

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR, ALFORD

A Selective Academy

20 January 2026

Dear Parent and Student

Congratulations go to:

- The following Lower School pupils who have achieved their **Bronze Merit Awards**:

Talia Almasti 7C	Hamza Gharib 7C	Sebastian White 7S
Dexter Backhouse 7T	Jackson Burley 7T	Ajwa Jamil 7T
Hugo Storr 7T		

- The following Middle and Upper School pupils who have achieved **25 Merits**:

Holly Kemp 9C	Belle Hales 9S	Lydia Roberts 9S
India Follett 9T	Joseph Ryan 9T	Harry Hall 10C
Beth Shaw 10C	Liam Smith 10C	Phoebe England 10S
William Edgar 10T	Oscar Roberts-Doré 10T	Rocky Taylor 10T
Caiden Nutland 11C	Olivia Howell 11T	Maisy Jane Mickel 11T
Charlie Storr 12T	Scarlett Markou 13S	Annika Danda 13T

- The following Lower School pupils who have achieved their **Silver Merit Award**:

Harrison Clarke 7C	Arya Wilkinson 7C	Max Leighton 7S
Isabella Wright-Wattam 7S	Mia Harding 7T	Oscar Knott 7T
Jenson Rada 7T	Eddy Yang 7T	Miles Brewin 8C
Summer Finley 8C	Xander Windrass-Gibson 8C	Yaminah Azeez 8S
Emily Cooper 8S	Jacob Smith 8T	

- The following Middle and Upper School pupils who have achieved **40 Merits**:

Treasure Babalola 9C	Leon Norbron 9C	Penny-Rae Hunt 9T
Thomas Collingwood 10C	Oliver Gray 10C	Haider Qureshi 10C
Grace Parsons 10C	Freddie Nelson 10T	Isaac Li 12S

- The following Lower School pupils who have achieved their **Gold Merit Award**:

Francesca Norbron 7C	Erik Burnett 7S	Janka Giddy 7T
Clementine McDowall 7T	Erika Seagrave 7T	Chloe Van Zyl 8C

- The following Middle School pupils who have achieved **60 Merits**:

Willow Fearn 9C	Sophie Foster 9C	Hannah Perrin 9C
Matilda Simpson 9C		

- The following Lower School pupil who has achieved their **Platinum Merit Award**:

Isla Collingwood 7C

- The following pupils who have attained their **Departmental Subject Colour**:

Business Studies	Hannah Aicken 9S
	Evie Rogers 10S
	Sophie Cooksey 11C
	Max Palmer 13S

Economics

Lani Willows 9S
Millie Brooks 11C
Samuel Doore 12S

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Well done to students who competed at the East Coast Cross Country event held at Burghley House!



- Our newly appointed student librarians:

Francesca Norbron 7C	Arya Wilkinson 7C	Erik Burnett 7S
Bradley Fenwick 7S	Scarlett Manning 7S	Eveyln Lovelle 8S
Max Whittaker 8T	Henrietta Leach 9S	
- Ben Edgar 7T, Jack Bailey 9C, Georgia Middleton 9T, Hannah Smith 10S, Zach Lowes 10T, Natalia Willson 11T and Truman Woodhall 13C who represented the Coastal and Wold Area at the East Coast Cross Country event held at Burghley House on Saturday morning. All students performed fantastically well on a very tough course with Jack, Hannah, Natalia and Truman qualifying for the next round — the Lincolnshire County Cross Country event in Northampton!

 **AI and Your Child: What Parent's Should Know:** Artificial Intelligence is shaping the way children learn, play, and interact online. As parents, understanding both the opportunities and the risks are key, the attached poster offers more information. Join a FREE webinar "**AI: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly**" supported by Lincolnshire County Council to explore:

-  Positive uses of AI for learning and creativity.
-  Risks like chatbots, filtering, and misinformation.
-  Practical tips for family conversations and parental controls.

