

Excellence is expected here.

This week, we warmly welcomed back students in Year 8 after their brief spell following our excellent 'live learning' provision. 23 laptops were lent to families and we look forward to receiving these back with parents bringing them to Reception to end their Loan Agreements.

We have interviewed and appointed a new Food Technology teacher which is exciting as we continue to bring talented practitioners to Team JQA. Ms Karisha Brade joins us in July and is a trained patisserie chef! Also, you may see that we are adding to the team with vacancies for a T.A and a Teacher of Maths and look to appoint next week and our new Performing Arts teacher, Nikelia Lisbie, joins the team after half term.

We welcomed Year 9 parents and students to a well attended virtual event to start the process around choosing qualifications they might want to study in Key Stage 4. You can find the recording of this event [here](#) if you missed it. It was a wonderful event, led by the Head of Year 9, Ms Fashina. All students in Year 9 have been given a paper copy of the 'Options' booklet and we encourage all parents/carers to make appointments to discuss their child's progress in key subjects ahead of the virtual Parents' Evening this week on Thursday 10th February from 4.00pm – 6.30pm. It was brilliant to see Year 9 students engaging with post-16 providers on Thursday of last week too: we welcomed local colleges and sixth forms so they could see what qualifications they choose at Key Stage 4 might lead to.

I'd like to remind parents of the details of our clear [Uniform Policy](#). A reminder we have two scheduled training days: on Thursday February 18th and also Monday February 28th – students should not attend the Academy on these days.

I've been very proud this week to see sporting success with Year 7 girls winning gold in the Indoor Athletics in the local King Edwards Sports Partnership competition. Excellence is expected here. Students have also competed in Debate Mate and worked with fashion designers, F2D. It was brilliant to see the new Library opening in our Equiano Centre too and students checking out books for the first time. We are constantly looking to improve the on site provision and give more opportunities to our wonderful students and I am looking to install a music studio, working with the fantastic Punch Records organisation in the Summer Term. Exciting times ahead!

Mr J Barton—Head of School

Our Shared Mission:

At JQA, we focus on **delivering a CORE education** that provides a broad range of opportunities for students from all backgrounds to learn and achieve as well as developing a depth of character around our shared values.

Collaboration: we succeed by working as a team.

Opportunity: we develop by taking on new challenges.

Respect: we care by respecting and looking after each other.

Excellence: we achieve by always giving 100% in everything we do.

COMING UP...

Our Events calendar is online at: <https://www.corejewelleryquarter.academy/events/>

Thursday 10th February—Year 9 Parents' Evening (virtual event) [via SchoolCloud](#)

Thursday 17th February—end of half term

Friday 18th February—Training Day (JQA closed to all students)

Monday 28th February—Training Day (JQA closed to all students)

tel: 0121 729 7220 between 8am and 4pm

email: enquiry@corejewelleryquarter.academy

www.corejewelleryquarter.academy

 [@COREJQAcademy](https://twitter.com/COREJQAcademy)

 [@corejqacademy](https://www.instagram.com/corejqacademy)

**Jewellery
Quarter Academy**

St George's Court
1 Albion Street
Birmingham
B1 3AA

COLLABORATION—Year 9 Options Evening

Year 9 are on the precipice of a series of decisions that will shape their future and put them on the path to university and beyond when they make their options choices in the coming weeks.

Last week, Year 9 were given the opportunity to meet with some of the best post-16 providers in the country, as they prepare for these life changing decisions.

Students met with BMet, which includes James Watt, Matthew Boulton and Sutton Coldfield Colleges, Central Saint Michael's Sixth Form, Sandwell College, Joseph Chamberlain College, Cadbury College and RAF Careers.

All the providers were blown away by the dedication and enthusiasm of our students who were their usual inquisitive selves.



COLLABORATION—Reading Clubs

“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies.”

At Jewellery Quarter Academy we believe that a good citizen is a well-read citizen.

A confident reader is a knowledgeable citizen, who can achieve anything, so it is vital that all our students are constantly being exposed to the very best reading texts possible.

We are currently offering all students in Years 7-10 the opportunity to join an after-school reading club on a Wednesday where students can engage with rich, vibrant texts that will help develop their vocabulary, fluency, and appreciation of the rich tapestry of reading throughout the ages.



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COLLABORATION—Attendance Matters

Attendance Matters

All students are expected to arrive on time by 8.35am and attend school every single day.

We do not accept poor attendance, as students who are not at school are missing out on vital learning opportunities.

If your child is ill, you should call our Absence Line on 0121 729 7220 and press Option 1.

If your child is classed as 'persistently absent' (if their attendance drops below 90%) you can expect measures to be put in place to support you as a family to make sure your child's attendance improves.

