



QMHS HOUSE NEWS

WINTER 2017



CHARITY PRESENTATION: Last academic year QMHS worked extremely hard to raise £2276.24 for the charity MIND, for better mental health. Shirley, a representative from MIND visited school to speak to pupils about the charity and where the money they had raised will be spent. MIND provides advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem. They campaign to improve services, raise awareness and promote understanding. Abbie Russell, Head Girl, presented Shirley with the cheque in a school assembly. The charity was overwhelmed by how much money QMHS had raised and donated to MIND, and as a result we received a lovely certificate, which is on display on the charity notice board. Well done QMHS!



2017-2018 CHARITY: QMHS have been busy this term nominating and voting for a new local charity to raise money for this academic year. The charity voted for by pupils was nominated by Evangeline Towner (Year 10) and the charity is especially close to her heart. This year QMHS will be raising money for St Giles Hospice, Walsall. St Giles Hospice supports and cares for local people whose illness may not be curable, whenever and wherever they need it most. They help more than 7,000 people a year facing the challenge of a potentially incurable illness and provide bereavement support to more than 2,000 people every year. Their dedicated team provides physical, practical and emotional support free of charge at our hospice centres in Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield and Walsall as well as in patients' own homes. I'm sure you will agree this is a great charity and QMHS hope to raise a substantial amount of money this academic year. Our first charity lunch was on 19th December and it was a roaring success!

HOUSE STORY SLAM: This term the house system introduced a new house competition called House Story Slam. Pupils in Year 7&8 were invited to compete against each other and tell a fiction or non-fiction story to an audience. The competition was organised and led by Dr Gotschall and judged by Mrs Gould and Mrs Shehata. The performances from all houses were very theatrical and entertaining. The placings are as follows:

1st **BRONTE**

2nd **AUSTEN**

3rd **SHELLEY**

4th **ELIOT**

We look forward to next year's competition.

HOUSE GLEE: House Glee arrived to QMHS this term, a music based competition for those pupils who love to sing. This new house competition, organised by Mr Roderick, was thoroughly enjoyed by all that took part. The theme for the competition this term was 'Christmas' and all houses definitely gave us an outstanding performance. The winners have been announced via school email and house twitter accounts.

CHARITY EVENTS: On 15th December QMHS dusted off their Christmas jumpers to participate in the national fundraiser to help raise money for Save the Children. In total £82.73 was raised. QMHS also organised a food donation for the local GLEBE centre this term as part of our charitable spirit at Xmas time. The GLEBE centre were very grateful for all food items donated and the total money raised from the charity lunch will be announced in next terms newsletter. Big thank you to all who donated food, wore a Christmas jumper and/or supported an event.

NEXT TERM: There will be lots to look forward to next term including the Key Stage House quizzes, annual QMHS House trip and house charity lunches. Have a wonderful Christmas break and see you next year QMHS!



AUSTEN NEWS

Service to Austen House – Congratulations to Tance Scott who received the award 'Service to Austen House' at Prize Giving in November.

Austen Vice Captain - In October Austen was pleased to announce Jasmine Whittingham as our new Austen Vice Captain for 2017-2018. Jasmine is a friendly, motivated and passionate pupil who will ensure that all in Austen feel valued and make a positive contribution to their house. She will be working closely with Tance and the Austen leadership team this academic year to support all pupils in Austen.

Austen Prefects – This year Austen have promoted 2016-2017 Form Reps to Austen Prefects.

Catherine Radburn, Claudia Shek, Victoria Wallace and Bethan Wilkinson, will be working as part of the Austen leadership team to ensure that all pupils in Austen feel valued and participate fully in activities/events offered at QM.

Austen Form Reps - Austen have recently appointed five new Yr 12 Form Reps. Mia Harris, Phoebe Hemmings, Karishma Mistry and Claudia Pushpanathan. Welcome to the team ladies! All pupils were successfully appointed to their new role in October. The newly appointed reps have all been linked to an Austen form. They will be working with Austen pupils to provide support with house/form competitions, encourage the achievement of Spirit of QM awards and cheer pupils on in inter-house competitions.

House Charity Events - This term pupils took part in the National fundraiser 'Christmas Jumper Day' on 15th December. There was a spectacular array of jumpers worn by both staff and pupils. The day definitely brought some glitz and sparkle to QM on the last Friday of the term.

House Netball - This term Austen took part in the annual house netball competition for Yr 7, 8, 9, 10 and senior team (Yr 11, 12 & 13 combined team). All Austen teams played extremely well and showed great teamwork and determination in all matches. 8A and 9A did incredibly well and won all of their matches to finish in 1st place in their year group. Overall Austen placed 1st with a total of 375 points! Well done to all who played and represented their house! For full results please see PE articles.

