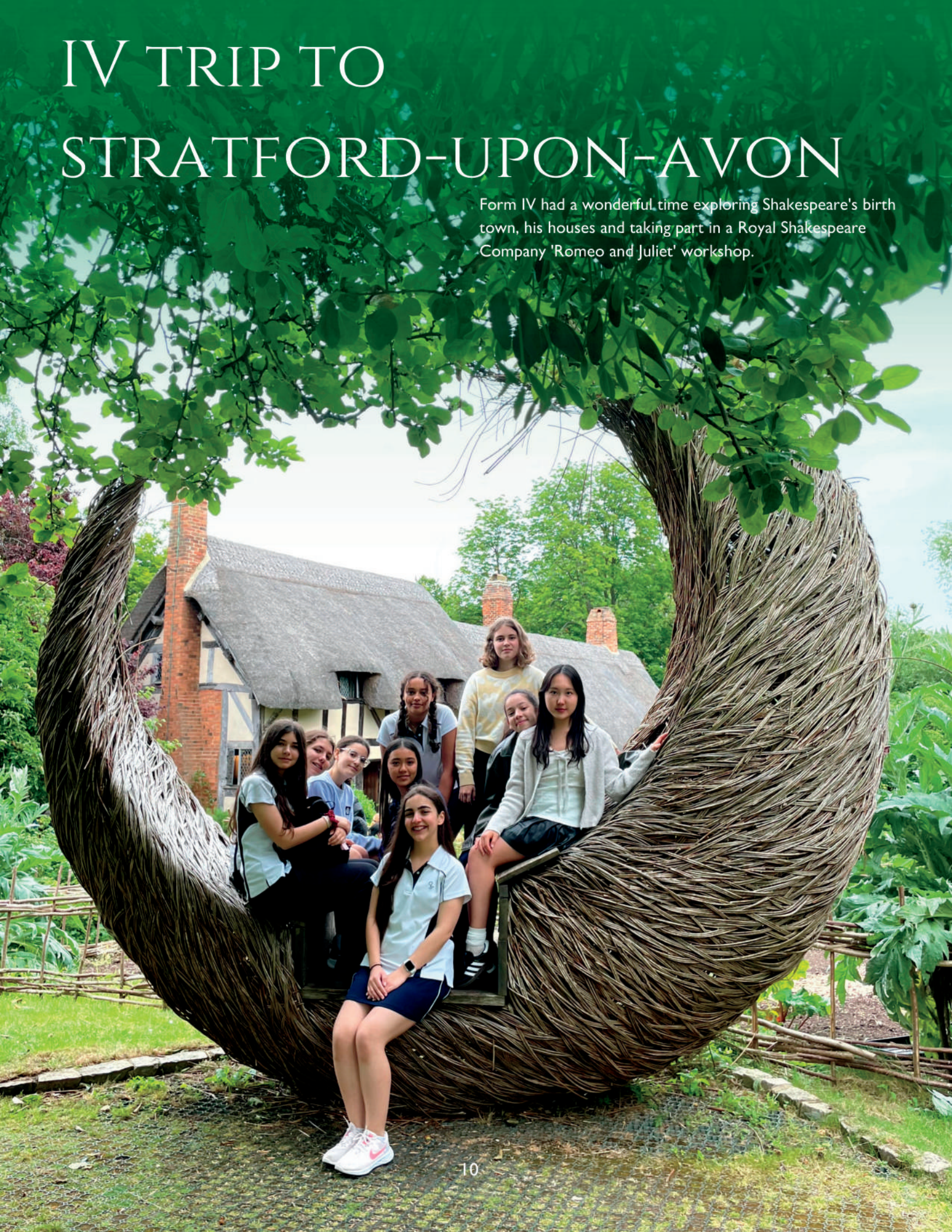


Between 3-7 June, IIA had a fantastic residential trip to the Isle of Wight. They delved into a range of activities with full enthusiasm, including, crazy golf, visiting Osborne House and Carisbrooke Castle, fossil hunting on the beach. They also visited Shanklin Chine Gorge, enjoyed a boat trip around the Needles Landmark, and a visit to a Reptilium. Evening entertainment included a disco, movie nights, and walks on the beach. The water park was a particular highlight! The girls were incredibly supportive of each other and were great representatives of Queen's Gate. Well done, IIA.



# IV TRIP TO STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

Form IV had a wonderful time exploring Shakespeare's birth town, his houses and taking part in a Royal Shakespeare Company 'Romeo and Juliet' workshop.