We work in partnership with the Local Authority's legal team and will not hesitate to take action should your child's attendance not improve to our expected standards of 97%.

Attendance by Year Group (Year To Date)

Year 7: 91.4%

Year 8: 88.7%

Year 9: 89%

Year 10: 90.3%

Year 11: 91.1%

Attendance during one school year ...	Equals this number of days absent ...	Which is approximately this many weeks absent ...	And means this number of lessons missed
95	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons

We are continuing to meet with families and begin legal proceedings in some cases.

If you have any questions about attendance, email zsparg@corejewelleryquarter.academy



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OPPORTUNITY— Shakespeare with the CEO

A group of Year 10 students had the pleasure of working with our very own CEO, Adrian Packer, this week, as they performed recited lines from William Shakespeare's play 'Henry IV'.

The opportunity to work with such a skilled and experienced raconteur as Mr Packer was a delight for our students, who have already staged their own adaptation of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' this year and who are currently studying 'Macbeth' as a part of their GCSE Literature course.



OPPORTUNITY— F2D ITC

Our Year 9 students have been working with the F2D ITC clothing designers this week.

Students were given the chance to create their own clothing designs and given key information on how to pursue a career in the fashion industry.



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OPPORTUNITY— School Library

To celebrate National Storytelling Week, JQA opened its brand-new on-site library last week.

With over 700 new books purchased for our new library from a diverse range of authors from Benjamin Zepheniah to Charles Dickens to J.K. Rowling, all students are sure to find a book they love.

The library is currently open from 10am-10.25am every day and contains a range of fiction and non-fiction texts, as well as information regarding further education and careers.



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OPPORTUNITY—CORE Character Activities

CORE Character Extra Curriculum continues to go from strength to strength in the Spring Term with students offered the opportunity to take part in a number of sporting clubs after school. These clubs not only help our students to build upon their CORE character traits but help to support students in their studies within PE and other subjects.

[A reminder that our timetable of after school sessions can be found on our website](#), on displays around the school and in this newsletter.



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RESPECT— Chinese New Year

Kung Hei Fat Choi!

At JQA we celebrate and acknowledge the rich array of different cultures that make up the fabric of our school community.

Last week, our students celebrated the Chinese New Year and ushered in the year of the tiger with some delicious Chinese cuisine prepared by our brilliant Mellors Catering team.



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RESPECT— Echo Eternal

As Winston Churchill once said, “those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it.”

We firmly believe at JQA that all our students should have a rich understanding of the past and we were honoured to take part in the Echo Eternal Horizons Festival this year.

Firstly, students were involved in an unforgettable afternoon in the company of Peter Lantos a survivor of the Concentration Camp, Bergen-Belsen.

It was a deeply moving experience, as students were given the opportunity to hear first-hand about the horrors of the Holocaust, as well as the inspiring story about the man’s escape.

Furthermore, students took part in a variety of workshop sessions where they learned about the events of the Holocaust and the story of another Holocaust survivor, Zigi Shipper.



RESPECT— Echo Eternal Horizons Festival 2022

On Wednesday 26th January, JQA students performed at Birmingham Town Hall as part of the Echo Eternal Horizons Festival.

Students took part in a variety of vocal and dramatic performances based on the events of the Holocaust. Every single student from JQA that took part was a credit to the school and demonstrated the highest standards of excellence throughout.



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Homework

The Jewellery Quarter Academy Homework Policy has been designed to be a key part of our relentless pursuit of academic excellence.

Homework enhances students learning, improves achievement, offers additional curriculum time and develops study skills, which make it an integral part of the learning process.

Homework at Jewellery Quarter Academy will be used:

- To prepare for new learning.
- To consolidate the learning that has taken place during a lesson, giving you the opportunity to practice and refine particular aspects of your knowledge, and understanding.
- To stretch knowledge and understanding beyond the curriculum.

All our KS4 students will be required to do a minimum of 90 minutes of written homework per night and a maximum of 120 minutes. For KS3 students, it will be a minimum of 60 minutes written homework and a maximum of 90 minutes.

All students will be expected to complete a daily entry in their homework exercise book, which will be issued to all students by form tutors. All homework tasks will be set by classroom teachers.

Students' homework exercise books will be checked by their classroom teacher and those who have gone above and beyond with their homework will be rewarded with a merit sticker.

Students who fail to complete homework, or whose homework is not completed to a passing standard, will receive a 'H' in their planner and if they are given 3 'H' stamps in a week, then they will be issued with a C60 by their form tutor to support them further.

If a student loses their homework exercise book then they will be required to buy a new one at a cost of £1 and will receive coaching from their tutor on managing and organising themselves – a key character trait.

All homework tasks will either be:

- Reading with comprehension questions
- Recap quizzes
- Essay Writing/Extended Writing

We also have a range of activities families can do together to test students on key knowledge or concepts in our **Home Learning Collaboration** documents.