 **Date:** 10th February  **Time:** 6:00–7:00 PM  **Location:** Online  [Register here](#)

Lincolnshire County Council Children's Mental Health Team are reviewing how they support children and young people with their **emotional wellbeing and mental health** to ensure public funding is used in the best way to meet the needs of young people across the county. Lincolnshire Integrated Care Board and Lincolnshire County Council fund services to help children and young people with their emotional wellbeing and mental health, for information click [here](#). Right now, [Kooth](#), an online counselling service, is available in Lincolnshire for young people aged 11–18 (up to age 25 for care leavers or SEND students) offering:

- 1:1 chats with trained professionals.
- Group chats and forums.
- Self-help tools like articles and advice on topics like stress, anxiety, relationships, bullying and more.

The Children and Young People's Online Counselling Support Service consultation launches today and will remain open until **3 March 2026**. The current contract for the service is due to end in August 2026, and we are looking for feedback from children, young people, parents/carers and professionals to help inform future decision-making. For more information, and the opportunity to participate click [Letstalk](#).

2026 has been named the **National Year of Reading**, highlighting a national decline in young people reading for pleasure. In an age dominated by phones, streaming and gaming, finding time for books can be a challenge — yet reading remains one of the most powerful ways to develop imagination, vocabulary, empathy and academic success. We encourage you to support your child in building regular reading into their daily routine, even if it is just for a short time each day. Listening to student voices is vital, and recent requests such as *Star Wars*, *Skandar* and biographies including *Luke Littler* will soon be added to the school library. To help families **Go All In** with reading, please [click here](#) for ideas and practical strategies. Next month, we are pleased to welcome a Book Fair to school, where students can browse new and popular titles and purchase books, they are genuinely excited to read - proceeds will help us to continue developing our library resources for all students – further details will be issued shortly. We are also taking 60 Year 7 and 8 students to the Waterstones Book Festival in Lincoln this February, offering them the chance to engage with three published authors. Further events are open to families on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 February, details [available here](#). *Together, we can help foster a culture of reading that supports both academic success and a lifelong love of books.*



The National Year of Reading 2026

Currently Reading:



GO ALL IN.

Competition Submit a book review and win a £5 voucher to be used at the QEGS Book Fair, please read the attached flyer for more information.

Year 11 Parents' Evening is on **Thursday 22 January**, an appointment sheet has been distributed to students; a copy is attached for your reference. **Year 8 Parents' & Options Evening** is scheduled for **Tuesday 3 February**, details will be emailed to parents nearer the time.

The **Td/IPV & Men ACWY** vaccinations will take place for Year 9 students on **Monday 2 February 2026**. Please read the attached letter and either give or decline your acceptance for this vaccination to be administered.

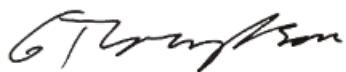
Following a talk to **Year 10** students and an email to Year 10 parents, **Exam Information and Guidance** can be read at [Year 10 Exams.pptx](#).

A reminder that we would like to further extend an invitation to **Year 10 and 11 students** to join our **Saturday School** which runs on **Saturday mornings**, the attached leaflet offers you more information. We have been running a Saturday School for the past few years with great benefits. The hope is that young people attend on Saturdays with a list of topics, or part of topics, that they do not yet fully understand. Our expert coaches will help them to work through these areas. Young people can come and go as they need depending on their learning needs, and I would like to remind students that this is non-school uniform event.

The **Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership** have advised that from Thursday 15 January a new **School Crossing Patrol Officer** will be present in the afternoon, operational on West Street, on the apex of the junction with Hamilton Road. Please do actively encourage your child to use this facility to ensure they cross the road safely.

And finally, we would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to an Alumni student, Mr Andrew Dunbar, who recently donated a guitar amplifier to the school. This thoughtful donation will be a wonderful resource for our music students, enhancing their learning and performance opportunities. We warmly invite parents and families to consider donating any musical instruments or equipment they no longer use to our music department - your contributions, no matter how small, help support creativity and music education across the school community.

Cor unum, via una



Mr G Thompson
Headteacher