# III FORM TRIP TO THE LAKE DISTRICT





III Form enjoyed a fabulous adventure in the Lake District at the beginning of term. The girls had a wonderful time and I am very pleased that they will be moving to their Senior Schools remembering this unforgettable experience.

The trip included a variety of outdoor activities and team challenges. One of the highlights was gorge scrambling. For most girls, this was a new experience and the instructors and teachers were very impressed by their bravery when jumping from a height into the water. On the same day, we also went canoeing on Conistone Lake. We were very fortunate to have the company of a piper who played music by the lake throughout the duration of the activity.



Our biggest challenge was to climb a mountain, Carron Crag. After a fascinating walk through the meadow, we crossed Grizedale Forest and we started ascending to the top of the mountain. All girls and teachers made it!

The weather was very kind to us, but the Lake District would not be the same without rain. On our last evening, a storm made our cruise on the lake a little more exciting!

Girls, the teachers are extremely proud of you. You were optimistic and enthusiastic and showed impeccable manners throughout the trip. Congratulations, III Form!

**Mr M Molero Segura**  
**Assistant Director of the Junior School - Teaching and Learning**  
**Head of III Form (Year 6)**



# LEGION AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM

On Wednesday, the Year 12 Classics students visited the "Legion" exhibition at the British Museum. This exhibition focused on life in the Roman Army, displaying artefacts and providing information about the ordinary soldiers who formed the bulk of the legions. We got an insight into the life of soldiers, by following the journey of Claudius Terentianus, who sought a letter of recommendation and wrote to his father, but also through seeing the footwear and armour of soldiers and their horses. We also explored various aspects of daily life, such as board games, and were intrigued by the horse bones used as dice.

The exhibition highlighted that after serving in the army, soldiers could expect a substantial pension and Roman citizenship, therefore the army became a powerful way of producing Roman citizens. An artefact which was particularly popular amongst us was one of the Vindolanda tablets, written by Claudia Severa, inviting a friend to her birthday party. We found this particularly striking as these letters might have seemed insignificant at the time, but they have endured for thousands of years and remain legible. Overall, the "Legion" exhibition provided a captivating exploration of the structure and daily life of the Roman legions, which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

Alessa Lindblad Hill - LVI



# Holocaust

On Friday 14 June, IV went on an eye-opening trip to the Imperial War Museum Holocaust Exhibition, which complemented the current topic of our history lessons. When we first arrived, we had a seminar which talked about the Holocaust, what we were about to embark on and how it is a topic which deeply affected many. Soon after, our year split up into pairs where we were given iPads to guide us around. During the exhibition, there were many stories, artefacts and relics which helped show the massive number of people affected. One could see the huge amount of material being shown with the perfect mixture of sensitivity and intellect. An object, out of many astonishing ones, which had a lot of impact on me personally, was a doll. This was created by a child in a concentration camp, and it really showed how much creativity people had even though they had barely anything, as well as it being made during a horrid time.


The trip helped explain many things which let us understand and be able to widen our knowledge on this horrific topic. Now, our class has more of a grasp of the period, which helps us in our History and English lessons. One of the final rooms had an emotional video about the freeing of the camps and unfortunately the deaths of the people. In all honesty, it was a hard video to watch, however it was necessary as the Holocaust is an extremely challenging topic both historically and emotionally. Even though the exhibition had some difficult parts, I really enjoyed the trip as my knowledge expanded, and I really understood the extreme number of people affected.

**Marcella Aprile Borriello, IVS**

IV TRIP TO THE  
IMPERIAL WAR  
MUSEUM

The logo for Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr. features the word "Disney" in its signature script at the top. Below it, "BEAUTY" is written in a large, black, serif font. Underneath "BEAUTY" is the phrase "AND THE" in a smaller, black, serif font. The word "BEAST" is written in the same large, black, serif font as "BEAUTY". To the right of "BEAST" is a small "© Disney" copyright notice. Below "BEAST" is a stylized black rose with the letters "JR" inside it.

# Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR

A young girl with her arms outstretched is performing on stage. She is wearing a white tutu with intricate gold lace detailing on the bodice. Her mouth is open as if she is singing or shouting. In the background, other performers are visible, including a boy and a girl with glasses, both looking towards the camera with expressions of excitement.

Last year, it was flying cars; this year, it was magical transformation scenes. I was so pleased to be able to do Beauty and the Beast with III Form and IIA. They rose to the challenge and produced a spectacular show with beautiful singing and dancing. It was wonderful to see some of the girls using their considerable dancing skills to choreograph their own additions to the show. The girls worked well as part of a team and there were some entertaining performances all round. It was lovely to see so many girls embracing their roles and embellishing them with little touches of their own to improve their performances.