These can be found on the Home Learning sections of our Piota app.

All these activities link to learning students are currently doing in the classroom in different subjects and we encourage parents/carers to use these to further reinforce learning with additional activities and conversations around key topics.



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—KS3 Homework Timetable

Year 7 Homework Timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7MMO Drama 7MMO Music 7KBR Music 7KBR IT 7KBR History 7CWI Music 7CWI IT 7FKH DT 7FKH History 7FKH Art 7ZKH RE	7MMO History 7MMO Geography 7KBR RE 7CWI RE 7CWI MFL 7FKH Geography 7ZKH Geography 7ZKH IT	English (All Year 7) 7MMO Art 7KBR DT 7KBR Art 7CWI DT 7FKH Music 7ZKH Music 7ZKH MFL	Science (All Year 7) 7MMO RE 7KBR Music 7CWI History 7FKH IT 7ZKH History 7ZKH Drama	Mathematics (All Year 7) 7MMO Drama 7MMO IT 7KBR Geography 7KBR MFL 7CWI Art 7CWI Music 7FKH Drama 7FKH MFL 7ZKH Art

Year 8 Homework Timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English (All Year 8) 8C RE 8O Drama 8O Music 8R Drama 8E Music 8E Geography 8E MFL 8D RE 8D Art	Science (All Year 8) 8C Geography 8C IT 8O DT 8O IT 8R Music	8C History 8C MFL 8O History 8O Art 8R Geography 8E RE 8E DT 8D IT	8C Art 8C DT 8O RE 8R MFL 8R History 8R DT 8E History 8E IT 8D MFL 8D Music 8D Drama	Mathematics (All Year 8) 8C Drama 8C Music 8O Geography 8O MFL 8O Art 8R RE 8R Art 8E Drama 8D DT 8D Geography

Year 9 Homework Timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English (All Year 9) 9O Geography 9R Geography 9R Drama 9D Geography 9D DT	9C IT 9C RE 9C MFL 9O Music 9O DT 9R Music 9R MFL 9E IT 9E MFL 9E Geography 9D Music 9D Art	Science (All Year 9) 9C Geography 9O Drama 9O RE 9R RE 9R DT 9E History 9E Art 9D RE 9D MFL	9C Drama 9C Music 9C DT 9C History 9O Art 9O MFL 9R IT 9R Art 9E Music 9E Drama 9D Drama	Mathematics (All Year 9) 9C Art 9O History 9R History 9E DT 9E RE 9D History 9D IT

EXCELLENCE AT JQA—KS4 Homework Timetable

Year 10 Homework Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10A Music 10A Business Studies 10B Business Studies 10A Health & Social Care 10B Health & Social Care 10 Art	Science (All Year 10) 10B Performing Arts 10B DT	Mathematics (All Year 10) 10 1 Geography 10 2 Geography 10A Sports Studies	English (All Year 10)	10B IT 10B MFL 10 1 History 10 2 History 10 3 History

Year 11 Homework Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Science (All Year 11) 11B Business Studies 11A IT 11A Creative iMedia 11B Creative iMedia 11A Health & Social Care 11 Art	11C Music 11C Business Studies 11C DT 11C Sports Studies 11C Health & Social Care 11 1 Geography 11 2 Geography	English (All Year 11) 11B Performing Arts 11B RE	Mathematics (All Year 11) 11A RE	11 1 History 11 2 History 11 3 History 11C1 MFL

All homework timetables and our policy can be found at:

<https://www.corejewelleryquarter.academy/curriculum/homework/>

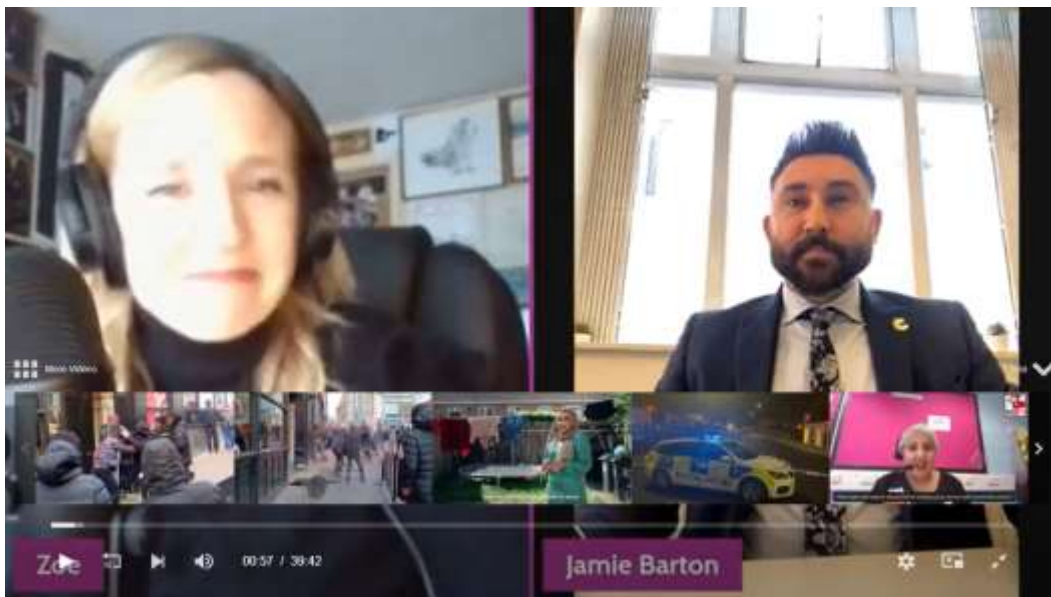
EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Homework in the News

