

House Newsletter - March 2023



A message from our Director of Houses, Mr Short

Easter is nearly upon us after what has been a challenging and productive term. The House Dance performances filled me with such pride, and this year we had more students getting involved for their house than ever before.

Well done to all students involved; the energy and enthusiasm was wonderful.

Have a lovely, restful break and we look forward to seeing you again next term!

Mr Short, Director of Houses

Austen

Term 2 has been a turbulent time, with strikes and snow days but what a climb! Penny Wars was an exciting competition, Austen of course won the military mission. The charity lunch had some entertaining stalls, with over £600 raised... what a ball! This terms house quiz was a real test, who knew which house would come out best. House dance encouraged an array of talent, every performance was so very gallant. House assemblies were quite the voyage, with students that led showing confidence and courage.

My word, this term has gone super-fast, well done Austen, we weren't last!

Who knows what will happen in summer term three, maybe QM will bring back House Glee!

Happy Easter!

Mrs Butlin, Head of Austin house

Brontë

The house team helps to facilitate the Spirit of Queen Mary's Award, this term we have had the most MPC awards of any house awarded. To gain the MPC award, students must show how they live the spirit of our name's sake in things like courage, charity, creativity, leadership, and independent thinking and students must show dedication to extra-curricular activities. A big well done to all who have completed the MPC award. Soliana Andemariam in 11B just completed copper this year showing attendance to clubs, helping at charity lunch and presentations in house assembly as evidence towards the award. It shows it is never too late to try for the award. Please keep those MPC awards coming, they all add to house points and will help us win the house cup at the end of term.

In other Bronte news, it is the last big house event for Valisha, our Bronte house captain. Here's what she has to say: "I can't believe it's my last full term as Brontë's house captain. Looking back, it has been a privilege: I am so proud of how many people have demonstrated their Brontë house spirit during this time, such as the Fashion Show last year, or House Dance this term. Brontë will always hold a special place in my heart, and I will miss this family so much."

Miss Weston, Head of Bronte House



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Eliot

Eliot house has always been creative in whatever we do and this term a real triumph was winning the house poetry competition. The poems were inspired by the Women's History month assemblies led by students in 12A. Congratulations to Umor Hussain 12E and Harkirit Chana in 12E who were overall winners, they painted and told such a beautiful story with words. Extracts from the overall winner below:

"As a woman and as the art of human creation, we do not deserve to be condemned, by those that deem themselves superior. History may be set in stone, but the future is ours" - Harkirit Chana 12E

These words act as inspiration to Eliot house, that the future is unwritten and that all students can be anything they want to be.

Mrs Houlder-Jarvis, Head of Eliot House

Shelley

What another great term of exciting house challenges! Shelley students have enjoyed attending the first charity lunch of the year, raising money for our school charity. They have also been attending smaller events like the General Knowledge quizzes - well done to 8S for winning their Key Stage quiz!

The major event for us this term has been House Dance, and some of our Year 11 and Year 12 students took the lead. I was delighted to see the teamwork, dedication and creativity demonstrated by the Shelley students. It has also been great to see the students who wanted to get involved but not dance, help out with costuming, accessories and scenery. Whether we win overall or not, Shelley students have created a performance they should be extremely proud of - congratulations!

As I begin my maternity leave, I wish Shelley House staff and students a wonderful Easter break. Good luck to all Year 11 and Year 13 students taking their exams next term!

Mrs Colley, Head of Shelley House



Seville Trip

In February, students and staff had the opportunity to go away to Seville on the first MFL trip since the lockdown restrictions have been lifted, and it feels like a real milestone moment to see QMHS students' exploring other cultures once more and broadening their horizons. Well done for the exemplary behaviour displayed by all students involved!

For a more insightful student account of the trip, please see the accompanying Seville letter.

Upcoming House Events

Next term, we will be running the House Spelling Bee, House Charity Lunch for Eliot and Shelley and a Battle of the Bands. We are also looking forward to Sports Day at the end of the summer term!