A show like this is not possible without the support of colleagues and friends. My heartfelt thanks go to Mrs Lenterman for her fabulous costumes and Mrs White for her ingenious props. Mrs Bennett and Mrs Scott have been amazing, galvanising the girls behind the scenes to ensure they don't forget their exits and entrances. Mr Manning has been a technical whizz with some of the staging. For me, Drama is the food of life, which means I'm already thinking about next year . . .

**By Mrs Maklouf**


**Assistant Director of the Junior School: Pastoral  
Year 4 Form Teacher**



“Drama is the food of life, which means I’m already thinking about next year . . .”

Mrs Maklouf.





"I really enjoyed performing in the LIV play. It was fun learning how to execute my lines effectively and acting with my friends.

**Leonora Armitage: The Lady and Ensemble"**

# SENIOR SCHOOL DRAMA

Directing the LIV play has got to be one of the year's highlights for me! From developing our ideas and doing weekly rehearsals to watching the whole piece come together, my love for directing has only grown. I thoroughly enjoyed directing this play because I got to challenge myself creatively; transforming something that may seem simple on a page into a marvellous spectacle was incredibly rewarding. But most of all, I am so lucky to work with the girls in LIV. Initially, I was slightly nervous about whether we would get along, but I am so glad I got to know them, learn from them, and care for them. Their enthusiasm was contagious, and their hard work inspiring – the girls should be so proud of themselves! I am really pleased that I got to make some impact on their Queen's Gate experience, and I want to thank the Drama Department for allowing me to play with my imagination. This was an experience that I will never forget!

**Cecily Morrissey - LVI Director**

This amateur production of "Collected Grimm Tales" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd. [www.concordtheatricals.co.uk](http://www.concordtheatricals.co.uk)

Collected Grimm Tales  
Adapted by Carol Ann Duffy, and dramatised by Tim Supple

I was very privileged to be one of the directors for this year's LIV play, 'Collected Grimms Tales'. I found it a unique experience to work alongside a younger year group in a creative leadership position. Since I am usually in the performers position, I enjoyed exploring the play from a different perspective. Coming up with ideas for direction and designing costumes with the other LVI directors, required a lot of imagination and dedication. When it came to our actual performance, I felt excited and proud of the hard-working LIV cast and showing family and friends what we had collectively put together.

**Katarina Lind - LVI Director**

Directing the LIV play was an enriching experience. From the beginning, I was excited about working with such a wonderful and creative group. Spending time with the girls in LIV was truly an honour; their enthusiasm and passion for the 'Grimms Tales' was inspirational. While the process had its challenges, the joy and satisfaction of watching the girls grow and shine on stage made it all worthwhile. Their dedication and hard work made for an amazing performance. I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of this journey, and I am very proud of all our talented cast.

**Santa De Marco - LVI Director**

Being given the opportunity to direct the LIV play with my peers was a very special experience. We had weeks to plan and curate a piece of drama. One of my aims was ensuring by the end, that the girls were extremely proud of what they had produced and of their hard work. To be honest, I was apprehensive at first, but I was in for a shock by the girls work ethics, initiative and enthusiasm. Having the most wonderful group of girls to direct, made the experience so enjoyable and truly brought me warmth.

I believe being a mentor in a way for the girls was a very fulfilling feeling, I would do it all again in a heartbeat if I could and I'm immensely appreciative for the experience!

Maya Jobanputra - LVI Director

On Thursday, 2 May, girls in Lower Fourth took to the stage to perform a lively retelling of 'Hansel and Gretel', 'Little Redcap' and 'The Lady and the Lion' from 'Collected Grimms Tales' by Carol Ann Duffy and dramatised by Tim Supple. The ensemble storytelling was a visual delight! Under the direction of girls from the LVI, the cast embraced the physical theatre style and gave confident and inspired performances. The directors drew on their own experience of abstract theatre and encouraged their cast to use a multitude of props to transform the empty stage. Metres of colourful ribbon were imaginatively deployed to reflect an enchanted forest, billowing sheets represented the wind carrying characters to other unworldly locations, and parasols were ingeniously transformed into the wheels of a merchant's carriage, allowing the audience to accompany him on his journey to find a rose for his favourite daughter! As always it was wonderful to watch girls from LVI develop their leadership skills whilst forming positive friendships with girls from lower down the School. I look forward to working with the girls on our next production.

**Mrs Pajovic - Head of Drama and Theatre Studies.**

I enjoyed acting with my friends as a member of the ensemble and using physical theatre and soundscapes to create many different locations.

