



## Celebrating Success Sixth Form Diploma Evening



On the evening of Thursday 17th May the Sixth Form hosted our Diploma Awards. This took the form of a drinks reception for parents, students, staff, governors and press, followed by the presentation of the awards, and speeches by students and teachers who have been involved with the delivery of the Diploma.



The Sixth Form Diploma is awarded to students who have shown over 80 hours' commitment to activities in the areas of creativity, action, service and work related learning alongside their academic programme of A Levels and BTEC qualifications. The evening was a chance to celebrate the achievements of our Sixth Formers who have demonstrated innovation, enthusiasm, compassion and ambition in these extra curricular areas. It was an enjoyable evening and many people there expressed the feeling that by completing the Diploma, these young people now have the requisite skills to go out into the world and embrace all of the exciting opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for them.

Congratulations to all of the 62 Sixth Formers who received the award and also to Alice Bunker Whitney, Grace Savage, Hannah Trewin, Annabel Edmonds, James Fidock, Richard Manning, Robert Brenton and Becky Grist who all spoke with composure and eloquence on the night!

Best of luck to all our Year 13 students in their final exams, which will finish on a high with the Leavers Party on 27th June at Crealy - with the theme of 'Princesses and Pirates', cross dressing optional!

**Paula Smith – Head of Sixth Form**



Students celebrate their success.  
Top right- Paula Smith presents a diploma to James Fidock, Chair of the Student Council.

Dear Parent or Carer,

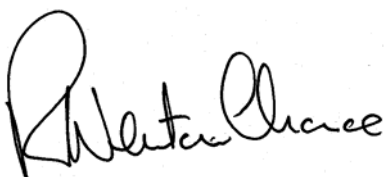
Firstly, best of luck to all those now entering the exam season - I hope you can manage to live with the nervous energy generated by your sons and daughters over the next few weeks!

Seriously, you don't need me to tell you how important the exams are for all our young people, but particularly those in Year 11. There are some pretty devastating estimates for the number of jobs there will be by 2015 for people who don't have a Level 2 qualification (the equivalent of 5 GCSEs including Maths and English). I would make a plea to support all of them to put the effort in during the last few days. This message is especially for those who feel they may not be going to do that well, because employers will want to know that they made the effort - persistence and commitment are hugely valued in the workplace. To borrow a maxim; It is better to have tried and lost, than not to have tried at all.

Those in the Sixth Form are also at that pivotal stage where future choices depend on the outcomes of these few days. However, we were treated to a brilliant reminder of just how important the other aspects of school life are in allowing children to develop into confident and accomplished young adults. The Sixth Form Diploma Evening has become an annual celebration of achievements ranging from trips to Peru, to helping adults with learning difficulties, from Ten Tors and Duke of Edinburgh Gold, to Badminton excellence, from drama and music performances of the highest quality to teaching sex education to younger students. A truly inspiring evening and my thanks go to Paula Smith, our Head of Sixth Form, for organising it.

Whatever happens in life, we mustn't forget that everyone has value, everyone has something unique and special to offer. The Year 11s and Year 13s about to leave us all have huge potential to have good, happy and successful lives in whatever they choose to do. We thank them for their contribution to the life of QE while they have been here and wish them every success in the future.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Newton Chance

## QECC gains 3<sup>rd</sup> Place at the Salters' Chemistry Festival

On 26<sup>th</sup> April Sam Jackson and Emily Bowden from Year 7 and Hannah Preece and Justin Gomme from Year 8 attended the Salters' Chemistry Festival held at Plymouth University. The Salters' Chemistry Festival is a highly prestigious annual event held at over 15 universities nationwide and organised by Salters' Institute of Chemistry. Eight schools from across the South West gathered at Plymouth University for the two-part challenge, each aiming to put their Chemistry skills acquired in the classroom to the test.



The first task was centred around a crime for which a culprit had to be identified by examining the evidence using various chemistry tests. The second, equally challenging task required the teams to reach in exactly 60 seconds time and maintain a certain temperature within a test tube, again by incorporating their classroom Chemistry knowledge.

The QECC team were un-phased by the competition and rose to the challenge, working completely independently from any outside help, whilst throughout maintaining a team spirit and paying particular attention to the safety requirements of the tasks. Their efforts, diligence and knowledge of the subject paid off, gaining them 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the mystery-solving task.



The third part of the Festival was a demonstration of spectacular experiments. It was both an enjoyable and educational experience for all; Sam even remarked at its end, "This was the most fun day involving school work of my life!"

**Tamara Savchenko**

# Ten Tors Challenge 2007

As the teams arrived at Okehamp-ton camp on Friday lunchtime a belt of rain and mist greeted them. This was taste of things to come.

All week we had been clinging to the slim hope of some good weather on Saturday - Sunday we already knew would be a washout.

At 0500 on Saturday it was dry but cold and windy. The start went ahead smoothly, but it was not long before the first of many prolonged spells of rain began. Our young 35-mile teams started well but soon faced the harshest of weather. Both made good progress through Saturday morning. Our young 45-mile team started slowly but soon found rhythm and started overtaking many of their more senior counterparts.