New Staff/Pupils - This term Austen welcomed Mr Hussain (form tutor to 7A), Mrs Flood (form tutor to 9A) and Mr Khan (form tutor to 10A) to the Austen family. We hope all staff enjoy their new role and being in Austen House. Austen would also like to welcome all new pupils in 7A and 12A to the Austen family and we hope you have had a great 1st term!

House Assemblies - Every other week Austen has a house assembly. This term 11A organised and led an assembly on 'confidence and believing in yourself' in November. The assembly conveyed an important message which I hope all pupils appreciated and respect. Well done 11A!

Form Challenges - This term forms took part in a number of challenges on the last two days of school to develop team work, cooperation, resilience and house spirit. Points from the challenges were accumulated and will be announced in next terms newsletter. Well done to all pupils that took part.

House T-shirts - Austen are excited to announce that pupils will have the opportunity to purchase an Austen t-shirt next term. Pupils will be provided fully with all information. For any queries about an order please see/speak to/email Miss Butlin.

Welcome 7A - All pupils in 7A received a welcome gift from Austen House and all at QM in September. We hope 7A enjoy their new gifts and being part of such a vibrant house.

House Glee - This academic year QMHS have introduced a new house competition called House Glee. The competition is a singing competition in which all four houses receive the same theme, this year's theme was 'Christmas'. Houses sing it out to find out which house is the winner. KS5 pupils have been working hard with all year groups to produce an Austen entry into the competition. Austen good luck, you're my favourites! Big thank you to Claudia Pushpanathan, Claudia Shek and Celeste Lewis for all of their time and effort in leading the Austen entry.

Social Media - Austen Twitter account is updated on a regular basis with house news, school events and QM extra-curricular clubs, so please feel free to follow us [@QMHS_AUSTEN](https://twitter.com/QMHS_AUSTEN).

Eliot House News



New Staff - This term we have welcomed Miss Timmins (7E), Mrs Richards (8E), Mr Vaughan (9E), and Mrs Hughes and Mrs Prosser (11E) to Eliot House. Thank you for all the support you have given to your forms so far!

New Pupils - We warmly welcome all of the new members of Eliot in y7 and y12. We hope you've had a great 1st term and that you continue to enjoy being part of our family!

Returning year 12s - Welcome back!! We look forward to working together to make Eliot House an even better place to be.

House Captain - Our congratulations go to our House Captain, Numra Maryam, who received the 'Service to Eliot House' award at Prize Giving in November.

Our new Vice-Captain - Abigail Phillips has successfully settled into her role and is working hard, alongside our House Captain, to support our form groups and to develop the profile of our house within the school community. This term she has been working exceptionally hard, alongside 11E, to plan and organise our contribution to the House Glee competition!



"I am willing to spend as long as needed to ensure the success of the House and the people in it without expecting any recognition/congratulations, because Eliot House is akin to family to me, and like any person, to see my family succeed is reward in itself." Abigail Phillips, Eliot Vice-Captain.

House Prefects - Our group of year 12 and y13 students have been busy supporting KS3 and KS4 forms in completing their 'Spirit of Queen Mary's Awards' and organising this year's Christmas Charity collection for the Glebe Centre. Next term they will be helping to organise form assemblies and the House Dance competition.

Christmas Appeal for the Glebe Centre - Thank you to all of the Eliot prefects who helped to organise the charity collection this year! A big thank you goes to Aaradhya Amarthaluru, Hanah Sahni and Numra Maryam for leading this initiative in school!

House Glee - Our Vice-Captain and 11E have been working extremely hard with all year groups to produce a very "Eliot-style" entry for the first ever House Glee competition. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making our entry so unique. Your team spirit and competitive nature is inspiring!

House Netball - This term Eliot took part in the annual house netball competition for Yr 7, 8, 9, 10 and senior team. 10E did incredibly well to finish in 1st place in their year group. Overall, we finished 3rd in the competition! Well done to all who played and represented our house!

Story Slam - This year saw the first House Story Slam. Well done to all of the students who entered the competition in 7E and 8E. We're really proud of your courage and determination.

Eliot is on Twitter - The Eliot twitter account is updated on a regular basis with House news, school events and QMHS extra-curricular clubs. Please follow us: [@qmhs_eliot](https://twitter.com/qmhs_eliot)



Shelley

News Autumn Term 2017

This has definitely been a transition term for the house. It is the first time that we have had sixth form girls who have been at QMHS for Years 7 to 11 entering the Sixth Form. This knowledge of the school should help Shelley move forwards in terms of participation and achievement, as these girls take on leadership roles and pass on their experience to the lower school. Congratulations to Aneeka Bassi on her election to the position of Vice House Captain. A big thank you also goes to your Form Tutors and to the Sixth Form team for their support and hard work in making this term a success.



House Netball - What a term it has been! All year groups managed to field a team this year. The senior team played some attractive netball and won 2 matches, narrowly losing by a goal to Bronte, to finish second in their tournament. Year 10 also only lost one match to the winners and finished second. Year 9 mirrored this achievement and also finished second. Year 8 had a jolly nice time and enjoyed themselves, let's just leave it at that. Year 7, however, performed superbly in all three matches and managed a 1-0 win in the dark against Austen to emerge as tournament champions (victory pose to the right). Congratulations to all of you who represented Shelley House in the netball tournaments, you have done yourselves and the house proud.



