



# Queensgate Primary School

## Newsletter January 16th 2026

We hope that all our Queensgate families were able to have a happy and restful holiday - even if it now seems a distant memory!

### Declamation Competition 2025

Year 5 and Year 6 children recently took part in our Annual Declamations Competition. Every child “declaims” a poem or text extract of their own choice in front of their peers and a panel of judges. We are



looking for children who can declaim with expression, intonation and that little bit of something special to engage the audience! It was fantastic to see the children’s oracy skills being showcased in this way.

Our worthy winners were... Sarah in Y5 and Dylan in Year 6. Prizes were awarded by Malcolm Evans, our Vice Chair of Governors. Well done to all!

### Attendance

It goes without saying that regular attendance is essential to your child’s progress and success. We aim for all children to attend well above the national average of 95%. This term, our overall whole school attendance figure is **96.5%**. Well done to **YEAR 4 Elm** for topping the leaderboard this term!

Reception	95.6%	Year 1	96.9%	Year 2	97.3%
Year 3	97.0%	Year 4 Elm	98.2%	Year 4 Oak	94.6%
Year 5	97.5%	Year 6	95.1%		

### Academisation update

We are pleased to inform you that the Department for Education has approved in principle our application to become an academy. As you will be aware, we are proposing to join the Greater Manchester Education Trust (GMET) and unite with their existing family of schools. This potential partnership aims to strengthen education through collaboration, shared values and evidence-based practice – while preserving what makes Queensgate unique. We will keep you informed as we move through the next steps of the process.

## Parking reminder - Oakfield Close

This week we have received more complaints from residents on Oakfield Close. Numerous cars have been parked on yellow lines. This is illegal and makes it very difficult for residents to drive safely off their driveways. Please be aware that photographic evidence is being collated by residents and forwarded to Stockport Council.

## Wearable technology

As Smart watches and technology continue to become part of our everyday lives, we know that many of our children have watch-like devices which constitute wearable technology, falling into two categories: Computers (e.g smart watches) and tracking devices (e.g Airtags and similar devices). More and more of these devices operate like mobile phones by enabling:

- text messaging,
- audio contact,
- listening in on conversations taking place with the child or in the surrounding area,
- pinpointing the location of the child,
- capturing images of the surroundings and events
- operation remotely by an adult controlling the device via an app.

The safeguarding of our children is paramount and we are therefore very concerned about the possible use of this technology. In line with our Safeguarding Policy, we request that wearable devices with any of the capabilities listed above are kept at home for personal use and are not brought onto school premises during the school day or for Friends of Queensgate (PTA) events. We believe such wearable technology places our children and staff at risk. Children are aware that, if found on the school premises, staff will store any digital device/ tracker in the main office for safe keeping and for parents to collect.

## Update regarding Bramhall High School building work

Mr Williams, the Headteacher at Bramhall High School would like to share an update on the new school build.

*"We have been working closely with the DfE and our contractor, Willmott Dixon, on the design of our new school, which remains on track to open in the second half of 2028. Final design adjustments are underway ahead of public consultation in early 2026. The new building will feature state-of-the-art classrooms, technology workshops, fully equipped science labs, dedicated drama and music spaces, modern IT suites, and upgraded sports facilities including a new Sports Hall, Activity Studio, two multi-use pitches, and an AstroTurf pitch—all supporting a broad and ambitious curriculum. The school will also include dedicated hubs for Transition, Mental Health, SEND, Medical and Behaviour support, alongside a fully resourced Library and Literacy Centre. Students will benefit from a large dining space and modern, accessible facilities throughout. Community access remains central to our vision, with after-hours use available via a separate entrance."*



Here are our new appointed Language Ambassadors from Year 5.  
All our children in Key Stage 2 have weekly French lessons.

Our Ambassadors will  
be supporting classes  
and promoting a love of  
languages.



Well done to Year 5 for organising a brilliant charity cake sale. They raised £271 for Destiny Garden School and we loved your very professional pop-up shop. In total we raised **£1116.19** for DGS in the Autumn term.

## Dates to remember

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| • Wednesday 21st January       | "Show racism the Red card" workshop             |
| • Wednesday 21st January       | 6PM SATs meeting for Y6 parents (hall)          |
| • Tuesday 3rd February         | 4PM Y5 Robinwood meeting for parents (online)   |
| • Wednesday 4th February AM    | Reception children vision screening             |
| • Friday 6th February          | National Number Day                             |
| • Monday 9th February          | Y4, Y5, Y6 Author visit at Pownall Green        |
| • Wednesday 11th February      | Reception children hearing screening            |
| • Thursday 12th February       | 9.00AM Parent Partnership meeting - all welcome |
| • <b>Friday 13th February</b>  | School closes for half-term                     |
| • <b>Tuesday 24th February</b> | School re-opens for pupils                      |
| • Monday 2nd March             | Year 4 children start weekly swimming lessons   |
| • Wed 4th March - 6th March    | Y5 residential trip to Robinwood                |
| • Thursday 5th March           | World Book Day                                  |
| • Thursday 5th March           | Y6 trip to Walker Art Gallery                   |
| • Wednesday 11th March         | Parents' Evening (sign up details to follow)    |
| • Thursday 12th March          | Parents' Evening (sign up details to follow)    |
| • W/B 16th March               | British Science Week                            |
| • Friday 27th March            | Annual Talent Show (Reception- Y6)              |
| • <b>Friday 27th March</b>     | <b>School closes for 2 weeks</b>                |
| • <b>Monday 13th April</b>     | <b>School re-opens for pupils</b>               |

Thank you for all your on-going support. Mrs Hitchcock and Mrs Lee