**Sofya Monogarova - LIV  
The Mother and Ensemble**

"I enjoyed attending rehearsals with the sixth formers. They made the rehearsals fun and entertaining! I loved getting into my costume for the performance and performing in front of all of the parents".

**Jasmine Lloyd-Webber LIV  
The Witch and Ensemble**



# LAMDA

Once again, our Queen's Gate Junior and Senior LAMDA students have achieved fantastic examination results. Throughout the year they have participated in classes in Acting, Musical Theatre, Shakespeare, Public Speaking and Verse and Prose. Under the expert teaching of Ms Doolan, 71 Distinctions, 23 Merits and 1 Pass were awarded. Congratulations to everyone, we are in awe of your commitment and creativity!

**Mrs Pajovic - Head of Drama and Theatre Studies.**

This term my A level group were fortunate enough to watch the award winning 'People, Places and Things' at the Trafalgar Theatre. This play by Duncan Macmillan follows the character Emma, an actress who undergoes rehab because of her addictions. The play was directed by Jeffery Herrin, who, in my opinion, perfectly captured the raw emotions embedded in Macmillan's dialogue. The performance starred Denise Gough as Emma, who was outstanding, embodying a truthful character and portraying an honest perspective of addiction recovery. Her performance makes me even keener to start my Drama and Theatre Studies degree. I thought it was an amazing experience and a great opportunity as a drama student.

**Katarina Lind - LIV**

As a class, we watched 'People Places and Things' at the Trafalgar Theatre. The play absolutely took my breath away, with an outstanding performance from the lead, Denise Gough and its profound script. The play took me through a journey of all emotions and captivated me to tears. 'People, Places, and Things' truly made me experience the power of theatre and its ability to send a message so beautifully. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to see it.

**Maya Jobanputra - LIV**

PEOPLE,  
PLACES  
& THINGS



'This play contains strong language and themes of addiction, depictions of substance abuse, and references to suicide. Strobe lighting effects and the smoking of herbal cigarettes will be used.'



# MEDEA

Mika Westoby - LVI

'Medea' by Euripides is one of the most chilling tragedies to both read and see in person. The story follows that of Medea, who was a lover of the famous Jason from Jason and the Argonauts, who though giving up her entire life for, is rejected by him and takes up hideous revenge against him by destroying those he loves most - his new bride and the sons Medea herself bore for him.

Recently, the Classics Department had gotten tickets to a showing of 'Medea' that was to be performed live, and it was incredible. Whilst the scene took place in a more modern setting compared to the original, Medea's revenge and anger is still terrifying

The actress who played Medea had completely turned into the fearsome woman, with her descent into madness and heartbreak both incredibly performed, it truly felt like she was Medea herself - the scorned woman left with no home nor family, who succumbed to take horrific vengeance to punish Jason for the pain he caused her.

I recommend either reading 'Medea' and/or watching it as a live performance, as it is an empowering story where a woman could get revenge in a time where women were more passive. I too recommend taking Classics as a subject, as not only will you learn about Medea, you will learn more of such powerful and fearsome women and be able to appreciate other such bone-chilling plays.

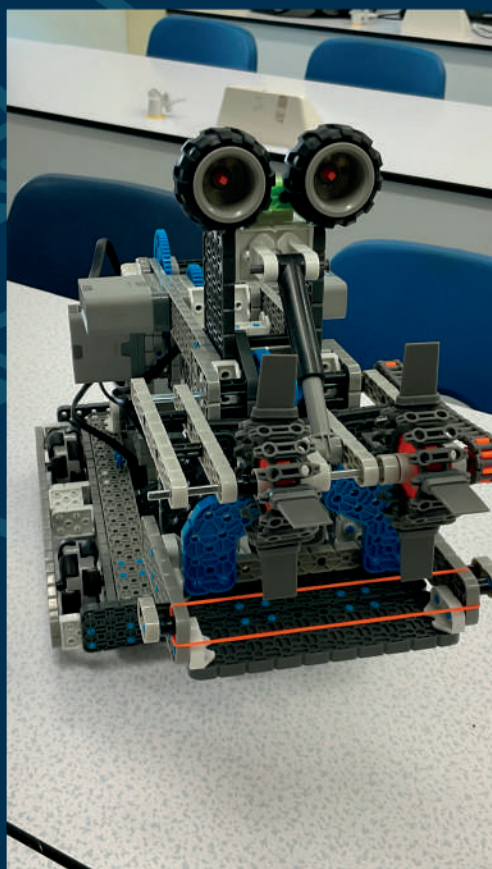


# SCIENCE

The Science Department has had an exciting term. The new Science and Photography Club was launched, with the girls first experiment being to work with light and copper sulphate crystals, seeing what could be achieved. Over in MedSoc, the girls presented on a subject of their choice that they researched over the Easter Holiday - topics ranged from Elephant Sanctuaries to Plastic Surgery to Congestive Heart Failure. Every presentation was fascinating.