As it came to Saturday afternoon one of our 35-mile teams had the misfortune to have to visit Hare Tor, next to the dangerous Tavy Cleave valley. The mist closed in on them, the river rose dramatically and the team were faced with a dangerous river crossing. They searched hard for a suitable crossing, but were faced with a raging torrent where the usually passable source of the Tavy used to be. Eventually, behind time, cold and wet through, the team decided to move away from the danger and seek the help of the Dartmoor rescue service who were posted along the now lethal river valley. A tough but very mature decision. Our second 35-mile team were storming down the moor and successfully



reached their sixth tor before being stopped for the evening.

Had the event continued they would have certainly completed.

The 45-mile team performed best in the afternoon reaching Pupers Hill before 5pm. They started out on the mammoth leg across complete wilderness towards Trowlesworthy Tor. The team were stopped at Red Lake in view of the deteriorating weather and worsening rivers. They were disappointed to have to stop, as they would certainly have completed the course. A ride to Bickleigh barracks in a rescue helicopter helped to raise the spirits on the way home.

Massive congratulations to all students that took part and a huge thank you to all the staff, parents and well wishers that gave their support on the day.

**Tom Blagden**



### Year 9 35-Mile Teams

Barnaby Gush  
Daisy Temple  
Rosie Reid  
Rachel Edworthy  
Ellie Adamiw  
Ella Gale

Michael Langdon-Davies  
Olly Tucker  
Olly Hooper  
Ross Hooper  
Matt Bortali  
Sam Jones



### 45-Mile team

Beth Milverton  
Laura Grist  
Charlotte Peters  
Celeste Harper-Davis  
Patrick Joyce  
Joanna Crooke

## Latest Music Examination Successes

Congratulations to the following students!

Rebecca Grist	Saxophone	Grade 8	Merit
Sam Moffatt	Saxophone	Grade 5	Distinction
George Bryant	Clarinet	Grade 4	Pass
Gareth Allen	Saxophone	Grade 3	Merit
Alex Hodges	Saxophone	Grade 2	Merit
Chloe Savin	Saxophone	Grade 1	Merit
Hayley John	Clarinet	Grade 4	Merit

(Peripatetic Music Tutor - Dave McKeown)

Amy Jo Johnson	Cello	Grade 4	Merit
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(Peripatetic Music Tutor - Catherine Warren)



# Science on Stage 2 Grenoble, France

“Science on Stage 2” is a prestigious international event for Science teachers from across Europe. This year there were 500 participants from 28 countries, each of whom had won a place at “Science on Stage 2” by being selected by their home countries. I was one of the 30 delegates attending from the UK.



I was able to contribute by sharing some of the interactive ICT resources that I have been producing. These resources are designed to help the non-specialist physics teacher teach the physics components of GCSE Science, Additional Science and Applied Science with confidence, knowing that the electronic resources are accurate, interesting, easy to use and understand.

I was able to share with an international audience how these resources can be used in a classroom as they exist currently, and how their formats (video, web site, Power-Point, animation) can be used as a basis for customisation that allows individualised teaching to meet the needs of a wide range of students.

As a teacher in a large UK comprehensive school and specialist technology college, I have been at the forefront of applying new technologies and educational innovation recent years. This experience has made me eager to share what I have been able to do, but also to continue to seek out and incorporate best practice from other schools to give our students the very best learning experiences.

During the week I picked up some fabulous new ideas for science teaching and met some inspirational people. We were splendidly looked after by our French hosts, and I have returned home bursting with new ideas to share. I just need some magnets, jumping beans and a little liquid nitrogen and science lessons will never be the same again!

Many thanks to my colleagues who looked after my classes while I was away.

**Nick Baker – Science Learning Area**



# INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY



Year 7 students in Maths have been working hard to produce a series of mathematical mazes which are currently on display in the Upper School foyer. These mazes are part of the exchange of learning which is taking place between the college and our global partnership in Utete, Tanzania.

Some students wrote 'Start' and 'Finish' in Swahili, and used logical thinking skills to devise a method to solve the problem of negotiating the maze. Not as easy as it looks!

The intention is for students in Tanzania to conduct a similar learning exercise, and for the two sets of work to be exchanged and displayed in each school. Other curriculum projects focusing on our international links involve English, Humanities and Art. Look out for further news...



## Free School Meal Entitlement

Is your child entitled to a daily free school meal? If you are in receipt of **Income Support, Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance, the Guarantee Element of Pension Credit or Child Tax Credit** where income is less than £14,155 you may be entitled. The current meal allowance is worth £1.75 and our Cafeterias offer a wide and varied range of meals and healthy option foods.

Also the college receives extra funding relative to the number of students we have on roll in receipt of Free School Meals. So if you are in receipt of one of the qualifying benefits, even if your child prefers to take a packed lunch and does not require a free meal, by claiming you also provide extra funds towards the education of your child and other students at QECC.

You can obtain an application form from Lower School or Upper School Offices, but please do not hesitate to contact the college on 01363 778323 if you need any further information.