House Glee - This new competition has brought together a small band of enthusiastic singers to entertain us. Their willingness to turn up twice a week to rehearsals is to be applauded. Our entry into the first running of the House Glee competition keeps up the Shelley ethos of 'having fun'. I hope this commitment and enthusiasm will continue when House Dance is launched after Christmas. Many thanks to Evie Towner (10S) for her leadership and tolerance!

Story Slam - Congratulations to those in Years 7 and 8 who competed in the Story Slam, another new competition. All of you helped gain valuable points for Shelley. It took a lot of bottle to stand in front of a large audience and give your all.

House Logo Competition – Thank you to everyone who entered designs for our possible new house logo. These were revealed in our end of term House Assembly and will be put on Google Classroom for you to look at over the Christmas holiday. When we return in the new year there will be a vote during registration for your favourite design. Of course Frankie will still be one of the options available to you.

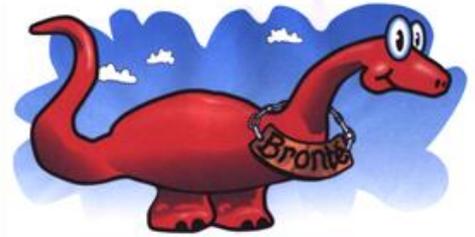
Shelley on Google Classroom – don't forget to join our Classroom. The code is xts1e1w for anyone who is still not a member. All House notices and reports will be placed her for your viewing.

Have a great holiday and let's all return in the new year with the same enthusiasm and sense of fun.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Brontë House News



Whilst it has been a long term for us all, we have made it to Christmas holidays with Brontë House celebrating some great successes. We have truly hit the ground running with our effort, participation and achievements in this term's house events. I'd also like to say a massive thank to the house from giving me such a warm welcome as their new PDM. I am very proud to have inherited such a hard-working and dedicated house!

New House Prefect Team - A new academic year has brought us many changes. We are lucky enough to have a new Brontë House Captain as Davina Banga (13CH) assumed her title- welcome Davina and help lead us to greatness! Equally, our Year 12 Vice-Captain elections offered us so many eligible candidates! Our house elected Mercedes Khutan (12MD) to be our new Vice-Captain- congratulations Mercedes, we are so happy to have you co-lead our house! The real game-changer came with the decision to create a prefect team for the first time this year as our Year 12 candidates were so strong and offered such an array of skills- well done Zara Ahmad (12MD), Aliya Levene (12CH), Amber Parekh (12CH) and Nishi Sockalingham (12MD). With such a strong leadership team, this year will surely be a great one!

Inter House Competitions - This term, we kick-started our house sporting competitions with all things Netball. A massive thank for all those students who participated in our Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 competitions, even if the dark winter nights prevented us from actually being able to see the ball?!



Inter House Story Slam - A special congratulations to all those in Year 7 and 8 who participated in a new inter house competition this year at QM, the Story Slam. Even better, we managed to snatch first place! (Yessssssssss)

House Assemblies - With this term's assembly themes being focused on success and progress, we enjoyed the singing talents of 7B, who showcased a very cute (sorry 7B!) and masterful rendition of 'Ni Hao, Ni Hao' in Mandarin Chinese. Our youngest house members not only wowed us all with their impressive progress in QM's newest 'Mandarin Excellence Programme', but also their bravery in being the first students to perform in house assembly this year! What's more, if our hearts were not already melted enough, Rosie Davidson and Gabriella Mayer, also in 7B, serenaded us with a trumpet duet of Aladdin's 'A Whole New World'. An all-round fantastic effort- keep it up 7B! Equally, I'd think to say thank you and well done to 13CH's Teedo Ratizzo, who led us through a fantastic celebration assembly on Black History Month, and 11B's Maisie Harewood who soulfully performed a solo of John Lennon's 'Imagine'. Success and progress demonstrated, here, in all different forms and at all different ages!

House Glee – In keeping with newness and change, the PDMs have introduced a new Christmas-themed singing competition. In 4 short weeks, the students arranged, tuned, sound-checked and harmonised to perfection in preparation for final competition of the term. Despite splitting hairs and losing voices (mine included), the girls have done immensely well to embrace such a difficult challenge, of which I am so proud. Brontë house would like to show their gratitude to the fantastic organisers Jessica Mahli (8B), Sophia Valmetta-Wright (8B), Gracie Elliker (9B), Mia Pitt (10B), Maisie Harewood (11B), Mercedes Khutan (12MD) and Nishi Sockalingham (12MD) for their dedication and commitment.



*Have a safe and restful holiday, especially 11B who will be undertaking mock exams in January (wishing you all the very best!)
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*