2024 Science Week at QG focused on in-house special event lessons where students conduct extracurricular practicals that are usually not explored. The practicals coincided with the current topics studied, allowing a more engaging extension of their knowledge and applying it in a fun way. Remove extracted DNA from strawberries; they found out how many lemons it takes to power a light bulb and then finished off by participating in chemical battleships. LIV created acidic rainbows and found density in sugar solutions. IV donned their SOCO suits to determine the crimes committed in the chemistry department. The A-level students used the lemons to make perfume from extraction.



By Mr Alom  
Science Technician

# QUEEN'S GATE AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

By Mr Webb-Taylor  
Director of Music

This term has been a vibrant period for the Music Department at Queen's Gate. A series of concerts offered some students their final opportunity to perform before they leave for tertiary education. The talent and dedication of our girls were on full display, captivating audiences of supportive friends, family, and staff.

We started with two enchanting piano concerts, masterfully led by our esteemed piano faculty: Miss Chua, Miss Tham, and Mrs Haynes. Their guidance helped our pianists deliver stunning performances that showcased their technical skill and musicality. Additionally, Mr Georgiou and Miss Sansun directed two delightful vocal concerts featuring a range of beautiful voices, from the youngest Transition students to the UVI girls.

The Leaver's Concert was a particularly poignant event. It offered a heartfelt moment for those departing Queen's Gate to perform one last time in the music room, leaving lasting memories for both the performers and the audience.

Our Summer Concert highlighted the diverse talents of our ensembles, presenting an eclectic mix of music. From Taylor Swift to Monteverdi, the concert illustrated the wide-ranging repertoire our students are capable of mastering.





The term culminated in the Prize Giving ceremony, a fitting finale where the Chamber Choir and Friday Singers delivered inspiring performances. Four exceptional soloists; Sara Luo, Felicia Ma, Cecilia Sun, and Gillian Cui also graced the stage, demonstrating our school's high level of individual talent.

This term, we celebrated a remarkable achievement: Three of our girls, Jennah Chowdhury, Amelia Gabrelian, and Yoyo Wu, were selected to perform at the Royal Albert Hall during the Star Piano Festival. This prestigious event was a wonderful opportunity, and their participation is a testament to their hard work and dedication.

We are also proud to announce that one of our girls aspires to read music at Oxford next year, a goal that underscores the strong foundation in music education provided at Queen's Gate.

Sadly, we bid farewell to Miss Sansun at the end of this term. After 11 years of inspiring and nurturing our students in singing and class music, her passion, enthusiasm, and profound knowledge will be deeply missed by all. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

This term's array of performances has truly highlighted the musical talent at Queen's Gate, and we look forward to more exceptional concerts in the future.

### **Little Mozarts showtime again - Summer 2024 Concert!**

The girls gave a splendid performance on Wednesday, 19 June. They were all very excited and dressed beautifully in their 'something-red' themed performance dress. They commanded the stage with their poise and confidence, introducing all their pieces and performing from memory!

In the Junior school, four year old Feng Chengyan, the youngest performer played Beginners' level and Melanie, aged 11 years performed at the pinnacle of Grade 8!. In the Senior school, we were delighted that many of our girls on Study Leave found the time to join us amidst their GCSEs exams, and also gave performances.

All in all, it was a delightful music afternoon. Bravo to the 2024 Little Mozarts of QG!

**Ms Chua and Ms Tham**

# SPORT

The sporting event of the year brought as much excitement and competition once again this summer term, with this year's Junior and Senior School Sports Day.

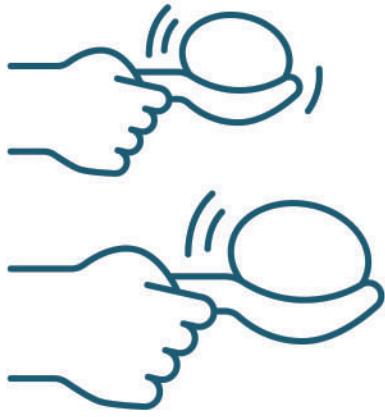
The Junior School kicked off events with all pupils heading to Battersea Park Millennium Arena on Monday 13 May, for a day of House rivalry between Elizabeth and Victoria. The atmosphere was enjoyable throughout the day with sounds of cheering and clapping filling the track as the pupils from Preliminary to III Form took part in a jam-packed day of activities.