(Please note that Contributions Based Jobseeker's Allowance, Working Tax Credit and Invalidation Benefit do not qualify; also being in receipt of Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit does not qualify).

# Visual Media Students Take the Next Step

QE's Art and Design Level 3 Diploma course in the Interactive Use of Media has seen its first group of students qualify with distinction.

The course aims to introduce students to a wide range of creative principles from computer games, design for TV, Web design, Motion graphics, 2D and 3D animation and Digital painting.



Out of this year's group five students produced near professional standards in their digital portfolios.

They have since applied, been interviewed and accepted to a BA (Hons) degree course in Animation and Interactive Media at the University of Gloucester.

Russell Trill, one of our students, said: "The most important things I have gained from the course are the technical skills in developing dynamic websites, animations and developing interactive 2D and 3D multi-media applications".



From left to right: Will Le Gros, Jamie Packham, Tim Fulcher, Dan Sargeant and Russ Trill

Future Career Opportunities include:

- Computer Games Industry
- Website Designer
- Television Production
- Film and Animation Production
- Interactive Broadcasting
- Advertising and Marketing
- New Media Industries

**Mark Hill ICT Learning Area**

# Rotary Young Chef Regional Finals 2007

On the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 I took part in the Rotary Club's Young Chef competition. I had to compete against 7 other finalists from around the South-West. Surprisingly all the finalists were girls.

I got through to the Final by coming first and then second in the two previous competitions. We were asked to cook a three course meal for two people, within a costing limit. The dishes had to promote a reasonably healthy lifestyle and had to contain locally sourced ingredients.

For the first course I chose to cook a warm savoury tartlet filled with a puree of caramelized balsamic vinegar and red onion reduction, topped with local goats cheese.

For the main course I cooked pork tenderloin stuffed with Parma ham, lemon zest, basil and red apples, served on a bed of new potatoes with broad beans and a calvados jus.

Lastly, for pudding I made a sumptuous chocolate melting pudding served with a plum compote and mango coulis.

2 head chefs judged us - they were both renowned for their culinary achievements. They judged us on flavour, appearance / presentation, hygiene, and a menu combination.

They also judged us on the table setting, which we had to lay prior to cooking.

Overall I came third out of 7 and I was very pleased with my efforts. First and second places were able to go on to the national round in Lancaster. This would have been nice but I am happy with what I have achieved and the opportunity that I was given.

The winner was called Florence Middleton from Falmouth College. She was a vegetarian and her menu was based around this.

During my time between the competitions I was lucky enough to have a mentor that was willing to teach me and further me in the competition. His name was Rod Naylor. Mr Naylor works for HMS Rhyley and teaches navel chefs. During his career he has worked with many of Britain's most famous chefs. These include Delia Smith, Rick Stein and he mentored Michael Caines himself. Mr Naylor used to prepare all of the meals for Delia when she was doing her television programmes. He would have cooked the one that was prepared beforehand.

**Kate Lethbridge**  
Year 10



# Shrewd Business Dealing From QECC Students

QUEEN Elizabeth Community College is top of the class in a national share dealing competition. With 55 schools nationwide participating, A-Level students learn about the real world of business by actually investing in companies on the London stock exchange.

Pupils of the college are proving to be hotshot stockbrokers by topping the Shares4Schools competition, run by retail stockbroker The Share Centre.

Shrewd stock market dealing has seen a team of four pupils make a profit of £490.54 in just seven months, an increase of virtually 32.5% on their original £1,500 investment.

Lizzie Dinsdale, one of the students on the team, said: "It's been really beneficial to me - I've learnt about stocks, shares and markets and how they rise and fall. I find it really interesting looking at future prospects and investment opportunities. I enjoy it and would invest in the future".

Along with Lizzy, the QECC team was made up of Katie Stacey, Chris Bragg, and Steven Morish.



The competition finishes on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2007, the national winner will receive the Shares4Schools trophy and take part in a special tour of the City of London. Winners of each of the Regional leagues also receive a trophy.



You can follow the teams progress by visiting the following website:

<http://www.share.com/shares4schools/>

**Mark Hill**  
**Economics & Business**

## STAFF VS YEAR 11 FOOTBALL

Friday 18th May saw a staff squad including such players as Gomersall, Cole, Harvey, Grenney, Hitchens and, of course, Eames facing the youthful force of the Year 11 boys.

A sensational reflex save by Mr Wright in the second half, stretching across the goal like a panther to catch its quarry in mid flight, saw him pluck the ball from the air, inches from the top corner.

Coley struck the ball with venom; it ricocheted from post to post before nestling in the side netting to level the scores. The back four stood resolutely against mounting pressure from the Year 11 boys—the line only breached through the obvious skill of the boys, on a limited number of occasions.

With a final score of 3-3 both teams could walk away with their heads held high. The score was said to be rather flattering—but to whom, we'd rather not say...



Fair play—the QE Staff and Year 11 Boys football teams.



# REMINDER:

## SIXTH FORM

## INDUCTION DAY

## MONDAY 2ND JULY



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