Mr Barton was asked to take part in a podcast with Brummie Mummies last week to discuss the important issue of homework with Zoe Chamberlain, the Parenting Editor of the Birmingham Mail.

Amongst many other discussion points, Mr Barton discussed the quantity of homework and strategies to support children with their homework.

Mr Barton highlighted the importance of homework as “an important part of the learning process,” whilst also emphasising the scientific evidence that shows that homework can add “as much as five months learning progress over the course of a year.”

If you would like to read more from the article, then a link to it can be found [here](#):



EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Debate Mate

Fantastic Showing by JQA students at Urban Debate League

On Tuesday the 1st of February, two teams composed of six students each represented JQA in the first round of the Urban Debate League.

Each team had to face off from schools across Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool debating topics such as “This house believes Politicians should be Role Models” and “This house believes detentions should be abolished in schools”.

Our students put forward arguments involving the life of 18th century US politician Alexander Hamilton, schools as a reflection of the morality of wider society and wider social ills such as mental health and exams.

Each JQA team won both debates they participated in and the atmosphere when the results were announced was one of elation.

Now JQA will progress to Round 2, and another strong showing will take us to the Nationals in London.

A major congratulations to all students who participated is in order:

- Basira Mosa
- Soraia Taybou
- Urjuwaan Hussein
- Mllyakah
- Brajian



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EXCELLENCE AT JQA—KESSP Indoor Athletics

Excellence is a habit and to paraphrase Aristotle brilliance comes from consistently doing the right things. At JQA, we reward excellence and encourage all our students to do the right things because we are what we repeatedly do, and we want all our students to be excellent.

Every fortnight on a Friday, Mr Barton invites to the 4 highest merit earners across the Academy, to enjoy a Costa Hot Chocolate and Millionaire Shortbread snack.

This week, Mr Barton welcomed Manisha, Jerome, Lia and Jessica into his office this week for a chat and a hot chocolate, these students consistently go above and beyond in their studies and are the standard that the rest of the school must aspire to.

They spoke about the lessons they enjoy at the Academy and the new staff that have joined who they very much appreciate.



EXCELLENCE AT JQA—Hot Choc Friday

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This week, Mr Barton welcomed Nawal, Phoenix, Lamrot and D'Angelo into his office this week for a chat and a hot chocolate, these students consistently go above and beyond in their studies and are the standard that the rest of the school must aspire to.

They spoke about the lessons they enjoy at the Academy and the new staff that have joined who they very much appreciate.



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WHO TO CONTACT AT JQA

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education or time at Jewellery Quarter Academy we can ask that you contact the Head of Year for your child in the first instance.

The most effective way to do this is via email.

Please don't always expect an immediate response as all teachers have very busy timetables, but we will endeavour to reply the same day. The contact emails for each Head of Year are listed here.

Year 7 Miss F Clarke: fclarke@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 8 Miss M Seleshe: mseleshe@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 9 Miss H Fashina: hfashina@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 10 Year Group Co-ordinator rmurray@corejewelleryquarter.academy

Year 11 Miss S Ivey: sivey@corejewelleryquarter.academy



If you would like to contact the Well-Being team, email safeguarding@corejewelleryquarter.academy

If you have an urgent safeguarding issue, you can call our Designated Safeguarding Lead on 07823354044



Miss Clarke



Miss Seleshe



Miss Fashina



Miss Murray



Miss Ivey

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH JQA

Academy Voicemail

We recently changed our phone system after feedback from parents/carers to include the facility to leave a message if lines are busy.

You now have the option to leave a voice message on the Academy Voicemail by pressing Option 2 in office hours and out of office hours too- this is checked twice a day at 8am and 12pm.

Please be sure to state your child's name clearly and who the message is for and one of Team JQA will get back to you.



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