The morning was filled with predominantly field events; we had our KS1 pupils showing us their egg and spoon, under arm throw, standing long jump and obstacle course skills with the older year groups taking to the track for 600m and 800m races as well as the high jump, overarm and long jump pits.

Preliminary, Transition and IB bought the morning's events to a close with their 50m sprint races as well as sprint relays. A big well done to Freya Bythell who not only ran in her year group relay race but effortlessly ran in Transition's too, a natural on the track, we'll look forward to seeing her blossom!

With the delivery of the packed lunches and the opening of the PTA refreshment table, the results were in for KS1's efforts. Well done to Freya Bythell in Preliminary, Ann Yu in Transition and Rose Hurst in IB who were the top scorers in their year groups – winning many ribbons and racking points for their Houses. Ann was awarded the overall winner for KS1 for her impressive 25 points.

The fun continued after the lunch break with all attention turning to the track for the 200m, 60-100m sprints and relays. There were some very tight finishes, Georgina Frohnsdorff and Paulina Rodriguez in III Form completed the 100m sprint, crossing the line simultaneously both claiming gold and valuable points for their House. Much the same in IIA with Kiara Oehl and Emi Urbanska pushing themselves and crossing the line together, both grabbing the gold in the third IIA 100m sprint race of the afternoon. The conclusion of our events saw the Tug of War rope make its 2024 debut – a quick parent battle followed by all pupils, drew the day to a close and the final results were in.....



This year's Individual Winners were:

IA – Alexia Sanders with 17 points

IIB – Eden Carmerlengo with 24 points

IIA – Kiara Oehl with 31 points

III Form – Elsa Jiao with 21 points

Kiara Oehl from IIA racked up a whopping 31 points across all events meaning she came away as the Overall Individual Winner – a huge well done to you.



And finally, the all-important House winner of Junior School Sports Day 2024 were Elizabeth with a grand total of 603. Well done to everyone for all your hard work and brilliant performances!



The Senior School's big day came after half term on Tuesday 4 June and of course did not disappoint with pupils across Remove to LVI taking to the track and bringing their A game to all events.

Sticking to QG tradition the 1500m distance run started the day off with a bang when we saw the determined pupils who opted to run the two and three quarter laps of the track gaining the first House points of the day.

Whilst the track races continued in the shape of the 200m and 100m heat races, all year groups moved their way through the field events where over the course of the day we saw great effort from all and even a record broken.

Adel Timurkan, who featured in last year's record break mentions, worked her magic again on Shot Put where, this year, she broke the IV record knocking Alexandra Taylor off the top spot with a throw of 10m 24cm, fantastic work Adel, we look forward to seeing if you can make it a treble year in 2025!

We also saw Ada Sezer break the LIV, 100m record shaving .4 off the time with an impressive run of 13.41s, a big well done to you too.

As always it was great to see so many pupils participating in so many events, earning House points and of course adding to their individual tally, and on top of that how much support there was from everyone in true QG spirit.

After the lunch break, all eyes fell to the track for the all important 100m sprint finals followed by the 4x100m relays, when there were double points up for grabs, meaning anything could happen with the House totals after the results. The afternoon came to an end with the Staff v Sixth Form relay when let's just say the PE team showed the crowds how you do it and the final results were in....

Our year group individual winners were:

Remove – Ellie Pang with 33 points  
LIV – Andii Berlouis with 32 points  
IV Form – Luna Saadouni with 25 points  
V Form - Carlota Portela-Ramos with 30 points  
Lower Sixth – Isabelle Wilkinson-Campbell and Chloe Robertson with 22 points

An extra special well done to Ellie who with 33 points was awarded this year's Vixtrix Lodorum shield as our overall winner.

And to the main result – the 2024 House Champion –

1st - Johnston on 313 points  
2nd – Wyatt on 297 points  
3rd – Spalding on 284 points  
4th – Douglas on 222 points

A massive congratulations to Johnston House, every point really does matter so everyone's involvement counts to the victory. Well done!





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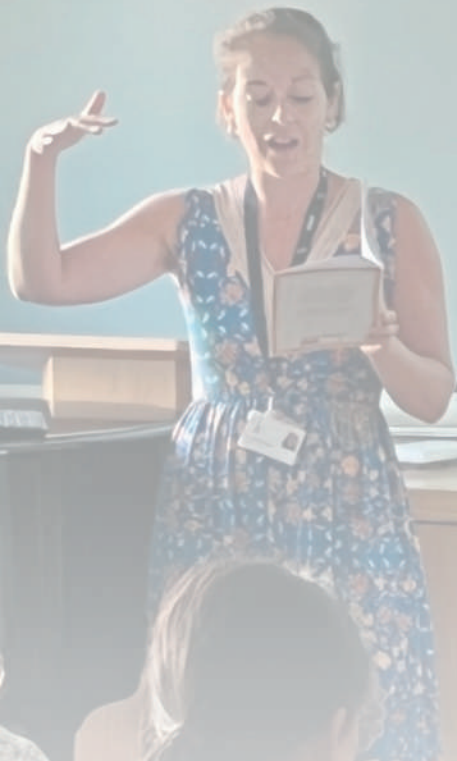






# ONCE UPON A MYTH

Mrs Mitropoulos - Head of Classics



It has been a real privilege and joy to pop over to the Junior School and run Greek mythology workshops with IA and IIB and IIA and III. Based on my book entitled *Once Upon a Myth*, which mixes fairy tales with Greek myths, we shared, gasped and reflected on a range of stories from the ancient world.

The first workshop with IA and IIB was on Mythical Monsters. We discussed a range of characters from the mythical world, from Cerberus to the Cyclops, Medusa to the Minotaur. We read one of my stories, *Snow White and Medusa*, and the girls set off creating their own mythical monster, often combining different animals together. The girls had to name their monsters and come up with unique ways for them to be defeated.

The second workshop with IIA and III featured Creative Writing. The girls were invited to write their own version of a Greek myth, mixing it with another well-known story. The girls already knew a huge range of myths, but were shocked to learn new ones of Iphigeneia, Actaeon and Arachne. We read extracts from my stories and discussed qualities needed to make a good story: thinking about character, perspective and audience. The girls were buzzing with ideas, excitement and innovation for their own creative writing.

# GEOGRAPHY

LVI geographers enjoyed an afternoon trip to Hyde Park on Thursday 20 June to carry out an investigation into the carbon and water cycle. The weather was perfect sunshine, which made being out of the classroom, collecting data feel even more enjoyable. Students worked well to measure and estimate the carbon content of deciduous trees in Hyde Park, as well as investigate the extent to which bedrock geology affects infiltration rate. The fieldwork enquiry skills learnt on this trip, as well as their other trips will give them valuable experience to help them in their non-examined assessment, which they are currently working towards. The trip ended with buying a few summer treats on the way back to School - well done.



This year, Earth Day 2024 was on Monday 22 April and the Geography Department celebrated the occasion with a variety of activities for students throughout the week. The week started with a whole school assembly on this year's theme "Planet versus Plastic", highlighting plastic pollution in the news and leading on to giving practical tips that students can do to reduce their single use plastics (reusable coffee cups and water bottles please!). Students then got involved with calculating their eco-footprint in form time, as well creating environmental pledges and 'The Earth is in Our Hands' signs in an additional club. We also had a successful showing of 'Mission Blue', following a campaign to save the world's oceans. The week ended with a walk or taking public transport to school on Friday, which was successfully completed by most, and throughout this period there was the Earth Day competition. All in all, many activities to get us involved in caring for our planet.

**Miss E Moor**  
**Head of Geography**



# JUNIOR SCHOOL COOKERY

In Transition, we did Food Tech on Fridays. Food Tech is where you do lessons about cooking. My favourite lessons were coconut macaroons, fruit kebabs, sushi, blueberry muffins, and pizza. I liked partnering up and Mrs Dhaliwal helping us. During the assembly I got to tell everyone what we learned in Food Tech and that made me proud of myself. After that I felt happy and nervous when my Dad came to school for Food Tech on my birthday. Food Tech was one of my favourite things and I will miss it when I am in IB.

**Nadia Sivek - Transition**



On Thursday the 6 June, the LVI kick-started their UCAS application process at the UCAS Discovery Day at the University of East London. They took full advantage of the multitude of universities represented at the event, discussing courses and entry requirements directly with the providers and attending a number of personalised talks.

“The UCAS discovery trip was useful for me to identify Edinburgh as one of my top choices for University. The trip was light-hearted and easy to navigate, and I enjoyed the opportunity to explore the area around the University of East London, where it was hosted. Of course, the countless pens, badges, bags, and caps that I collected from several Universities was enjoyable also. “

#### **Maya Lambri - LVI**

“Being able to go to the UCAS Discovery Day at the University of East London yesterday left me with a determination to try and pursue my future goals, and whilst my friends and I sighed at the fact that it was a real trek to get there, by the time the day came to a close, we basked in the realisation of just how enriching and beneficial this opportunity was.

Each university had a stand in which we could talk to current students; being able to put a “face” to the university was so helpful in seeing whether I could see myself there. In particular, The University of Edinburgh stuck out to me — their broad and inspiring English Literature program made me want to start the course now, and their stunning campus eased my anxieties of leaving home for the first time.”

#### **Gioia Duenas Dahms - LVI**



For our interviews we had to create a CV to apply either for a babysitting or waitressing job, we learnt this was a crucial part of being interviewed, as it displays all our achievements, qualifications, and interests. We knew how to create one due to the previous sessions we had. In addition, we had to add our personality traits and characteristics and how we apply them in real life situations. For example, I said I would also consider myself to be helpful, attentive, and patient towards people, as during my volunteering experience in a dementia care home I would sometimes serve the elderly and talk to them. This would help me with my application to be a waitress as I could handle difficult customers.

We were all interviewed by different QG parents. During the interview we were asked a series of questions ranging from asking about our CVs, how our skills would be applied for our chosen job, and some harder questions like "What makes you laugh?" Throughout the interview we had to maintain eye contact, good posture and keep smiling, which I learnt is harder than it seems! The parents made the interview quite professional as we had to shake their hands at the beginning and at the end of the interview as well as introducing ourselves.

At the end of the interview, we received positive and negative feedback from the parents, for example; how we should not speak too quickly even if we are nervous, as it can lead us to be unclear and not confident. The parent who interviewed me told me usually interviews last around 15 minutes and it starts with easy questions which turn harder gradually; therefore, I was told to elongate my answers to the easier questions, so it takes up time. I also learnt that it is important for the interview to flow a little bit like a conversation, instead of the interviewer just asking you questions and you just answering them.

**Kaira Hameed - V**

Our first talk was about our CV's which we had to prepare for because of our upcoming job interviews. In this first talk, we learnt what sort of things we should be writing about in our CV's such as school qualifications like DoFE. I learnt that usually there is only supposed to be one side of an A4 piece of paper, which I wouldn't have known otherwise. It helped me construct my CV properly as I now know the formal language I should be using while explaining things such as my skills and characteristics as well as learning how to create an organised format.

My second talk was about how I should behave and present myself during the job interview. I learnt how to make a good first impression by walking into the interview with a smile on my face and a positive attitude. Body language also played a big role in standing out from others. In order to do so, I learnt to sit up straight with good posture and keep my feet firmly on the ground. We also learnt how to keep good eye contact as it shows interest and engagement in the conversation. Importantly, we learnt how to use our hands appropriately while talking so we can express ourselves while still looking poised and well mannered. Lastly, we learnt to not say things such as 'um' and 'like' as they show uncertainty and lack of knowledge of what I am saying.

My third and final talk was about the sort of things we should mention in our skills and characteristics portion of the CV. In this talk, I learnt how the different traits and skills I have would be applied in the job I would be interviewed for. I also had to think of real-life examples I have experienced that demonstrate how I possess these skills and how I have used them before. An example of this would be my quick-thinking skills while playing tennis as you must calculate in your head where you think the ball might land and then you use that knowledge to sprint to the ball in time to hit it back over the net.

**Anouk Benson - V**



# QG SOCIAL EVENTS

## Queen's Gate Summer Garden Party

Miss P Shareefy  
Development and Partnerships Manager

This year's event featured several changes: an earlier time, the inclusion of our lovely daughters, and a new venue, thanks to the kind support of Chris Hillier and the residents' association. With over 300 guests in attendance, it was particularly pleasing to see so many more families than in previous years. We were also fortunate to have perfect weather, which allowed us to fully enjoy the beautiful gardens.

One of the most special aspects of Queen's Gate is the warm sense of community we all enjoy, and that afternoon was very much about celebrating that. It was a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends and perhaps meet new ones. It was also a moment to reflect on the many times our community had already come together to enjoy each other's company and our shared commitment to the school.





# Leavers' Celebration

On Thursday 4 July 2024, we had the pleasure of welcoming the Class of 2024, their families, and guests for a special Leavers' Celebration evening. The event was a wonderful opportunity to honour the achievements and hard work of our students as they reached this significant milestone in their academic journey.

Parents and guests were warmly invited to join the girls and staff for welcome canapés and champagne, setting a festive tone for the evening. Following the reception, the girls and their guests took their seats for a special dinner in the Senior School. As part of the celebration, the girls prepared a fun playlist and shared photos from their leavers' book, adding a personal and nostalgic touch to the evening. It was a joy to witness the culmination of their hard work and to celebrate their accomplishments together.

The Leavers' Celebration was a testament to the dedication and spirit of the Class of 2024, marking the end of their journey with us and the beginning of their new adventures. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and look forward to seeing their continued success in the future.









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